

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Former child prodigy and jazz great Irvin Mayfield brings the culture of New Orleans to life at Norfolk's Historic Attucks Theatre.

(Norfolk) The Irvin Mayfield Quartet will present an evening of jazz as a tribute to renowned artist Gordon Parks at the Attucks Theater (1010 Church St, Norfolk) Friday, January 25th at 8pm. This program will feature music steeped in the tradition of "The Big Easy."

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, Mayfield draws from all aspects of his hometown and culture in order to embody and represent the great New Orleans Jazz legacy. He serves as a cultural spokesperson for New Orleans and has had numerous collaborative ventures with artists such as Wynton Marsalis and the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra.

Half Past Autumn Suite, written and composed by Irvin Mayfield in 2003, is a collection of works based on the life and photography of Gordon Parks. Mayfield's compositions are abstract, impressionistic and completely artful. *Half Past Autumn Suite* is a masterful interpretation of Mr. Parks' life.

Ticket prices are \$25 with a special student price of \$15, and are available at all Ticketmaster locations, charge-by-phone at (757) 671-8100, or online at www.ticketmaster.com.

Be a part of this memorable evening that combines the great sound of Mayfield's jazz inspired by Parks' artwork; a masterpiece in sound.

History is in the making in the City of Norfolk.

Thanks to the vision, tenacity and generous support of dedicated people far and wide, the curtain is going up on the historic Attucks Theatre. This state and national landmark has been carefully renovated and is ready for its encore. The Attucks Theatre was built in 1919 as a mecca for entertainment and commerce, strategically located on Church Street, the heart of the city's minority community. Today, the Attucks has the distinction of being the oldest remaining legitimate theatre in the nation that was completely financed, designed, constructed and operated by African-Americans.

###