

*SEMJA*  
Southeastern Michigan  
Jazz Association

# Update

July / August 2022



## Marion Hayden Receives SEMJA Award

**B**assist, bandleader, and educator Marion Hayden received SEMJA's Ron Brooks Award at the Michigan Jazz Festival Father's Day Brunch on June 19. Music was provided by Detroit's Straight Ahead group with bassist Hayden, violist Leslie DeShazor, pianist Alina Morr, drummer Gayelynn McKinney and vocalist Kymberli Wright. We were treated to a nice buffet as well in the comfortable confines of Schoolcraft College. Many thanks to MJF director Bart Polot who is also a SEMJA Board member, and busy photographer Jeff Dunn who is now on the MJF Board.



## Michigan Jazz Fest Expands

**T**his year's Michigan Jazz Festival at Schoolcraft College has stages both inside and outside; it also features a wider array of jazz styles than in previous years. This is a sign that we are entering a post-pandemic period with a renewed music program featuring artists that have never played the festival, like saxophonist Dave McMurray, trumpeter Allen Dennard and drummer Leonard King. There has also been an expansion in educational programs at the festival with improvisation clinics on a Clinic Stage, and a new All-Star High School Jazz Band featuring students from around the state. You will find a detailed schedule on page 2. SEMJA will be present to greet members, and will be awarding scholarships to the student performers on the Future of Jazz Stage. As always Schoolcraft College will offer a comfortable setting for a jazz festival with air conditioning for those who need it.

The 27th annual Michigan Jazz Festival is Sunday, July 17 from noon to 9:00 p.m. The free clinics begin at 9:00 a.m. For more information see [michiganjazzfestival.org](http://michiganjazzfestival.org).

**MICHIGAN**  
*Jazz*  
**FESTIVAL**



# Ypsilanti Summer Jazz Series

Weekends will be swinging in Ypsilanti this summer with two new jazz series on tap.

## John E. Lawrence Summer Jazz Concert Series at Ford Lake Park

Ypsilanti Township is hosting the 2022 John E. Lawrence Summer Jazz Concert Series at Ford Lake Park Friday evenings. Formerly the Frog Island Jazz Concert Series, the series needed to move to a larger venue after last year's Randy Scott concert drew over 10,000 concertgoers. Ford Lake Park is located at 9075 South Huron River Dr. Concerts are free, although parking costs \$5 per vehicle. The two-hour concerts start at 7:00 p.m., and run weekly from July 1 through September 2 culminating Labor Day weekend with headliner Jeff Lorber Fusion. For more information visit [johnelawrencejazz.com](http://johnelawrencejazz.com).

- July 1 Randy Scott
- July 8 Lin Roundtree
- July 15 Paula Atherton
- July 22 John E. Lawrence
- July 29 Daryl Beebe
- Aug 5 Yancy
- Aug 12 Alvin Waddles
- Aug 19 Demetrius Nabors
- Aug 26 Jessie McGuire
- Sept 2 Jeff Lorber Fusion

## Ypsilanti Jazz Festival

The new Ypsilanti Jazz Festival will take place on Saturdays in July at Riverside Park, 2 East Cross St. in Depot Town. This free concert series runs 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. with free yoga and other activities preceding the music. For additional information visit [facebook.com/YpsiJazzFest](https://facebook.com/YpsiJazzFest).

- July 2 Sean Dobbins
- July 9 Kenyatta Rashon
- July 16 Vincent York
- July 30 Kern Brantley

## Flint Jazz Festival

The annual Flint Jazz Festival features live jazz, art, crafts, food, drinks under the giant oaks in Riverbank Park July 29 – 31. It is preceded by JazzWalk, July 28, at various downtown bars, featuring drinks, food, and jazz music.

## Detroit Jazz Festival

Artist-in-Residence Chucho Valdés headlines this year's Detroit Jazz Festival Labor Day weekend. See details in the next issue of SEMJA Update.

# 27th Annual Michigan Jazz Festival

The free Michigan Jazz Festival is Sunday, July 17, at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road near Seven Mile Rd. in Livonia. The Festival runs from noon to 9:00 p.m. on seven simultaneous stages. Free clinics are open to the public and begin 9:00 a.m.

