

Season's Final Two Performances at the Zoo



August 6th—Nick Ayoub and The Family

Members of the group include Nick Auoub on keys and vocals, Patrick Handlin on acoustic bass, Mike Lutley on saxes and flute, and Chris Bookie on drums. Nick's stage energy is infectious and hearing his beautiful high tenor voice is always a special treat. This highly entertaining group has played together since college perfecting their tight arrangements. Don't miss this super fun group!



August 13th—The Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra

The Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra will perform as our closer to the 2012 Jazz at the Zoo series. For many years they have been our final act and we don't want to disappoint their huge fan base! They are a wonderful, talented energetic group of musicians led by drummer, a.k.a. comedian, Tim Froncek. They play good mood music and always elicit a standing ovation for their performance, leaving the crowd wanting more!



July 9—The Petra Van Nuis Quartet Featuring Guitarist Andy Brown



The sixth installment of Jazz at the Zoo, or Jazzoo as it's sometimes affectionately referred to... brought the return of Chicago based vocalist Petra Van Nuis and her band. Petra's demure yet wistful vocal style made for a subtle and intimate evening of great Jazz song stylings. Her band featured husband Andy Brown, guitar – Joe Policastro, acoustic bass – and drummer Bob Rummage, all Chicago based as well. Petra was commanding as she led her group through a diverse array of gems including the delightful Ellington/Don George piece “Tulip or Turnip”, Frank Loesser's beautiful ballad “Let's Get Lost,” Cole Porter's “My Heart Belongs to Daddy,” a beautiful rendition of Julie London's signature “You've Changed” and so many more. I was awestruck by the two band features, “The Song Becomes You” and Thad Jones “Three and One” which showcased some blazing work



from Joe on bass. These guys can play! Andy dazzled the crowd with some of the finest guitar solos I've witnessed in recent memory. Drummer Bob Rummage was tasteful and restrained in his delivery, something not always a given from a very capable big-band drummer. The recent heat spell was finally retreating and the evening was truly magical. The end came too soon with a nice surprise...the rarely performed and a personal favorite of mine, Judy Garland's anthem “Zing Went the Strings of My Heart.” I hope to see this fine quartet return again to Grand Rapids....soon!

—Mark Kahny



Mark Kahny keys and vocals, Bob Thompson drums, Mike Lutley saxes and flute

July 2—The Boogie Woogie Babies with the Mark Kahny Group

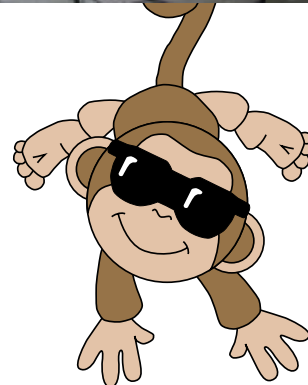


Mary Rademacher, Carol Black, and Barb Wisse

Photo by Tim Morley and Stedafly

What a treat this performance was, beginning our celebration of Independence Day. This highly entertaining evening not only brought out an enormous crowd of all ages, but kept them there until the last song despite the record temperatures! Mary, Barb, and Carol sang songs from the WWII era in the 1940's and took us on a musical journey all the way through the music of the 60's. Their informative narratives and stories were enlightening.

The last numbers of the evening included a sing a long of “God Bless America” and a rousing “She's a Grand old Flag”. All veterans were asked to stand or raise their hand and were then greeted by thunderous applause from the attendees.



June 25—The Tom Hagen Septet featuring Rick Ruether

On June 25th, the Tom Hagen Septet, featuring Rick Ruether opened the fifth Jazz at the Zoo performance with Rick's rousing rendition of "Around the World," a swinging fast shuffle, drawing applause from the start of their set. Their sets were mixed with waltzes, bossa/rock tunes, Latin gems, blues and swing. The mix was as diverse as his wry humor. Violinist Chris Martin was a nice addition to the group and provided ambiance and subtlety to tunes like "Rose Room" and "Love Me or Leave Me" sung by Cherie Hagen who also played bass. Drummer and trumpeter Max Colley III brought out his horn for "Lonely Bull" and "Chitlins." Mike Lutley's tenor on "Take Five" was a real crowd pleaser and his outstanding clarinet solo in "Exactly Like You" was a real crowd pleaser. His outstanding clarinet solo in "Exactly Like You" was warmly received by



the huge overflow audience. Robert Mulligan on congas and percussion sprinkled in his magic on the upbeat "Cuban Pete." Dancers came out on the grass for several tunes. There were plenty of special moments throughout the night including when Rick dedicated "Moonlight Feels Right" to his sweetheart.

