

JIVE TALKIN'

2018 Mardi Gras Ball is a swingin' success

The top Friends of Jazz fundraiser is in the books, pleasing and entertaining 120 guests with top-notch food, donated items and live music by students.

Members of Friends of Jazz will look back at the 2018 Mardi Gras Ball, held Sunday evening, March 11, as one of its most successful ever.

The event drew 120 current members and guests to the grand ballroom of Brea's Embassy Suites, featured outstanding live music by students from Fullerton College, Cal State Fullerton and Beechwood Elementary School plus a handful of guest performers, and netted more than \$18,000 to help fund FOJ's numerous programs.

Members who attended called the evening "first class" and, compared with past MGBs, "the best we ever had."

Longtime FOJers and board members Gil and Judy McFadden were this year's Mardi Gras King and Queen. Because Gil was unable to attend, Judy was crowned the new queen, with two of Judy and Gil's daughters forming her court and helping lead the krewe parade.

Fullerton College's six-man combo, the Lemon Street Stompers, provided the authentic New Orleans jazz for the parade and the first part of the evening, with Bruce Babad directing and playing soprano sax.

FOJ's Jennifer Hart outlined the Fourth Grade Recorder program, then introduced seven students from Beechwood.

After dinner, guests heard the outstanding playing of Fullerton Jazz Orchestra's 18 students, directed by Bill Cunniffe, with guest vocalists Jamie Shew, Shep Shepherd and the fabulous Las Vegas crooner Johnny Coppola. 🎵



Top row: Judy McFadden receives her crown; Bruce Babad jams with the Fullerton Jazz Orchestra. Middle: CSUF's notables and friends; Jamie Shew dazzles the crowd. Left: Johnny Coppola delivers the Vegas touch; above: CSUF's all-student Fullerton Jazz Orchestra in full swing.

Photos by Eric Marchese

See page 7 for more Mardi Gras photos!



Quarter Notes

Shep Shepherd was recently lauded in a major feature article in The Orange County Register, published on February 4 as a follow-up to Shep's 101st birthday on January 26.

The piece's headline read 'At 101, jazz entertainer 'Shep' Shepherd says 'It's all about love.' The article detailed Shep's life and musical career, saying he was "the star attraction Jan. 26, onstage before a roomful of regulars at Adele's at the San Clemente Inn."



Be sure to save the dates for these exciting upcoming Friends of Jazz events:

May 20	All That Jazz Party at Los Coyotes Country Club
Sept. 9	Members Party, home of Nick and Dottie Batinich
Oct. 21	Oktoberfest party, Los Coyotes Country Club
Jan. 2019	Sponsors Party, date and location TBA

This publication is produced by Friends of Jazz, Inc., an educational, Orange County-based, all-volunteer, non-profit corporation in operation since March, 1999. Please contact us at 714-871-6342 or PO Box 5671, Fullerton CA 92838-0671. www.friendsofjazzinc.com

Eric Marchese, Editor. 714-836-1104

Fourth-grade recorder players make a splash at March 6 city council meeting



The Fullerton City Council's March 6 meeting opened with a performance by seven students from Beechwood Elementary school, studying in FOJ's Fourth-Grade Recorder Program with Jennifer Hart, see above with the kids, who played "Alouette," "In the Mood" and "A Little Waltz."

Photo by Jerry Wolf

An FOJ welcome to these new members

FOJ welcomes the following new and returning members:

Renee Beach
Michael and Kylie
Hallerbach

Judy Leland
Malia Lewis
Brian Mackey
Sara Turner Miller
Carrie Mullner

Jayesh Patel
Bernice Stumps
Rene Tabor
Dianne Wallace

Fullerton College's spring concert season

Here are Fullerton College's upcoming jazz events. All shows are 7:30 p.m. at the Campus Theatre. Tickets are free for all Friends of Jazz members! When you visit the box office, just tell them you're with FOJ!

