

For immediate release  
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THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

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Earl "Fatha" Hines will entertain at the White House Monday, May 17, at the State Dinner honoring His Excellency the President of the French Republic and Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing.

Hines, considered one of the great pioneers of jazz, began playing the piano as a child in Pittsburgh. He encountered jazz in 1918 and began his professional career accompanying singer Lois Deppe. In 1923, he moved to Chicago and five years later became the leader of his own band.

During his long and varied career, Hines has played with such jazz notables as Louis Armstrong, Jonah Jones, Dizzy Gillespie, and Charlie Parker. Hines also helped such singers as Billy Eckstine and Sarah Vaughn develop their careers.

Today Hines heads a quartet and continues to perform in concert and in nightclubs. Hines, who has been called "the inventor of the jazz piano," has won numerous awards, including a place in Down Beat Magazine's Hall of Fame.

Hines previously appeared at the White House during the 1968 birthday party for the late Duke Ellington. He has made a State Department tour of the Soviet Union and concert tours of Japan, Australia, South America, and Europe.

He makes his home in Oakland, California. He has two daughters.

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