Concert to honor late cantor

Jazz music to be set to prayers marking High Holy Days

BY JAMES D. DAVIS

The concert was to be memorabil-

enough: jazz, Latin, blues,rop-

and other genres to the solemn

prayers of the upcoming High Holy Days. But it was marred by the

third death of one of the main per-

formers when their father died the

last weekend.

On Sunday, Aaron and Irwin Kul-

a will present Jazz Wisdom Spirit

in Boca Raton. They’ll go straight to dress rehearsal for the last day of "Aladdin" the seven-day mourning period, for Cantor Mor-

ton Kula. He helped his sons de-

sign the concert, but died on Sat-

urday at 82. He knew he could not

see the concert. "It will be part of his legacy," said musician Aaron Kula, who will lead the concert with his brothers. He went on to create something different and novel that would touch people—

not just from a religious stand-

point, but cultural and spiritual." The concert at the Count de Ho-

ermont Theatre will blend the talents of the Kula brothers. Aaron is di-

rector of the music collection and performance at Florida Atlantic University’s music. He also leads the Klemmer Company Orchestra, PAA’s professional ensemble in residence, which will accompany him at the 90-minute concert.

Irwin is president of Cal, the National Jewish Center for Learn-

ing and Leadership, a think tank in New York. After each 10-minute set, he will contribute brief talks on themes of the High Holy Days.

The show will take several cre-

ative risks, combining jazz with traditional American cantorial melodies. One number will be like

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If you go

Events: "An American Jewish New Year: Jazz Wisdom Spirit"

Featuring: Jazz, blues, bop, world music and other styles, blended with traditional High Holy Days prayers and melodies.

Where: Count de Hoermont Theatre, 7091 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton

When: Sunday at 3 p.m. (sold out) and 7 p.m.

Cost: $35, $50.

Info: Caldwelltheatre.com or 561-241-7432

deeper spiritual insights, especially that we can change our lives. We can be grateful and joyful about life. We can be the people we aspire to be." The rabbi said he wanted to make such messages available to non-Jews as well.

"The concert" will be a failure for me if only Jews are in the room. It’s time for all religions to engage each other and make the music and wisdom accessible to help people in their lives."

Also on the program will be Daniel Cochran, a tenor who has sung with the Palm Beach Opera. Cochran has also sung with The Delightful Voices, a cap-
pella group for the Miami Dolphins. For the Sunday program, he will sing in both English and Hebrew.

The program was put together by Irwin and his father. As the brothers decided on a pre-

High Holy Days program, their father helped them decide which music went best with which tune.

"We put the concert poster in his bedroom," Irvin recalls. "He said "Ter-

uffic" three times. He wanted to see the concert." Tickets for the 3 p.m. concert sold out; another concert at 7:30 has been add-

ed.

His whole life, he was a role model for interfaith and multicultural out-

reach," Aaron says. "This program will be completely dedicated to him."

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America viewed the opportunity to share wisdom, both musical and spiritual. And, Rosh Ha-

shana and Yom Kippur are probably the most power-

ful holidays on each side. They have some of the