

**Our Next Concert**  
**Sunday, January 21, 2024**  
**Drew Nugent & the Midnight Society**  
**Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA**



Drew Nugent is a jazz musician hailing from the city of Philadelphia, and bandleader of the ensemble “Drew Nugent & the Midnight Society.” Nugent and his ensemble specialize in traditional or “Hot” Jazz of the 1900s to the 1940s, with the main area of focus being the Jazz Age - the Roaring 20s. Nugent’s instruments of choice are the cornet and piano, plus vocals. He is also known for playing an odd contraption called the “Hot Tea-Kettle,” or the “Teapot Trumpet” as some fans have named it. Drew made his debut in 2005 at age 19 on the classic NPR radio show *A Prairie Home Companion*, where he placed 3rd in the “Talent from 12-20 Contest.” The Midnight Society’s TSJS debut was in April 2010, and they last returned for an outdoor concert in 2021. They perform the “good ol’ tunes,” and have earned a reputation as one of the best bands in the “trad” style.

Listen to Drew Nugent & the Midnight Society on [YouTube](#)



**Coming on February 18, 2024**  
**Jerry Rife's Blue Skies Jazz Quartet**  
Haddonfield United Methodist Church



Photo by Lynn Redmile

Jazz quartet Blue Skies recaptures the infectious rhythm and tight improvisational spirit of that music in the familiar tunes of the Great American Songbook, standard jazz, and revival Dixieland. Formed in 1994 as a smaller ensemble of the traditional-jazz, six-piece band, Jerry Rife's Rhythm Kings, the Blue Skies Jazz Quartet specializes in swing music of the early jazz, pre-WW II period. We share several traits with the traditional Dixieland jazz bands of this period including an abiding commitment to ensemble jazz. Collective improvisation is the trademark of our music especially in the musical heads and extended out choruses. Each member of the band improvises solos, but under the solos you will hear background riffs and spur-or-the-moment counter melodies crafted to compliment the soloist. This integrated, dense style characterizes much early jazz especially jazz from New Orleans and Chicago.

**Danny Tobias** is one of the hottest and most sought after trumpet players in the region. He has worked extensively with the Tony DeNicolò Bond, Jerry Rife's Rhythm Kings, the Midiri Brothers, and has played with Kenny Davern, Warren and Allen Vache, Harry Allen, Howard Alden and John Bunch. He is often heard with the top swing and hot jazz bands in New York City.

**Jerry Rife** is extremely active in the jazz scene in the Midwest and East coast and is a member of the John

Johnson Trio, The Dixie Devils, and the Blawenburg Dixieland Jazz Band. He led the Great Lakes Rhythm Kings in Wisconsin and Michigan in the 1970s before moving to New Jersey in 1984. Born in Kansas, he learned to play jazz at an early age. His high school Dixieland jazz band, The Mason Dixies, performed on live nation-wide television on Ted Mack's Amateur Hour in 1965.

**Pat Mercuri** is the leader of Pat Mercuri's Dixie Jazz Band and plays regularly with the Midiri Brothers. The son of the legendary guitarist, Lou Mercuri, Pat is the first-call performer on guitar, banjo, and mandolin with the Philadelphia orchestra and has played show, jazz and classical music professionally in Philadelphia and New York. He has played on Broadway (Ragtime...) and with The New York Philharmonic, and has toured Europe with classical musical groups.

Bassist **Peter Reichlin** is an extremely versatile trombonist who is comfortable playing classical and all types of jazz music. He has toured with the Metropolitan Opera and with the Jimmy Dorsey Band and is currently principal trombonist with the Capital Philharmonic in Trenton. He is featured on tuba and electric bass as well as trombone with Blue Skies and has played with the Independence Hall Jazz Band and the Jazz Lobsters big band. Pete is a respected recording engineer and piano technician as well.

