



Clef Notes

Jazz Pensacola News



December 2023

Jingle Jazz Holiday Music featuring Mary Chavez on piano and vocals together with a bevy of local hot-shot jazz players including George Petropoulis, trumpet, flugelhorn & vocals; Bob Maksymkow, sax & clarinet; Jensen Cadenhead, drums; and Steve Douglas on bass. Enjoy original arrangements of seasonal favorites together with some new compositions. A wonderful way to celebrate the holidays!

Admission: \$10/members, \$12/nonmembers. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., music at 6:30 p.m., on Monday, December 11TH at Phineas Phoggs in Seville Quarter.

Message from Derrick Fishback President Jazz Society of Pensacola

Greetings Jazz Family,

It's that most wonderful time of year where we get to celebrate with family, friends and all of the good things we have in our lives.

I would like to take the time to thank you all for a wonderful year of support. We've had a great time growing, changing, and pushing the vision of jazz here in Pensacola. I am most grateful for all the team members, board members, and volunteers who help ensure that we host great music events.

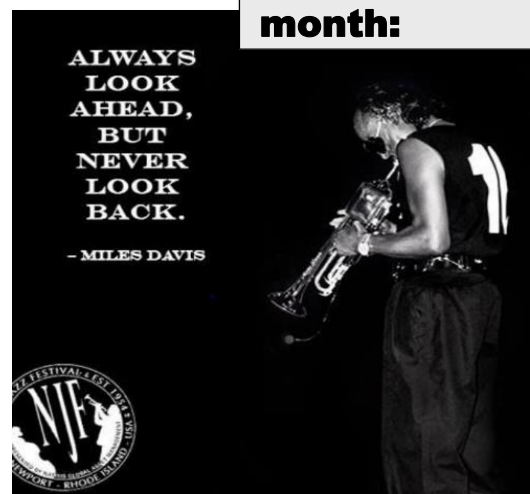
We have had great performances at the monthly Jazz Jams, Library Concerts (Jazz by the Books), and Jazz Gumbos by local artists whose talents we love, appreciate, and enjoy. Next year will be even better when our new Jazz Orchestra comes to fruition with their inaugural performance at our February 8th "For the Love of Jazz" event, and of course our annual community Jazz Fest!

Now, as we close out the year, my hope is that we can further continue to support and celebrate music throughout the New Year. Together, with your continued financial contributions or through your shared time and talents, we uplift, encourage, and inspire our community by serving and actively participating in our commitment to support jazz music, its legacy and heritage.

I wish you all the best Christmas and many blessings in the coming New Year!

Derrick

Jazz Quote of the month:



The Kindred Spirits of Jazz and Surgery

by Dean Vanderhoof

I know it sounds odd but bear with me while I explain myself and no, I don't cover why music is often played during surgical cases. That may be another submission.

When I held an administrative role in Toledo, I was asked to address a group of 250 members of the local chapter of the Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN). I sent the chairperson a list of 5 topics to speak about to these 250 nurses, my beautiful wife being one of them (more pressure) and she selected: professionalism in the operating room. I proceeded to draft the presentation on specific characteristics of being a professional and the plan was to have actual examples of each of these characteristics to make the connection roles in an operating room.

This included characteristics such as integrity, wisdom, organization, dedication, and continued learning, among others. When I got to *focus*, I thought of one person: Claude Black. Claude was a jazz pianist from Detroit that I heard play on a weekly basis at Murphy's Place in downtown Toledo. In his career, Claude played with Stan Getz, Charlie Parker, Wes Montgomery, Sonny Stitt, Aretha Franklin and, for the last few decades of his life, with bassist Clifford Murphy. One night the trio was particularly good during their first set. The level and coordinating skills were absolutely spot-on and that resulted in both seamless precision and audible perfection.

At the break when Claude typically came over to the bar and took his normal place where Joannie set his dinner down for the night. He sat down with a "Good evening, Dean, it is good to see you again." and proceeded to dig in. During that conversation I said, "Man, you guys are on fire tonight!" to which with an affirmative nod he responded, "Yeah, we sound pretty good." Then I said, "Hey, Claude, knowing that most of us will never be able to experience it, what does it feel like to do one thing that well." You know he looked at me with those septuagenarian eyes and clearly said, "Dean, it's like breathing . . . I don't even know I'm doing it."

This 'unconscious knowing' comment set my mind racing and, in my research, found studies where musical training produces lasting improvements to a cognitive mechanism that helps individuals be more attentive and less likely to be distracted by irrelevant stimuli while performing demanding tasks. One specific study noted that the attentional system consists of three subsystems that are mediated by anatomically distinct neural networks: alerting, orienting, and executive control networks.

