

Our Next Concert:
The High Society New Orleans Jazz Band
Sunday, September 21, 2025
Haddonfield United Methodist Church



The High Society New Orleans Jazz Band
 Photo – Birdland Theater

The Band has been performing an open-ended engagement at the Birdland club in New York City since 2024. They play from a packed program of wonderful music – all, either directly or indirectly, derived from the city of New Orleans and the musicians that came from that city. Today the band members will be Conal Fowkes - piano, Brian Nalepka – bass, Harvey Tibbs – trombone, Kevin Dorn – drums, Simon Wettenhall – trumpet, Tom Abbot – clarinet, and Jared Engel – banjo (sitting in for Josh Dunn).



Conal Fowkes – piano, co-leader – is a pianist, double-bassist, singer, arranger and teacher. He has performed with Wynton Marsalis, Wycliff Gordon, Bob Wilber, Ray Santos Big Band, Bucky Pizzarelli, Johnny Pacheco, Paquito D'Rivera, Marion McPartland, Romero Lubambo, The Boston Pops Orchestra, Cyro Baptista, Houston Person, Chocolate Armenteros, The Manhattan Rhythm Kings, Cheo Feliciano, The Night Hawks Orchestra and Bette Middler. His feature film work includes playing the voice and piano of Cole Porter in Woody Allen's Oscar winning *Midnight in Paris*, from which the soundtrack received a GRAMMY award.



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts,
 a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Simon Wettenhal – trumpet, co-leader. Simon’s trumpet and vocals have been heard in major venues throughout the United States and Europe, including: Paris' Olympia Theatre, Theatre De Champs Elysees, London's Royal Festival Hall, Albert Hall and New York's famed Carnegie Hall with the Y Chamber Orchestra conducted by Gerard Schwartz. He can be seen in Mike Figgis' film *One Night Stand*, Barbara Kopple’s *Wild Man Blues*, and Woody Allen’s *Sweet and Slow*. As a regular performer in established New York bands, Simon has been a member of and recorded with: The Cayenne Jazz Band, Robbie Scott’s New Deal Orchestra, The Red Onion Jazz Band, The Oceanic Orchestra, The Constitution Jazz Band, The Lucky Dogs and Baby Soda Jazz Band



Harvey Tibbs – trombone. Over the past four decades, trombonist Harvey Tibbs has been performing in New York, playing in traditional jazz and swing styles. He has played with the Galvanized Jazz Band, The Earegulars, David Ostwald’s Louis Armstrong Eternity Band, and Catherine Russell. He has performed with Vince Giordano's Nighthawks, appearing with the band on the Grammy Award winning soundtrack to the HBO series *Boardwalk Empire*. His Broadway show credits include *42nd Street*, *Chicago*, *In The Heights*, *Memphis* and *Kinky Boots*.

Tom Abbott is an important player and regular performer on the NYC jazz scene. Tom has a singular sound on the clarinet and is a masterful ensemble player in addition to being a very melodic soloist whose jazz roots are without boundaries. Performance highlights include the BBC children's show *3rd and Bird*, The Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra, Post-Modern Jukebox, the immersive theater piece *Sleep No More*, The Seneca Serenaders, Baby Soda Jazz Band, the Jazz Age Lawn Party and *The Drunkard's Wife* performing with the National Theater of the United States of America.



Kevin Dorn – drums – has been one of the busiest drummers in traditional jazz for many years. Kevin has played at numerous jazz festivals and jazz parties, and has been fortunate to have performed throughout North and South America, Europe, and Asia. He has been at venues such as Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, The Rainbow Room, Lincoln Center, Birdland, Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, Symphony Space, The 92nd Street Y, Mezzrow, Smalls, Fat Cat, The Iridium, and Joe's Pub. Kevin has recorded music for movies and television, most recently for the HBO miniseries *The Plot Against America*.

Brian Nalepka – bass – is one of the founding members of the Manhattan Rhythm Kings, who started performing together on the streets of NYC. They went on to perform in all 50 states and in over 1000 concerts. It was with the MRK's that Brian originated the role of "Moose" in the Tony Award winning Broadway Show *"Crazy for You."* Brian's tuba, bass, accordion, bass sax and vocals can heard on movie and television soundtracks including, *"The Joker," "The Aviator,"* Woody Allen's *"Cafe Society,"* and *"A Rainy Day In New York,"* and *"Elf,"* to name a few. Television credits include David Steinberg's *"Inside Comedy"* (Theme music), the PBS children's show *"Peg+Cat,"* and Michael Moore's *"The Awful Truth."*



Jared Engel is a professional musician who is a mainstay of the New York City music scene. An accomplished multi-instrumentalist, he is often seen on subways, sidewalks, and bike paths hauling a combination of instruments that includes upright bass, bass guitar, tuba, 4-string plectrum banjo, and 5-string banjo. He has had the pleasure of recording and performing with acclaimed artists such as Béla Fleck, Steve Martin, and Stéphane Wrembel, and is currently a frequent collaborator with groups including The Baby Soda Jazz Band, Mike Davis & The New Wonders, and Mona's Hot Four. He has performed worldwide and locally on nearly every notable jazz stage, including The Village Vanguard, The Blue Note, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and Birdland.

Coming Soon

Miss Maybell and Her Ragtime Romeos

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Community Arts Center, Wallingford PA



Photo by Neal Siegal

Miss Maybell (Lauren Sansaricq) and Charlie Judkins – with the Ragtime Romeos – play a large repertoire of early Jazz, Ragtime and Blues from the 1890's - 1920's. They source their tunes from dusty old 78 records and antique sheet music, trying to give new life to songs created over 100 years ago! With this unique sound and dedication, they were recently featured on The NPR Show "Person, Place, Thing" with Randy Cohen. They have played and sold-out residencies at the legendary Birdland Theater. They also have played on festival bills throughout the country and abroad. In Europe, they recently headlined 'Sevilla Swing' in Seville, Spain and they sold out a week of shows at Marian's Jazz Room in Bern, Switzerland.

