



An All-Volunteer
Organization Since 1986

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616-490-9506

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WestMIJazzSociety

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West Michigan Jazz Society is pleased to host their Monday Night Jazz series for another season at Bobarinos, located on the second floor in the B.O.B., 20 Monroe NW, in downtown Grand Rapids.

The series will be held on the 3rd Monday of each month with the exception of October when it will be on the 4th Monday. There will be no event in December to interfere with our annual Holiday party.

There will be table service for food and beverages ordered off of the regular menu as well as exclusive Jazz Night menu specials and \$4.00 wine selections.

The parking lot adjacent to the building will be free for our use. Just inform the attendant that you are there for Monday Night Jazz. This lot will hold up to 70 cars and has a barrier free entrance. Parking on the street is free in some places after 5pm and some after 6 pm. *Read the meters!*

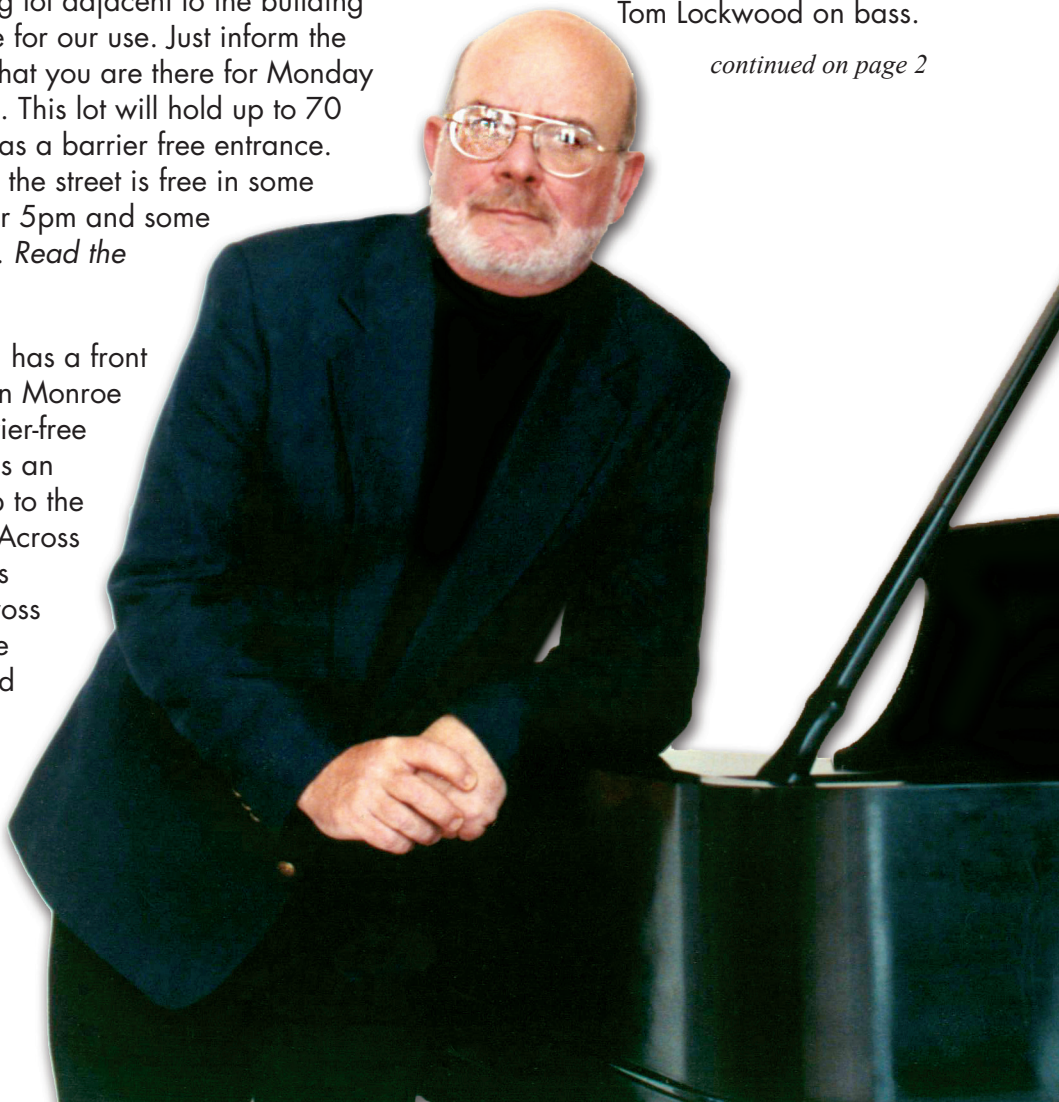
The B.O.B. has a front entrance on Monroe that is barrier-free and there is an elevator up to the 2nd floor. Across Monroe, as well as across Lyon, there are covered parking garages.