## Michigan Arts & Culture Council CLINIC STAGE

- 9:00 am Dwight Adams  
Jazz Improvisation clinic
- 11:00 am Ellie Martin  
Jazz Vocal Improvisation clinic

## Leven OPEN AIR STAGE

- Noon Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings
- 1:30 Oopapada
- 3:00 Terry Lower Trio & vocalist Edye Evans Hyde
- 4:30 Dave McMurray
- 6:00 Dave Bennett Quartet
- 7:30 Diego Rivera Quintet

## Jerry McKenzie RATHSKELLER STAGE

- 12:15 Russ Macklem Quintet
- 1:45 Cary Kocher with Sarah D'Angelo
- 3:15 Doc's Holiday Tribute Band
- 4:45 Vincent Chandler Experience
- 6:15 Ron Kischuk: Masters of Music Tbones
- 7:45 Lunar Octet

## Salden BIG BAND STAGE

- 12:15 Planet D Nonet
- 2:00 MJF All-Star High School Jazz Band
- 3:45 Russ Miller and the Jazz Orchestra
- 5:30 CSO
- 7:15 Jeff Trudell Big Band

## Bill Bolle PRESENTATION STAGE

- 12:30 Allen Dennard Quintet
- 2:00 Jon-Erik Kellso and friends
- 3:30 Louis Jones Quartet
- 5:00 Anthony Stanco Quintet
- 6:30 Jonathon Muir-Cotton and Expressions
- 8:00 Sean Dobbins Trio

## Livonia Community Foundation CABARET STAGE

- 12:15 Olivia Van Goor & William Bennett
- 1:30 Lori LeFevre & Chris Buzzelli
- 2:45 Barbara Ware & Cliff Monear
- 4:00 Kate Patterson & Chuck Shermetaro
- 5:15 Naima Shamborguer & Sven Anderson
- 6:30 Jiana Hunter & Scott Gwinnell

## Vosgerchian SOLO PIANO & MORE

- 12:30 Michael Malis
- 1:45 Bill Meyer
- 3:15 Jordan Young Organ Trio
- 4:45 Ryan Bills / Trevor Lamb Sextet
- 6:15 Matthew LoRusso Quintet
- 7:45 Brandon Williams

## Music Hall FUTURE OF JAZZ STAGE

- 12:00 Millenium Trio
- 1:30 Ellen Wallenfang Quintet
- 3:00 Playing with the Pros
- 4:30 Notre Dame Prep Jazz Combo
- 6:00 Nate Topolewski Quartet

# Recent Recordings by Area Artists

BY PIOTR MICHALOWSKI

Pepper Adams was born in Detroit, more specifically in Highland Park, but spent much of his younger years elsewhere as his family life suffered during the depression years. When he was 16, his mother took him back to the Motor City and after meeting Tommy Flanagan he was able to fall into the local jazz scene, eventually playing in the Blue Bird Inn band and elsewhere. In 1956, like many before him, he moved to New York and stayed there for the rest of his life. And while he played with many different groups, ranging from Lionel Hampton to Charles Mingus and Thelonious Monk, he maintained his Detroit connections for his whole lifetime; indeed, the only two combos that he directed for longer time stretches were co-led with Donald Byrd and Thad Jones. In the sixties and seventies, Adams mainly worked with the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Orchestra that played regularly on Monday nights at the Village Vanguard and with a related quintet with Jones. The first time I was able to hear Adams in person was during the time he was part of that amazing orchestra.



The year 1972 was a busy one for Adams, including a long European tour with the Vanguard orchestra that included Russia and Georgia. In September Adams was invited to the play for four nights at the Room at the Top bar in the University of Alberta student union in Edmonton, Canada, accompanied by a local rhythm section. Some of the music from those nights have now been released as *Pepper Adams with The Tommy Banks Trio: Live at Room at the Top* (REEL to Real), Pepper Adams, baritone saxophone, Tommy Banks, piano, Bobby Cairns, electric bass, and Tom Doran on drums. The group played from 8:30 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. each night; the current recording appears to consist of one set with two tracks added from another one.

The performances were apparently broadcast on Alberta's CKUA public radio station. Banks, although not a familiar name this side of the border, was a well-known in Alberta, as a pianist, arranger, and band leader, who eventually became a senator. At the time he hosted a weekly talk show on CBC. His trio mates, both recently deceased, worked alongside him for decades in Edmonton in his trio, big band, and on his shows: Cairns was best known as a guitarist, but picked up the electric bass for this gig, and Doran was an equally accomplished all-round drummer, equally at home playing jazz, rock, or stage shows.