**Sunday, November 12, 2023**  
**Mark Shane - Pianist Provides Musical Time Travel**  
**Review by Robert J. Robbins**



The most recent concert of the Tri-State Jazz Society featured stride and swing pianist Mark Shane, whose presentation took the shape of musical time travel, beginning in 1916 with a stride version of Raymond Hubbell's "Poor Butterfly," (inspired by Puccini's opera *Madama Butterfly*) and continuing through the late Thirties, when the program wound up with "Don't Be That Way," the classic by Chick Webb's reed man Edgar Sampson which Benny Goodman chose to open his iconic 1938 Carnegie Hall jazz concert (Shane, who has performed at TSJS with clarinetist Dan Levinson, participated in the fortieth anniversary of Goodman's groundbreaking event).

Throughout the entire two-and-a-half hour concert, Shane applied his crystalline yet swinging piano technique to a broad panoply of inter-war song classics, featuring the music of Thomas "Fats" Waller ("Ain't Misbehavin") and a little-known song from the Twenties entitled "Wait and See," which presented Shane's lone vocal), James P. Johnson, Earl "Fatha" Hines ("Rosetta"), Eubie Blake ("Memories of You"), George and Ira Gershwin ("The Man I Love"), Vincent Youmans ("More Than You Know"), Harry Barris (pianist for Paul Whiteman's Rhythm Boys, whose lead singer and drummer was Bing Crosby, who introduced the songs "Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams" and "I Surrender, Dear"), Dorothy Fields and Jimmy McHugh ("On the Sunny Side of the Street"), Burton Lane ("Everything I Have Is Yours"), Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart ("You Took Advantage of Me"), Harold Arlen ("Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea"), Johnny Burke and Jimmy Van Heusen, and Sammy Cahn and Saul Chaplin ("Please Be Kind").

Shane demonstrated a combination of a powerful left hand (a stride prerequisite), superb dynamics, and a solid classical foundation. He was very well-received and is a prime candidate for a return to the Tri-State.

Click to  
Watch Our Recent Concert



## Tri-State Schedule

### Drew Nugent and the Midnight Society

01/21/2024  
Wallingford

Drew Nugent and his Midnight Society return! Drew and the band specialize in playing in the traditional "hot" jazz style of the 1920s.

### Jerry Rife's Blue Skies Jazz Quartet

02/18/2024  
Haddonfield

The **Blue Skies Jazz Quartet** performs with infectious rhythm and a tight improvisational spirit, specializing in swing music of the early jazz pre-WWII period. They draw on the familiar tunes of the Great American Song Book, standard jazz and revival New Orleans Style.

### Bryan Wright - Piano

03/24/2024  
Wallingford

Bryan is a pianist and musicologist specializing in ragtime and early jazz piano styles. Brian has performed and lectured on ragtime across the United States and abroad. He is founder and executive producer of Rivermont Records, a Grammy-nominated label specializing in ragtime and early jazz.

### Dave Posmontier's Philly Stomp!

04/21/2024  
Haddonfield

"A New Orleans Band With a Philly Twist" -- **Philly Stomp!** is a six piece ensemble playing authentic New Orleans swinging jazz like you heard from the Twenties right up to today on Basin and Bourbon Streets and in the French Quarter.

### Neville Dickie with Joe and Paul Midiri

05/19/2024  
Haddonfield

World-class British pianist Neville Dickie rejoins TSJS veterans Joe and Paul Midiri. Neville is among the most accomplished stride and boogie-woogie pianists on either side of the Atlantic. Joe and Paul Midiri, well-known to Tri-State audiences, have recorded with everything from trios to big bands.

### Danny Tobias and Friends

06/23/2024  
Wallingford

Danny has quite a group of friends - a stellar array of talent - including Randy Reinhart, Jim Lawlor, Arnt Arntzen and Vince Giordano. A "must see" event!

### The Tri-State Jazz All-Stars

07/21/2024  
Wallingford

The Tri-State All-Stars return. Our annual tradition offers a core band of top performers jamming together with guest musicians, on familiar trad jazz tunes.

