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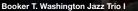
DOWNBEAT'S 35TH ANNUAL STUDDENT MICLAWARDS

The Greatest Performances & Brightest Stars of 2012

> The Golden Achievements of Dr. Steve Zegree PAGE 112

> Mary Jo Papich & Dr. Lou Fischer Revive Jazz Education





Jazz Soloist

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS

Pete Miller, piano John Jay Middle School Jeff Richardson Cross River, NY

Matthew Richards,

alto saxophone Walnut Creek Intermediate Mary Fettig Walnut Creek, CA

HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS

Julian Lee, alto saxophone Montclair High School James Wasko Montclair, NJ

Coleman Hughes, trombone Newark Academy Julius Tolentino Livingston, NJ

HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Emery Mesich, alto saxophone **Rio Americano High School** Josh Murray Sacramento, CA

Lake Jiroudek, guitar Idyllwild Arts Academy Marshall Hawkins Idyllwild, CA

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS

Max Goldschmid, soprano saxophone Tucson Jazz Institute Doug Tidaback Tucson, AZ

Antonio Madruga, piano New World School of the Arts Jim Gasior Miami, FL

New World School of the Arts Jazz Combo I

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Max Goldschmid, tenor saxophone **Tucson Jazz Institute** Doug Tidaback Tucson, AZ

David Leon, alto saxophone New World School of the Arts Jim Gasior Miami, FL

Lucas Del Calvo, guitar Colburn School of Performing Arts Lee Secard Los Angeles, CA

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNERS

Brian Clancy, tenor saxophone University of North Texas Bradford Leali Denton, TX

David Meder, piano Florida State University **Bill Peterson** Tallahassee, FL

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Max Acree, trombone University of Cincinnati Kim Pensyl Cincinnati, OH

Guy Mintus, piano Tel Aviv Conservatory Harel Shachal Tel Aviv, Israel

Jory Tindall, alto saxophone University of Northern Colorado Dr. Andrew Dahlke Greeley, CO

Brian Scarborough, trombone University of Kansas Dan Gailey Lawrence, KS

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNERS

Michael Shults. alto saxophone University of Cincinnati Kim Pensyl Cincinnati, OH

José Valentino Ruiz, flute University of Miami Frost School of Music Steve Rucker Coral Gables, FL

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Quentin Angus, guitar Purchase College Todd Coolman Purchase, NY

Karl Stabnau, baritone saxophone Eastman School of Music Jeff Campbell Rochester, NY

Benjamin Haugland, piano University of Northern Colorado Dana Landry Greeley, CO

Adam Rongo, alto saxophone Michigan State University Diego Rivera East Lansing, MI

Jazz Group/ Combo

HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Combo A

Berkeley High School Sarah Cline Berkeley, CA

HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Jazz Combo Folsom High School Curtis Gaesser Folsom, CA

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS

BTW Jazz Trio I Booker T. Washington **HSPVA** Bart Marantz Dallas, TX

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BTW Jazz Combo I Booker T. Washington HSPVA Bart Marantz Dallas. TX

Jazz Combo I

New World School of the Arts Jim Gasior Miami, FL

MSM Precollege Combo

Precollege at Manhattan School of Music Jeremy Manasia New York, NY

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Tuomo Uusitalo Trio

University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz Wayne Darling Graz, Austria

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Zebras

University of North Texas Stefan Karlsson & **Richard DeRosa** Denton, TX

Large Jazz Ensemble

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Caleb Chapman's Little Big Band

Caleb Chapman Music Caleb Chapman Salt Lake City, UT

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING

Folsom Middle School Jazz Band Folsom Middle School

John Zimny Folsom, CA

Sutter Middle School Jazz Band

Sutter Middle School John Zimny Folsom, CA

HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS

Jazz Band I

Folsom High School Curtis Gaesser Folsom, CA

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Jazz Band A **Buchanan High School** Paul Lucckesi Clovis, CA

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Ellington Big Band Tucson Jazz Institute Doug Tidaback Tucson, AZ

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Caleb Chapman's **Crescent Super Band** Caleb Chapman Music Caleb Chapman Salt Lake City, UT

Monday Night Studio Band

The Jazzschool Keith Johnson Berkeley, CA UNDERGRADUATE

COLLEGE WINNER

University of Central

Oklahoma Jazz Ensemble I University of Central Oklahoma Brian Gorrell Edmond, OK

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

NIU Jazz Lab Band

Northern Illinois University Rodrigo Villanueva Dekalb. IL

Get Jazz Orchestra

Senzokugakuen College of Music Yoshihiko Katori Kanagawa, Japan

Elmhurst College

Jazz Band Elmhurst College Doug Beach Elmhurst, IL

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Two O'Clock Lab Band

University of North Texas Jay Saunders Denton, TX

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

UNC Jazz Lab Band I University of Northern Colorado Dana Landry Greeley, CO

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PIANO Charles Blenzig Hal Galper Kevin Hays **David Hazeltine** Pete Malinverni

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Jazz Soloist Brian Clancy, tenor saxophone Bradford Leali