TIME:
6:30-
8:30
pm COST:
\$5.00 for
members

and students, and \$10.00 for non-members. (Receive a special gift if you join or renew your membership while at the B.O.B., while quantities last.)

September 15 Dick Reynolds, pianist, composer and WMJS's Musician Of The Year 2009. While living in Chicago, Reynolds was the house pianist at Mr. Kelly's, the world-famous Rush Street jazz haven, and has accompanied such iconic vocalists as Mel Torme and Carmen McRae. Joining Reynolds will be vocalist Gayle Kolb, who began her singing career in Los Angeles and is now based in Chicago. Randy Marsh will be the drums and Tom Lockwood on bass.

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October 27 Petra van Nuis & The Andy Brown Trio with bassist Joe Policastro & drummer Bob Rummage. Petra sings at all the finest jazz venues in Chicago including the Jazz Showcase, the Green Mill, Katerina's, Andy's Jazz Club, Fitzgerald's, the City Winery, the Old Town School of Folk Music, and the Chicago Cultural Center. Along with six other Chicago jazz artists, she was nominated for the "Best Jazz Entertainer 2013" for the 33rd Annual Chicago Music Awards.



November 17 Cooper, Hay and Van Lente Group is a West Michigan based jazz trio which formed in 2005 and features the unique sound of Jim Cooper on vibes and marimba, Dave Hay keyboards and Mike Van Lente on drums. Influenced by swing, fusion, latin and world music, CHV has been captivating audiences with their lively versions of jazz standards and original compositions. Their new CD, "Trio Musik" has just been released on Big O Records.

Jazz Finds a Unique Setting at Fountain Street Church

August 9, 2014, Grand Rapids, MI – When was the last time you heard live jazz played on a real grand piano? How about TWO concert grand pianos? You've probably never experienced anything like Fountain Street Church's Jazz in the Sanctuary series anywhere in west Michigan.

In the first concert, Robin Connell will host Bill Huyge, with the two playing Fountain Street's magnificent Steinway and Schimmel grand pianos. They'll be joined by Paul Keller, one of the Midwest's premier bassists, for an unforgettable afternoon of music.

How, when, where:

Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain Street NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Sunday, September 14, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. \$10/\$5 for students
advance tickets available at <https://jazzinthesanctuary.eventbrite.com>

Two more concerts are planned for the 2014-2015 season in February and April. Robin Connell will host the entire series.

This is truly a Celebration on the Grand, of the grand, in Grand Rapids!



NEW

JAZZ

PROGRAMS
Serious Fun!

AUDITIONS

ANNOUNCING AUDITIONS FOR:

After-school Jazz Programs

- High school musicians grades 9-12
- Tuesday evenings expert instruction and mentoring
- 2 - 8-week sessions - fall and winter
- Ensemble and improvisation opportunities
- Tuition based

Schedule your placement audition for:

September 6, 10 am - 12 noon

JAZZ IMPROVISATION Dr. Robin Connell, instructor

A beginner to intermediate level workshop for winds, strings, bass and piano. Must be able to read music and be proficient with your instrument. Students will be led through a combination of written and aural exercises designed to increase his/her ability with jazz improvisation.

JAZZ BAND Dr. Paul Brewer, instructor

An ensemble focusing on jazz big band repertoire for saxophone, trombone, trumpet, piano, bass, guitar and drum. Studies will concentrate on jazz styles, rhythms, phrasing and the idiomatic role of each section within a jazz big band.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

- Play an excerpt from a prepared unaccompanied solo piece (classical or jazz) or from an ensemble piece learned in school band.
- Sight-read an assigned selection.
- Play scales. Students may be asked to play C, F, Bb, G, D, and a chromatic scale.
- Optional scales. Students will be invited to play other scales previously studied (major, minor, blues or jazz scales).
- Optional improvisation. Students may demonstrate their improvisation ability by playing Bb blues (accompanist provided).

