



April 2009

San Luis Obispo County Jazz Federation NEWSLETTER

www.slojazz.org – or – Call our Jazz Fed Hotline: 1-805-546-3733

PIANO SHOWCASE FRIDAY, MAY 8TH

The SLO County Jazz Federation is proud to present its 26th annual (wow!) Piano Showcase. This “Jazz Piano Extravaganza” will take place on Friday, May 8th, at the Unity Concert Hall, 1490 Southwood (at the corner of Johnson Ave.) in San Luis Obispo. The show will begin at 7:30 pm.

The seven pianists who will be playing are **Paul Rinzler, Bob Harway, David Manion, Steve Carlton, Larry Arone, Jim Barnett** and **Mark Bocchicchio**. Rhythm section support will be provided by **Darrell Voss** on drums and **Gary Drysdale** on bass.

Tickets (at the door) are \$12 for Jazz Fed members, \$15 for the general public, and a very special student price of just \$5. As always, the proceeds benefit our Scholarship Program, and it should be noted that the pianists donate their time and incredible talents for this very special event.

Mark your calendars to be sure you don't miss this great event. And, bring a friend!

The latest survey shows that 3 out of 4 people make up 75% of the population.

YOUNG JAZZ SCHOLARSHIPS

For many years now the SLO County Jazz Federation has annually awarded a number of scholarships to young central coast musicians who have an interest and special talent in jazz. This is directly in line with the Jazz Fed's mission and purpose which is to “support and encourage the performance and appreciation of jazz.”

In years past the scholarships were awarded at special concerts where the winners were asked to demonstrate their skills by playing a jazz solo before a live audience. However, for the last three years we've added something to this, and now the scholarship winners assemble in the Music Room at Cuesta College to record a mini-concert that will be aired on the Your Jazz Show television program which runs three times a week on Charter Communications public access (Channel 2). This year's concert took place on Saturday, April 11th.

The room at Cuesta was set up like a recording studio with mics and cables strewn about, portable gobos against the wall, and cameras ready. There were some people in attendance as an audience, and this setup created a somber and serious mood, not the usual jovial feeling of a typical live concert. The audience sat quietly, being respectful of the recording studio atmosphere, and there

was none of the usual clapping during a song at the end of solos (although we did clap at the end of a song). It was a terrific opportunity for the students to be exposed to this different performance experience.

Jordan Miller on trombone was our first soloist. He is a senior at Atascadero High School and next year plans to attend Cal State Northridge as a music major. He plays in the Cuesta Day Band, the Cal Poly Trombone Choir, and two high school bands (concert and jazz). The song he played for us was Autumn Leaves.

Next was **Jill Gibson** on alto saxophone. She is a junior at Morro Bay High School and plays in the Cuesta Wind Ensemble, a Cuesta Jazz Combo, and two high school bands (concert and jazz). Jill loves Big Band Jazz and named Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band as one of her favorites. Her tune for us was Bluellespie.

(Continued Next Page)

**26th Annual Piano
Showcase**
Friday - May 8th (7:30 pm)
at Unity Concert Hall

YOUR JAZZ FED BOARD

President:	Paul Rinzler	Newsletter Editor:	Jim Borland
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MEMBERS are always welcome to our monthly Board Meetings. And, there are openings on the board. Come on along and join the fun! Our next board meeting will be on Wednesday, May 27th at 7:00 pm. Call Paul at 489-5251 for information and directions.



Jose "Pepe" Lopez, Gary Drysdale, Jordan Miller, Justin Au, Jim Stromberg, Bill Sorensen, Ken Hustad, Jill Gibson, and Jordan Keach at the Young Jazz Concert on April 11th

YOUNG JAZZ (CONTINUED)

Our third soloist was **Justin Au** who plays trumpet and is a third year City and Regional Planning major at Cal Poly. Justin grew up in Sacramento and graduated from Rio Americano High School. He plays in the Cal Poly Jazz Band and a Combo. In addition he performs with the BSR Hotshots (a band sponsored by the Pismo Beach Basin Street Regulars jazz club) and a Cuesta Combo. The BSR Hotshots were just invited to play at this year's Sacramento Jazz Jubilee. Justin comes from a very musical family with two brothers who play trumpet and trombone, a father who plays trombone, and his mother is extremely active in the Sacramento Jazz Society. Justin performed I Thought About You.

Next up was **Jose "Pepe" Lopez** on tenor saxophone. He is from Nipomo, graduated from Nipomo High School, and this is his first year at Cuesta. Pepe plays in the Cuesta Day Band and a Cuesta combo, and says that his major inspiration as a musician is Michael Brecker. Pepe performed the song Round Midnight.

Another student from Cal Poly, **Bill Sorensen** on tenor saxophone, was next. Bill is a second year Aerospace Engineering major and is from Santa Barbara, having graduated from Dos Pueblos High School. He plays in the Cal Poly Jazz band and is also a member of the BSR Hotshots. Bill has been playing music for nine years and performs on soprano, alto, and tenor sax, plus flute and clarinet. The tune he

performed is There Will Never Be Another You.