Jazz Group Zebras Stefan Karlsson/Richard DeRosa

Large Jazz Ensemble Two O'Clock Lab Band Jay Saunders

Vocal Jazz Soloist Trenton Hull Rosana Eckert

Vocal Jazz Soloist Kaela Bratcher Jennifer Barnes

Photo Countery of Sleve Smith

Vocal Jazz Soloist Ashleigh Smith Jennifer Barnes

Vocal Jazz Soloist Sarah Kervin Rosana Eckert

Vocal Jazz Soloist Kalhryn Christie Rosana Eckert

Vocal Jazz Group CircleSong Sarah Kervin

Vocal Jazz Group Zebras Stefan Karlsson Large Vocal Jazz Ensemble UNT Jazz Singers I Jennifer Barnes

Latin Group Sergio Pamies Latin Project Stefan Karlsson

Original Composition Lead Sheet Drew Zaremba, "A Happy Song"

Texas

Original Composition Orchestrated Work Michelle Alonso/Sergio Pamies, "Desabato" Stefan Karlsson

Jazz Arrangement Tyler Mire, "Confirmation" Richard DeRosa



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Vocal Jazz Soloist

HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Claire Dickson Home-Schooled Student Aubrey Johnson Medford, MA

HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Taylor Zickefoose Meadowdale High School Jeff Horenstein Lynnwood, WA

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Sekayi Sumbureru Artswest School Jeff Baker Eagle, ID

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Laila Smith Marin School of the Arts Kerry Marsh Novato, CA

Elliott Skinner Booker T. Washington HSPVA Kent Ellingson Dallas, TX

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Trenton Hull University of North Texas Rosana Eckert Denton, TX

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Kaela Bratcher University of North Texas Jennifer Barnes Denton, TX Ashleigh Smith University of North Texas Jennifer Barnes Denton, TX

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNERS

Kavita Shah Manhattan School of Music Theo Bleckmann New York, NY

Sarah Kervin University of North Texas Rosana Eckert Denton, TX

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Kathryn Christie (Stachitus) University of North Texas Rosana Eckert Denton, TX

Kelly Garner University of Miami Frost School of Music Dr. Lisanne Lyons

Coral Gables, FL

Vocal Jazz Group

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Panache 8 Corte Madera School Juliet Green Portola Valley, CA

HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Vocal Jazz Workshop St. Charles North High School Michael Molloy St. Charles, IL

HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Vocal Jazz Ensemble Royal High School Bonnie Graeve Simi Valley, CA

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

BTW Lab Singers Booker T. Washington HSPVA Bart Marantz Dallas, TX

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Synchronicity West Valley College Michelle Hawkins Saratoga, CA

CONTINUED ON PAGE 100

Carl Allen, Artistic Director Laurie A. Carter, Executive Director

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Jazz Instrumental Soloist



Inspiration Wide for Today's Best Instrumental Soloists

he names of John Coltrane, Miles Davis and Bill Evans are still on the lips of young jazz players a generation after their passing, but eager ears are drawing ideas from wider arenas. And most credit family members for actively fostering interest.

Pete Miller, pianist from John Jay Middle School, credits his teachers Rusty Cloud and Nigel Hall for motivation, but says, "I'm inspired by many jazz and soul musicians. I'm lucky that my family believes in live music. My favorite concerts, so far, were my first Lettuce/ Soulive show at the Highline Ballroom and Brad Mehldau at the Village Vanguard."

Julian Lee, Montclair High School's alto saxophonist, learns plenty from family, peers and pros. "I'm schooled in the jazz language by communicating with my friends, my father and brother, all jazz musicians," explains Lee. "The sense of community in all aspects of my jazz life produces an indescribable joy. Christian McBride, Bruce Williams, Freddie Hendrix, Dave Stryker and Billy Hart are musicians I play with and learn from. I feel lucky to be a young musician able to travel and perform with high-caliber bands like the Grammy Band, Monterey Jazz Festival Next Generation Orchestra and Jazz House Kids Big Band."

David Meder, pianist at Florida State University, listens with delight to pianists Keith Jarrett and Ahmad Jamal as well as Trane. "Jarrett has an incredible ability to do anything, technical or lyrical. Jamal has a great sense of space. And they both choose precisely when to use their technical abilities." Meder plans to focus in his final year on composing and arranging (citing Bob Brookmeyer and Mike Abene as favorites), then move to New York. "My goal is to make my living playing jazz, though I expect I'll have to master other skills within music-teach, compose, arrange." His instructor Bill Peterson reports that Meder recently performed in an FSU student combo at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola in Manhattan.

Growing up in Hannibal, Mo., Michael Shults played alto saxophone without the luxury of a private teacher. "I'd read DownBeat to discover players," says Schults, "then look them up online. That's how I first heard saxophonists like Branford Marsalis, my former teacher Bobby Watson, Seamus Blake, Chris Potter, Jaleel Shaw." Schults quotes eminently quotable home-boy Mark Twain, who said, "All of us contain music and truth, but most of us can't get it out."

"If you're serious about jazz, you're your own toughest critic, and it's difficult to evaluate your own playing," Shults says. "It's very special for me to get a mention in DownBeat."

Some players might have a hard time pinning influences to a few names. Take Max Goldschmid, who placed first on soprano sax at Tucson Jazz Institute this year. His instructor, Doug Tidaback, shook his head. "In thirty years teaching, I've never seen a talent like Max," Tidaback says. "He'll learn a piece on one instrument and immediately translate it to seven different instruments, playing all equally well. He was first chair all-state orchestra each of the last four years on different instruments: trumpet, tenor sax, alto sax, trombone. He's also a fine pianist. But he hasn't decided yet whether he wants to go into music."

