

FOJ awards scholarships to local college jazz bands



Tuesday, Nov. 12, marked the annual scholarship awards concert by the 20-piece Fullerton College Jazz Band directed by Bruce Babad. The band opened with a Matt Harris chart for one of Buddy Rich's band, "Cape Verdean Blues," followed by a Harris original, "Inside Out." Later, Stevie Wonder's "Do I Do" featured vocalist Kyle Hill with the band on a brand new Harris arrangement.

The 12-voice jazz ensemble, J-Train, directed by Teryn Re Carter, sang "I Feel so Smoochie," "I Can't Make You Love Me," "I'm Glad There is You," "Blues

Walk," and "Desafinado" (performed with the Jazz Band). The band also played arrangements of "Yesterdays" and "The Trolley Song."

Scholarship awards were presented to students in the band and to J-Train vocalists part way through the program (FC scholarship winners are at top left).

On Friday, Dec. 6, Cal State University's Fullerton Jazz Orchestra, under Bill Cunliffe's direction, will perform a variety of jazz tunes at 8pm in Meng Hall, and several students will receive scholarships.

FOJ members Jim Harlan and Jerry Wolf will award \$30,000 in scholarship monies to vocal and instrumental jazz students from Fullerton College and Cal State University, Fullerton, during the two concerts.

Funds are provided by members like you, donations and grants from The Johnny Carson Foundation.



Many thanks to all who contributed to FOJ in 2024!

Adamson family, Dennis Aigner & Camille Bertolet, Larry & Kitty Arthur, Bruce Babad, Nick & Dottie Batinich, Terry & Karen Blackley, Betsy Bogue, Betty Bond, Dale & Mary Botts, Marion Brockett, Carole Bruns, Calderon family, Teryn Carter, Ellie Castillo, Jim & Tracy Caviola, Doug & Paulette Chaffee, Annaliese Chairez, Gary & Lynn Chalupsky, Mike & Sheri Chu, Jack Clement, Mike & Gail Cochran, Jessie Cormier-Sayre, Bill Cunliffe, Jim Davenport & Lisa McLain, John & Mitzi Demman, Jill & Paul DeWeese, Helga & Dan DiNardo, Richard & Susan Dolnick, Minard Duncan, Bill & Trudy Durette, Don Dyer, Ron & Ruth Egigian, Allie Encarnacion, George & Beverly Ennis, Barbara Fischer, Charles Fixa, Michael Flinner, Fullerton Elks, Tara & Scott Glenny, Randi Hetrick, Mary Louise & Ed Hlavac, Tim Hall, James & Lucinda Halley, Dylan & Carol Harlan, Jim & Donna Harlan, Kaaren Hathaway, Randy & Vicky Havens, Paul & Amy Hinz, Pam James, Barbara Johnson, Norm & Sandy Johnson, Jan & Pierrette Jordan, Gordy & Gail Judd, Bill & Alecia Keen, Kristen Kempiaik, Anne Key, Dan & Ann Kiernan, David Klein, Jean Klinghoffer, Louis Kuntz, Sharon Lambert, Rick & Carol Lansing, Rudy & Laura Lara, Shirley Laroff, Mike & Cindy Leone, Debbie Lipton, Shirley Luong, Jim & Pat Luft, Connie Mao, John McClure, Judi McDuff, Bill & Jan McGarvey, Dan & Nancy McKinney, Maurice Meysenburg, Mark Miller, Ilene Minnich, Laura & Lon Monk, Jim & Ellie Monroe, Suzette Montgomery, Mary Moore, Rosalind Munoz, Betty Murphy, Bob & Doris Muschek, Rick & Pat Nash, Mike & Lucy Peak, Vicki Pedrini, Gary Peterson, Ericka Quiroz, Meghan Rafael, Jeanette Reese, Dave Robbins, Andrew Rodell, Donn & Debby Rohrs, Joe Rothman, Mary Rupp, Tom Rybolt, Eva Schneider, Owen Shellenbarger, Jamie Shew, Griselda Silva, Andrew & Ellen Siskind, Fernando Sotto, Jeff & Peggy Sotzing, Liz Stiles, Jeanie Stockwell, Mike Sullivan, Steve & Judy Swytak, Ed Valdemar, James Umholtz, Candy Valko, Colleen Wadsworth, Dianne Wallace, Justin White, Jerry & Linda Wolf

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FOJ LOOKS BACK UPON A QUARTER CENTURY

BY ERIC MARCHESE

EDITED BY JUDI MCDUFF

What started as a casual Sunday brunch in March 1999 blossomed into a full-fledged, community-oriented, educational non-profit group that raises tens of thousands of dollars each year, then plows those funds back into the community in the form of scholarships, stipends and other academic endorsements, educational programs in schools at all levels (from kindergarteners to university graduate jazz students) and many community endeavors.