Jazz Festival	April 20-21
Combo Night	April 30
Synergy Vocal Jazz and Lab Band	May 8
Big Band and J-train Vocal Jazz	May 22

CSUF offers a full schedule of student jazz

Cal State University Fullerton's jazz department is offering some outstanding jazz this spring. All performances are at 8 p.m. in Meng Concert Hall except where noted, and are free to all Friends of Jazz members.

Chamber Jazz Ensemble	April 20
Jazz Singers	April 24
Fullerton Jazz Orchestra: "Ella and Louis"	May 4
Jazz Guitar Ensemble	May 13*

[* 2 p.m. Clayes Performing Arts Center, PA-119]

First three high schools start year off with a bang

Esperanza, Mission Viejo and El Dorado get things rolling with three super Saturday afternoons at Florentine's.

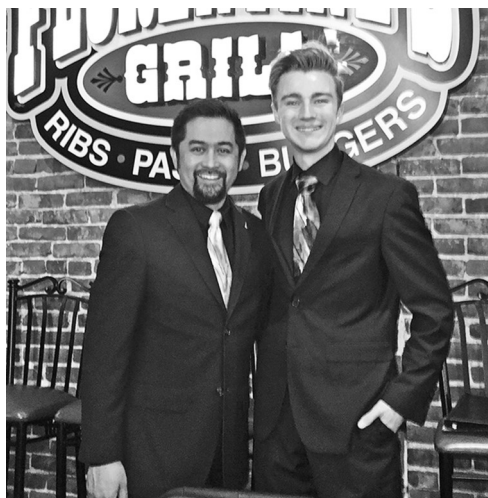
If it's February, it must be time for Friends of Jazz's annual series of weekly high school band performances at Florentine's Grill in downtown Fullerton.

And just like clockwork, Esperanza High kicked things off on Saturday, February 10, with an outstanding afternoon of live jazz.

Bass player Kyle Hallerbach was awarded \$400 in scholarship funds from FOJ. In addition, the school's band program was given a check for \$300.

A week later it was Mission Viejo High School's turn to dazzle attendees. And dazzle they did, with alto sax player Blake Bradley earning the individual scholarship funds.

El Dorado High took the stage on February 24, offering the audience twice as much bang for the buck with two bands: The younger, up-and-coming students



Photos by Jim Harlan and Judi McDuff

TOP LEFT: El Dorado's Jazz I star Brandon Ofenstein with band director Eric Samson; top right: Hot alto sax player Blake Bradley, backed by the Mission Viejo High School jazz band; at left: Bassist Kyle Hallerbach with the director of the Esperanza High student jazz band, Bradley Davis.


who comprise Jazz II, then the more seasoned students who perform in Jazz I.

Brandon Ofenstein, the scholarship winner, is a double threat, proficient on both trumpet and flugelhorn.

Each school receives \$300 from FOJ for its jazz band program, while each winning student is given a check for \$400.

All performances begin at 12:30 p.m. and are free to the public. The program con-

tinues with six more jazz bands performing through May 19, listed in the schedule below.

For more details, contact FOJ's Jim Harlan at 714-334-7134 or Jim@Jim-Harlan.com. 

Friends of Jazz's high school jazz band schedule for 2018:

Saturday, March 24

Kennedy High School

Saturday, March 31

Katella High School

Saturday, April 14

Yorba Linda High School

Saturday, May 12

Irvine High School

Saturday, May 19

Fullerton High School

Dec. 1 was Fullerton Jazz Orchestra's salute to Diz and co.

Bill Cunliffe and the Fullerton Jazz Orchestra made Friday, December 1, 2017, a night to remember by featuring the immortal music of Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, Hoagy Carmichael and other jazz greats at CSUF's Meng Concert Hall. The featured performer who guest-starred to help spotlight their music was none other than famed jazz trumpet player Gilbert Castellanos.

Sharing the stage with these talented instrumentalists were the outstanding Fullerton Jazz Singers under the direction of Andreas Preponis.

