JIVE TALKIN'

Friends of Jazz was cookin' with All That Jazz













Story and photos by Eric Marchese

May 20 party featured firstrate live entertainment, outstanding food and a lively, festive atmosphere.

Replacing the annual "cow-bop" fundraiser was an all-new event titled "All That Jazz."

Held on Sunday evening May 20 at the Los Coyotes Country Club, it certainly lived up to its name, with outstanding music that prompted fun dancing, wonderful Southern-style cuisine (like barbecued ribs and chicken), an opportunity drawing for some fun prizes, and even a special event – the delayed coronation of Gil McFadden as this year's Mardi Gras King (see our separate article on page five!).

Opening the show were three top jazz musicians – keyboard player Richard Ihara, bass player Sam Montooth and drummer Jeff Segal – who welcomed the early arrivals with a stream of fine instrumental jazz tunes.

Soon, the "divalicious" jazz diva

Debbi Ebert made her way up to the stage and began to serenade us with classics and standards like "Misty" and "Don't Get Around Much Anymore."

The combo hummed along right up through dinnertime with more great songs – "Our Love Is Here to Stay" and "My One and Only Love" come right to mind. The music was so irresistible that FOJ's Nick Batinich grabbed his sax and sat in.

Article continued on page four, along with more All That Jazz photos!

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FOJ has Meng Hall presence



FOJ's board president, Colleen Wadsworth (center) is joined by FOJ's co-founders and board members Nick and Dottie Batinich, left, and Bill and Jean Klinghoffer, in the foyer of CSUF's Meng Hall.

The April 13 event was the second annual luncheon sponsored by the Fine Arts department and its dean, Dale A. Merrill. Attendees were patrons who donate funds to the students within the department's various specialties. Seated at each table was one student recipient, several of whom were also speakers at the event.

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

Muck Jazz Festival gets into full swing



Tommy Peterson, a tenor saxophone player in Doc Severinsen's famed Tonight Show Orchestra for 18 years, headlined the Muck Jazz Festival's second week on May 24, backed by the Cal State Fullerton Jazz Orchestra. The orchestra's director, Bill Cunliffe, can be seen standing just offstage in the wings after having introduced Peterson. Five student musicians, billed as "The Sauce," provided the half-hour opening act. For the rest of this year's festival schedule, and other upcoming Muck events, please turn to page 7.

Photo by Eric Marchese

Welcome to these new FOJ members, and welcome back to our returning members

Spring brings an uptick of new members for FOJ.

We welcome these new members of Friends of Jazz and thank them for their support:

Peter & Lily Corley Elizabeth Fermin Benjamin Gonzalez Jarrett Griffin Maya Lee Candace Lynch Jim & Ellie Monroe Cynthia Qurel Jane Rands Nancy Tayui Laura and Guy Webster

And welcome back to these returning FOJ members: Johanna Bonillas Judy Brinton-Bleak

Don and Elle De-Gennaro Dylan Harlan

Gail & Gordy Judd
Dan & Ann Kiernan

Gene and Shirley

Laroff

Mission Viejo High School Boosters

Julie Nolan

Jeff and Peggy

Sotzing

Bernice Stumps
Paul and Sheryl

Tecker

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It's a wrap for FOJ's high school jazz band program

Five solid student bands take center stage with exciting Saturday afternoon concerts at Florentine's in April and May.

By Jim Harlan

The 2018 High School Jazz Band Series at Florentine's Grill showcased eight high schools and their accomplished jazz programs. Each student winner received a \$400 scholarship and the band program received a \$300 stipend. To date, FOJ has now awarded a total of \$750,000 in scholarship monies to outstanding high school musicians and their schools.

Here are the participating schools and the students who were awarded scholarships this past spring.

Esperanza: Kyle Hallerbach, bass; Mission Viejo: Blake Bradley, alto sax; El Dorado: Brandon Orenstein, flugelhorn and trumpet; Kennedy: Taylor Lee, baritone sax, bassoon and trombone; Katella: Angel Carbajal, trumpet; Yorba Linda: Natalie Suvarnasudhhi, alto sax, soprano sax and flute; Irvine: Daniel Woo, bass; and Fullerton: Annika Thompson, bass.

FOJ would like to commend Florentine's Grill for another outstanding season, with a special thank-you to Joe Florentine and manager Tony Frausto for accommodating our Jazz Band series.

We also express sincere appreciation and deeply felt gratitude to our judges: Larry and Kitty Arthur, Judi McDuff, Gil and Judy McFadden, Eric Marchese and Jerry Wolf.