Friends of Jazz can now look back upon 25 years — back to the beginning, the inception of FOJ, when it was little more than an inspired idea by a group of

“All of us are dinosaurs. When we’re gone, who’s going to pick up the baton?”

individuals who had a definite goal in mind. That goal? To keep jazz music alive by cultivating a passion for jazz within the hearts and minds of young people — students hungry and eager for great music and the joys that performing great jazz can bring.

The first meeting at Steamers, held in late March 1999, consisted of 18 members of the community who enjoyed jazz music and were concerned enough about its future to accept the invitation to meet for brunch.

A slate of officers was quickly selected: Bill and Jean Klinghoffer as, respectively, president and vice-president; Nick Batinich as treasurer; Joe Pecci as recording secretary; and Terence Love, Steamers’ owner, as technical advisor.

Also present that day were Dottie Batinich, Lee Cohen, John & Georgia Cooper, Dee Gustafson, Larry Israel, Margaret McKay, Dale Olinger, and Leona Pecci.

The newly formed group developed a mission statement. Searches for an accountant and an attorney turned up, respectively,

David L. Miller, CPA, and Doug Chaffee.

Friends of Jazz’s very first fundraiser was held on April 18, 1999, featuring Bobby Rodriguez. Total attendance was just 30, but the event generated \$400—funds that were immediately donated to the Orange County Art and Jazz Festival.

Various changes occurred during FOJ’s first year: Jean Klinghoffer moved to director of programs, with Paula Massimino stepping in as vice-president. Robert L. Johnson became parliamentarian, thereby providing invaluable guidelines to the fledgling group. Bruce Barton, the publicity director, designed a brochure for FOJ, and the board grew to its complement of 10.

In December 1999, FOJ incorporated as a nonprofit organization. Talented jazz pianist and composer Steve Allen was contacted, and he agreed to be an honorary board member.

Next, jazz lovers equally concerned with the music’s future were invited to become “Founders” by donating seed money. Those donating the most became

known as Platinum Founders; next were Gold, Silver and Special Founders.

Following was a membership drive that generated two types of memberships: Patrons and General Members.

The first Founders Party was held on May 7, 2000, and a party to welcome members was held a month later. August, 2000, saw yet another fundraiser, “An Evening in New Orleans,” held at Steamers Café. This time, attendance was 110 — nearly quadruple that first fundraiser.

In October 2000, FOJ produced the very first “RagFest.” This party featured local ragtime musicians and was also held at Steamers. It was SRO.

With Bill Klinghoffer at the helm, the board began offering jazz presentations at local schools, scholarships were developed and more people began to join.

According to Bill, “All of us are dinosaurs. When we’re gone, who’s going to pick up the baton? Most kids have never heard jazz, and the only way we could

(continued on next page)

HOW I BECAME A MEMBER OF FOJ

BY JIM HARLAN, DIRECTOR, H.S. JAZZ BANDS

I first became acquainted with Friends of Jazz through the High School Jazz Band Program. My son, Dylan Harlan, was an FOJ scholarship winner at Kennedy High in 2004. That’s when I met Nick Batinich and Bill Klinghoffer.

Dylan majored in music

at Cal State University, Fullerton, and it was at a jazz concert at Meng Hall that I met Jean Klinghoffer and volunteered to be part of FOJ. I then began working with the high school jazz program.

Dylan is a band director at a local high school in Orange County. They

participate in our high school jazz band series every spring and have had several scholarship winners.

I look forward to working with these talented students every Spring.



Dylan Harlan and two scholarship winners in 2024



Pictured here: The dedicated men and women who believed in Friends of Jazz from the very beginning

FOJ LOOKS BACK CONTINUED

keep the music alive was to take our programs to elementary school kids to give them the opportunity to hear jazz played live.” By going to each school at least once annually, FOJ enabled them to hear authentic jazz at least once a year from kindergarten through sixth grade.

One of FOJ’s most successful programs was Jazz America. Developed and run by Ann Patterson, the program featured a quintet of professionals on reeds, trumpet, piano and bass. Children who attended this program learned about different kinds of jazz and how to scat and play simple instruments.

Another example of a successful elementary school program is the Fourth-Grade Recorder program. Launched in Spring 2004, initially run by Jennifer Hart, and now by Cindy Leone, the program “has enlightened kids and

given them a feel for music.”

Some of the program’s students go on to become band members when they reach fifth grade.

FOJ’s high school program gives high school bands a chance to perform locally at Lone Wolf Brewing Co. on Saturday afternoons in the Spring, while FOJ continues to offer scholarships and donate seed money to bands to purchase music and instruments. Its college programs pump much-needed revenue into the traditionally cash-starved area of live music in the form of scholarships that recognize excellence.

Often, FOJ’s role is in the form of assistance—such as Jill DeWeese’s vocal jazz programs and jazz bands at the Fullerton High School. FOJ helped DeWeese take high school music students to Carnegie Hall.

