

## *Jazz Gumbo 2022-23 Line up*

November 21, 2022 - Edye Evans Hyde Group

March 20, 2023 - Rick Hicks Quartet/Trio

April 17, 2023 - Patty Gayle Quartet



November 21st - Eyde Evans Hyde Group



Former WMJS Jazz Musician of the Year, Edye Evans Hyde will be swinging, singing and scatting in her own special, talented way with Mike Hyde on guitar and Mike Frost on sax. It's always a magical night with the stylings of these top-notch jazz musicians together. A class act!

**REMINDER: ALL  
MEMBERSHIP  
RENEWALS WILL BE  
DUE JANUARY 1st  
THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR CONTINUED  
SUPPORT!**

## Have you checked us out lately?



Available online at [www.wmichjazz.org](http://www.wmichjazz.org): • The 2023 application form for WMJS's music education scholarship. (The scholarship fund's monies come solely from donations and the 50/50 ticket raffles held at the Monday Night Jazz Concerts in the fall and winter. WMJS wants to keep this fund growing and needs your support, so please be generous!) • Past issues of Jazz Notes • Pictures, both the new ones and those archived from our events • Board news • Current Jazz Around West Michigan Calendar • Membership information • Promotions of upcoming events • Reservation forms



# Letter from the President

It is hard to believe that we are wrapping up another year! We had a fantastic year of music at our Jazz Gumbo concert series and the Jazz in the Park 10 week concert series. We were able to award scholarships to young people to attend the Aquinas College Jazz Camp and to attend college as well as having a band visit a school in our community. We also honored Kurt Ehinger with the first Betty Forrest Jazz Ambassador Award and Paul Smith as the Honorary Musician of the Year in Memoriam and held the banquet to celebrate with family and friends in attendance.

The West Michigan Jazz Society began in March 1986 with 20 founding members. Membership grew over time to a high of around 550. The last few years were lower, but we are seeing a turnaround in membership (both renewals and new). Membership continues to be one of the largest forms of support for the West Michigan Jazz Society. As we have mentioned in the newsletter, it is the time of year to renew your memberships for 2023. We are also looking at other ways we can diversify our funding through sponsorships, donations, a large fundraiser and grant opportunities.

We have a board of ten and a couple volunteers who currently try to do everything, but we find that we can't with many of us having full time jobs, families and other commitments that also need our attention. We are also determined to utilize our volunteers many talents and abilities to carry on with the mission of the WMJS which is "to advance, uphold, and sustain live jazz in West Michigan through promotion, performance and education". As you are becoming a member or renewing your membership, feel free to share some of the skills you believe could be an asset to the organization. Reach out to us thru our website or contact us directly. We are looking for volunteers who can help with the following:

- Writing reviews and articles for the newsletter
- Marketing and helping to promote us on social media and sharing our events
- Working at events
- Fundraising and
- Grant writing
- Someone to help lead the group of volunteers and reach out to people to volunteer

We have some exciting things happening in the new year! Remember to look at our website and social media for updates on all events coming up. Come join us for fantastic music with Edye Evans Hyde on November 21st at the Casino Club!

With a sincere thank you and wish for a wonderful end to your year!

-Michelle Needham



NOTE: When shopping Amazon, please shop under Smile.amazon.com. You can select WMJS as a nonprofit and we will receive a portion of your purchase donated back to us from Amazon!



## AUGUST 15 – GRJO with Edye Evans Hyde



## Aug 22,2022.- Mary Rademacher and Rick Reuther with The Tom Hagen Quartet.

Cherie Lynn, Denis Shebukov bass, Mike Lutley, sax/flute. A record crowd enjoyed a polished performance from these seasoned entertainers for our final Jazz in the Park. The weather was beautiful, the musical selections varied... familiar standards, a touch of swinging blues and sultry Latin, and plenty of vocal duets and group numbers, supported by this solid band and sound man, Kurt Ehinger.