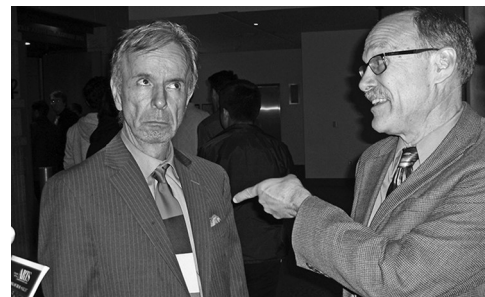
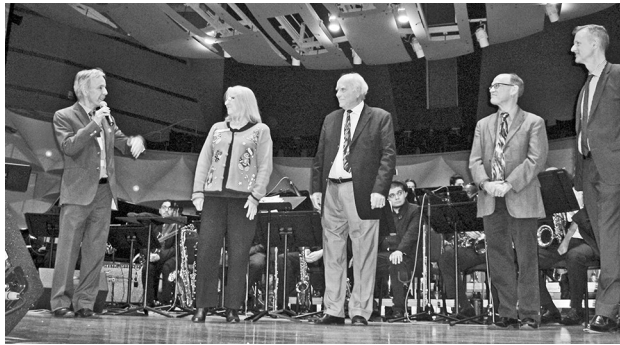
The highlight of the evening was Friends of Jazz's presentation of scholarship funds to CSUF's jazz programs and individual students for their achievements in performing jazz.

Bill Cunliffe welcomed FOJ's Nick Batinich to the stage to take the mike and outline FOJ's purpose to the audience. Nick and FOJ board president Colleen Wadsworth then called off the names of 13 outstanding student musicians and handed each of them a check from Friends of Jazz.

The recipients: Chris Alcala, Christine Araoka, Michael Barrera, Zack Caplinger, Brian Clemens, Michael Hardt, Kevin Karagozian, Christian Lissner, Srimal de Mel, Nathaniel Reed, Randall Taylor, Freddy Uyehara, and Christian Vasquez.

Also honored were four student jazz performers who had been awarded fellowships from the Johnny Carson Foundation: Sam Gonzales, Tatiana Tate, Joseph Terry and Brad Torres.

Selections by the orchestra included



Dizzy Gillespie's "A Night in Tunisia" and "Tin Tin Deo," Duke Ellington's "Jack the Bear," and Hoagy Carmichael's "Back Home Again in Indiana." Vocal selections included "Desafinado."

The evening's concert was preceded by

FOJ's general membership meeting, where members at large voted on and selected board members for the upcoming year. The meeting was combined with a reception and cocktail party prior to the concert, documented in the above photos. 🎵

Don't miss these exciting upcoming Friends of Jazz events!

May 20	All That Jazz Party, Los Coyotes Country Club, Buena Park
September 9	Annual Members Party, Batinich home, Fullerton
October 21	Oktoberfest Party, Los Coyotes Country Club
January 2019	Sponsors Party, date and location TBA

Fullerton College's kids take the "J" train on 12/5/17

The Fullerton College Jazz Band and J Train Vocal Jazz groups took turns on stage at the Campus Theatre on Tuesday night, December 5, 2017, for the end-of-semester performance highlighted by the annual Friends of Jazz scholarship presentation.

A total of 14 student musicians and vocalists were scholarship recipients, awarded to them during the presentation by FOJ board president Colleen Wadsworth and chief financial officer Nick Batinich.