Our final scholarship winner was **Jordan Keach** on upright bass. This is his first year at Cuesta and he is from Torrance, having graduated from South High School. When asked why he chose Cuesta, he said he came up here because he wanted a "change." Jordan plays in the Day Band and a combo at Cuesta. He played electric bass for four years and then just a year ago switched to upright bass. Jordan plans to continue with music school and will pursue music as a career. He named Paul Chambers and Scott LaFaro as having had a huge impact on his playing. Jordan played two songs: Beautiful Love, and then he was accompanied by Dave Becker on alto sax for All The Things You Are.

As a grand finale we had all six of the scholarship winners together on stage (Jill Gibson switched to bari saxophone) to perform a Dave Becker arrangement of Oliver Nelson's Stolen Moments. They all played the head together, each in turn took a solo, then the final repeat of the head. It was a spectacular performance!

Five of the scholarship winners each received a \$200 cash award with one special \$500 scholarship given in memory of **Matt Taylor** by his parents, **George and Ida Taylor**. Matt was very active in the music community and died of cancer on May 1, 2002, at the age of thirty. The audition judges awarded the special Matt Taylor scholarship to Jordan Keach. Each student will also be given a DVD of the

final TV show after all editing is completed.

Our six scholarship winners were selected by audition from among those students who applied, and we offer special thanks to the three audition judges: **Bob Harway, Rob Alberts, and Marty Wright**. Also a big thank you to the rhythm section that performed with these musicians: **Jim Stromberg** (drums), **Ken Hustad** (bass), and **Gary Drysdale** (guitar). And finally, a very special thank you to **John Kert** and **Sandy Allen** who were our stalwart camera operators.

Dave Becker was a blur of activity that afternoon. As host of Your Jazz Show he had overall responsibility for the entire event. As a teacher at Cuesta in Recording Arts he acted as host on behalf of Cuesta, as well as setting up and running the entire audio recording operation. As a professional musician he directed the musical elements of the activity, wrote an arrangement for the final ensemble song, and played his sax to accompany our Matt Taylor scholarship winner.

Be sure to tune in to Your Jazz Show on Charter Communications Channel 2 to see the result of this terrific youth scholarship program.

BOO BOO RECORDS HAS IT ALL FOR YOU!

Check out their Jazz Room in the SLO store. If your fav CD isn't there they'll get it for you. Don't forget to show your current JAZZ FED Membership card to get our 10% discount at Boo Boo Records in San Luis Obispo.

GREAT JAZZ IS HAPPENING IN SLO COUNTY

If you know about any additional jazz events that should be added to this list, or have corrections, please phone your editor at 544-6418, or by email at: jborland@calpoly.edu. Thanks for your help!

This information is accurate to the best of our knowledge, but call first to be sure the booking hasn't changed.

Regular Gigs -

Sea Venture Restaurant (773-3463), Pismo Beach. Live acoustic jazz every Wednesday with the Mike Raynor Trio (including rotating guest artists), 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

Linnaea's Cafe, 1110 Garden Street in downtown SLO (541-5888), Cuesta College jazz night every Tuesday from 8:00 to 10:00 pm.

Inn at Morro Bay (772-5651). Live Jazz every Friday and Saturday night, 7:30 - 10:30 pm. On Fridays it's often Mike Raynor's "City Nights Jazz" (www.citynightsjazz.com).

Madonna Inn Steak House (543-3000), San Luis Obispo. Swing dancing Tuesday through Saturday evenings. Usually 7:30 to 11:00 pm, but call for times and specifics.

Singular Events

Tuesday, April 28th - Marianne Dissard and her band at the Steynberg Gallery, 1531 Monterey Street, SLO. Opening the show will be Andrew Collberg. Presented by Fred Friedman and Pedro Arroyo. 8:00 pm.

Friday, May 1st - Altered Jazz Fusion concert starring Jeff Miley at Cuesta College (546-3195), Music Building, Room 7160, 7:30 pm.

Sunday, May 3rd - Combining the technique of Oscar Peterson with the subtlety of Bill Evans, pianist Dick Hindman appears with his trio which features Colin Bailey. At the Hamlet in Cambria, 4:00 pm and 7:15 pm. Call 927-0567 for reservations.

Friday, May 8th - SLO County Jazz Federation presents their 26th Annual Piano Showcase. See article on Page One.

Saturday, May 9th - Cuesta College Jazz Ensemble concert in the Student Conference Center, Building 5401, 7:30 pm. Call 546-3195 for reservations.

Sunday, May 10th - The Royal Garden Swing Orchestra performs in Pismo Beach's "Pacific Breeze" concert series at Dinosaur Caves Park in Shell Beach. 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Free.

Sunday May 10th - L.A. area artists, vocalist Jack Wood and jazz guitarist Doug MacDonald, appearing at The Jack House, 536 Marsh St, SLO (781-7299), with The Pat

Cormick Group. 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Free and open to the public.