Here's to another successful season! We appreciate your support.





## IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT WE ARE APPROACHING 2023! MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME IS UPON US.

We had the 22nd season of Jazz in the Park at Millennium Park and the Jazz Gumbos at the Casino Club. We supported an event to celebrate Black History Month at GR Noir, through promotion, lodging for traveling musicians, and attendance. WMJS Board Member Dr. Jordan VanHemert hosted the special 'Speaking of Jazz Panels' for Black History Month on Facebook live WMJS had a giveaway of 50 tickets for our members and concert-goers to see Arturo Sandoval at the Meijer Gardens sponsored by the Grand Rapids Symphony. WMJS presented a new award, the Betty Forrest Jazz Ambassador Award to Kurt Ehinger, as well as a posthumous 2022 Musician of the Year award to drummer Paul Smith.

We need your support to help keep this Great American Art Form alive in West Michigan. All of these events, newsletters, online offerings, etc. incur costs. The West Michigan Jazz Society is funded mainly by membership and donations. These funds pay for musicians and singers to perform at events, for the costs incurred to create the newsletters, the website and various other expenses to keep our organization in existence. Please consider renewing your membership or becoming a new member this year so we can offer more programs and options in 2023. We would like to continue to give our members various options to listen to and learn more about jazz with your help. If you are not a member of WMJS: Become a member of the West Michigan Jazz Society and begin to enjoy the benefits of belonging to a successful organization dedicated to the preservation, scholarship, and promotion of jazz in the West Michigan community. The West Michigan Jazz Society is a non-profit (501) (c)(3) organization and is open to all on a nondiscriminatory basis. Members will become a part of our constantly updated database of information and will be able to take advantage of many events, offers, promotions and activities that are organized or supported on a regular basis by the West Michigan Jazz Society.

### To Renew your membership:

The following are the Membership Levels:

Student - \$20  
Single - \$35  
Couple - \$50  
Donor - \$100  
Patron - \$250  
Benefactor - \$500

### Individual Jazz Musician (\$35...or \$20 for students)

- Premium jazz notes gig listing periodically
- Premium web listing for gigs periodically
- Artist bio added online and featured social media post after joining
- Added to WMJS referral list (posted online)

### Jazz Band (2-4 members) (\$100)

- Premium jazz notes gig listing periodically
- Premium web listing for gigs periodically
- Band bio added online and featured social media post after joining
- Added to WMJS referral list (posted online)
- Each band member will be covered as a member (Up to 4)
- This would be registered to the director of the group or four members of the group only if the band exceeds four members (for a group such as a big band)

### Featured Jazz Venue (\$250 or equivalent product donation)

Listed as an official WMJS partner venue

- 1/3-page ad in jazz notes annually
- Premium web listing annually
- Social media post after joining
- Must host jazz events on a minimum quarterly basis for consideration
- Recommended to offer a benefit to WMJS members (such as a free appetizer)
- These same benefits could be offered, but could also include the underwriter benefit if the venue donated at the benefactor level (\$500+)
- Sponsor (\$500 minimum donation or equivalent product donation)

- Listed as an official WMJS sponsor
- 1/2-page ad in jazz notes annually
- Premium web listing annually
- Social media post after joining
- Underwriter level sponsor for 1 event per year included (first come, first served. Ex: WMJS Jazz Gumbo presented by "XYZ corporation"). They could also receive verbal recognition to the audience at an event for supporting WMJS.

Please renew by visiting our website.

<https://wmichjazz.org/membership>

If you don't want to become a member of WMJS please consider donating by going to our page. <https://wmichjazz.org/donations-to-west-michiganjazz-society>

Thank you again for being members of the West Michigan Jazz Society in 2022, and we look forward to seeing you again at events in 2023!



March 20, 2023

Rick Hicks Quartet/Trio

Former WMJS Jazz Musician of the Year, Edye Evans Hyde will be swinging, singing and scatting in her own special way with Mike Hyde on guitar and Mike Frost on saxes. The group will be performing an eclectic blend of jazz standards, Latin and soulful pop songs.