The hitherto unreleased performance presented here comes from the second night when Adams and his new collaborators had clearly become familiar with each other, with the Canadians providing highly idiomatic contributions to the music. Banks was a lively, expressive pianist, whose bebop chops were well suited to the demands of the visiting saxophonist. His chordal voicings are well matched and like his bandmates, his rhythmic drive was well suited to Adams' forward pushing manner of playing. I count among those who are less than fond of the electric bass in bop, but Cairns was one of the few who could make it swing. The four musicians dug in strongly into the music, with the seven selections included on this album clocking in at almost two hours, most of them quite long, with extensive solos. The repertoire was a typical Adams collection, consisting of standards such as "Oleo," "Time on my Hands," and "Stella by Starlight," two Thad Jones classics, as well as two of his own compositions. The

*continued on page 7*



# WEMU 89.1

*The Choice for NPR...  
news, jazz and blues.*

## Schedule

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
5							PUBJAZZ
6						PUBJAZZ	
7							REVEAL
8							WEEKEND EDITION
9						WEEKEND EDITION Scott Simon	WEEKEND EDITION Rachel Martin
10							
11							SUNDAY BEST
12							Nik Thompson
1							
2							GROOVEYARD
3							Daniel W. Long
4							THE IN CROWD
5							Jessica Webster
6							BIG CITY BLUES CRUISE
7							Joe Tiboni
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
1							
2							
3							
4							

**National Public Radio**  
Eastern Michigan University



# jazz events

# July / Aug.



				1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29
31					

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## ATTENTION all venue owners, musicians, and listeners

Please let us know about upcoming jazz events in the area!

- Write us at SEMJA  
712 East Ann St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1502
- Phone us at 734-668-7470
- Submit information online at [www.semja.org/submit](http://www.semja.org/submit)

We will include notices if they reach us by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

## Aretha's Jazz Café at Music Hall

350 Madison  
DETROIT 313-887-8501

### JULY

3	6:00	Aretha's Jazz Jam
7	7:00	Billie Holiday Tribute — with Sky Covington
9	8:00	Saxappeal: Saturday Night Cipher, Jam
10	6:00	Aretha's Jazz Jam
13	7:00	Foxy Gwensday: Sweet Crystal & David Winans' Pi
17	6:00	Aretha's Jazz Jam

### ONGOING

Sun	6:00	Aretha's Jazz Jam
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## Baker's Keyboard Lounge

[theofficialbakerskeyboardlounge.com](http://theofficialbakerskeyboardlounge.com)  
20510 Livernois  
DETROIT 313-345-6300

### ONGOING

Fri	7:00	Ralphe Armstrong Trio — with Gerard Gibbs, Brandon Williams
Sat	7:00	Ralphe Armstrong Trio — with Gerard Gibbs, Brandon Williams

## Bert's Jazz Club

2727 Russell Outside in Eastern Market  
DETROIT 313-657-8493

### ONGOING

Thu	7:00	Bill Meyer Group — with Ibrahim Jones, Butter Hawkins
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## Blue Llama Jazz Club

[www.blue llamaclub.com](http://www.blue llamaclub.com)  
314 South Main St.  
ANN ARBOR

### JULY

1	7:00	University of Michigan Jazz Ambassadors featuring John Clayton — with Ellen Rowe and U-M faculty and students <sup>3</sup>
2	6:00	Kris Kurzawa Quartet — with John Barron, Jesse Kramer
6	7:00	Latin Jazz Wednesday: PanaMO — with OB Succari <sup>3</sup>
20	6:00	French Swing Masters:
	8:30	The Django Festival All-Stars — with Samson Schmitt, Ludovic Beier, Pierre Blanchard, DouDou Cuillerier, Antonio Licusati

### AUGUST

2	7:00	Andy Adamson Quintet CD Pre-release Show — with Dan Bennett, Ross Huff, Brennan Andes, Jon Taylor <sup>2</sup>
3	7:00	Latin Jazz Wednesdays: Tumbao Bravo — with Paul VornHagen <sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Two sets

<sup>3</sup> Three sets

\* Dinner and a show. Ticket required

## Cadieux Café

4300 Cadieux Rd.  
DETROIT 313-882-8560

### JULY

14	8:00	Jordan Young Organ Trio
17	7:00	Paxton-Spangler Quintet
24	3:00	Bill Heid & Ralph Tope Trio
31	3:00	Planet D Nonet

### ONGOING

Mon	8:00	Open Blues Jam — with Bobby East, Pat Smillie & Friends
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Planet D Nonet

## Cliff Bells

[www.cliffbells.com](http://www.cliffbells.com)  
2030 Park Ave at West Adams  
DETROIT 313-961-2543