Apply for an audition at:

www.scmc-online.org/schoolofmusicauditions

A hearty welcome to our new members!

And a HUGE thank you to our new lifetime members, donors and all those renewing their memberships.

Our jazz concerts continue because of the support we receive from you!

LIFETIME

Diane Lanesky

PATRON

Laura Ohman & Mary Garfield

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NEW MEMBERS

Elizabeth Bartz
Bob & Doreen Batastini
Lynne Greening
Lynn Gregory
Donald Pruis

J. Schwanke & Kelly Blank
Gerald Scott

RENEWING MEMBERS

Joanne Ash
Kathi & Glenn Barkan
Liz Bartz
Betty Baxter
Evie Bowers
Paul & Jan Braman
Ric & Pam Castleman
Ralph Cobb
Catherine Creamer
James & Barbara Davies
Frances Doyle
Tom Elferdink
Lee Engstrom & James Bleeker
Lois & Lewis Glashower

Robert Helmink
Mary Kay Jefchak
David & Jan Mann
Dave & Debbie Maranda
Meg & Tim McAree
Cindy & Bob Nixon
Dan Ohlman & Stephanie Hicks
Andrew Pellerito
Mary Anne & Roger Pictras
Bill & Aileen Redeker
Robert & Janette Reid
Vernis Schad
Ann Thomas
Marcia Voet
Dave & Pat Walborn
Paul & Sue Winchester
Libby York & Greg Sergio



Photo by: Bruce Robey

Monday June 30 Max Colley III Sextet

Despite severe storm warnings for later in the evening, another large crowd turned out to hear the Max Colley III Sextet. And we were rewarded by being entertained by six versatile and amazing musicians.

Max first played in his father's award winning Northview High School Jazz Band. Max's dad, Max Colley Jr. was a premier educator and beloved director of bands for 40 years. For last night's performance, Max III selected a group of "some of my favorite musicians", all highly talented instructors from the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. The group included Steve Whipple on bass, James Hughes on sax, John Hill on drums, Dan Karlsberg on keyboard, David Jenson on trombone, with Max III on trumpet.

The band started out with "Bernie's Tune", a hard driving jazz piece that featured everyone. They then switched gears with "Minuet for Lovers", a smooth and understated piece with a waltz beat. "Tour de Force" started slow and easy, and then cut loose allowing Max III to show how he can blow.

The group wowed big band lovers with a medley that featured trombonist David Jenson playing "Sentimental Over You", followed by Max III playing "Stardust", and closing with James Hughes on sax playing "Body and Soul". Among several rousing original compositions, James Hughes' "Navy Blue Dress Pants" allowed us to again appreciate his talents on sax.

An entertaining Dixieland version of "Happy Birthday" added to the group's versatility. And there were several people present with birthdays that day.

At about 8:20 PM, the first of the storms were reaching Muskegon. Max III wrapped up the evening a bit early so we could leave safe and dry.

Wow! What talent! Of course, the Max Colley III Sextet received an appreciative and well deserved standing ovation.

Paul Winchester, Richard Horan,
Dave and Deb Maranda

Monday July 7 BLUE MONK JAZZ

Blue Monk Jazz opened with a rousing rendition of "Flintstones" warming the young and old of the audience to their friendly big band sound. Susan Morris, a liberal studies professor from Ferris State University, led the band as songstress, and entertained the crowd noting how she sometimes gets confused for KD Lang.

Bluemonk Jazz is a group of five exciting musicians who play in different configurations: trios, quartets, and the full band. The different sub-groups focus on different kinds of jazz: fusion, swing, eclectic, world, and jazz standards.



Carlos Melendez is a guitarist from Puerto Rico by way of NYC and is also a jazz educator. He has been a recording sessions player and toured with Herbie Mann. He plays anything from blues to bop to outer space. He is director of the jazz band at Alma College.

Matt Moresi comes from Oregon and grew up listening to the West coast and ECM musicians. He plays complex and interesting lines and has a mean left hand. He is known for his unique arrangement of tunes from all genres. He is also a jazz educator and directs the jazz band at Ferris State University.

Mark Weymouth plays drums in and around Grand Rapids and is a favorite among jazz musicians. His solo on "What a Difference A Day Makes" got the crowd clapping.

Rob Smith is the jazz sax prof at Central Michigan University and a well known jazzcat around Michigan. His playing is as exciting as it gets.

