

## Our Next Concert:

### The Orleans Kids

Sunday, April 12, 2026, 2:00 to 4:30 pm

Haddonfield United Methodist Church



"Goody Goody" on YouTube

The Orleans Kids was originally formed in the early 2010's in New Orleans. It re-located and formed anew, and from there, The Orleans Kids have played every August since 2016 at the Roaring Twenties Lawn Party produced by the Trustees, and Boston Swing Central in Ipswich, MA. The band has used these concerts as a springboard for other performances throughout the northeast. The band features some of the top players in the northeast including John Clark and Dan Gabel from Boston, MA; and Alex Owen (leading the band today) and Greg Ruby from New York City. Today we will also see Somoa Wilson and Brian Nalepka.

Here is a video from "Alex Owen Music" (YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/@alexowenmusic5079>)

"Sep 23, 2024 – This was from a fun concert at NewBridge on the Charles. The Orleans Kids, a band composed of New York and New England based musicians, plays Goody Goody, a tune composed by Matty Malneck and Johnny Mercer."  
<https://youtu.be/oYza3fPBq14>



Made possible by funds from the Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

**Coming Soon:**

**Rossano Sportiello – Piano**

**Sunday, May 31, 2026, 2:00 to 4:30 pm**

**Wallingford Community Arts Center**



TSJS video – Rossano's 9/22/2022 concert

Award-winning jazz pianist Rossano Sportiello returns to Tri-State! He last appeared in September 2022. Based in New York City, Rossano is a classically trained Italian pianist who transitioned to Jazz at a very young age. He brings his eclectic style of pianism that blends classical training with jazz and stride. He is a master of both genres and his classical skills frequently come to the fore along with Harlem Stride Piano. He plays with a relaxed swing, paying respect to the original melodies while also adding something of his own to each performance.

Stylistically, Rossano is a follower of Ralph Sutton, Hank Jones, Tommy Flanagan, Dave McKenna and Barry Harris, but is also influenced by the masters like Fats Waller, Teddy Wilson, Art Tatum, Erroll Garner, George Shearing, Count Basie, Earl Hines, Ellis Larkins and Bill Evans. He has performed with many of the world's finest jazz luminaries, including Clark Terry, Kenny Davern, Bucky Pizzarelli, Harry Allen, Bill Charlap, Dick Hyman, and many others, in venues such as Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Town Hall, the Blue Note, Birdland, and Feinsteins, to name a few.

# Manouche 5

March 15, 2026, at the Wallingford Community Arts Center

Review and Photos by Jim McGann



Today's band was Tom Monari, leader, guitar, vocals; Sara Williams, vocals; Mollie Ducoste, violin; Jacob Wright, bass; Dylan Langschwager, guitar

It was a wintry afternoon when I first witnessed Manouche 5, back in the mask required/restricted people access days of Covid. The performance was one of enthusiastic young people really wanting to put on an exceptional performance, caring for a music genre which extended before the years of their grandparents. A follow up review of the group in 2024, found them for one still intact, and musically improved. Which leads to 2026, the M5 continues to improve and with the individuals that performed on that January day in 2021. One day, this reviewer, will improve and learn how to spell "Langschwager." Three times reviewing this band and I did not get it right once!

Polished is the one adjective to describe the M5 of 2026. This comes with performing together for a substantial period. Most of the material heard today was performed at the aforementioned 2021 and 2024 concerts. But it was that polish that made that material shine at this concert.



Mollie Ducoste and Dylan Langschwager

Everyone was in great form. Mollie Ducoste was outstanding throughout the concert, but swinging on "Cherokee," "Dinah," and "After You've Gone," and sweet on "Bésame Mucho." Dylan Langschwager equally in great form and in comparison, with leader Tom Monari, the performances became a school for jazz guitar, with each guitarist making his own statement without eclipsing the other. A better way to describe it as a "non-cutting contest."



Tom Monari

For example, on "Dinah," Langschwager performed his solo enhanced with creative clipped chords and stop-time effects while Monari took a more Charlie Christian single line run approach. Another example was found on "Minor Swing." Again, taking the first guitar solo, Langschwager swung with delicate staccato runs, while Monari took an otherworldly,

spacey approach with widely held, distantly held notes which affected the bass of Jacob Wright, who took an equally otherworldly approach. It was as if Monari and Wright were doing everything possible to avoid the beat yet swinging anyway.



Jacob Wright

On vocals Sara Williams took the honors. Her Etta James-influenced vocals fit the small confines of M5 – every note was enunciated and clear. However, it was her subtle soft harmonies behind Tom Monari’s vocals that gave the M5 a unique identity.