"...And the secret weapon they unleash is Miss Maybell's vocals — deep and strong enough to join an angel choir with the likes of Bessie Smith and Billie Holiday." – *New Hampshire Magazine*

*From their Tri-State appearance in May 2023,
at the Haddonfield United Methodist Church
Charlie Judkins, Miss Maybell, Brian Nalepka, Dan Levinson and Andy Stein*



Photo by Jim McGann

The Blackbird Society Orchestra

August 17, 2025 – Wallingford Community Arts Center



Photo by Richard Barnes

Richard Barnes' **Blackbird Society Orchestra** is Philadelphia's Premier 1920's Hot Jazz / Dance Orchestra dedicated to the preservation of the music of "The Jazz Age". At this *eighth* return visit to TSJS, the BSO once again displayed its masterful interpretations of this golden musical age (in their summer seersucker finery for this steamy August day.)

Today's band included

Vance Camisa – piano
 Richard Barnes – leader, guitar, vocals
 Steve Torrico – drums
 Michael Salsburg – violin
 Josy Conklin – tuba
 Bill DiBiase – sax
 Alex Gittleman – trumpet
 Travic Johnsonn – sax
 Rob Fort – trumpet
 Jeff Hart – sax
 James Gicking – trombone



The band played two jam-packed sets:

1st	Somebody Stole My Gal	There's No Other Girl
Good Ol' Days	Saxophobia	I Don't Mind Walking in the Rain
Beale Street Blues	Avalon	Breezin' Along With the Breeze
It's Tight Like That		Some of These Days
Yes Sir That's My Baby	2nd	Sugar Foot Stomp
Frankie and Johnnie	My Pretty Girl	Happy Feet
My Baby Just Cares for Me	Idolizin'	I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write
Mahogany Hall Stomp	Clementine	Myself a Letter
I Can't Give You Anything But Love	If I Had a Talking Picture of You	Milenberg Joys
Rhythm King	Raggin' the Scale	When You're Smilin'
East St. Louis Toodle-oo	She's a Great Great Girl	You're the Cream in My Coffee

In the words of one concert-goer: " yesterday's jazz concert was FANTASTIC! There were 4 of us together and we all agreed hands down that it was one of the best concerts we have been to. Those BSO musicians are incredibly talented and their energy was amazing. By the applause at the end, I think most others probably felt the same way!" (and see the video here: <https://youtu.be/z7MGPV-D3cQ>)

Concert Schedule

All Concerts on Sunday afternoon, 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm (unless otherwise noted)

9/21/2025 Haddonfield	The High Society New Orleans Jazz Band Some of the best trad jazz performers in the northeast — straight from their engagement at Birdland! They play the kind of music played by New Orleans musicians in the 1920s, and by revivalists in the 1940s — honoring the memories of musicians like Louis Armstrong, Jelly Roll Morton, Sidney Bechet, Johnny Dodds, Bunk Johnson, George Lewis, and more.
10/19/2025 Wallingford	The Ragtime Romeos This band reminds us of a time when phonograph records and motion pictures were in their infancy and live performance ruled. Lauren Sansaricq brought her (then titled) Jazz Age Artistes to Tri—State in May 2023 and they were a big hit — don't miss them today!
11/23/2025 Haddonfield	Bria Skonberg "Bria Skonberg has become the shining hope of hot jazz, on the strength of a clarion trumpet style indebted to Louis Armstrong, a smooth purr of a singing voice inspired by Anita O'Day... " the New York Times
December 2025	No concert this month — enjoy the holidays!
1/25/2026 Wallingford	Danny Tobias and Friends Cornetist Danny Tobias returns to Tri—State at the helm of his group of friends. A much sought—after musician identified by his lyrical phrasing and fat, relaxed tone, Danny is frequently heard performing with many leading traditional jazz and swing groups.
2/22/2026 Haddonfield	Royce Martin – Piano Royce Martin - pianist, composer - has a rich musical background and an affinity for a myriad of genres. He worked as the in-house pianist and lecturer at the Scott Joplin State Historic Site between semesters at Berklee College of Music. After graduation, Royce recorded an album of a dozen Joplin classics, reinterpreted in his own eclectic style. Royce also has composed original music for streaming documentaries.
3/15/2026 Wallingford	Manouche 5 Manouche 5, the Philadelphia based quintet, performs gypsy—jazz influenced standards and popular music similar to the original Hot Club of Paris. They've become a Tri—State favorite!
4/12/2026 Haddonfield	The Orleans Kids Bassist Cassidy Holden led a group called Cassidy & the Orleans Kids, featuring some of the best young players in New Orleans. Their albums, from 2011 and 2014, have the feel of bootleg tapes from late night jams, full of unconstrained youthful vigor. Holden moved to Portland, Maine, taking the band name with him and the Orleans Kids began to play Boston Swing Central events, such as the annual Roaring Twenties Lawn Party in Ipswich. And today, Tri—State Jazz presents the band for your enjoyment.
5/31/2026 Wallingford	Rossano Sportiello Award—winning Italian jazz pianist Rossano Sportiello returns to Tri—State! He last appeared in September 2022. He brings his eclectic style of pianism that blends classical training with jazz and stride.

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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.

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Tri—State Jazz Website

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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

Our Hotline number is (908) 349-0162

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 (*not applicable to renewal or re-activation*)

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

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:

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☐ Individual \$100

☐ Couple \$120

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☐ Individual \$200 or more

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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) _____

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

**TRI—STATE JAZZ SOCIETY, INC.
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