April 17, 2023

Patty Gayle Group featuring Kevin Cavanaugh on keys

Popular Vocalist Patty Gayle returns for the fourth time Gumbo series with a jazzy spring fling theme. Gayle has been an active musical theatre performer over the years, as well. She majored in musical theatre and comedy at University of Miami, graduated from Interlochen Arts Academy, and toured with the USO with the Northeast Command.

Versatile pianist/vocalist/songwriter, Kevin Cavanaugh recently returned to West Michigan after a 22 year long career playing music in San Diego, CA. He has worked in many genres, including jazz, pop, theatre and more. His vocal 60's lounge group Blue Velvet was featured on America's Got Talent and he has revived the group here again in West MI.



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## September 19th The Robin Connell Quartet

Welcome to Gumbo season, jazz fans. The season opened strong with The Robin Connell Quartet featuring on keys and vocals; performer, educator, and WMJS Musician of the Year Award winner, Robin Connell! Josiah DeNooyer on the drums; a recent WMU grad, Denis Shebukhov playing the double bass; a music educator and performer from Kalamazoo, and Yoseph Henry a grad student and educator at WMU, assisting with the vocal duties, rounded out the lineup.

Again, I am consistently amazed at how musicians, and in my opinion, jazz musicians in particular, can with little if any rehearsal create such wonderful auditory art and make it look easy. We'll, Dr. Connell and the band did that and told great stories and generally entertained us for far too short a time. With tunes such as "Days of Wine and Roses", "On a Clear Day", and others featuring Mr. Henry's liltingly powerful falsetto the audience was properly wowed, as was I. To finish a lovely night of music, Robin, Josiah, and Denis the played her "theme song", I'm Old Fashioned.

I would like to finish by saying that for the price, you will have a hard time finding a better value for dinner and a live show of this caliber. Tell your neighbors and friends. Do them, the Jazz Society, and live jazz music in our area a great favor.



## October 17th The Alain Sullivan Quartet



The Alain Sullivan Quartet graced the WMJS Stage for the second installment of Jazz Gumbo. Alain is a fairly recent U of M grad with dual majors in molecular biology and jazz studies sax/woodwinds, and has played in bands big and small all over this country and Denmark. He gathered an impressive group of musicians, starting with bass player Jon Webber, from

New York, who has played with more jazz heavy hitters than can be listed here. Sean Pearlmutter, originally from Grand Rapids coming from Detroit area and a Wayne State grad at the drums. Finally, on the keys, it's music educator, WMJS Musician of the Year Award winner, and local jazz legend Steve Talaga.

The band started out with Cedar Walton's Ugetsu, a sometimes dreamy bop tune featuring Mr. Talaga with a searing keys solo followed by an Ornette Coleman piece called "The Blessing". Debussy ounce said that "music is the silence between notes", Mr. Sullivan demonstrates this very well in this soulful rendition of "The Blessing" with particularly good drum accompaniment from Mr. Pearlmutter. Paul Dietrich's "Settle" is a musical journey that builds to a climax then onto a beautiful denouement played with impressive interplay between Webber and Talaga and a mesmerizing sax solo from Sullivan.

It was a night of amazing musicianship, a master class in bop jazz that won't be soon forgotten. Thanks to the Alain and the band and the West Michigan Jazz Society for providing another evening of superb jazz entertainment.

- Kevin Hubbard





## The Betty Forrest Jazz Ambassador & Honorary Musician of the Year in Memoriam Award Banquet



The Award Banquet for Kurt Ehinger and Paul Smith was an evening to remember at Noto's Italian Ristorante! We were able to celebrate both of them with their family, friends, and fellow West Michigan Jazz Society members. The band, which was hand picked by Kurt, included the following: Randy Marsh on Drums, Rob Hartman on Bass, Pat Cronley on Piano, Doug Horn on Saxophone & Flute, Max Colley on Trumpet, and the beautiful and talented Ramona Collins on Vocals. Kurt had a big surprise when his friend, Harvey Thompson, came all the way from Tokyo, Japan to celebrate with him and perform with Ramona and the band.