Sunday May 10th - L.A. area artists, vocalist Jack Wood and jazz guitarist Doug MacDonald, performing at a Mothers' Day Jazz Vespers/Celebration, Nipomo Presbyterian Church, 1235 N. Thompson Rd, Nipomo (473-8059), with The Pat Cormick Group, 6:30 pm. Free and open to the public.

Monday, May 11th - Cuesta College Night Band in concert on the SLO Campus, Student Conference Center, Building 5401, 7:30 pm. Call 546-3195 for information.

Thursday, May 14th - Open jazz jam session at Linnaea's (sponsored by the SLO Jazz Fed), 1110 Garden Street in downtown SLO. 8:00 to 10:00 pm.

Friday, May 15th - The Cuesta Night Band with Teka, on the SLO Campus, Student Conference Center, Building 5401, 7:30 pm. Call 546-3195 for information.

Saturday May 16th - The Pat Cormick Group, featuring guitarist Adam Levine, at The Porch, 22322 El Camino Real, Santa Margarita (438-3376). 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

Sunday, May 17th - Allan Hancock College Jazz Ensemble concert at Unity Chapel of Light, Bradley & Stubblefield in Orcutt, 7:00 pm.

Sunday, May 17th - Ted Howe is a fine pianist/composer who has recently been presenting very successful and provocative tribute concerts concerning the music of Duke Ellington. At the Hamlet in Cambria, 4:00 pm and 7:15 pm. Call 927-0567 for reservations.

Thursday, May 28th - Open jazz jam session at Linnaea's (sponsored by the SLO Jazz Fed), 1110 Garden Street in downtown SLO. 8:00 to 10:00 pm.

Friday, May 29th - Cal Poly University Jazz Bands No.1 and No. 2, and the Cal Poly Jazz Combos, present "Jazz Night," Cohan Center at the PAC (756-2787), 8:00 pm.

Sunday, May 31st - Midnight Rose Jazz Band and Cal Poly Jazz Band # 2 will perform at the Pismo Beach Basin Street Regulars jazz club's monthly Sunday session at the Pismo Beach Vet's Hall. Open to the public, \$10 admission, 1:00 to 4:30 pm.

Sunday, May 31st - The great Mike Wofford makes one of his rare appearances in an exciting duo presentation with the wonderful flute virtuoso Holly Hofmann. At the Hamlet in Cambria, 4:00 pm and 7:15 pm. Call 927-0567 for reservations.

Sunday, June 14th - Richie Vitale, one of N.Y.C.'s top trumpet players, appears with an outstanding San Francisco rhythm section. At the Hamlet in Cambria, 4:00 pm and 7:15 pm. Call 927-0567 for reservations.

Friday through Sunday, June 19th to June 21st - Live Oak Music Festival, a three day concert and camping event held every year on Father's Day weekend in the hills above Santa Barbara. Information at: liveoakfest.org.

Sunday, June 28th - The Royal Garden Swing Orchestra will perform at the Pismo Beach Basin Street Regulars jazz club's monthly Sunday session at the Pismo Beach Vet's Hall. Open to the public, \$10 admission, 1:00 to 4:30 pm.

Sunday, June 28th - Ron Anthony is a much admired guitarist who was a longtime member of the Shearing Quintet and also the guitarist for Frank Sinatra for over a decade. He will be performing with Dylan Johnson and Darrell Voss. At the Hamlet in Cambria, 4:00 pm and 7:15 pm. Call 927-0567 for reservations.

Sunday, July 26th - Cell Block Seven Jazz Band will perform at the Pismo Beach Basin Street Regulars jazz club's monthly Sunday session at the Pismo Beach Vet's Hall. Open to the public, \$10 admission, 1:00 to 4:30 pm.

Sunday, August 23rd - SLO Jazz Fed sponsored concert at the Arroyo Grande Village Summer Concert Series (at the Rotary Bandstand). Free admission, 1:00 pm.



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26th Annual Piano Showcase Concert - Friday, May 8th

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San Luis Obispo County Jazz Federation

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(805) 546-3733 — www.slojazz.org

Jazz lovers throughout the Central Coast of California have joined together in an organization called the SLO Jazz Federation, founded in 1983.

The Fed's purpose is to support and encourage the performance and appreciation of jazz, both professionally and educationally. This is done by sponsoring live jazz performances and jam sessions, and by giving scholarships and grants to young, talented, central coast musicians who have a special interest in jazz.

The Jazz Fed's membership consists of dedicated jazz fans of all ages, and represents a cross-section of our community including business and professional people, local jazz musicians, educators, students and regular listeners. We share a common concern to help jazz, America's great original art form, thrive right here in San Luis Obispo County.

Annual Membership Dues

\$20.00 per year for general members, \$15.00 for students and seniors

For two person households: \$30.00 per year for general members, \$20.00 for students and seniors

Your membership entitles you to discount prices on CDs and tapes at Boo Boo Records, reduced prices at selected jazz concerts, and our newsletter. If you love jazz, but haven't yet joined the Fed, sign up now to help advance the growth of jazz on the Central Coast.