WMJS's scholarship winners A.J. Muusse, trombone, and drummer Matt Smalligan were included in many of the numbers. A.J. played solos in "Dahoud" and "Coming Home" and received appreciative applause from the audience. At the end of the evening the musicians received a standing ovation. It was a beautiful night of music.

—Mark Kahny and Barb Keller



June 18—Grupo Aye

The warm tropical breezes were blowing in West Michigan tonight during the West Michigan Jazz Society's Jazz at the Zoo event.

It was as if the weather was imported especially to accompany the amazing Cuban, Caribbean, Latin Jazz sound of Grupo Aye. The powerful talents of the band coupled with Curt's amazing mix at the sound board produced careful attention and distinction to the vocals and each instrument.

The fantastic vocal work of Oscar Gonzales, the blazing brass section, the powerful percussion and Tom Lockwood's own special Latin arrangement of "Summertime" made for a hot night of Jazz at the Zoo, and the weather was warm too!

—Darryl Hoffstra



June 11—The Beltline Big Band

The official opening of the West Michigan Jazz Society's Jazz at the Zoo featured the great sounds of the Beltline Big Band. Out of the gate with Gerry Mulligan's rousing "Bernie's Tune", the band featured many numbers from their latest CD release "That Ol' Jack Magic" including "Memories of You", "What is This Thing Called Love?" featuring the resident vocal trio of the group, Marilyn Tyree, Jan Baumann and Jill Marrese. All arrangements on their new CD were penned by pianist/vocalist Jack Kimmell, thus the ol' Jack magic was evident in the nuanced and creative horn and reed voicings on the Latin "Sway" the lush "Here's That Rainy Day" and the poignant "God Bless the Child". Jack sang a few as well, including "A Foggy Day", Cole Porter's "I've Got You Under My Skin" and "That Ol' Black Magic". Outstanding vocal performances from Marilyn and Jan on "Frim Fram Sauce", "Blue Skies" "The Glory of Love" and the swinging "Orange Colored Sky" rounded out the band numbers nicely. Very tasteful solos from reed players Michelle Benjamin and Nick Valenziano as well as trombonist Jim Dexter and bassist Randy Goble were a strong endorsement of the superb artistry of all the players. Thank you BBB for starting off our Jazzoo season with a dazzling and entertaining show!

—Mark Kahny



June 4th—East Kentwood High School Jazz Ensembles



On June 4th, Director James Sawyer and the East Kentwood High School Jazz Ensembles hit us with a hot note, opening Jazz at the Zoo 2012! Our inaugural night started with Jazz Band #2 – an enthusiastic and talented group of 27 students swinging with "Cornerpocket," a rockin' Cold Duck Time, a soulful rendition of "A Child is Born" and a funky "Sidewinder." Alumnus/saxman, Ryan Proach contributed his seasoned straight, robust tones.

Next, The Jazz Combo, this group of rehearses independently, then gather with EKHS Director, Mr. Jim Ross, who tweaks and offers constructive advice. Four scholarship recipients and superior award winners at the Central Mich University Jazz Festival were leaders of this talented 8 piece. They hit some Miles Davis tunes, "Cannonball Adderly" bop and "Mr. Magic," with outstanding soloist, Corinthia Cross, lending her own smooth interpretation.

Jazz Band #1 rocked the crowd with Basie's "Shiny Stockings," following with a lush bossa and sweet ballad, a swinging "Bone Busters," which featured the trombone section. Sawyer joined on trumpet, soaring to higher heights in his solo on "Black Orpheus." This group won the Outstanding Big Band award at Central Michigan and received the Superior award at the State Jazz Competition.