Jim Reed did a touching tribute to Paul Smith and gave Paul's award to his three daughters: Michelle, Ruth, and Simone. His daughter, Michelle, shared how much this award would have meant to her dad and how much it meant to all of them to be there to accept this award honoring this special man who will be deeply missed in the jazz community. Jim also welcomed Kurt to the front to honor him and share a little about Kurt and why he was so deserving of receiving this first time award.

We also shared a snippet of the video which the West Michigan Jazz Society is having made to celebrate these awardees and the special event.

There was delicious food, fantastic music, and dancing! Thank you to all who attended for making this a fun night! A special thank you to Peni and Jim Reed for all of their hard work planning the banquet!

- Michelle Needham







**Bill Vits.** With heavy hearts, we share the sad news of the passing of another treasured member of our musical family – principal percussionist [for the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra], Bill Vits. While Bill's courageous two-year battle with cancer has come to an end, his spirit, verve and passion will live on in everyone who knew him. *(Mary Tuuk Kuras, President & CEO)*

'He made the world a better place.' Grand Rapids drummer Bill Vits had a huge impact on musicians, fans and students. His death has sparked loving memorials to this local icon. *(Local Spins)* Bill passed after a 2 year battle with cancer on Monday, October 17, 2022. He was 65.

There are several links for articles and memories (included below) with unending praise for his musical talents, as well as a well-loved human being. He brought joy and music everywhere he went - and he was "all over the place" *Ted Jauw.*



He filled childrens' gymnasiums with percussion, drum circles, the funky theremin and his



exuberant personality and smile. Bill sat in with bands -everywhere - jazz, afro-funk, rock, and more. His own group, The Concussions, were widely popular for their skeletal masks and heavy guitar/percussive and kooky string-bending music. He was funny and kind. He loved his brewed beer, his bike rides with fellow drummer, Randy Marsh, his kitties, his son, Tabor and his lovely wife, Stacey. He loved people. WMJS extends our deepest condolences.



Bill's last performance with the orchestra took place in September 2022 in the premiere of fellow Grand Rapids Symphony

musician Ale Miller's piece "Immortal Beloved". Cancer was ending his musical career, but he nonetheless performed with brilliance, sensitivity and light. *(Mary Tuuk Kuras, President & CEO)*

Local Spins Article by John Sinkevics  
<https://localspins.com/musicians-fans-friends-mourn-and-pay-tribute-to-grand-rapids-drummerbill-vits/?fbclid=IwAR1NhiyH3nh0jyOaYjixbIKgQPg2u4Qmu1zjtMV1OlxmywqRNW0ki33j760>

Bill's own words - an autobiographical life story  
<https://localspins.com/beat-of-a-different-drummer-bill-vits-legacy-with-gr-symphony-the-concussions-more-local-spins/>



**Joey DeFrancesco**, who was widely credited with bringing the organ back into vogue in jazz circles in recent decades, died on August 25, 2022. He was 51.

DeFrancesco was an American jazz organist, trumpeter, saxophonist, and occasional singer. But he built his career playing an old-school B3. He released more than 30 albums under his own name, and recorded extensively as a sideman with such leading jazz performers as trumpeter Miles Davis, saxophonist Houston Person, and guitarist John McLaughlin.

Mr. DeFrancesco had musicianship in his genes: His father, John DeFrancesco, has been playing jazz organ since the 1950s. He was dazzling listeners when he was a teenager.

