

INTUNE

Official Publication of Charlotte County Jazz Society, Inc.

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OUR GOALS THIS WEEK

THE NEWS

COOL NIGHTS, WARM JAZZ

Our January concert, held on January 13 at the Charlotte Performing Arts Center, featured the Michelle Amato Quartet. Michelle's incredible vocal range was the highlight of the performance. Joining her on stage were Stu Shelton on piano, Mark Neuenschwander on bass, Mark Griffith on drums, and Kenny Anderson on saxophone. The first set sizzled and popped, starting with "I Love Being Here With You," moving through "My Favorite Things," "The Shadow of Your Smile," and ending with a show-stopping rendition of "Summertime." The quartet picked up right where they left off in the second half, kicking things off with "I've Got the World on a String" and treating us to many favorites before closing with "How High the Moon."



INCREDIBLE JAZZ TRIO

The Charlotte County Jazz Society returned to the Gulf Theater at the Military Heritage Museum for our concert on February 9. This event showcased the Rossano/Metz Trio, featuring Rossano Sportiello on piano, Eddie Metz on drums, and Charlie Silva on bass. Performing to a full house, this incredible jazz trio captivated the audience. We were treated to many favorites and old standards. Rossano Sportiello played with a relaxed swing style which blended effortlessly with Eddie Metz and Charlie Silva. It was very apparent how much this trio enjoyed playing together and playing for all who were lucky enough to be there.



A MELODIOUS EVENING

Our March 9 concert at The Gulf Theater at the Military Heritage Museum provided the perfect backdrop for a melodious evening with The Midiri Brothers. Joining Joe Midiri on clarinet, saxophones and vocals were Paul Midiri on vibraphone, Jeff Phillips on piano, Jay Mueller on bass, and Patricia Dean on drums and vocals.

The quintet's deep appreciation for the instrumental jazz tradition shone through as they navigated a variety of standards from the Great American Songbook and classic jazz favorites. Their dynamic interplay and the band's swinging tempos contributed to a truly joyous night.





Notes from the President's Desk – April 2026

Dear Members and Jazz Enthusiasts,

A Season of High Notes

It has been a truly wonderful season so far, and the energy at our concerts has been nothing short of electric. As we move into the final stretch of our current series, the “rhythm” of our organization is stronger than ever thanks to your continued support. Even as we enjoy these final performances, we are already hard at work behind the scenes planning our next season’s concert performers and venues.

Your voice is essential to our harmony. If you have any ideas or feedback from this past season regarding the acts we brought in or the facilities we used, please reach out to me directly at president@cc-jazz.org. We base many of our future plans and ideas on the feedback we receive from you, our members.

Expanding Our Community Reach

We are making fantastic connections with other organizations and businesses throughout Charlotte County. To further our mission of preserving and promoting jazz music, we are excited to announce a new community service: we are now offering to help individuals and organizations hire professional jazz musicians for their own live events. Whether it's a corporate gathering or a private celebration, we want to ensure that live jazz remains a vibrant part of our local culture. You can find more information on this initiative on our website at cc-jazz.org.

Strengthening Our Leadership

While we have recently added two new members to our Board of Directors with fantastic new perspectives, our growth requires a consistently dedicated team. We are still in need of more board members to help guide the future of the Jazz Society. If you have a passion for the arts and a desire to help us modernize our outreach and ensure we remain a cultural pillar, please reach out to me via email to discuss how you can contribute your talents.

A Grand Finale: April 13th

There is no better way to celebrate our progress than by looking toward the future. We are excited to close out our season on Monday, April 13, at the Gulf Theater at Military Heritage Museum. The season finale concert will be a true highlight, as we will be announcing our Scholarship winners for the year. Supporting these exceptional young, local musicians is at the very heart of our mission.

In addition to the scholarship announcements, we will finally award the winner of our Art Raffle that has been running all season long. Let’s fill the hall one last time this season and show our guests the strength of the jazz community here in Charlotte County.

Keep swinging and thank you for being a part of our Society!


Jordan Aquila

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Community Partners



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CCJS onthe Web!
www.cc-jazz.org

- *Check the concert schedule
- *Join the jazz society
- *Preview upcoming concerts and events
- *Check out the local Jazz scene

LIKE us on Facebook
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Charlotte County Jazz-CCJS

**Matt and Emma
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In Tune is published **four** times a year. We welcome pertinent articles, letters and news items space permitting. Opinions expressed are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the CCJS.