Brad Leali openly praises the talent, heart and dedication of his student, tenor saxophonist Brian Clancy. "I had to be really up for his lessons," Leali says. "He'd come back with all the work done and more. What he seeks, he can't download as an app or see on YouTube: He haunts record shops, buys CDs, knows all the personnel."

Steve Rucker shares similar sentiments about multi-award winner José Valentino Ruiz. "He's one of the most passionate, energetic and devoted musicians I've been associated with," Rucker says. "He's inspired and elevated the entire group to a new level."

Frost School of Music

EXTENSIONS

Congratulations

The Frost School of Music is proud to recognize its winners from DownBeat's 35th Annual Student Music Awards

ENTINO RL

Jazz Soloist

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER José Valentino Ruiz, flute Steve Rucker, faculty mentor

Ciassical Soloist

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER José Valentino Ruiz, c flute Trudy Kane, faculty mentor

Blues/Pop/Rock Soloist

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER José Valentino Ruiz, fretless bass & vocal Steve Rucker, faculty mentor

Blues/Pop/Rock Group

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER José Valentino Ruiz World-Fusion Group Steve Rucker, faculty mentor

Latin Group

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER José Valentino Latin Jazz Ensemble Steve Rucker, faculty mentor

Blues/Pop/Rock Group

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER Funk Ensemble Steve Rucker, *laculty mentor*

Blues/Pop/Rock Group

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE Fusion Ensemble Steve Rucker, faculty mentor

Jazz Arrangement

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER Ryan Andrews, "Butterfly" Gary Lindsay, faculty mentor

Engineered Live Recording

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER Ryan Andrews Gary Lindsay, faculty mentor

Original Composition - Lead Sheet

COLLEGE GRADUATE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE Rafael Piccolotto De Lima, "Transfigurações Brasileiras" Gary Lindsay, faculty mentor

GARNER

(ELLY

Large Vocal Jazz Ensemble

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE Frost Jazz Vocal Ensemble I Larry Lapin, faculty mentor

Vocal Jazz Soloist

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE Kelly Garner, vocal sofoist Lisanne Lyons, faculty mentor

Vocal Jazz Group

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE Extensions, vocal jazz group Lisanne Lyons, faculty mentor

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UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Vocal Jazz Ensemble

American River College Dr. Art Lapierre Sacramento, CA

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Gold Company Sextet Western Michigan University Dr. Steve Zegree Kalamazoo, MI

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

CircleSong

University of North Texas Sarah Kervin Denton, TX

Large Vocal Jazz

Ensemble

Grass Valley

Natalie Wilson

Camas, WA

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SPECIAL JUDGE'S AWARD

Grass Valley Vocal Jazz

Elementary School

Extensions

University of Miami Frost School of Music Dr. Lisanne Lyons Coral Gables, FL

Zebras

University of North Texas Stefan Karlsson Denton, TX



JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Panache 7 Corte Madera School Juliet Green Portola Valley, CA

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Panache 6 Corte Madera School Juliet Green Portola Valley, CA

Celebration

King's Junior High Darla Pumphrey Seattle, WA

HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Jazz Choir I Folsom High School Curtis Gaesser Folsom, CA





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Constraintstatisting Constraintstatisting Large Jazz Ensemble Graduate College Outstanding Performance UNC Jazz Lab Band I

> Jazz Soloist Undergraduate College Outstanding Performance Jory Tindall, alto saxophone

Jazz Soloist Graduate College Outstanding Performance Benjamin Haugland, Diano Classical Group Graduate College Utinner

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.....



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Jazz Group

Undergraduate College Winner Tuomo Uusitalo Trio Prof. Olaf Polziehn

Latin Group

Undergraduate College Winner Marco Antonio da Costa Group Prof. Guido Jeszenszky

Jazz Arrangement

College Graduate Winners Reinhold Schmölzer "Lotus Flower by Radiohead" Prof. Edward Partyka

Jazz Arrangement

College Graduate Outstanding Performance Gerd Hermann Ortler "Weird Nightmare" Prof. Edward Partyka

Permanent Staff

Jazz Ensemble Conductio	ng
& Arranging	Michael Abene
Improvisation	Renato Chicco
Drums	Howard Curtis
Bass	Wayne Darling 🛛 🛀
Voice	Dena DeRose
Guitar	Guido Jeszenszky
Saxophone	Karlheinz Miklin
	Edward Neumeister
Jazz Composition	and the second
& Arrangement	Edward Partyka
Piano	Olaf Polziehn
Trumpet	James Rotondi

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Vocal Jazz Group



Taking Cues from the Pros

Regardless of age, they all take their cues from the pros. And the results show in this year's best small group vocal ensemble category.

According to music teacher Juliet Green, from Corte Madera School, her 4th through 8th graders are fearless. "The great thing about kids that age," she says, "is that if you don't let on how hard the music is, they just do it. I love introducing the kids to the music of Lambert, Hendricks and Ross. Middle-school kids and bebop are a really great combination—if you can get them to sing 'Anthropology' or 'Oleo' accurately, and with great jazz phrasing, they're ready for anything."