The alerting function is associated with maintaining states of readiness for action. The orienting function is linked to the selection of sensory information and change of attentional focus. The executive control function is involved both in the suppression of irrelevant, distracting stimuli and in top-down attentional control. The study's findings also demonstrated a correlation between the alerting and orienting networks in musicians than in non-musicians, possibly reflecting a functional relationship between these attentional networks derived from the deliberate practice of music or in my mind, the practice of surgery.

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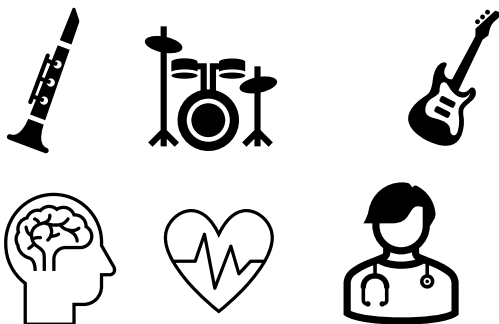


Claude Black
Pianist

Kindred Spirits of Jazz and Surgery, continued

I hope you are now seeing the connection and why I included it in my presentation to those nurses. I have seen a similar 'concert' in many operating rooms across the country. Those high-performing surgical teams not only in their doing their jobs but doing their jobs with an awareness of their co-members in these performances. As with musicians, this comes first and foremost, from a desire to be good at what they do and that stems from a continuing education and purposeful practice. But, just like musician groups, the outstanding performances occur when there is a palpable awareness of the surroundings, an adaptation to the talent around the individual and an unselfish desire to recognize the performance of others.

This orchestration is truly something to witness, and I consider myself extremely fortunate to have done so often in my career. I would contend that it is *focus* like this that results in Claude's casual "it's like breathing" comment about creating great music. Likewise, surgical teams strive to go into that both complex and dynamic theatre that is an operating room and give the performance of their lives . . . every time.



In Case You're Wondering... December Birthdays of Jazz Artists.

Comprised by Steve Douglas



Brian Bromberg	12/5/60
Jay Lionhart	12/6/40
Harvey Schwartz	12/6/48
Miroslav Vitous	12/6/47
Diane Schuur	12/10/53
Alex Acuna	12/12/44
John Abercrombie	12/16/44
Robben Ford	12/16/51
Eric Marienthal	12/19/57
Bobby Colomby	12/20/44
Alex Blake	12/21/51
Marilyn Scott	12/21/49
John Patitucci	12/22/59
Lawrence Hobgood	12/23/59
John Scofield	12/26/51
Mike Barone	12/27/36
T.S. Monk	12/27/49
Lonnie Liston Smith	12/28/40
Joe Lovano	12/29/52
Frank Vignola	12/30/65

What is the #1 Jazz Christmas song?

Since being composed in 1934, "**Winter Wonderland**" has been recorded by thousands of singers, cementing its status as one of the best Christmas jazz songs in history. One of the unbeatable versions is by Bing Crosby, the man famous for crooning "White Christmas."

What's Jazzing

by Carolyn Tokson

There is a lot of good jazz coming your way in December. Jazz Pensacola's Jingle Jazz is Monday, December 11 at Phineas Phoggs in Seville Quarter. Doors open at 5:30 PM with music at 6:30PM. Popular vocalist and keyboardist, Mary Chavez will perform classic holiday music with a really jazzy twist. It's always a night of fun and festivities.

Gino Rosaria's 8th Annual Christmas Charity Concert starts the month off with featured Billboard artist Adam Hawley on guitar, Dee Lucas and BK Jackson on saxophone and Kay Hawley doing vocals at the Jean and Paul Amos Auditorium. Guest MC is Charles Gibson. Proceeds benefit the Rosaria Music and Arts Education Inc., a youth nonprofit organization. VIP tickets cost \$150 with a dinner. Regular tickets are \$45.

Lin Rountree and Jessica Riley Craig are the featured artists at Sheila Green's Annual Red Party Sunday, December 10 at her venue, It's Personal by Sheila. Tickets are \$50 with food while it lasts. It's a BYOB affair. Doors open at 6:30 PM with the show starting at 8:30PM. You know that if Sheila's in charge, it will be a beautiful evening.