"DeFrancesco — whose infectious, imp-of-the-perverse expressions make him as much fun to watch as listen to — can stride, flatten fifths and string together quotes from Bird, Diz, Monk and Miles with the polished resourcefulness of the eight-year veteran that he is," Gene Seymour of The Philadelphia Daily News wrote in 1986 after observing the Settlement Jazz Ensemble at the Settlement Music School in Philadelphia, where the young Mr. DeFrancesco was then a student

**Margaret (Marg Ed) Kwapil** passed away in her sleep on August 15th, 2022, just two weeks shy of her 91st birthday.

Marg Ed was a WMJS member for many years and was an active, friendly person. Her late husband, Ray was a staunch jazz fan and his wake was called "Ray's Last Bash... And all that Jazz" in 2003, when he passed suddenly of a heart attack. Several local jazz musicians performed for the celebration at Fredrik Meijer Gardens.

Marg Ed's family held a similar, small scale event on Sunday, October 16, 2022. We extend our sincere condolences to the family.



**Pharoah Sanders** (born Farrell Sanders; October 13, 1940 – September 24, 2022).

He was an American jazz saxophonist. Known for his overblowing, harmonic, and Qas multiphonic techniques on the saxophone, as well as his use of "sheets of sound", Sanders played a prominent role in the development of free jazz and spiritual jazz through his work as a member of John Coltrane's groups in the mid-1960s, and later through his solo work. He released over thirty albums as a leader and collaborated extensively with vocalist Leon Thomas and pianist Alice Coltrane, among many others. Fellow saxophonist Ornette Coleman once described him as "probably the best tenor player in the world".



# November Jazz Around West Michigan

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- Jeff Shoup, Tony Romano and Terry Newman at Moriarty’s Pub, Lansing, 7-10pm
- Terry Lower and Dr. Barry Ross at Martell’s, Kalamazoo, 5:30-7:30pm

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- The New Standard at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6-9pm
- Miller, Wierenga, Jones Trio at Book Nook and Java Shop, Montague, 7:30-9:30pm, \$5 cover
- Tony Romano guitar, at Dalton Center Recital Hall, Kalamazoo, free 7:30pm

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm
- Gold Company at Dalton Center Recital Hall, Kalamazoo, 7:30pm
- Tim Johnson and Scott Bell at Portobello, Grand Haven at 6:30-10:30pm

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm
- John Shea at Noto’s Old World Italian, 6:30-9:30pm

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- Fred Knapp Trio at The Old Goat, 2434 Eastern Ave. SE, 11am-2pm
- Turnstiles Jazz Brunch, Open Mic at 526 Stocking NW, 2-5pm, no cover
- Owen James at Beard’s Brewery, 215 E. Lake St, Petoskey, 6-9pm

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- John Shea Trio at Rockwell Republic, 7-10pm
- Jazz Jam Open Mic at What Not Inn, Fennville 6-9pm

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- Jeff Shoup at Moriarty’s Pub, Lansing with Arlene Mc Daniel playing Chick Corea’s music at 7-10pm
- Terry Lower and Dr. Barry Ross at Martell’s, Kalamazoo, 5:30-7:30pm

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- In The Blue at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6-9pm
- Miller, Wierenga, Jones Trio at Book Nook and Java Shop, Montague, 7:30-9:30pm, \$5 cover

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm
- John Shea at Noto’s Old World Italian, 6:30-9:30pm
- Tim Johnson and Big Daddy Fox at Portobello, Grand Haven, 6:30-10:30pm

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- Fred Knapp Trio at The Old Goat, 2434 Eastern Ave. SE, 11am-2pm
- Big Band Nouveau at The Stray, 4253 S. Division, free 5-7pm
- Owen James at Beard’s Brewery, 215 E. Lake St, Petoskey 5-8pm

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- John Shea Trio at Rockwell Republic, 7-10pm
- Jazz Jam Open Mic at What Not Inn, Fennville 6-9pm