The Bucket Brigade lined up before the close of the first set doing their best imitation of the Rockettes to a tune with a Rumba beat. WMJS very much appreciates those volunteers who help collect money at every Jazz at the Zoo function.

Highlights of the evening included Frank Sinatra's "Under My Skin" and a somewhat

naughty rendition of Cole Porter's, "It was Just One of Those Things". Susan delighted all by picking up the bass guitar in the second set and getting funky with a tune called "My Disposition Depends on You." The band closed with their namesake tune, "Blue Monk Jazz".

Shannan Denison

Monday July 14 Big Band Nouveau

What's in common between Red Clay, Giant Steps, Next Chapter, Los Ringos and Down By The Riverside? A great, full throated, joyous modern jazz sound delivered by some 17 wonderful musicians who enthralled us on (another) evening that wouldn't be denied of its music by gray skies.

From Coltraine and Corea to M. Davis and O. Nelson, a sizeable crowd was treated to a consistently upbeat celebration, and responded in kind with its own standing ovation for this group only one year old.

Mark Wells, Scott Veenstra, Michael Doyle, Tom Elferdink and the rest of the band (including Vicki Phillips singing Busy Woman Blues) were relentless in driving forth jazz's beating heart, and we found it exhilarating, exhausting and wonderful. (Sounds sexy, eh?)

Pete Proli





Photo by: Bruce Robey

The River Rogues Jazz Band July 21

Around the turn of the century, and I am talking about the 20th century, a new form of music appeared in America. It began in New Orleans and was called jazz. It worked its way up the Mississippi and became established in northern cities such as Chicago and Kansas City. Throughout the next 100 years, jazz has evolved in many different ways, but the original still exists. Today we call it Dixie or Dixieland, and we were treated to it at its best by the River Rogues. Led by Dave Wells and Jim Everhart, a large crowd was entertained with traditional songs, which took us back to the 1920s and 30s.

The River Rogues offer a pleasant blend of moody blues and toe tapping swing. They were able to get a bunch of folks out on the lawn dancing to tunes such as My Blue Heaven and Saint Louis Blues. For a change of pace they had a trio called the Gentlemen of Ragtime, which consisted of piano, tuba and banjo. Most entertaining!

The fact that the crowd stayed on, even though the band went a bit overtime, was testament to how much everyone enjoyed the evening.

John Miller

Monday July 28 Checkers Morton

"Muslims, Christians and Jews.... oh my!"

This self proclaimed mantra coined by Checkers Morton keyboardist Bob Van Stee sums up his composition "Abramelin" which closed their first set at Jazz @ the Zoo, week # 8.

The piece highlights the deep powers of the ceremonial magic Oil of Abramelin first described in the grimoire "The Book of Abramelin" written by Abraham the Jew. Van Stee, or GusBob as his closest friends call him, is no stranger to the subject of middle-eastern, Indian and Japanese customs and cultural idioms in music.

The other three Van Stee compositions present on the program, the Herbie-esque "Lake Effect", "Nighty Night" and "Little Raga" are all examples of a varied array of Indian ragas, eastern folk melodies and modal progressions. Beautifully performed by the group, each highlighting many aspects of superb soloing, complex meters, and textural color.

I was transported back to the many influences that make up my own personal tastes..... Ralph Towner, Paul McCandless and the Oregonian flavor of "Morning Raga", the fine Dave Collee bass solo in the Zawinul influenced Collee composition "Bag of Guitar", Jim Beegle's "Rainy Morning" and "Be Bop" which featured the very fine guitar and trumpet work of Beegle and tasteful tenor sax soloing from Dan Giacobassi, a la Gato Barbieri.

Dan was also featured on the haunting and ethereal Japanese flute, the Shakuhachi on "Lake Effect". A wonderful gem from the evening was Dave Collee's yet un-named "Dave's Tune", which featured the awesome bass-playing of Collee in which he effortlessly exchanged the stylings of the two great Weather Report bassists, Jaco Pastorius and Miroslav Vitous.

Fine drumming by group new-comer Steve Harris was front and center in the 7/4 "Abramelin" and the rhythmically complex "Little Raga".

All in all, one of the finest performances at Jazz at the Zoo in some time, but IMHO, it was a surprising eye-opener to the rich compositional talents of the group. Everyone contributes to the writing. Everyone shines in the performance! Bravo!

