

Now in our 26th Year!

November 2025

Volume 6 Issue 8

JAZZ NOTES

CSUF opens Fall 2025 with a dynamite concert

Friday, Oct. 24, was a swingin' night of jazz for students, family and friends at CSUF's Meng Hall. Students from Cal State University's Fullerton Jazz Orchestra and Fullerton Chamber Jazz Ensemble, directed by Bill Cunliffe and Rodolfo Zuniga, respectively, provided the entertainment. Guest guitarist Dave Stryker highlighted the evening with some powerful solos, and many students performed an array of solos, as well.

The Chamber Ensemble played "How About You," with Stryker on guitar and Alexander Grandstaff on sax; "I Should Have Known," with Stryker and Andrew Munoz on trombone; "Rumba Pa' Jerry," with Spencer Bowie on sax, Udana De Silva, drums, Jiayu Cao, on congas.

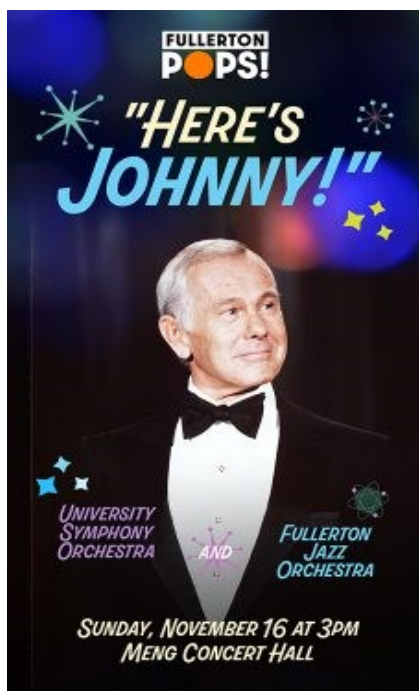
Two Marvin Gaye numbers were featured by the Jazz Orchestra in the second half, notably, "Trouble Man" and "What's Going On." Also featured were Stryker, "Blues Strut," Hoagy Carmichael's "The Nearness of you," arranged by student Jacob Wallingbrock, and Stanley Turrentine's "Stan's Shuffle." Bill Cunliffe provided a dazzling organ accompaniment.

The Fullerton Jazz Orchestra and the University Symphony Orchestra will perform at the "Fullerton Pops: A Tribute to Johnny Carson," on Sun., Nov. 16, 3pm, at CSUF's Meng Hall (Femi Knight & Jack Wood, vocals; Kye Palmer, trumpet; and Ernie Watts, tenor sax).



Buena Park HS holds Sweet Night of Jazz

On Friday, Oct. 17, the Buena Park High School Vocal Ensemble held a fun night of jazz. The event raised more than \$6,000 to benefit the group's participation in the Jazz Education Network's JENerations Jazz Festival in New Orleans this coming January. Friends of Jazz was one of the sponsors of this group, and some of our members enjoyed an evening of Dixieland and vocal jazz, including solos and well-known jazz standards accompanied by piano, drums and bass. Congratulations to Jill DeWeese, Director, whose hard work and dedication resulted in a fine group of young jazz artists. Best of luck to you!



Save the dates for Fall 2025 college jazz concerts

Wed., Nov. 12	Fullerton College Jazz Combos, Babad/Scott, 7:30pm, Campus Theatre
Thurs., Nov. 13	Fullerton College Jazz Band, J-Train, & Scholarship Awards, Bruce Babad/Jamie Shew, 7:30pm, Campus Theatre
Sun., Nov. 16	Fullerton Jazz Orchestra & University Symphony Orchestra, Fullerton Pops: A Tribute to Johnny Carson, 3pm, CSUF Meng
Tues., Nov. 18	Fullerton College Synergy Vocal Jazz & Lab Band, Michael Scott, 7:30pm, Campus Theatre
Wed., Nov. 19	CSUF Jazz Singers, Teryn Re, director, 8pm, CSUF Meng Hall
Fri., Dec. 5	Fullerton Jazz Orchestra & Scholarship Awards, Bill Cunliffe, Rodolfo Zuniga, 8pm, CSUF Meng Hall
Tues., Dec. 9	Fullerton Jazz Chamber Ensemble & Latin Jazz Ensemble, 8pm, CSUF Meng Hall



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Call/text with comments or questions.

Join or Renew Your Membership



Your membership matters. Our annual membership drive is in full swing. If your membership has expired, the sooner you renew it, the better for FOJ and its mission—keeping music in the schools since 1999. Our music programs provide: Music at Schools, Music Showcase, Music Scholarships, and Music in the Community. A membership form for first-time members, renewals, or to make a donation is included.

Reach out to others and ask them to join – we’re asking every current member to 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 helping students and get to enjoy our parties and events.

Donations are the lifeblood that keeps us going, so you can also help here. And you can write off your donations to Friends of Jazz when you itemize your taxes. We encourage stocks and business donations, as well. If you can't renew or join, please consider volunteering for us. Thank you for helping to keep music in schools!

Upcoming Jazz Events!

**Pilgrim's Coffee House, Fri., Nov. 7, 7pm,
124 W. Wilshire Ave., Fullerton**

Sun., Dec. TBD, 2-4:30pm, CalJAS, Luther & Becky Hughes home, Westminster

**Jennifer Hart, 2nd Friday each month, 6:30-9:30pm,
Baci's, Huntington Beach**

Debbi Ebert Fri. & Sat., 6-10pm, Cedar Creek Inn, Brea

**FOJ thanks our new and
returning members**

**Don Dyer Betty Murphy Barbara Fischer
Bill & Jan McGarvey Terry & Karen
Blackley Jim Davenport/Lisa McLain
Walter Clark**

Pilgrim's Coffee House fall jazz series continues

Join us for the third concert in Pilgrim's Fall Jazz Series in downtown Fullerton on Friday, Nov. 7 at 7pm. Enjoy specialty coffee, sweet treats, and great company as we celebrate art and music together.

First in the series was the Michael Choi Quintet who entertained a packed house on Sept. 12. The group played some old standards and favorites, along with some new tunes. Second was the Spencer Bowie Quartet on Oct. 3 who also entertained a packed house. Hope to see you there on Nov. 7!

Holiday jazz with the Pacific Jazz Orchestra

Deck the halls with the Pacific Jazz Orchestra in a festive evening of holiday classics, jazz standards and swinging arrangements. Special guests **Sy Smith** and **Brenna Whitaker** add warmth and sparkle to the festivities with their powerhouse vocals. Surprise guests and star-studded collaborations promise extra delight. A joyful night of music for the whole family.

Saturday, Dec. 13, 8pm The Alex Theatre, 216 N. Brand Ave., Glendale



Tickets: \$57-113 Use promo code PJO-HOLIDAY and receive a 20% discount. For info and to purchase tickets, copy and paste: <https://www.thealex.com/shows#calendar-b8b78dc4-f44a-4633-ab5e-9d1eade33f37-event-c1d9aeed-54e5-42d6-93e0-1783331f0ef1>

This publication is produced by Friends of Jazz, Inc., an educational, Orange County-based, all-volunteer, nonprofit corporation. Please write to PO Box 5671, Fullerton, CA 92838-0671.

A collage of four photographs of jazz musicians. The top-left photo shows a man in a dark suit playing a saxophone on a stage. The bottom-left photo shows a man in a light blue shirt playing an electric guitar. The middle-left photo shows a man in a white shirt and sunglasses playing a double bass. The bottom-right photo shows a man in a dark shirt playing a drum set. The background is a light blue gradient with a subtle pattern of musical notes.