

Albright to be honored for her 'jazz diplomacy'

NEW YORK (AP) — Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is ready, if invited, to play the drums next month when she'll be honored for her "jazz diplomacy" at a gala concert at the Kennedy Center.

Last year, trumpeter Chris Botti invited Albright to play the drums at the end of his Valentine's Day concert at the Kennedy Center.

America's first female secretary of state is game to play again on Sept. 23, when she will receive an award from the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz for her support of jazz, music education and the institute's programs.

The concert starring Botti, Aretha Franklin, Herbie Hancock and others coincides with the finals of the institute's prestigious international jazz competition, celebrating its 25th anniversary.