ABOVE: Fullerton Union high's super bass player, Annika Thompson, with FUHS band director Troy Trimble. Top right: Katella trumpet whiz Angel Carbajal with band director Dylan Harlan. Right: Irvine star bassist Daniel Woo and band director Bob Avzaradel. Lower right: Yorba Linda high's triple threat, Natalie Suvarnasudhhi, who excels at alto and soprano sax as well as flute, with director Bincins Garcia. Lower right corner: Another sensational triplethreat is Kennedy's Taylor Lee, who plays baritone sax, bassoon and trombone with equal ease, seen here with director Joshua Parsons and Jim Harlan, director of FOJ's high school jazz band program.

Photos by Jim Harlan and Eric Marchese









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All That Jazz party delivered the goods

Continued from page one.

After dinner, as everyone had filled up on ribs, chicken, cole slaw, baked beans, potatoes au gratin, apple pie and coffee, dancers made their way out onto the floor. While Debbi handled most of the vocals.

the multitalented Richard also sang a few of the selections, including his classic rendition of Louis Armstrong's immortal "What a Wonderful World," with Richard delivering his best "Satchmo" vocals. He and Debbi engaged in some playful banter, with Richard as Ed Sullivan, and Debbi sang (and the combo played) the '50s "Sominex" jingle.

Another late-evening highlight was the band's rockin' and rollin' version of the Louis Prima classic "Jump, Jive an' Wail," capped off by a vigorous, near-frantic drum solo by drummer extraordinaire Jeff Segal.



















Save the dates of these upcoming Friends of Jazz events

September 9 Annual Members Party, Batinich home, Fullerton

October 2018 Oktoberfest Party, date and location TBA

January 2019 Sponsors Party, date and location TBA

March 10, 2019 Mardi Gras Ball, Embassy Suites Hotel, Brea

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Second coronation goes off without a hitch

This year's Mardi Gras Ball King, Gil McFadden, gets a do-over: Unable to attend on March 11, he's given a special coronation at All That Jazz on May 20.

Story and photos by Eric Marchese

The Sunday evening "All That Jazz" party held in Buena Park on May 20 had a special treat in store for all who attended – they got to see "King Gil" receive his crown.

Gil McFadden and wife Judy had been selected as this year's Mardi Gras King and Queen – but when the MGB unfolded on Sunday, March 11, Gil was unable to attend. He had been recovering from a fall and wasn't able to take his place among FOJ's storied Mardi Gras royalty.

So it was decided that his formal coronation would be held at the next FOJ event – All That Jazz on May 20. The only hitch was that just as Gil had nearly recuperated, he took another spill – but with just over a week to go, both he and Judy vowed that he would be at Los Coyotes come heck or high water.

Sure enough, the two were among the first to arrive, all decked out in black and with Judy rolling Gil along in a wheelchair. During the band's first break, FOJ board president Colleen Wadsworth and vice-president Jerry Wolf presided over the coronation. As Gil and Judy remained at their table, Jer-







ry read off the list of duties Gil would have to agree to perform as Mardi Gras King.

As he agreed to each item, Judy remained poised behind him, holding the crown just above his head. Once he had taken all of his vows and been declared king, she lowered the crown onto his head to a round of applause and

cheers from the crowd.

For King Gil, it was a long time in coming, but obviously one well worth waiting for – and one he and Queen Judy will treasure for the coming ten months, until the crowns, capes and scepters are passed along to the royals of Friends of Jazz's 2019 Mardi Gras Ball.

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FRIENDS OF JAZZ. INC.

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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 (January 2019). 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 (January 2019). 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, 2018 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2019 Category _____ Date_____ Amount enclosed \$ _____ Date_____ 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

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Day of Music Fullerton ringing out in its fourth year

For the fourth consecutive year, The Day of Music Fullerton will be celebrating music of all kinds on the Summer Solstice, June 21st, the date the annual event always takes place. This year, that date falls on a Thursday, which ties in nicely with the very popular weekly Farmers Market in downtown Fullerton.

Organizers have bands lined up at the plaza including Orange County's own Alice Wallace, Hooray for Our Side and Skapeche Mode. Additionally, there are several mass appeals, inviting participants from the public to perform, and more than 30 venues throughout the city will be hosting performers. The Villa del Sol will once again feature all jazz musicians beginning at noon and continuing throughout the day until 9:30 p.m.

A special mass appeal event is being held on the newly renovated Great Lawn at Hillcrest Park, starting at 5 p.m.

Called Sousapalooza, the event celebrates the music of John Philip Sousa by inviting



One of the hundreds of musicians who performed at The Day of Music Fullerton in 2017.

Photo by Carol van Ahlers

musicians to join in an impromptu band, performing Sousa's many immortal works.

For more details about this year's Day of

Music Fullerton, or to view the performer lineups throughout the city, please visit www. thedayofmusic.com or email Day of Music at info@dayofmusic.com.