Two of Green's students reflect their dedication directly. "I love having a middle-school jazz choir," says Shane Turner. "I love singing and playing the music that we do." Ana White adds, "I like that it's an opportunity that we have that most schools don't have."

St. Charles North High School's Michael Molloy feeds his students a steady diet of the best. "The repertoire of Vocal Jazz Workshop," he notes, "comes almost entirely from the professional literature: The Hi-Los, Singers Unlimited, New York Voices, Swingle Singers, The Real Group, Take 6, Groove Society, The Idea of North. This challenges the students' musicianship to the utmost and requires a large amount of individual work. We're also very fortunate to have forged a partnership with the New York Voices and recently hosted our Third Annual New York Voices Jazz Festival here at the school."

St. Charles North student Hannah Allison Ressinger echoes these sentiments when she says, "Vocal Jazz Workshop has really opened up a whole new world of music for me, and made me fall in love with jazz. It really pushes all of us to work our hardest and be the best we can be, while giving us opportunities to meet artists and fellow students with the same appreciation that we have."

As for Synchronicity—this year's undergrad (repeat) winners from West Valley College—music teacher Michelle Hawkins had a unique challenge for her students. "This year," she notes, "I had a student from Japan, and I thought it would be different and special for her to write a Japanese lyric to Bobby McFerrin's 'Freedom Is A Voice,' which was originally sung in a made-up language. The horrible tsunami occurred the day after she wrote it, and the song evolved into an emotional tribute to the people of Japan that the entire group embraced."

That student, Masako Okada, had this to say: "This year's group was able to perform and synchronize not only harmonically but also emotionally. I'm grateful and proud to be part of such a wonderful group who put so much effort to deliver the emotion inside the song."

Steve Zegree, who leads Western Michigan University's Gold Company, proudly points to why his groups keep winning when he notes, "The Gold Company Sextet is a select group of the most advanced and experienced students from within the Gold Company program. Their repertoire usually consists of original compositions or arrangements written by students in the ensemble, or written especially for The GC Sextet. And the last two years, the group has performed at Jazz at Lincoln Center."

"The most important lesson I have learned from this program," says Gold Company member Richard Baskin, "is that nothing in this profession is given to you. It must be earned through hard work, and only hard work. And it feels good." —John Ephland

HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Kaleidescope

Kirkwood High School David Cannon Kirkwood, MO

Impressions Meadowdale High School Jeff Horenstein Lynnwood, WA

The Brearley B-Naturals The Brearley School Karyn Joaquino New York, NY

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Vocal Jazz Collective

Artswest School Jeff Baker Eagle, ID

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Gold Company Western Michigan University Dr. Steve Zegree Kalamazoo, MI

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Singcopation

Mt. San Antonio College Bruce Rogers Walnut, CA

Jazzmin

Belmont University Kathryn Paradise Nashville, TN

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Pacific Standard Time

California State University Bob Cole Conservatory of Music Christine Helferich Guter Long Beach, CA

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

UNT Jazz Singers I

University of North Texas Jennifer Barnes Denton, TX

Afro Blue Howard University Connaitre Miller Washington, DC

Frost Jazz Vocal Ensemble I

University of Miami Frost School of Music Larry Lapin Coral Gables, FL

Classical Soloist

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Tyler Sapsford, *guitar* American School in Japan Randy Wanless Tokyo, Japan

HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Eunghee Cho, cello Davis Senior High School Angelo Moreno Davis, CA



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Large Jazz Ensemble



No Challenge Too Great

embers of this year's winners for Best Large Ensemble pay homage to the past, while keeping an open ear to both the present and the future.

When you think of America's jazz centers, you might not immediately think of Oklahoma. But this year's undergraduate big band winners are making a case for it. "The members of the University of Central Oklahoma Jazz Ensemble I understand this group is the premier music ensemble at our universityin any genre," says director Brian Gorrell. A majority of the ensemble members are upperclassmen, although it is not uncommon for standout freshmen and sophomores to be involved in the ensemble, too. Students this year have been exposed to varying repertoire, including pieces by classic arranger Bill Holman as well as modern arrangers Alan Baylock and Toshiko Akiyoshi.

The University of North Texas Two O'Clock Jazz Band took home the award for the graduate division. Under the tutelage of Jay Saunders, students of this famed ensemble are held to the highest of expectations: enforcing a no-nonsense type of attitude that demands the members act as consummate professionals at all times.

At the other end of the age range are members of Caleb Chapman's Little Big Band in American Fork, Utah. Dedicated to the roots, Chapman's youngsters are entrenched in the big band styling of such icons as Benny Goodman and Woody Herman. Beyond musical expectations, each member is afforded an early glimpse at what it means to be a professional musician. "Students are expected to be at rehearsals 100 percent of the time, in addition to having their music prepared," says Chapman. "If they can't make a rehearsal, they must find a sub." Furthermore, students in the ensemble are required to study privately, as well as take part in frequent sectional rehearsals. With junior high students who list artists Joshua Redman and Roy Hargrove as sources of inspiration, it is little wonder why this band enjoys continued success.

The Ellington Big Band from Tucson (Ariz.) Jazz Institute was selected as this year's winner at the performing arts high school level. Having taught in a myriad of educational settings over the years, director Doug Tidaback has developed a keen eye for identifying talent early. Recent graduates of Tidaback's program have gone on to pursue degrees from colleges like Manhattan School of Music, The New School and several others.