Overall – a beautiful night. Each band gave every member a chance to solo – so essential in the art of Jazz. We salute EKHS for a fine program and its dedication to educating our students in our musical heritage!

—Mary Rademacher Reed



2012 Jazz at the Zoo Brings Them Out and Gets Them Dancin'

Pictures from many of the Jazz at the Zoo offerings from the 2012 season. Special thanks to our photographers who capture so many wonderful images at the events: Donna Kahny, Candice Cullen, Bruce Robey, and Tim Motley.



Pete Johnson



Sound Engineer, Kurt Ehinger and Paul Smith, his right hand man



2012 Musician of the Year



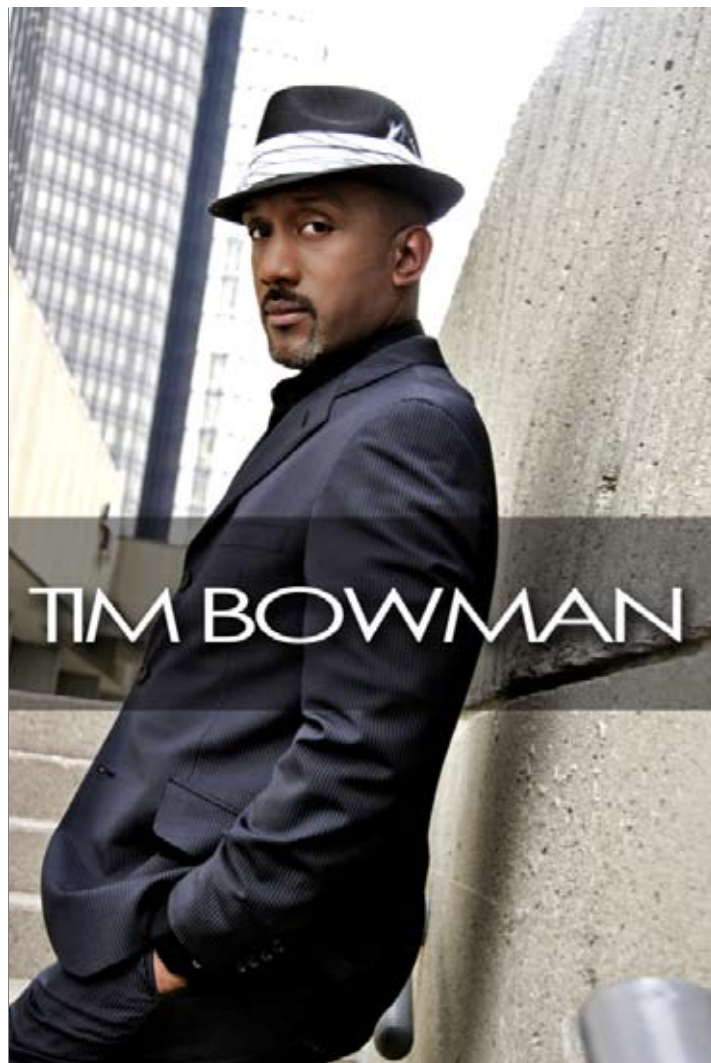
May 24, 2012 was declared “Mark Kahny Day” by Grand Rapid’s Mayor George Heartwell. The proclamation was presented by Executive manager, Dona Raymer, at the Watermark Country Club. The band was playing as guests arrived, setting the atmosphere for the party. The band consisted entirely of prior Musician of the Year recipients, Dick Reynolds, Tim Froncek, Elgin Vines, and Tom Hagen, making the quality of the music and musicianship above par.

Mark played several numbers with the band and was joined by singers he’s accompanied over the years. They were Mary Rademacher Reed, Edye Evans Hyde, (both former MOY as well), Cherie Lynn Hagen, Libby York, Amy Williams, the Boogie Woogie Babies, and Christy Gregerson, whose heartfelt speech touched all in attendance. We all agreed with her statement, “The world is a better place with you in it, Mark.”