### JULY

1	7:30	Leslie DeShazor 9:30
2	7:30	Caili O'Doherty 9:30 CD Release Show
7	7:30	Salim Washington Quartet 9:30
8-10	7:30	Theron Brown Trio 9:30
14-16	7:30	Sean Dobbins Quartet 9:30
17	7:30	Koji Casetta 9:30 Connection Collective
21-24	7:30	Bill Heid Trio 9:30
28	7:30	Planet D Nonet 9:30
29, 30	7:30	Chris Codish Group 9:30

### ONGOING

Wed	7:30	Noah Jackson and 9:30 Full Circle
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## Dirty Dog Jazz Café

[www.dirtydogjazz.com](http://www.dirtydogjazz.com)  
97 Kercheval  
GROSSE PTE. FARMS 313-882-5299

### JULY

6, 7	7:00	Kris Kurzawa
8, 9	6:30	Kris Kurzawa 9:00
13, 14	7:00	Demetrius Nabors
15, 16	6:30	Demetrius Nabors 9:00
20, 21	7:00	Gene Dunlap
22, 23	6:30	Gene Dunlap 9:00
27, 28	7:00	Nate Winn
29, 30	6:30	Nate Winn 9:00

### ONGOING

Tue	6:00	Ron English
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Demetrius Nabors

## The Earle

[www.theearle.com](http://www.theearle.com)  
121 West Washington St.  
ANN ARBOR 734-994-0211

### ONGOING

Tue	7:00	Jake Reichbart
Wed	7:00	Jake Reichbart
Thu	7:00	Jake Reichbart
Fri	6:45	Robert Warren plus various
Sat	6:45	Robert Warren plus various

## Imagine Restaurant

[imagineaterestaurant.com](http://imagineaterestaurant.com)  
401 South Lafayette Ave.  
ROYAL OAK 248-633-8899

### ONGOING

Tue	6:30	Matt LoRusso Trio
Wed	6:30	Eat It Up Trio

## Lucille's Jazz Lounge

lucillesjazzlounge.com

1447 North Summit St.

TOLEDO, OH

### JULY

- 2 7:15 Kim Buehler — with Scott Gwinnell, Jeff Pedraz, Brandon Benson
- 9 7:15 Kathy Kosins

## The Rec Bowl

40 Crocker Blvd.

MT CLEMENS 586-468-7746

### JULY

- 6 6:30 Spangler/O'Donnell Planet D Nonet — with Camille Price
- 13 6:30 Dave Bennett Quartet
- 20 6:30 Tony DiMaria's TNT Big Band
- 27 6:30 Jeff Trudell Big Band

### AUGUST

- 3 6:30 Craig Strain Orchestra — with Emma Aboukasm
- 10 6:30 Spangler/O'Donnell Planet D Nonet
- 17 6:30 Tony DiMaria's TNT Big Band
- 24 6:30 Jeff Trudell Big Band
- 31 6:30 Dave Bennett Quartet



## Shield's

25101 Telegraph Rd.

SOUTHFIELD 248-476-2674

### JULY

- 9 1:00 Dave Bennett Quartet
- 23 1:00 Sisters in Song — with Ramona Collins, Barbara Ware, Kim Buehler, Olivia Van Goor
- 30 1:00 Jiana Hunter Quintet: tribute to Ella

### AUGUST

- 6 1:00 Cakewalkin' Jass Band — with Nicole Heitger
- 13 1:00 Rob Crozier Jazz Quartet
- 20 1:00 Jerry McKenzie's Just Jazz — featuring Rich Michaels Quartet

## Trinosophes

1464 Gratiot Ave.

DETROIT

### JULY

- 1, 2 7:30 Doug Hammond Solo & Rod Williams' Ensemble — with Rafael Statin, Jaribu Shahid, Djallo Djakate
- 13 7:30 Kombilesa (Columbia) Rap Folklorico Palenquero

## Weber's Habitat Lounge

www.thehabitatannarbor.com

3050 Jackson Rd.

ANN ARBOR 734-665-3636

### ONGOING

- Mon 6:00 Kevin Royer, Josef Deas
- Tue 6:00 Kevin Royer, Josef Deas
- Wed 6:00 Kevin Royer, Josef Deas
- Thu 6:00 Kevin Royer, Josef Deas
- Sun 5:00 William Marshall Bennett



## Wesley's Bar & Grill

1201 Adams St.

TOLEDO

### ONGOING

- Sat 10:00 [1st & 3rd] Quick Trio — with Zac Kreuz

## Zal Gaz Grotto

zalgaz.org

2070 West Stadium Blvd.

ANN ARBOR 734-663-1202

### ONGOING

- Mon 7:00 Paul Keller Orchestra
- Tue 5:30 Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band



## Update on Glenn Tucker

Many SEMJA members are probably familiar with Glenn Tucker — a local jazz pianist, bandleader and arranger. Tucker has had a number of medical setbacks in recent years. He recently communicated with SEMJA and told us about an event he is organizing at the Blue LLama Jazz Club in Ann Arbor on Thursday August 25 from 7:00 to 10:15.