Best Large Ensemble honors were shared by Folsom and Buchanan high schools, both in California. Folsom's Curtis Gaesser has his band perform at least 25 times a year impressive for any big band, but particularly for a high school ensemble. "I love the challenging music that Mr. Gaesser chose for us; every song is a different style," says band member Molly Redfield. Behind seasoned experience from the band's 10 seniors, the group has worked on the music of composers Maria Schneider and Jim McNeely.

Buchanan High School Jazz Band A, directed by Paul Lucckesi, also boasts an impressive diversity in its programming. Senior saxophonist Jim Nakamura attributes much of his love for being a band member to the plethora of visiting artists the band has the chance to work with, including David Binney and John Hollenbeck. "We don't just play two festivals," says vibraphonist Aaron Grisez. "We play for just about anyone that asks."

Musicians in each ensemble are seriously involved with the music and with the band. Perhaps what rings true for everyone can be found in a single statement by Buchannan High School saxophonist Josh Locher: "It's wonderful to be a part of something special." —Adam Larson

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Ana Miranda, soprano Los Angeles County High School for the Arts Stephanie Vlahos Los Angeles, CA

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Melissa Taddie, *violin* Western Michigan University Renata Artman Knific Kalamazoo, MI

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNERS

David Crider, percussion

Ohio University Roger Braun Athens, OH

José Valentino Ruiz, flute

University of Miami Frost School of Music Trudy Kane Coral Gables, FL

Classical Group

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Advanced Orchestra Holmes Junior High School Angelo Moreno Davis, CA

HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS

Symphony Orchestra Davis Senior High School

Angelo Moreno Davis, CA

Wind Symphony Wheeling High School Brian Logan Wheeling, IL

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS

LVA Senior Guitar Quartet

Las Vegas Academy Bill Swick Las Vegas, NV

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Lamont Symphony Orchestra

University of Denver Lamont School of Music Lawrence Golan Denver, CO

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Symphony Orchestra

University of Northern Colorado Russell Guyver Greeley, CO



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Hannah State, guitar Brearley School Matt Aiken New York, NY

HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Claire Dickson, vocalist Home-Schooled Student Aubrey Johnson Medford, MA

HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

CJ Dorsey, vocalist Kent Denver School Steve Holley Englewood, CO

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Laila Smith, vocalist Marin School of the Arts Kerry Marsh Novato, CA

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Christine Baird, vocalist Caleb Chapman Music Caleb Chapman Salt Lake City, UT

Austin Allen, vibes Booker T. Washington HSPVA Bart Marantz Dallas, TX

Adam Call, vocalist Caleb Chapman Music Caleb Chapman Salt Lake City, UT UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Matthew Landon, *guitar* Western Michigan University Tom Knific Kalamazoo, MI

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Olga Kulchytska, vocalist

California State University Christine Helferich Guter Long Beach, CA

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNERS

Dieter Rice, tenor saxophone University of Kentucky Raleigh Dailey Lexington, KY

José Valentino Ruiz,

fretless bass & vocalist University of Miami Frost School of Music Steve Rucker Coral Gables, FL

GRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Roland R. Davis, vocalist New York University Dr. David Schroeder New York, NY

Blues/Pop/ Rock Group

JUNIOR HIGH WINNER

Charm School The Brearley School Matt Aiken New York, NY

CONGRATULATIONS TO UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS STUDENTS

Brian Scarborough and David von Kampen for their 2012 DownBeat awards!



Left: David von Kampen, DMA in music composition. Winner, Original Composition-Orchestrated Work in the Graduate Division for his piece "Sneak Out." *Right:* Brian Scarborough, BM in trombone performance. Outstanding Performance, Jazz Instrumental Soloist in the Undergraduate Division.

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Latin Group



Cultural Immersion, Foreign Exchange Foster Fluency

hen learning a language, it's important to immerse yourself in the culture, listen with an open ear and be perceptive of the people around you. With that in mind, the winners of the Best Latin Group category have fully grasped these concepts to master the style and flavor of Latin jazz. But with such a wide range of backgrounds and influences, each group also develops fluency in a second, more important language: the language of collaboration.

The groups are surprisingly vast, and many members hail from countries outside of the United States and Latin America. Some are bilingual or even trilingual, but most have been performing together for at least two to three years. In that time, they've taken it upon themselves to incorporate their vast cultural differences into a universal musical language.

"We are all very busy musicians," says Marco Antonio da Costa, whose self-titled group at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz in Austria took home the Best Latin Group prize in the undergraduate category. "We play in different projects, have different personal tastes, come from different countries and cultural backgrounds. The best way to overcome those differences is by focusing on what we have in common."

That common ground is often a shared sense of discipline. Despite busy schedules crammed with after-school gigs, other formations and assignments, many groups meet weekly, and each member is expected to arrive with a professional mindset.

"It is impossible to dive into an unfamiliar style of music without paying serious dues by listening and studying," says Caleb Chapman, director of performing arts high school category winner La Onda Caribena at Caleb Chapman Music in American Fork, Utah. Chapman

often complements the group's intensive Latin jazz listening sessions with artist-led workshops.

Mary Funk, a junior trumpeter in the group, travels hours across the state of Utah to practice. "We make sure to make this a priority in our lives," Funk says. "If someone has to miss, they are expected to get a sub just like any professional group."