Don't forget to take advantage of our CCJS email list. We send out reminders for events by email. Please send your name and email address to Emilie at: intunejazz@gmail.com

Membership questions: call the hotline-941-766-9422



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Mission Statement of CCJS

The Mission of the Charlotte County Jazz Society is to increase the availability of Jazz music in our county and to foster the study and appreciation of this original American art form, especially among the youth of our community.

We seek to continually develop and improve upon our monthly concert series which showcases some of the finest jazz performers from throughout the state of Florida. We strive to broaden exposure to jazz among the general public through live performances at community festivals and other local events which reach a wide audience.

CCJS works to serve as a source of information about jazz activities throughout our area by informing local news media, publishing a Society newsletter, and providing a telephone hotline.

We seek to provide continuing aid to middle school and high school students furthering their jazz education and awarding college scholarships on a competitive basis to promising students.

We strive to further expose our area youth to jazz music by admitting local students free of charge to our monthly concert series and jazz jams.

2025-2026 Concert Season:

October 13 - Rebecca Richardson Trio (Charlotte Harbor Event Center (In the round concert))

November 10 - Mosaic The Music of Art Blakey (CPAC)

Dec 8 - Les Elgart Orchestra (CPAC - Big Band Concert)

Jan 12 - Michelle Amato Quartet (CPAC)

Feb 9 - Rossano Sportiello Trio (Gulf Theater)

Mar9 - The Midiri Brothers (Gulf Theater)

April 13 - The Music of Al & Zoot (Gulf Theater)

****ALL CONCERTS START AT 7:00****

CCJS 2025-26 Officers

Jordan Aquila, President
Aaron Lucas, Past President
Dan Cobb, Treasurer
Pam Koontz, Secretary

Directors

Chris (Brown) Fitzgerald
Shawn Marren
James Mashburn
Dawn Marx
Louise Raterman
Marcellus Stewart
Cameron Wade

Herb Bruce, Concert Coordinator
Emilie Deskins, Administrative Assistant

Messages for individual board members can be sent via our email address or through the CCJS hotline number.

CCJS HOTLINE: 941.766.9422
www.cc-jazz.org

www.facebook.com/ccjazzsociety
Email: intunejazz@gmail.com

YOU CAN BECOME A LEGACY SUPPORTER

Charlotte County Jazz Society is deeply grateful to former members Marjorie Jean Biermann, Helen Langdon, Donatella and Ken Neumann, and Roberta Gasparri. Their generous bequests now play a major role in helping fund the outstanding jazz artists brought to our community by CCJS. They have also been instrumental in supporting our commitment to pass on our love of jazz with the awarding of annual scholarships to graduating high school seniors. We invite you to join us in our mission to preserve, promote and present live jazz by including CCJS in your will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy, or with a donation to CCJS in honor or memory of a fellow jazz lover. For more detailed information, please contact any CCJS officer or director as listed on the last page.

Charlotte County Jazz Society

A 501 (c) (3) Non-profit Organization

Membership

Don't forget to notify us if there are changes to your name, street address, phone number or email address!

Due to rising costs in printing and postage, we will no longer be mailing newsletters or special events notices. Your correct email address is critical in allowing us to stay in touch and keep you current on all our activities. The Charlotte County Jazz Society will never share your personal information with any other entity.

Charlotte County Jazz Society

Renewal/New Member Application Form

Membership is good for the concert year October through May

Date _____

PLEASE PRINT:

New Membership: _____ Renew _____ \$125/per person

Name:(First,Middle,Last): _____

AdditionalNameatSameAddress: _____

StreetAddress: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone:() _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to: Charlotte County Jazz Society

MailingAddress: CharlotteCountyJazz Society
P.O.Box495321
PortCharlotte,FL33949-5321

Become a CCJS supporter:

Our membership fees cover less than half of the cost to produce our concerts. We undertake various fund-raising efforts during the year to supplement these but inevitable we need to use assets from our endowment to balance the budget. We strive to keep our membership fees as low as they are to allow those with limited incomes to enjoy our shows. If you are fortunate enough to afford it please consider additional donations to our endowment fund. You may earmark your donation for support of our jazz performances or for the support our educational/scholarship programs.

Endowment: _____ Scholarship/Educational Fund: _____