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- Truth in Jazz Orchestra at Grand Haven Community Center, Columbus Ave, 7:30-9:30pm, \$10 cover
- Jeff Shoup at Moriarty’s Pub, Lansing with Grant Green, Jim Alfredson,
- Ben Turner and Peyton Miller, 7-10pm
- Terry Lower and Dr. Barry Ross at Martell’s, Kalamazoo, 5:30-7:30pm

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- PHD’S at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6-9pm
- Miller, Wierenga, Jones Trio at Book Nook and Java Shop, Montague, 7:30-9:30pm, \$5 cover
- University Jazz Orchestra at Dalton Center Recital Hall, Kalamazoo, 7:30pm

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm
- John Shea at Noto’s Old World Italian, 6:30-9:30pm
- Owen James Trio at Beard’s Brewery, Petoskey, 6-9pm

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- Fred Knapp Trio at The Old Goat, 2434 Eastern Ave. SE, 11am-2pm
- Turnstiles Jazz Brunch, Open Mic at 526 Stocking NW, 2-5pm, no cover
- Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra at Creston Brewery, 5:30-7:30pm
- Owen James Trio at Beard’s Brewery, 215 E. Lake St, Petoskey, 6-9pm

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- **WEST MICHIGAN JAZZ SOCIETY** at the Casino Club, 3260 Salerno Dr. with 3rd Coast Swing. Cost is \$15.00 for WMJS members, \$20.00 for non-members, \$10.00 students with ID. (If you choose not to get a food ticket, the price will be \$5.00 less) Doors open, 6:00pm, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- John Shea Trio at Rockwell Republic, 7-10pm
- Jazz Jam Open Mic at What Not Inn, Fennville 6-9pm

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- Lakeshore Big Band at Grand Haven Community Center, Food, drinks, dancing \$5 at door, 7:30-9:30pm
- Jeff Shoup at Moriarty’s Pub, Lansing with Javier Enrique Quartet, 7-10pm

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- Beacon Corner Bar closed for Thanksgiving
- Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive closed for Thanksgiving
- Miller, Wierenga, Jones Trio at Book Nook and Java Shop, Montague, 7:30-9:30pm, \$5 cover

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm
- John Shea at Noto’s Old World Italian, 6:30-9:30pm
- Tim Johnson and Paul Lesinski at Portobello, Grand Haven, 6:30-10:30pm

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- Fred Knapp Trio at The Old Goat, 2434 Eastern Ave. SE, 11am-2pm
- Owen James at Beard’s Brewery, 215 E. Lake St, Petoskey, 6-9pm

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- John Shea Trio at Rockwell Republic, 7-10pm
- Jazz Jam Open Mic at What Not Inn, Fennville 6-9pm
- Jazz Combo Showcase, Dalton Center Recital Hall, Kalamazoo, free, 5:00pm

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- Jeff Shoup at Moriarty’s Pub, Lansing with Sam Corey Trio, 7-10pm

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm



Join the Girls Choral Academy at our annual “Let Their Voice Be Heard” Benefit on Wednesday, November 15, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at Watermark Country Club. We will be honoring Edye Evans Hyde, Jazz Vocalist and Executive Director of Ebony Road Players, with our Giving Girls a Voice Award. Reception begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and program from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$100 each and include dinner, drinks and entertainment. Contact the GCA at 616-361-6111 or [cat@girlschoralacademy.org](mailto:cat@girlschoralacademy.org) for more details.

## Creston Brewery’s GRJO Musical EXTRAVAGANZA!!!



The Jazz Vocal Summit hosted by The GRJO on September 4 at Creston Brewery was a huge success. It was standing room only as the polished 17 piece orchestra, directed by Dr James Sawyer and Bob Nixon, featured Edye Evans Hyde, Rick Reuther and Mary Rademacher for multiple numbers. Each singer brought their own unique style for a wonderful, professional and exciting performance. Sawyer and his wife, Dr Charsie Sawyer, a classically trained singer, sang a sweet duet of Unforgettable for their 46th anniversary. The event culminated with all 4 vocalists joining in for a rousing Alright, Ok, You Win!