For the members of the José Valentino Latin Jazz Ensemble, this year's graduate winner from the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami, the most important instrument in mastering the art of Latin jazz performance is their ears. "Listening is the key," says bassist José Valentino Ruiz. "We listen so we can communicate properly. No matter what style of music we play, our mission is to perform it as authentically as possible."

In addition to absorbing individual tastes and personalities, as well as various Latin rhythms and textures, many of the musicians are also seasoned arrangers and composers, which are crucial components toward their mutual connection.

"Respect is the basis of the partnership," says Sergio Palmies of his University of North Texas Latin Project. "Rhythm section players help each other lock up, and horn players always help arrangers with their writing.'

Ruiz adds that it's not only about connecting with the ensemble, but translating that same unspoken connection and Latin spirit into their live performances.

"The music serves as a medium for which we can communicate with the audience through playing and dialogue," he says, highlighing the equal importance of stage presence and enthusiasm. "We want people to hear, feel and immerse themselves in the music." -Hilary Brown

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Kent Denver School Steve Holley Englewood, CO

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Lo-Fi Riot

Caleb Chapman Music Caleb Chapman Salt Lake City, UT

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Midi Ensemble

Booker T. Washington HSPVA Bart Marantz Dallas, TX

The Voodoo Orchestra

Caleb Chapman Music Caleb Chapman



Salt Lake City, UT

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Funk Ensemble University of Miami Frost School of Music Steve Bucker

Coral Gables, FL

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

Desolation Row

Western Michigan University Tom Knific

Kalamazoo, MI

Goodnight Mr. Max Western Michigan University Dr. David Little Kalamazoo, MI

GRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

José Valentino Ruiz World-Fusion Group University of Miami Frost School of Music Steve Rucker Coral Gables, FL

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Sergio Pamies Latin Project

University of North Texas Stefan Karlsson Denton, TX

José Valentino Latin Jazz Ensemble

University of Miami Frost School of Music Steve Rucker Coral Gables, FL

Original Composition – Lead Sheet

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Carter Brodkorb, "Red Candy" Bayview Glen School Darren Sigesmund Toronto, Ontario Canada

HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS

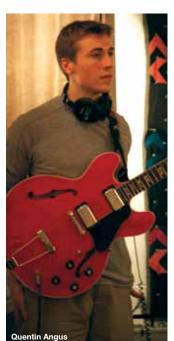
Nicholas Lamb, "Angst" Berkeley High School Sarah Cline Berkeley, CA

Aaron Reihs,

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HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

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Patrick Bowen Las Vegas, NV

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Alec Goldfarb, "Pendulum" Lenape High School

Leonard Nicholas Lenape, NJ

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Jeremy Corren, "Tunnel"

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LEFT TO RIGHT: Large Vocal Jazz Ensemble – Gold Company; Classical Soloist – Melissa Taddie, violin Blues/Pop/Rock Group – Goodnight Mr. Max; Blues/Pop/Rock Group – Desolation Row Blues/Pop/Rock Soloist– Matthew Landon, guitar; Vocal Jazz Group – Gold Company Sextet

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Jazz Education Hall of Fame

Steve Zegree: True Passion, Dedication

Pianist and choral director Dr. Steve Zegree seems to run in five directions at once. On the penultimate weekend in March, Zegree, who is the Bobby McFerrin Distinguished Professor of Jazz at Western Michigan University, welcomed 25 vocal ensembles on campus for WMU's annual vocal jazz festival. In June, he hosted a weeklong summer vocal camp. In addition to these commitments, Zegree was traveling around the world—in Mozambique one week, China the next—and, of course, teaching private lessons at the university and coaching his heralded vocal ensemble, Gold Company.

"I work hard; I put in a lot of hours, and I have a lot of energy," Zegree says. "If I average four or five hours a night, I'm feeling pretty good. I always feel chronically under-slept, but I try not to act that way."

Zegree stumbled into the job in the fall of 1978, inheriting a vocal ensemble called the Varsity Vagabonds from a retiring professor and being tasked to teach piano. Zegree already had a performing career, and he wasn't necessarily looking to give that up, but molding a glee club that dealt in show tunes into a respected vocal jazz ensemble grew on him.

"Being a college professor wasn't something that I had aspired to or was part of my life script. The opportunity came up and initially I thought, 'I'll try this out for a year,'" Zegree says.

He soon learned he had a true passion for teaching and that he enjoyed sharing his professional experiences with students. Over his 30-plus years in the WMU jazz department, he has seen students graduate into well-known performers and respected educators.

Trent Kynaston, WMU's saxophone professor, said Gold Company and other traditions Zegree has developed have boosted the school's international cache. It's also important for the students, however, that Zegree maintain an active performance and clinician schedule.

"We all feel that if we don't do what we're professing, then we're not going to be very successful," Kynaston says. "I don't know of anybody throughout the university who ends up traveling and doing as much as he does."

For all the performing he does, Zegree is dedicated to teaching. "I could walk away from my performing career in a minute," he says. "I wouldn't want to give up my commitment to students and to preparing the future generations of educators and performers."

Much of his success training musicians comes from his tireless personality, but also



from his commitment to excellence. When aspiring musicians say there isn't enough time to practice as much as he demands, Zegree gives them a lesson in time management with himself as the prime example. Though he may get disappointed with the amount of dedication his students give to their studies, he never gets mad at the students themselves.