Jazz Pensacola member Claire Massey sent me an email raving about a "fabulous three-story jazz museum" that she and her husband Bart visited on a recent trip to New Orleans. You might want to check it out before your next visit. Here's the site: <https://nolajazzmuseum.org>

If you are a jazz aficionado and interested in Pensacola's jazz history, you may wish to read an article by Courtney M. Nero about Pensacola's saxophonist Herman "Junior" Cook. The article appeared in the UK's Jazz Journal of July 15, 2023. Use this link to find the article. <https://jazzjournal.co.uk/2023/07/15/junior-cook-quintessential-hard-bop-tenor/>

Sadly, it seems that this month doesn't offer as many local jazz events at restaurants and cafes as other months. That's probably because there are special holiday events. Still there are the faithful standbys. Check out the opportunities for live jazz here in Pensacola: Sunday Brunches: Five Sisters Blues Cafe with Curt Bol; O'Brien's with Al Alvarado; Felix's on the beach with Mary Chavez.

Mondays: Jazz Pensacola's Jazz Jam on the first Monday each month at Odd Colony Brewery or Jingle Jazz December 11, 2023, at Seville Quarter. There's a blues experience with the Blues Society of Northwest Florida at Lili Marlene's in Seville Quarter every Monday night. Check out the schedule for MOJO in Mobile on their website. Midweek jazz is a bit slim here in town right now. There may be something at The District if you call for their schedule.

Friday and Saturday: Look for Jazz at the Mondo in Panama City on the Gulf Jazz Society website. There's Glenn Parker Band at the Five Sisters Blues Cafe in the evening. Look for Jones and Company, Rebecca Barry, James Burt Kimberl, and your other favorite jazz artists further afield on their Facebook pages.

Happy Holiday Season to all! Enjoy the lights downtown and celebrate all the way into 2024.



Jazz Pensacola... Membership Counts!

Jazz Pensacola consists of a volunteer board of directors and various committees dedicated to providing engaging forums for jazz musicians to play and vocalists to sing where listeners and the community can enjoy!

Here's a snapshot of what our Membership Committee is all about:

Membership Committee Report

Membership is one of the focus points of several Jazz Pensacola Board committees or work groups that have been developed. As stated in its charter, this group has the responsibility to provide guidance necessary to develop membership in Jazz Pensacola and to help define the values and benefits of membership. This Committee is also charged with working to aid in increasing and maintaining Jazz Pensacola membership.

To fulfill this responsibility the group is concentrating efforts on the following:

Member Database

Updating and maintaining an accurate database is a priority in that it not only serves as a vehicle for communication but to provide metrics to determine the health of the organization. It is also important in the application and the reporting to local, state and national grants available for non-profits.

New Website

Enhancing membership knowledge and accessibility to needed services were main drivers in creating the new website, including providing a channel for new and renewing memberships.

Communication

Increasing the efficiency and effectiveness in communicating what membership wants to know about Jazz Pensacola and to support the education aspect of Jazz Pensacola's mission, including new technology to achieve those goals.

Future Activities

- With the Marketing workgroup, explore online community mechanisms that members value.
- Evaluate and revise the membership categories/criteria and the annual dues structure.
- Development a survey to evaluate member needs, interests and opinions.

If you would like to be involved in this workgroup or any other, please reach out to the office at (850) 433-8352 or jazzpensacola@gmail.com.

Additional committee opportunities to consider your involvement:

- ♪ Marketing/Communications
- ♪ Fundraising
- ♪ Student Competition
- ♪ JazzFest
- ♪ Volunteer Coordination
- ♪ Special Events





Jazz Pensacola Calendar of Events

December '23

Monday, December 11 - Jingle Jazz featuring Mary Chavez

Doors open at 5:30, music starts at 6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10/member, and \$12/nonmembers.

2024 Monthly Event Line-Up



FOR THE LOVE OF JAZZ

February 8, 2024

6:00-9:00 PM

Museum of Commerce

BAND: Pensacola Jazz Orchestra

ATTIRE: Cocktail Attire

Catered Meal

VIP ADMISSION: \$60 Per Person



JAZZ JAMS

Odd Colony Brewing Co, 260 N Palafox St

MONDAYS 6:30-9:00 PM

Jan 1 | Feb 5 | Mar 4 | April 1



JAZZ IN THE QUARTER @Phineous Phoggs

Seville Quarter, 130 E Government St

MONDAYS 6:30-9:00 PM

\$10 Members/\$12 Non-Members

Jan 15 | Feb 19 | Mar 18 | April 15



41st ANNUAL JAZZ FEST

April 6 & 7, 2024

10:00 AM-7:00 PM

Seville Square

311 E Government St



JUST WHAT THE DR ORDERED

WEDNESDAYS 2:00-4:00 PM

Jan 3: Baptist Hospital

Feb 7: HCA Hospital

Mar 6: Ascension Hospital

April 3: Baptist Hospital



Give the Gift of Membership!

Membership supports local musicians and our ability to host quality musical events for all to enjoy! Single members \$40/year or couples for only \$60/year.

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