This concert honors Tucker, who was forced into retirement at 28 by severe myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME), a harrowing disease the medical field has long neglected. Two recent studies found that half of Long COVID cases — those experiencing complications following a COVID infection — are actually COVID-onset ME. Another study estimates that 7 million Americans and 222,000 Michiganders are newly disabled by Long COVID. This concert, which will include a free livestream, seeks to raise awareness for ME and Long COVID, and to raise money for the COVID 19 Longhailer Advocacy Project, which aims, among other things, to provide financial assistance to Longhailers struggling financially and to advocate for patient-led research.

While Tucker is unable to attend this concert, he has hand-picked musicians with whom he has collaborated extensively and curated a set list of music composed between 2009 and 2016, which includes uplifting music from his albums *Determination* and *Abundances*, which he completed in the early years of his illness. The concert will feature saxophonists Rafael Leafar and Jake Shadik, guitarist Ralph Tope, pianist Rick Roe, bassists Kurt Krahnke and Jeff Pedraz, and drummers Nick Collins, Jesse Kramer, Jonathan Barahal Taylor, and Alex White.

## Upcoming Jazz Events

### SEPTEMBER

- 2-5 Detroit Jazz Festival • Downtown Detroit





# Recent Recordings by Area Artists

continued from page 3

complete set was bookended by Jones works, opening with “Three and One,” which was a feature for both Jones and Adams in the Vanguard band, and the closing “Tis,” which the baritonist used for years as a set ender.

The first tune established the pattern for what was to follow, a bop set with Adams in full form, working through the familiar changes with excitement and witty quotes. He was not just a saxophonist, but a baritone saxophonist, and although he had played tenor earlier and had enjoyed snitching horns with the tenorist Wardell Gray during the time they played together, he stuck doggedly with the larger horn, refusing to double on other saxophones and bass clarinet, which would have given him access to studio playing and more secure income. Adams had a unique sound on his instrument, hard and expressive, very different from the softer timbres of his much more popular contemporary Gerry Mulligan. This sound, combined with complex rhythmic and harmonic sensibili-

ties that he shared with some of his Motor City friends such as Thad and Elvin Jones, were the foundations of his unique style that is on full display here, well recorded and the occasional reed squeaks that come through only add to the sense of being at a gig that makes this album so compelling. And a lively evening this was. There is only one slow ballad, the leader’s own “Civilization and its Discontents,” a title reflective of his wide-ranging reading habits, and this one picks up into double time halfway through the saxophone and piano solos, becoming a hard driving swinger, only slowing down again for a bass outing and the final theme. Here, as throughout, the Canadian trio provides robust idiomatic collaboration, working impeccably together and soloing with expressive, often witty, full command of the requisite musical language.

This delicious piece of Detroit-associated jazz history is required listening for anyone who likes Adams and the baritone saxophone.



## A2 Summer Festival Shines

BY LARS BJORN

This year’s Ann Arbor Summer Festival has featured several inspiring performances by area jazz and blues groups at top of the Park on Ingalls Mall. The Ron Brooks Quintet kicked things off on June 10 with trumpeter Don Swindell, tenorist Vincent Bowens, pianist Rick Roe, and drummer David Alvarez III. The group was a real standout and an audience favorite, particularly when Swindell sang some blues at the end after switching over to the harmonica. They were followed by bassist Paul Keller with Sarah D’Angelo on clarinet while Roe stayed on until the concert was interrupted by a downpour. More avant gardish was the group assembled by singer Estar Cohen with keyboardist Josh Catania. Cohen was most impressive in her “Prayer of Tad” referring to her late mentor pianist Tad Weed.



**COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Sarah D’Angelo/ Paul Keller, with Rick Roe on left**

**Estar Cohen, from left: Josh Catania, Jon Taylor, Ben Rolston, Cohen, Dan Palmer**

**Ron Brooks Quintet, from left: Rick Roe, Don Swindell, Brooks, David Alvarez III, Vincent Bowens**

**Sean Dobbins Modern Jazz Messengers, from left: Duncan McMillan, Peyton Miller, Diego Rivera, Dobbins Leslie DeShazor**

photographs by Lars Bjorn





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