"It's not about them; it's always about the music," he says. "If I'm saying, 'Hey, guys, this isn't meeting the standard,' I'm not saying, 'I don't like you.' I'm not saying, 'You're bad boys and girls."

Nich Mueller, a third-year member of Gold Company and a junior in the jazz studies program, first heard the vocal ensemble when he was in high school. He was drawn to the polished presentation and the tight sound of Gold Company, and he knew right then that he wanted to be in the group. While he has enjoyed spending three years singing and sharing a sense of community with the other ensemble members, he said it takes a serious amount of work to perform at the required level.

"It's never easy being a student of Dr. Zegree. Rising to his challenges and expectations is a constant battle, but that's what makes him such a great educator," Mueller says. "Though it is tough, when the time is right, 'Doc' is a source of support, compassion and humor."

WMU faculty member Tom Knific has seen Zegree's methods consistently yield results. The broader university administration acknowledges Zegree's work as well, and appreciates the prestige he brings to the program. "He's popular and famous," Knific says. "Sometimes I think about him in terms of some of the legendary coaches: He gets to be bigger than life at some point." — Jon Ross

Scott Bevins, "Surrealist Algebra" Greater Hartford Academy

of the Arts Kris Allen Hartford, CT

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNER

Jimmy Macbride,

"Short Stop" The Juilliard School Carl Allen New York, NY

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Drew Zaremba,

"A Happy Song" University of North Texas Richard DeRosa Denton, TX

Dillon Baiocchi, "Mountain Road" The New School Dan Greenblatt New York, NY

Tree Palmedo, "The Strangler" The Brubeck Institute Dr. Joe Gilman Stockton, CA

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Michelle Alonso/Sergio Pamies, "Desabafo" University of North Texas Stefan Karlsson Denton, TX

Jazz Arrangement

HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Cody Morace, "Butterfly" Vidor High School Ronald Touchstone Vidor, TX

HIGH SCHOOL OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Omree Gal-Oz, "I Didn't Know What Time It Was" Henry M. Gunn High School Dann Zinn Palo Alto, CA

PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL WINNER

Lucas Del Calvo, "Summertime" Colburn School of the Arts Lee Secard Los Angeles, CA

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE WINNERS

Mica Bethea, "Outskirts" University of North Florida Dennis Marks & Dr. Clarence Hines Jacksonville, FL

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University of North Carolina, Greensboro Miles Davis Jazz Studies Program Steve Haines Greensboro, NC

Matthew Franke,

"Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" Texas State University Freddie Mendoza San Marcos, TX

CONTINUED ON PAGE 116

CONGRATULATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA JAZZ ENSEMBLE BRIAN GORRELL, DIRECTOR

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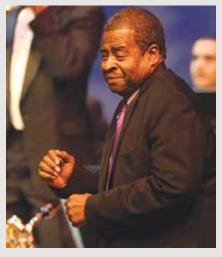
Teaching from the Ground Up

or Christopher Dorsey, teaching is about having a goal. "Know what you want," he says emphatically. "You can't ask anything of your students until you've given them a target."

After 26 years of teaching, Dorsey is currently the instrumental music director for the two jazz ensembles and orchestra at Dillard Center for the Arts in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. "It all starts with listening, hearing the sound you want before you teach your students to make it," Dorsey explains. "I used to listen to Count Basie religiously, then Ellington became my model."

This makes sense knowing that under Dorsey's watch the Dillard Jazz Ensemble has consistently brought home gold medals from the Essentially Ellington competition. "I want to know what's going on all over the country." Dorsey says. "If you don't get outside your back yard, you won't have any idea what's around you. Ellington's given me a lot of perspective, and the students get the opportunity to talk to people like Wynton Marsalis and Vincent Gardner and see first-hand just how beautiful the jazz community can be."

But there are a few more steps between studying the greats and turning a group of teenagers into a big band that swings like it's 1935, and Dorsey's path to success was less of a straight line. "When I started out, my high school band director talked me into playing the tuba, but once I learned to play trombone, that became my primary instrument."



After earning a bachelor's degree in music education from Jackson State University and a master's in instrumental music education from the University of Florida, Dorsey's life as a musician took a turn and a new love challenged his dedication to the trombone. Dorsey found himself at a crossroads—to spend the rest of his life teaching or throw himself into playing his horn.

"It was 1989 when I got the call," he says. "I was at Edison Park Elementary School, and just like that they invited me to play on the European tour of *Ain't Misbehavin'*." Dorsey took the job with the Off Broadway show, an experience that took him all over Europe. But even on the road, teaching found its way in. "I learned all the parts in the play, and when people came to me with questions, it was really just like teaching elementary school." Within a year Dorsey was back in the classroom, teaching at the American Senior High School in Hialeah, Fla.

Since then, he's built programs all over the state, and now after the better part of three decades and rigorous experience at every grade level, there is one thing that Dorsey knows for sure: A teacher's most important role is that of motivator. "No great musician will tell you they've arrived," Dorsey explains. "Neither will a great teacher. You're always tweaking and changing and re-establishing, because motivating students changes every day."

But students also need a strong foundation from which to grow, and there is no substitute for raw material. "In 1992 I made a vow," says Dorsey. "I would teach my students to play their instruments before I taught them to play jazz."