Mark Kahny



Photos by: Bruce Robey



Photo by: Bruce Robey

Mark, a classically trained pianist, is one of West Michigan's premier jazz pianists. An entertaining vocalist in his own right, Mark sang "The More I See You" with a pleasing Latin beat and joining Mary singing "Cuba". He made his keyboard sound like steel drums with a calypso beat, singing and pounding the keys to "Back to New Orleans".

Monday August 4 MARY RADEMACHER AND THE RAD PACK

On August 4, the typically large crowd for WMJS' "Jazz at the Zoo" wasn't just large, it was gigantic. An enthusiastic turnout of appreciative fans is always guaranteed for Mary Rademacher Reed and the Rad Pack. Mary leads the high energy show band consisting of Mark Kahny, keyboard, bass and vocals, Tim Johnson on drums and vocals, and Mike Lutley on saxes and flute.

The group opened with "Summer Eve," an instrumental with a rumba beat written by and featuring Mike Lutley on flute. Variety was the hallmark of the evening's performance. Mary's vocals ranged from soulful (Nat King Cole's "Unforgettable" and "What a Wonderful World") to rip roaring gospel ("Gone at Last" joined by Mark) and to sexy ("Girl from Ipanema"). She displayed some improvisational scat with Sinatra's "Don't Get Around Much Anymore". Mary is a true entertainer bringing humor, dance, warmth and charm with her vocals.

Mike played the flute, soprano and tenor sax with strong improvisational solos on many of the pieces. Tim provided the group's strong rhythmic structure on drums. As the evening progressed we continued to be amazed by the sounds that these three talented musicians produced. Tim's son, Alex Johnson, a talented guitarist, was showcased on several tunes.

Mary Rademacher and the Rad pack provided everything the audience wanted and more. What an evening of great entertainment!

Paul Winchester, Richard Horan
and Dave Maranda



Photo by: Del Sherve

Monday August 11 GRAND RAPIDS JAZZ ORCHESTRA

In spite of predictions of severe bad weather, the final show of the season at the zoo went off. And what a show it was. Our traditional finale features the big band of the Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra, who never fail to please the crowd. With special arrangements by Jim Martin and Bob Nixon, we heard tunes like Laura, Sunny Side of the Street, and Doxy.

Special guest Edye Evans Hyde appeared and was splendid with her lyrical voice and ability to scat in songs like Take the A Train. Tim Froncek closed the first set with an unbelievable drum solo in his own version of Sing, Sing, Sing. By the time the show was over, there was not a cloud in the sky.

What a way to end another wonderful season of Jazz at Zoo. Thanks to our wonderful musical groups, Kurt on the sound system and all of the West Michigan supporters of live jazz.

John Miller



Photos by: Bruce Robey

September Jazz Around Town

Monday September 1

Mark Kahny at Firekeepers Casino, Battle Creek, 6 pm

Tuesday September 2

Mark Kahny at Bar Divani with Diana Vandewater, 7 pm

Wednesday September 3

Tom Hagen Trio with Rick Reuther at Notos, 6:30-9:30 pm

Thursday September 4

Mark Kahny at Mangiamo's, 7-9 pm

Robin Connell at Lumber Baron Bar, 6-9 pm

Friday September 5

John Shea at JW Marriott, 6-10 pm

Mark Kahny at Marro's Italian Restaurant in Saugatuck, 7-11 pm

Saturday September 6

John Shea at Noto's, 7-9 pm

Roger Mac/Tami Hjelm at Mangiamo's, 7-9 pm

Sunday September 7

GR Jazz Orch. at Founder's, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Randissimo at Speak EZ, with Ian LeVine, Arlene McDaniel & Ed Fedewa, 7-10 pm

Monday September 8

John Shea at Republic, 8-11 pm

Wednesday September 10

Tom Hagen Trio with Rick Reuther at Notos, 6:30-9:30 pm

Thursday September 11

Robin Connell at Lumber Baron Bar, 6-9 pm

Mark Kahny at Four Roses Café, Plainwell, 6-9 pm

Friday September 12

John Shea at JW Marriott, 6-10 pm

Mark Kahny at Marro's Italian Restaurant in Saugatuck, 7-11 pm
Western Jazz Quartet CD Release Concert, WMU Dalton Center
Recital Hall, Free Admission with CD purchase: \$15 at the door,
or/\$12/\$5 students 8pm 269) 387-4667, wmu jazz.com