Mark is both a humble and generous musician, always willing to encourage and enable established and aspiring musicians alike wherever he’s performing, making him beloved by many as the record attendance to this year’s celebra-

tion attested. As a delicious surprise, he delighted us all by doing something he never does. He stepped out from behind the ivories and sang, “Do You Know What it Means to Miss New Orleans?” A truly stellar and memorable night indeed.

—Candice Cullen



Aug 18 GRANDJAZZFEST!

presented by DTE Energy Foundation, this free event will go from noon until 10 p.m., featuring jazz artists with Michigan ties! Jazz guitarist Tim Bowman headlines, other acts include saxophonist Phil Denny, Grupo Ayé, Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra, Walt Gutowski & The Bridge Street Band and The Steve Hilger Jazz Quintet. GRandJazzFest is being held at Rosa Parks Circle, a central location in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, where attendees can enjoy music, support local businesses and visit other Grand Rapids attractions. The music festival celebrates jazz’s incredible range and diversity. The event is free, open to the public and family friendly! www.grandjazzfest.org



GRandJazzFest Seeks Volunteers!

Get your “backstage pass” now to the excitement at Rosa Parks Circle. Three-hour shifts are available and all volunteers will receive a t-shirt, access to bottled water, and the opportunity to help launch this free public event. Go to <http://grandjazzfest.org/volunteers> to sign up.

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FOUNDERS 235 Grandville SW,
5:30-7:30
1st & 3rd Sun each month—
GR Jazz Orchestra

HOPCAT 25 Ionia SW 7-10:30
Sunday Night Jazz Jam,
host Randy Marsh

MANGIAMO'S 1033 Lake Dr
Aug 3, 23 Kathy LaMar/Bob VanStee
Aug 9, 30 Mark Kahny

NOTOS, 28th St. Wed 7-10 pm
Tom Hagen Trio featuring
Rick Reuther

WHAT NOT INN M89/Fennville,
Sat & Sun 7-11 Mon nights Jazz Jam
6 pm
Aug 19 Mary Rad w/ Mark Kahny
Sept 8 & 30 Edye Hyde & Mark Kahny

WEST SIDE INN, MUSKEGON
Aug 14 & 28, Sept 11 & 25
Truth in Jazz Orchestra
Wed-Sat 7-10 pm

Edye Evans Hyde
(edyeevanshyde.com)

Mark Kahny
(markkahny.blogspot.com)
Aug 2 & 15 Beckwith Park, Dowagiac
w/ Boogie Woogie Babies 7:30
Aug 3 Clara's in Battle Creek
w/ Edye Hyde 6-10
Aug 4 Speak EZ Michael Holmes Trio
Aug 5 Speak EZ "The Judy Show"
w/ Michael Holmes
Aug 24, Sept 7, 14, 20, 21
Shepards Grill & Tavern 8-11
Aug 31 & Sept 1—Red Barn in
Saugatuck w/ Michael Holmes
"The Judy Show"
Sept 22—w/ Boogie Woogie Babies
@ Albion Mi (daytime)
Sept 22—Dogwood Center, Fremont
w/ Francesca Amari
Sept 28- Speak EZ w/ F. Amari

Randy Marsh
Aug 2, 30 @ Chateau Chantal T.C.,
7-9:30 'Jazz @ Sunset'
w/ Jeff Haas Trio

Mary Rademacher Reed
(www.maryrad.com)
Aug 3 Showboat revue on the
Grand Lady Riverboat!
Tom Hagen Trio with Mary Rad &
Steve Viening!
www.grandlady.info (616) 457-4837

John Shea
Mondays @ The Republic,
45 S. Division, 8-11
Thursdays @ Gilly's @ the BOB,
6:30-9:30
Fridays @ JW Marriott,
235 Louis St NW, 7:30-10:30
and Sundays 11 am-2 pm
Saturdays @ Toulouse, Saugatuck
6:30-9:30
Sundays @ Zing, Douglas, 6:30-9:30



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Jazznotes

August 2012

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Board Meeting: Tues., August 27th, 7 pm at Watermark Grill



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