Finally, a teacher needs to know where he's going. "It's not only about conceptualizing a sound; it's about conceptualizing a community," Dorsey says. "We're trying to produce performers for the next generation, people who will listen to and support this music. I'm tired of going to concerts and seeing audiences that are mostly over 65." In this respect, Dorsey looks to his work for hope as well as fulfillment. "I try to show my students how to love this music whether or not they stay in it. And teaching has helped me to love this music in ways I never thought I would." —Zoe Young

MARY JO PAPICH AND DR. LOU FISCHER | JAZZ EDUCATION NETWORK

Finding Purpose, Defying the Odds

Any in the jazz world were puzzled and wondering what would be the fate of jazz education after International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE) board president Chuck Owen announced the 40-year-old jazz conference was filing for bankruptcy in April 2008.

Two individuals this news was certainly not lost on were Dr. Lou Fischer and Mary Jo Papich. Fischer and Papich are lifelong jazz educators who were regular attendees of IAJE functions and, with several decades of service to the improvised arts between them, took



personal stock in evaluating what could be done. They soon went on to form a completely new organization called Jazz Education Network (JEN) in 2009.

But how did JEN evolve, and what was the driving force in Fischer and Papich that prompted them to spearhead such an endeavor? Fischer has been Professor of Music and Jazz Studies at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, for 18 years. Prior to his years in education, he had toured as a bassist with such luminaries as Red Rodney, The Crusaders, Airto, Charlie Byrd, Andy Williams, Woody Herman, Bobby Shew and Louie

Bellson. He was also an entrepreneur. having ran a music publishing company for 13 years, owned a nightclub, worked as a booking agent and headed an event production company. But, as diversified as he was, he seemed to always have a calling in the back of his mind. "As long as I can remember, I've always enjoyed the interaction between my teachers and me," recalls Fischer of his days as a blossoming musician/educator. "Without their mentorship and people encouraging me to move forward and do well, I might still be in San Antonio, Texas, playing salsa and r&b in club bands. Not that that would be a bad thing, but I was told to go to college, and I was the first in my family to do that."

Papich is currently the Director of Fine Arts Curriculum for Niles (III.) District 219 and has been a band and music instructor in public schools for more than 30 years. She served eight years as Fine Arts Chair at Highland Park (III.) High School and coordinated Focus On The Arts, working with 400-plus volunteers and 270 artists.

When these two friends, colleagues and dedicated servants to the jazz medium got the news in 2008 about the demise of IAJE, it took an emotional toll.

"I had attended 37 of those 40 conferences," Fischer says. "Everybody I know in my life—my extended family was a part of that community. I got sick and had some serious health issues in 2006. It took me about a year-and-a-half to recover. About six months later, I realized there's a reason I'm still here, but I [didn't] know what it [was]. There was a huge void when IAJE went down. I said to Mary Jo, 'We can continue to cry in our beer, or we can do something.'"

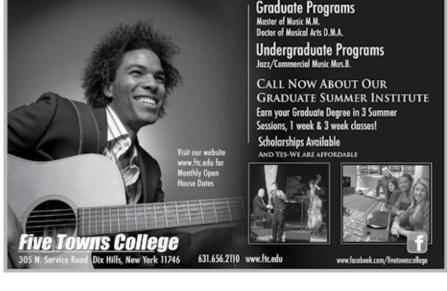
Fischer found his purpose and, along with Papich, proceeded to create a brand-new organization that was fresh, inventive and had no association with IAJE in any way, shape or form. They came up with a sound nonprofit business plan modeled after the Percussive Arts Society (PASIC) and have been operating in the black since their inception almost four years ago.

JEN has a series of initiatives including student scholarships, mentoring programs with kids on all aspects of the jazz industry and school outreach programs for students of all ages.

"The future for JEN looks very bright," says Papich. "We've gotten a lot of support from the jazz community, and getting ready for our fourth conference in 2013 is pretty exciting. We are a very inclusive organization, and I love reaching new people who want to be a part of this."

–Eric Harabadian

IN THE GROOVE...





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Brubeck Research Travel Grant

The University of the Pacific Library's Holt-Atherton Department of Special Collections houses the papers of composer and jazz legend **Dave Brubeck**. The collection has research potential in a variety of areas, such as West Coast jazz, the civil rights movement, and the State Department's cultural ambassador programs of the 1950s. More information on the Brubeck Collection can be found at: go.pacific.edu/specialcollections

The University of the Pacific Library is offering a **\$1,500 research travel** grant. The grant is open to students, professors, and independent researchers. **To apply** send a 1-2 page vitae and a 1-2 page proposal describing the research project and how it will involve the Brubeck Collection. Applications will be accepted until **July 31, 2012**; research must be completed by September 2013. **Mail to:** Brubeck Collection, University of the Pacific Library, 3601 Pacific Ave, Stockton, CA 95211. **Email:** trichards@pacific.edu Gregory Blair, "Autumn Leaves" University of Massachusetts Jeffrey Holmes Amherst, MA

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- 6) Intonation7) Phrasing
- Phrasing
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- Perspective: balance of channels; amount and type of reverb; blend (Do all sounds seem to have been performed at the same time and place? Do solos seem natural or do they stick out?).
- Levels: tape saturation or other overload, undermodulation resulting in excessive hiss, consistency of levels, left/right balance, etc.
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