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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cascio Interstate's DrummerFest 2009 Features World-Class Session/Performance Artists on October 24th

Mike Mangini, Dafnis Prieto, Rodney Holmes & Hannah Ford Appear Live & Free on Cascio's Sound Stage

New Berlin, WI (October 15, 2009) – Cascio Interstate Music, at 138th and National Ave, in New Berlin, will present its ninth annual DrummerFest on Saturday, October 24th from 11:00 am – 6:00 pm, featuring Mike Mangini, Dafnis Prieto, Rodney Holmes and Hannah Ford. The Cascio/Milwaukee Bucks WILD! Drumline will also make an appearance.

Hosted and sponsored by Cascio Interstate Music, along with drum brands including Meinl, Zildjian, Sabian, Gretsch, Yamaha, Pearl, Gibraltar, Tama and Remo, this FREE all-day event is open to the public with interactive clinics and performances, prize giveaways, food and beverages, plus photo and autograph opportunities. Doors open at 10:00 am. The day wraps up at 6:00 pm following a jam session with all four drummers. Those planning to attend are encouraged to arrive early for best possible seating and parking arrangements. For more information please call (262) 789-7600.

Scheduled to appear during the day are the following artists:

Mike Mangini is best known for his work as a session artist who has played for Extreme and Steve Vai, and has also toured with Dale Bozzio/Missing Persons and Annihilator, to name a few. He is Associate Professor of Percussion at Berklee College of

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Music in Boston and had held five World's Fastest Drummer world records. Mike Mangini has successfully applied his Rhythm Knowledge learning method to all styles of music, from classical to speed metal. He has consistently developed both the melodic and rhythmic sides of his musical personality.

Mangini is an active international drum clinician who has given clinics in over 40 countries. Read more about Mike at http://www.mikemangini.com/

Dafnis Prieto is a drummer/composer whose revolutionary drumming techniques have had a powerful impact on both the Latin and jazz music scenes. He's played in bands led by Henry Threadgill, Steve Coleman, Eddie Palmieri, Chico amd Arturo O'Farrill, Dave Samuels & The Caribbean Jazz Project, and more. Prieto received a Grammy Award Nomination for "Absolute Quintet" as Best Latin Jazz Album, and a Latin Grammy Nomination for "Best New Artist" in 2007.

As a composer, he has created music for dance, film, chamber ensembles, and most notably for his own bands. He has received new works commissions, grants, and fellowships from Chamber Music America, Jazz at Lincoln Center, East Carolina University, and Meet the Composer. Also a gifted educator, Prieto has conducted numerous master classes, clinics, and workshops. Since 2005, he has been a member of the NYU Music Faculty. Read more about Dafnis at http://www.dafnisprieto.com/.

Rodney Holmes took up the drums in the 4th grade, and decided to become a professional musician while in high school. Since then Rodney has performed with Special EFX, the Zawinul Syndicate with keyboardist Joe Zawinul, and Santana. Holmes toured extensively with the Brecker Brothers for two years, and also went on to perform/recorded with Steps Ahead, the incredible Wayne Shorter, Larry and Julian Coryell, Victor Bailey, Leni Stern, and New York guitarist, David Gilmore.

Rodney also played on the mega hit single "Smooth" with Rob Thomas of Matchbox 20, making Rodney a multi-Grammy winner. His current project is "Twelve Months of October." Read more about Rodney at http://www.rodneyholmes.com/.

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Hannah Ford is a 19-year old Chicago-based drummer who has been called one of the best up-and-coming young drummers in the country. In 2006 Hannah won the Louie Bellson Heritage Days Drum Competition (the only girl to ever do so) and the "Outstanding Jazz Musician" award at the New Trier Jazz Festival in Chicago. In February of 2007 Hannah was once again recognized with an "Outstanding Musician" award at the annual "Jazz in the Meadows Festival" in Chicago. Closing out the year Hannah won the "Best Drummer/Musician" category in Suburban Nitelife Magazines's "Best of the Burbs" readers poll, an accomplishment she achieved again in 2008.

Over the past few years she's performed in the Chicago area with the critically-acclaimed local fan-favorite, "Universal Slim and the Blues Kangaroos" while her current performance projects include "The Hannah Ford Band" (Rock Power Trio), "Pandorum" (Fusion Power Trio) and her one-woman "Peace, Love & Drums" multi-media show. Read more about Hannah at http://www.hannahforddrums.com/.

The **Cascio Interstate/Milwaukee Bucks Wild! Drumline** debuted last season as a high quality NBA entertainment package for selected Milwaukee Bucks home basketball games ... a 21-piece drumline that is wild, loud, and brings the house down at every performance! Cascio has outfitted the entire squad with equipment and instruments from Pearl Corporation and Sabian Cymbals, and will make an appearance. Read more about Bucks WILD! at http://www.nba.com/bucks/features/drumline_home.html.

Cascio Interstate Music is among the nation's top Independent musical instrument retailers, ranking 14th in the United States. Cascio has been operating for over 60 years, headquartered in the suburban Milwaukee, Wisconsin marketplace, which houses its retail Superstore, Call Center, Web Center and corporate offices. Its Distribution Center in Waukesha, WI handles over 40,000 items. Cascio Interstate offers a wide selection of musical instruments, fine pianos, accessories, sheet music, private music lessons, free in-store educational clinics, rentals, repairs, and more. More information on the Company is available at www.interstatemusic.com.

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