Saturday September 13

John Shea at Noto's, 7-9 pm

Brandon Ward at Mangiamo's, 7-9 pm

Sunday September 14

Robin Connell at Jazz in the Sanctuary, Fountain Street Church,
with Bill Huyge, and Paul Keller. \$10 (\$5 students), 3 pm

Randissimo at Speak EZ with Terry Lower & Jack Dryden,
7-10 pm

Monday September 15

WMJS at the B.O.B. Dick Reynolds & Gayle Kolb 6:30 – 8:30 pm

John Shea at Republic, 8-11 pm

Wednesday September 17

Tom Hagen Trio with Rick Reuther at Notos, 6:30-9:30 pm

Thursday September 18

Chick Corea & The Vigil at St. Cecilia Music Center, 24 Ransom
NE, call 616.459.2224 for information

Mark Kahny & Karen Cameron, Book Nook Java Shop, \$5 cover
Montague Mi 7-9 pm

Craig Avery at Mangiamo's, 7-9 pm

Robin Connell at Lumber Baron Bar, 6-9 pm

Friday September 19

John Shea at JW Marriott, 6-10 pm

Mark Kahny at Marro's Italian Restaurant, Saugatuck, 7-11 pm

Saturday September 20

John Shea at Noto's, 7-9 pm

Kathy Lamar at Mangiamo's, 7-9 pm

Mark Kahny at Marro's Italian Restaurant, Saugatuck, 7 pm

Rick Reuther Rad Pack at Dogwood Center, Fremont, 7-9 pm

Sunday, September 21

Randissimo at Speak EZ, with Steve Talaga & Tom Lockwood,
7-10 pm

Max Colley III Quartet at Jazz Vespers, 1st United Methodist
Church, 227 E Fulton at 6 PM

Monday September 22

John Shea at Republic, 8-11 pm

Tuesday, September 23

Libby York with Mark Kahny at Bar Divani, 7-10 pm
Mary Rademacher Reed at Bar Divani, 7-10 pm

Wednesday September 24

Tom Hagen Trio with Rick Reuther at Notos, 6:30-9:30 pm
Jack Leaver at Mangiamo's, 7-9 pm

Thursday September 25

Freddy De Gennaro at Mangiamo's, 7-9 pm
Robin Connell at Lumber Baron Bar, 6-9 pm
Tom Hagen Trio on the Grand Lady, 7-9 pm

Friday September 26

Robin Connell at Mangiamo's, 7-9 pm
John Shea at JW Marriott, 6-10 pm
Mark Kahny at Marro's Italian Restaurant, Saugatuck, 7-11 pm

Saturday September 27

John Shea at Noto's, 7-9 pm
Roger Mac/Tami Hjelm at Mangiamo's, 7-9 pm
Mark Kahny at Marro's Italian Restaurant, Saugatuck, 7-11 pm

Sunday September 28

Mark Kahny at Marro's Italian Restaurant, Saugatuck, 7-11 pm
Organissimo at Speak EZ with Jim Alfredson & Larry Barris, 7-10 pm

Monday September 29

John Shea at Republic, 8-11 pm

**Be sure to check for additions and changes on our website,
www.wmichjazz.org, WMJS's Facebook, the venues as well as
the musician's websites**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The West Michigan Jazz Society has a tradition of awarding scholarships to help students continue their study of jazz music. This year we had a record number of applications from area students, and will be giving six \$1,000 awards. Following is a list of those who have been selected. Also included are their high schools and the colleges they will be attending. We were most impressed by their accomplishments and wish them the best in their future musical studies.



Madison George
Lucas Keur
Joseph Morris
Ryan Sloan
Kyle Wheeler
William Wright

Home Schooled
Northview HS
Northview HS
Vicksburg HS
Byron Center HS
Home Schooled

Western Mich
Central Mich
Cedarville U
Western Mich
Western Mich
Aquinas

Drums
Sax
Tuba/Bass
Trumpet
Drums/others
Trombone

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Jazznotes

September 2014

Jazz Notes is the newsletter for members of the West Michigan Jazz Society.

If you would like your jazz event included in our media publications please send your schedules to jlbasham@i2k.com by the 15th of the month.

West Michigan Jazz Society Board Members

Board meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month.

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Receive JazzNotes by e-mail ☐ or by mail ☐

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This September edition of Jazz Notes was produced by:

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