Muckenthaler has much in store: 2018 Jazz Festival and more

The 13th annual Muckenthaler Jazz Festival kicked off on Thursday, May 17 with Grammy-winning Poncho Sanchez packing the venue and 30 more fans waiting to get in. The weekly concerts feature student jazz musicians from CSUF. The lead-in for Sanchez was a quartet whose leader told Nick Batinich that if not for the FOJ scholarship given to him in high school, he probably wouldn't have gone on to college.

"The Tonight Show" alum Tommy Peterson and the Fullerton Jazz Orchestra were featured May 24. Here's the lineup for the next four Thursday nights: 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.

The Muckenthaler Cultural Center has other musical performances in store on upcoming Thursday nights. A special June 28 concert called "Just Desserts" will feature talented jazz and classical pianist Beth Sussman in an evening of light classical selections and jazz.

The program includes Gershwin's own arrangements as well as piano confections by Claude Debussy, Edward MacDowell, Duke Ellington, and Hoagy Carmichael. Tickets include complimentary desserts after the show.

Since receiving her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the Juilliard School at age 21, Sussman has performed extensively in the United States and Europe, including solo recitals at the Orange County Performing Arts Center, Gindi Auditorium in Los Angeles and The Ravinia Festival, summer home of the Chicago Symphony.

Fans of the Muck's summer programs will be treated to "An Evening of American Ragtime" on July 5. If you're still feeling patriotic the day after Independence Day, don't miss this chance to bathe yourself in nostalgic syncopation and rhythmic Americana under the stars.

Both "Just Desserts" and "An Evening of American Ragtime" begin at 7:30 p.m. at The Muck, 1201 West Malvern Ave., Fullerton. Per-show tickets are \$12.50 for members, \$16 students/seniors, and \$25 for non-members.

JJJ Quarter Notes JJJ

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News & Notes

The 9th annual Sunset Jazz at Newport summer jazz series launches its July 11 grand opening with The Jazz Cruise All-Stars, then runs over ten consecutive Wednesday nights with stars like Chuck Redd, the Emmet Cohen Trio, the Akiko-Hamilton-Dechter Organ Trio and the Tom Kubis Big Band. As in past years, this fantastic 11-week series is being billed as ideal "for lovers of great jazz, wine, food and sunsets!" You can see much more at the site sunsetjazzatnewport.com or call 949-759-5003 to order tickets or find out more.



Upcoming Events:

Sept. 9, 2018 October 2018 January 2019 March 10, 2019 Members Party, Batinich home, Fullerton Oktoberfest, location and date TBA Sponsors Party, location and date TBA Mardi Gras Ball, Embassy Suites, Brea

AROUND TOWN



CalJAS, the California Jazz Arts Society and the Academy of Magical Arts present Jazz at the Magic Castle on June 20, July 18 and August 22. On Friday night June 9, vocalist Jennifer Hart and pianist Michael Le Van perform jazz and standards at Ziings Bistro in Fullerton, and two weeks later (June 22), the Hart & Soul Band takes to the stage at Adele's in the San Clemente Inn. Vocalist and guitarist Anthony Williams will sing and play guitar at Versai Wine Bar in Yorba Linda from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday June 29, and he's at Ziings Bistro in Fullerton every Thursday night from 7 to 10 p.m., performing and running the club's weekly open mic event. You can catch Debbi Ebert and Richard Ihara are at Cedar Creek in Brea every Friday and Saturday night from 6 to 10 p.m. This summer, Debbi will be bringing her acclaimed "Divalicious" show to the GEM Theater in Garden Grove. The date and time are TBA, but Debbi said it will be either a Thursday night or a Sunday afternoon in July. The Ninth Annual Sunset Jazz at Newport summer jazz series is on its way, featuring 11 consecutive Wednesday night concerts from July 11 to Sept. 19 at the Newport Beach Marriott Hotel & Spa. Featured performers include some FOJ favorites like Ken Peplowski, Barbara Morrison, John Pizzarelli, The Four Freshmen, Rickey Woodard, Jeff Hamilton, the Byron Stripling-Bobby Floyd Quartet and special guests like Tony Guerrero. For tickets or information, call 949-759-5003 or visit the event's website, sunsetjazzatnewport.com.

Ron Kobayashi, piano, and Sam Montooth, bass, play jazz at Bayside in Newport Beach every Thursday night and host a rotating jam session there every Friday night. Jazz vocalist Andrea Miller appears Tuesday nights, 7-11 p.m., at The Tartan Room, a charming, friendly, neighborhood restaurant located on North Tustin Ave. in Orange that first opened in 1958. Ron Kobayashi backs Andrea on keyboard and Mike Peak plays bass.