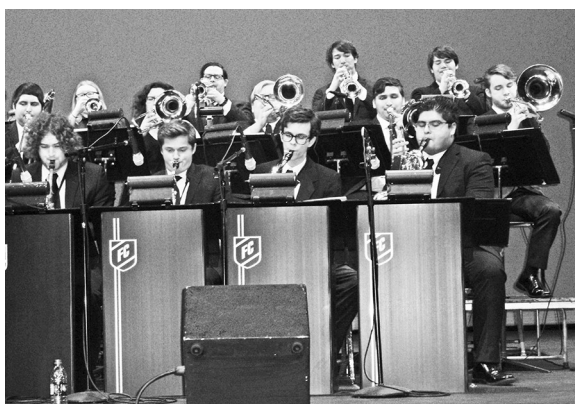
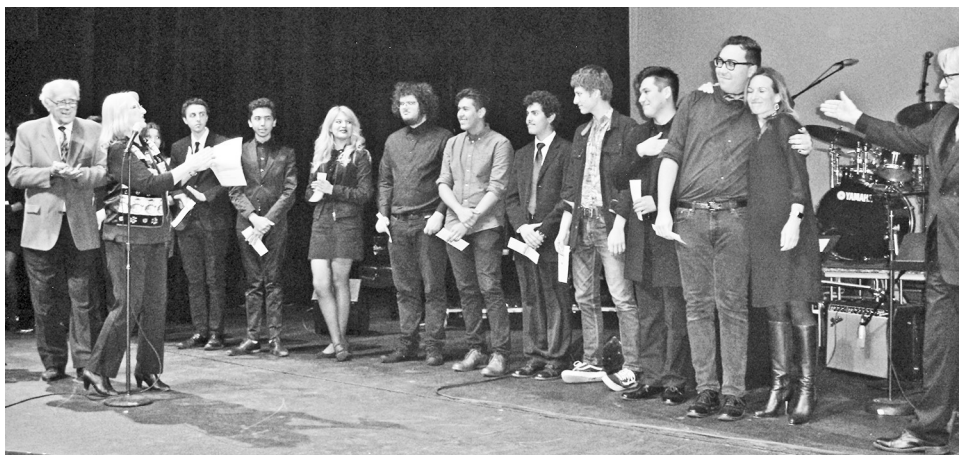
Directed by Bruce Babad, the Jazz Band opened the evening with Bill Cunliffe's arrangement of Paul McCartney's "Money Can't Buy Me Love."

Other tunes included "Empty Ballroom Blues," "Salt Peanuts" and a beautiful traditional arrangement of "Adeste Fidelis."

Jamie Shew directed the J Train vocalists in Duke Ellington's "Cottontail" and Jimmy Heath's "Sassy Samba" plus a pair of seasonal favorites.

The J Train scholarship winners: soprano Denisse Alvarado, bass Nathan Diaz, bass Zach Nalezny, pianist Angelo Pizarro and bass player Cole Sainburg.

The Jazz Band awardees: William Overholtzer (alto sax), Arturo Correa (tenor sax), pianist Cameron Chavez, guitarist Madison Holland (who also plays rhythm for J Train) and musicians Oscar Medina, Oscar Rodriguez, Taylor Shirley, Dico Vasquez and Lily Wolfinger. 🎵



Page 4 and 5 photos by Eric Marchese



TOP: FOJ's Nick Batinich and Colleen Wadsworth distribute scholarships. Above: The Jazz Band. Right: Impassioned vocals from J Train. Below: Guitarist Madison Arnold.



FRIENDS OF JAZZ, INC.
Second Decade of Keeping Music in Our Schools
Membership Categories for July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

Gold Benefactor (\$2,500+)	All benefits of Benefactor level plus two complimentary tickets to annual FOJ Mardi Gras gala dinner-dance.
Benefactor (\$1,000)	All benefits of Patron level plus two additional complimentary tickets to annual FOJ Sponsors Party (12/17/2017).
Patron (\$500)	All benefits of Sponsor level plus recognition at a student scholarship presentation.
Sponsor (\$250)	All benefits of Friend level plus two complimentary tickets to annual FOJ Sponsors Party (12/17/2017).
Friend (\$100)	All benefits of General level plus two complimentary tickets, when available, to a jazz event at CSUF or Fullerton College.
General (\$50)	Invitation to Friends of Jazz events plus recognition in FOJ newsletter.
Student (\$20)	Invitation to Friends of Jazz events plus recognition in FOJ newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP FOR JULY 1, 2017 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2018

Category _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____ Date _____

Name _____

Street Address _____ City _____ Zip _____ - _____

Phone (_____) _____ (please include all phone numbers)

E-mail address _____

Mail to: Friends of Jazz, Inc., P.O. Box 5671, Fullerton, CA 92838-0671

Payment Method _____ Check _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ AMEX

Card No. _____ Expiration Date: _____ (mm/yy)

V-Code (3 digits on back of card) _____ [AMEX: Use 4-digits from front of card]

Name on Card _____

Cardholder acknowledges receipt of goods and/or services in the amount of the total shown hereon and agrees to perform the obligations set forth in the cardholder's agreement with issuer.