Many FOJ-fostered high school musicians wind up attending CSUF, CSU, Northridge, USC, UCLA and the Eastman School of Music; and Fullerton College has a connection with the Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Bill said that one of the toughest aspects of being involved with FOJ is that “sometimes we have to recognize that, for many students, jazz may not be a vocation, but an avocation.” Another hurdle? “Getting other cities to do what we’re doing, to copy what we’ve done.”

Today, Friends of Jazz can look proudly back upon the last twenty-five years while also looking forward to the next—which, with any good fortune, will be as successful.

WHY I JOINED FOJ BY DON DYER

My introduction to FOJ was totally accidental. I discovered the Muckenthaler and was totally impressed. I wondered how I could have missed it in the past 30 years. Each night, I sat front row center. One intermission, I met Jeanie Stockwell who described FOJ and asked if I would like to join. I said, “you had me with the word Jazz.” She introduced me to members and I went to a Mardi Gras Ball and a beautiful backyard party with a jazz band and a couple of jazz singers. I knew this was for me, and I have continued working to promote our objectives for jazz music in the schools. Plus, I heard a whole lot of great music and attended fun parties.

FRIENDS OF JAZZ, INC.

Keeping Music in the Schools Since 1999!

Membership Categories for July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

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

MEMBERSHIP FOR JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025

Category _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____ Date _____

Name _____

Address _____ - _____ Zip _____ - _____

Phone (____) _____ (please include all 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)

CVV (3 digits on back of card) _____ AMEX (4 digits on front of card)

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

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.

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

For more information, call Jeanie Stockwell (714) 815-4320 or Jean Klinghoffer (714) 871-6342.
www.friendsofjazzinc.com jazz4u0522@gmail.com

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*Sunday,
March 9*

It will be Mardi Gras time soon! We accept donations for our silent auction—tickets to a sports event or the theater, wine/liquor, jewelry, trips, gift cards, dishes, art—to name a few items. Call us and we'll pick up your donations (714-273-7504). And if you have any baskets from last year's parties, bring them back to us and you'll get a free drink ticket.

Donate a Scholarship

Help students study and perform jazz. Donate \$500 to FOJ and we'll present a scholarship in your name. If you like, you can help award the scholarship at an FOJ event.

You can also donate in memory of someone. Our newest scholarship is in memory of **Joe Henderson**, who headed our high school jazz program and served on the FOJ Executive Board for many years. Scholarship donations support our high school program.

“We hope to provide a public venue for jazz students to display their talents.”

Judi McDuff, Editor, (714) 271-0647

Call/text me with comments or questions.

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High school jazz concerts begin in 2025

High school jazz concerts are held at Lone Wolf Brewing Co., 18210 Yorba Linda Blvd., Yorba Linda, on Saturdays from 1-3pm. Dates are as follows:

Feb. 1, Esperanza; Feb. 22, La Serna; Mar. 1, University; Mar. 15, El Dorado; Mar. 22, Valencia; Mar. 29, Yorba Linda; Apr. 5, Los Alamitos; Apr. 12, Northwood; Apr. 19, Eleanor Roosevelt; Apr. 26, Oxford. All concerts are free. Reservations are recommended for families—call (714) 451-2240.

Join or Renew Your Membership



Your membership matters. If your membership has expired, the sooner you renew it, the better for FOJ and its mission—keeping music in the schools. (See membership application on page 3.)

Please reach out to others – find at least one family member, friend, co-worker, neighbor or acquaintance and urge them to join us. Once they hear about Friends of Jazz's positive influence within the community, they'll want to be part of our helping students. And you all get to enjoy our parties and events. Or consider volunteering for us.

Donations and membership dues keep us alive. Besides checks and credit cards, we accept stocks and cash; all are tax-deductible. You can write off your donations to Friends of Jazz when you itemize your 2023 taxes.



AROUND TOWN

Friends of Jazz's talented Jennifer Hart sings at Baci Restaurant in Huntington Beach on the second Friday of each month, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Jazz vocalist Debbi Ebert, accompanied by Richard Ihara, can be heard Friday and Saturday nights from 6 to 10pm at Cedar Creek Inn in Brea. Crooner Gavin Braun sings at local venues including the Tartan Room and Keno's.

Live jazz and blues happen at Fullerton's Twisted Vine, 127 W. Commonwealth Ave, Friday and Saturday nights. Check out free jazz concerts on weekends at Les Amis, 128 W. Wilshire Ave., Fullerton. Also, come listen to the Dixielic Jazz Band who play from 7 to 9:30pm the last Saturday of each month at Les Amis. Rag-time is on at Half-Off Books, 114 W. Wilshire Ave., Fullerton, and at Nixon Library in Yorba Linda. Next concert is on Dec. 14 at Half-Off Books. (Check the OCRS website for their complete schedule).

Come hear the Michael LeVan Trio, 6-9pm, Wed., Thurs. (w/Elena Gilliam), Sun. (w/Andrea Miller), Il Gatto, La Habra.