Look for more news of an encore of this event at Kentwood Performing Arts in February 2023.

# December Jazz Around West Michigan

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

- In the Blue at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6-9pm
- Miller, Wierenga, Jones Trio at Book Nook and Java Shop, Montague, 7:30-9:30pm, \$5 cover
- Jazz Masters Series with Chris Potter, Sax and Univ. Jazz Orchestra and Western
- Jazz Collective at Dalton Center Recital Hall, Kalamazoo, 7:30pm

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm
- John Shea at Noto’s Old World Italian, 6:30-9:30pm
- Tim Johnson and Big Daddy Fox at Portobello, Grand Haven, 6:30-10:30pm
- Terry Lower and Brass Band of Battle Creek with Doug Labreque, concert at W. K. Kellogg Auditorium, 7:30pm

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

- Fred Knapp Trio at The Old Goat, 2434 Eastern Ave. SE, 11am-2pm
- Turnstiles Jazz Brunch, open Mic at 526 Stocking NW, 2-5pm, no cover

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- John Shea Trio at Rockwell Republic, 7-10pm
- Jazz Jam Open Mic at What Not Inn, Fennville 6-9pm

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- Jeff Shoup at Moriarty’s Pub, Lansing with Rob Killips, at 7-10pm

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

- The New Standard at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6-9pm
- Miller, Wierenga, Jones Trio at Book Nook and Java Shop, Montague, 7:30-9:30pm, \$5 cover

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm
- John Shea at Noto’s Old World Italian, 6:30-9:30pm
- Tim Johnson and Big Daddy Fox at Portobello, Grand Haven, 6:30-10:30pm

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

- Fred Knapp Trio at The Old Goat, 2434 Eastern Ave. SE, 11am-2pm
- GR Jazz Orchestra at Creston Brewery, 1504 Plainfield NE, 5:30-7:30pm
- Owen James, solo guitar at Beard’s Brewery, 215 E. Lake St. Petoskey, 6-9pm

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- John Shea Trio at Rockwell Republic, 7-10pm
- Jazz Jam Open Mic at What Not Inn, Fennville 6-9pm

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- Jeff Shoup at Moriarty’s Pub, Lansing with Michael Reed at 7-10pm

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

- PHD’s at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6-9pm
- Miller, Wierenga, Jones Trio at Book Nook and Java Shop, Montague 7:30-9:30pm, \$5 cover

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm
- Tim Johnson and Big Daddy Fox at Portobello, Grand Haven, 6:30-10:30pm

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 3rd Coast Swing at The Old Goat, Eastern Ave. SE, 6-9pm
- John Shea at Noto’s Old World Italian, 6:30-9:30pm
- Owen James Trio at Beard’s Brewery, Petoskey, 6-9pm

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

- Fred Knapp Trio at The Old Goat, 2434 Eastern Ave. SE, 11am-2pm
- Turnstiles Jazz Brunch, Open Mic at 526 Stocking NW, 2-5pm, no cover
- Terry Lower and Edye Evans Hyde in Christmas concert at Immanuel Lutheran, Church, Big Rapids, 4-5:30pm

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- John Shea Trio at Rockwell Republic, 7-10pm
- Jazz Jam Open Mic at What Not Inn, Fennville 6-9pm

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- Truth in Jazz Orchestra at Grand Haven Community Center, Columbus Ave, 7:30-9:30pm \$10 cover
- Jeff Shoup at Moriarty’s Pub, Lansing with Olivia Goor, 7-10pm

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

- JMM Jazz at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6-9pm
- Miller, Wierenga, Jones Trio at Book Nook and Java Shop, Montague, 7:30-9:30pm, \$5 cover

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- John Shea Trio at Rockwell Republic, 7-10pm
- Jazz Jam Open Mic at What Not Inn, Fennville 6-9pm