KEEPING MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS: OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

_____ Yes, I'd like to help with fundraisers, scholarship awards, mailings! Please contact me.

For more information, call Jean Klinghoffer, 714-871-6342, or Barbara Fischer, 714-526-5667.

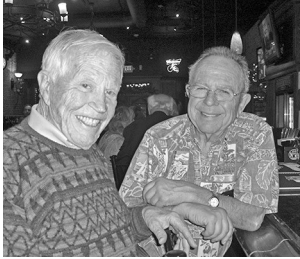
Website: friendsofjazzinc.com

Friends of Jazz is California non-profit educational corporation organized under the laws of the State of California and tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. Please consult your attorney or tax advisor in reference to the deductibility of funds or merchandise donated to FOJ.

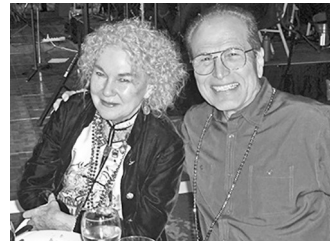
Florentine's creates festive mood for Sponsors Party

The FOJ sponsors party was held Sunday evening, December 17, 2017, at Florentine's Grill.

Photos by Eric Marchese



How much fun did *you* have at this year's Mardi Gras Ball?



Photos by Eric Marchese

See Shep Shepherd drumming at the Ball! Go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRthJuGMm70&feature=youtu.be>

**May 20, 2018:
ALL THAT JAZZ PARTY,
LOS COYOTES COUNTRY
CLUB, BUENA PARK**

Upcoming Events:

May 20, 2018

All That Jazz Party, Los Coyotes
Country Club, Buena Park

Sept. 9, 2018

Members Party, Batinich home, Fullerton

Oct. 21, 2018

Oktoberfest, Los Coyotes Country Club

January 2019

Sponsors Party, location and date TBA



friends of jazz

Phone: 714/680-6684
Fax: 714/680-0743

News & Notes

The 13th annual Muckenthaler Jazz Festival starts off on May 17 with the Grammy-winning Poncho Sanchez. May 24 features "The Tonight Show" alum Tommy Peterson and the Fullerton Jazz Orchestra. May 31 is Barbara Morrison, June 7 is the Glenn Cashman Quintet, June 14 is Ernie Watts and Imagination with Bill Cunliffe, and June 21 will feature blues and boogie music.

For more information, visit TheMuck.org or call 714-738-6595.



AROUND TOWN



The wonderful, dynamic vocalist Andrea Miller is appearing weekly at The Tartan Room, a charming, friendly, neighborhood restaurant on North Tustin Ave. in Orange that's been around since 1958. Andrea performs every Tuesday night from 7 to 11 p.m., backed by Ron Kobayashi on keyboard and Mike Peak on bass. On Sunday, April 29, CalJAS, the California Jazz Arts Society, will present the Charlie Shoemake Trio, with Charlie on vibes, Joe Bagg on piano and Luther Hughes on bass. Time and location are TBD. You'll also want to mark June 20, July 18 and August 22 on your calendars for Jazz at The Magic Castle special CalJAS events.

The Irvine Barclay Theatre's current jazz series includes upcoming appearances by Branford Marsalis Quartet (on April 14), Cecil McLorin Salvant (on April 20), Airmen Of Note (Sept. 25) and Nicole Mitchell & Michael Dessen (Oct. 26). For tickets or more information, contact the box office by emailing tickets@thebarclay.org or calling 949-854-4646, extension 1.

On April 11, jazz singer Jennifer Hart will be accompanied by pianist Michael LeVan at Ziings Bistro & Bar in downtown Fullerton in celebration of Jazz Month! Ziings offers a delicious menu of Asian fusion and seafood and has a full bar, and reservations are recommended, so be sure to call 714-526-5777. And for their regular fourth Friday night, the Hart & Soul Band will be at Adele's at the San Clemente Inn to celebrate a raft of April birthdays, so head on down!