## Thank You to Our Premium Level Members

<b>SUSTAINERS</b>	<b>\$200 for individuals \$220 for couples</b>	
	David Gray & Susanne Abplanalp	Robert Lowe
	Sanford Catz	DeWitt Peterson
	William N. Hoffman	Sylvia Rosenberg
	Richard & Peggy Hughlett	Jazz Bo Jay & Orinda Lou Schultz
	Chris Jones & Amy Galer	Elizabeth Hazard & Ken Wright
	Joe Havasy & Marian Konop	
<b>PATRONS</b>	<b>\$100 for individuals \$120 for couples</b>	
	Gregory Babula	Claire & Ludwig Pisapia
	Joan Bauer	Mark Raymond
	Gary Coller	Scott Ricketts
	Michael G. Galan	Sally Scheidemantel
	Beverly A. Kovac	Candis Siatkowski
	Craig & Jill Lowe	Natalie Sturr
	Janney & Bill Murtha	Edward & Joan Sutter
	Lester Owens	Rich Troyan
	Katherine & Michael Perloff	
<b>SPONSORS</b>	<b>\$50 for individuals \$70 for couples</b>	
	Joel Albert	Janet Garwood & Mark Liss
	Chic Bach	Susan Miller
	Tim Bell	Grant Noble
	Gary Cornelius	Michael Olderman
	Amy Ahart & Tom DiGiovanni	Michael Prince & Carol Otte
	Estherose Heyman	R. Adam Rogers III
	Roger W. Jacobs	Virginia & Joseph Wheeler
	Peggy de Prophetis & Louis Kaplan	Constance & Donald Windus

Tri-State Jazz Society depends on the generous contributions of members because basic membership dues and concert admission charges do not cover all costs. The board asks members to consider renewing their memberships at the Sponsor, Patron, or Sustainer level if they are able to do so.

*Features Now ONLINE on the  
Tri-State Jazz Website*

Our Premium Level Members

Tri-State Jazz Society Board of Directors

Tri-State Jazz Society Contact Information

Online Membership Enrollment and Renewal

CONCERT SCHEDULE  
Sundays from 2:00 to 4:30 pm

Visit our Tri-State Jazz Society website for up-to-the-minute news about schedule and concert changes, or call our Hotline at (856) 720-0232.

Member admission is \$10; general admission is \$20.

Introductory offer - start a new, first-time TSJS annual membership (\$20) at the door and receive free admission to this concert.

Full-time students with ID, or children accompanied by a paying adult, are free.

#### **Concert Covid Policy**

Tri-State Jazz Society recommends that guests wear masks, based on personal preference, to attend this full-capacity indoor concert.

You may also enjoy watching the concert remotely on our website or YouTube channel.

**CALL OUR HOTLINE for up-to-the-minute updates (856) 720-0232**

#### **ADA compliance**

Access to our concert venues is available at grade level.

Restroom facilities are available at grade level.



Tri-State Jazz Society, formed in 1988, is dedicated to the preservation and live performance of traditional jazz. Concerts featuring leading professional soloists and bands are presented throughout the year. Events are open to the public and all who enjoy traditional jazz are invited to join. The society is a non-profit educational corporation supported by its members.

#### **Membership**

Basic dues are \$20 per person. New and renewal memberships can be started in any month and run for one year. In addition to half-price concert admissions, members receive The Strutter newsletter by email.

**Premium memberships** help sustain and expand the work of Tri-State Jazz Society. Individual Sponsors contribute at the \$50 level (\$70 for couples); Patrons, \$100 (\$120 for couples); Sustainers \$200 or more (\$220 or more for couples). Premium-level members are eligible to attend an annual reception for Sponsors, Patrons and Sustainers.

*Visit our website for more details:*

**New Member application**

**Renew your membership** at the Sustainer, Patron, or Sponsor level.

Dues and donations may be tax deductible under IRS Section 501(c)(3).



# Membership Form

**Basic Dues:**       Individual \$20                       Couple \$40  
**Sponsor Dues:**     Individual \$50                       Couple \$70  
**Patron Dues:**       Individual \$100                       Couple \$120  
**Sustainer Dues:**    Individual \$200 or more    Couple \$220 or more  
**Amount Enclosed**    \$ \_\_\_\_\_      **Date** \_\_\_\_\_      **Check No.** \_\_\_\_\_

*Members are admitted to all regular concerts at half price. Memberships renewed prior to expiration start at the end of current membership; expired memberships start on receipt of payment. All memberships run for 12 months.*

First and Last Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail with check payable to Tri-State Jazz Society, Inc., P.O. Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054**

**TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY, INC.  
P.O. BOX 896  
MOUNT LAUREL, NJ 08054**