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm
- Jeff Shoup at Moriarty’s Pub, Lansing with Ramona Collins, 7-10pm

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

- Robin Connell at The Old Goat, 5:30-8:30pm

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

- TBD at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6-9pm
- Miller, Wierenga, Jones Trio at Book Nook and Java Shop, Montague, 7:30-9:30pm, \$5 cover

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31 NEW YEAR’S EVE

- Tim Johnson and Big Daddy Fox at Portobello, Grand Haven, 6:30-10:30pm
- Terry Lower and Lana Hoffman, Kalamazoo New Year’s Fest, with Kalamazoo Big Band, First United Methodist Church 7-11pm

*BE SURE TO CHECK*

*www.wmichjazz.org,*

*& the MUSICIAN’S WEBSITES*

*for updates and changes*

*in the schedules!*

Whatever is beautiful.  
Whatever is meaningful.  
Whatever brings you happiness.  
May it be yours this holiday  
season and throughout  
the coming year.

*Season's  
Greetings*

## Musician of the Year Nomination Form

The West Michigan Jazz Society invites its membership to send in their nominations for the 2023 WMJS Musician of the Year Award. This award was established in 2000 to honor outstanding local musicians and is given annually to recognize someone who has contributed over a period of time to the West Michigan scene in perpetuating a greater awareness of jazz.

CRITERIA for nominations should include some, not necessarily all, of the following:

- what the person has done to help jazz grow in Western Michigan, they are recognizable as a jazz ambassador
- has been a special asset to WMJS in performing and or promoting our programs
- the amount of their participation in the jazz scene, public recognition, community involvement, and inspires others
- furthering jazz education, has contributed to youth programs or other venues that perpetuate jazz for future generations

Please complete and submit the nomination form below. **The deadline is January 16, 2023.** You must be a current member in good standing to submit a nomination.

Fill out and mail to:  
WMJS, Attn: M.O.Y. Committee, P.O. Box 150307  
Grand Rapids, MI 49515

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email or Address \_\_\_\_\_

Your Nomination \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think he/she deserves this honor?

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# Jazznotes

Newsletter for members of the West Michigan Jazz Society

## November/December 2022

If you would like your jazz event included in our media publications please send your schedules to [jlbasham@i2k.com](mailto:jlbasham@i2k.com) by the **10th** of the month.

### West Michigan Jazz Society Board Members

Board meetings are now held virtually on Zoom. 4th Saturday of each month, 9:30 am  
If anyone wants to view them they can ask for the link  
WMJS main number . . . 616-490-9506  
Email . . . [info@wmichjazz.org](mailto:info@wmichjazz.org)

<b>Michelle Needham – President</b>	<b>Shannan Dennison – Vice President</b>
<b>Jim Reed – Treasurer</b>	<b>Jake Vanderheyden – Secretary</b>
Jan Basham	Mary Rademacher Reed
Scott Freeman	Peni Reed
Kevin Dalton Jones	Jordan VanHemert

**REMINDER: ALL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE JANUARY 1, 2023.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

If a dual membership, BOTH names must be listed

Students \$20 ☐ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Musician \$20 ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Single \$35 ☐ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Jazz Musician \$35 ☐ City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Couple \$50 ☐ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Donor \$100 ☐ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Jazz Band (2-4 members) \$100 ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Patron \$250 ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Featured Jazz Venue \$250 ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$250 or equivalent product donation)

Benefactor \$500 ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \$500 ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$500 minimum donation or equivalent product donation)

Donation Only \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐

This Issue of Jazz Notes was produced by:

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Writers: Mary Rademacher Reed, Kevin Hubbard

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Nov./Dec. 2022

Interested in volunteering? ☐

Receive JazzNotes by e-mail ☐ or by mail ☐

Detach and mail with check made payable to **West Michigan Jazz Society** 616-490-9506  
(or join online)

P.O. Box 150307, Grand Rapids, MI 49515 [www.wmichjazz.org](http://www.wmichjazz.org)