Other highlights found on “Moonglow” including the aforementioned vocal harmonies between Monari and Williams, more contrasting guitar playing from Langschwager and Monari, and bassist Wright spacing out notes, letting the tones hold for as long as the bass strings vibrated.



Sara Williams

“Take the A Train” had Ducoste taking on the Ray Nance solo, enhancing it with her own unique touch, and joining Langschwager and Monari on a classic riff from the Ellington recording of the Billy Strayhorn tune.

I noted in one of the earlier reviews that there were more vocals than instrumentals. In checking my notes, which was the case at this concert. One thing was different; I did not notice until after the concert was over: Williams and Monari just sang the vocals and let the band take over, giving the soloists more than enough room to shine.

Yes, Manouche 5 of 2026 is a very polished group. I think it is time for a recording. I had hoped there was a M5 CD at a nearby table as I was leaving the concert, but they were used CDs (mostly from other genres – How did that James Taylor CD get in here?) looking for a new home.

## And a Special Event at the Concert!

Tri-State celebrated **Sally Cannon’s** birthday with a song and a cake! (Cake for everybody!)



Sally is the real VIP at our concerts – she has directed and managed **providing refreshments** – for going on **30 years** was the number we heard. She is stepping back from this intensive level of activity, but will still offer advice and support.

We also had the chance to meet a new volunteer, Susan Borges, who will help take on this vital task.

## Call for Volunteers!

Since its inception, Tri-State has been a volunteer run organization. Volunteers perform a variety of tasks – publicity, the newsletter, organizing and staging concerts... We would like to invite you to volunteer.

Two useful services –

- REFRESHMENTS – as noted above, we can use additional help – volunteers to bring and set up refreshments. Volunteers are retiring and we need new volunteers so we can continue offering refreshments. Likely we will recruit helpers for both Wallingford and Haddonfield.
- Who reads the STRUTTER? Our previous editor retired, and we're doing a bare-bones job to keep it going. A new editor could take over publication. Even simpler, new contributors will help preserve it. Share your enthusiasm, maybe your expertise, for this music.

The easiest way to respond and express interest is to email:  
Manage.mailer@tristatjazz.org



## Other Jazz Happenings



### **PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY** presents

Coming in April –  
Ricky Alexander  
With Conal Fowkes & Friends  
Sunday, April 12, 2026  
2 – 4:30 pm  
Congregation Brith Sholom  
1190 W. Macada Road  
Bethlehem PA 18017

Admission: First Timers \$15, PJS Members \$15  
Non-PJS Members \$20 – Students are always free  
More Information: 347-247-5214

Visit the Society's website at  
<https://www.pajazzsociety.org/>



### Potomac River Jazz Club Zoom Jazz Talk: **Barrelhouse & Boogie Woogie Piano w/Tom Roberts**

Join Tom Roberts and The Hot Club of Pittsburgh for a guided listening adventure of these musical styles. You'll hear early recordings directly from rare original 78s, including recently acquired mint condition Paramount records, with narrative by Tom about the performers and the music. Live-streamed over Zoom, it will be like Tom is in your own home giving a private show, but you won't need to check your jewelry or feed him!

Monday, April 27, 2026 – 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm EDT  
The event is FREE! Though donations accepted to offset the cost of this series. This presentation will be held via Zoom and a link will be sent by e-mail the day of the presentation. Registration required by 5pm on the day of the event:  
[Registration](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1983892729559>

## Concert Schedule

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

4/12/2026 Haddonfield	<p>The Orleans Kids</p> <p>The Orleans Kids has evolved from a band that originated in the early 2010's in New Orleans. The band later relocated and formed anew; the Orleans Kids began to play at venues like the Boston Swing Central events, and the annual Roaring Twenties Lawn Party in Ipswich. And today, Tri-State Jazz presents the band for your enjoyment, under the leadership of Alex Owen.</p>
5/31/2026 Wallingford	<p>Rossano Sportiello</p> <p>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.</p>
6/14/2026 Haddonfield	<p>Larry Toft's Red Hot Ramblers</p> <p>The Red Hot Ramblers are an authentic 1920s jazz ensemble in every way. They exemplify red-hot syncopation, stompin' rhythms, and lyrical melodies associated with the Jazz Age. The repertoire can extend before and after the 1920s from the early years in Jazz, such as New Orleans Style and Ragtime, up to the swing era of the 1930s and 40s and even into the modern Second Line New Orleans parade style.</p>
7/12/2026 Wallingford	<p>The Tri-State All-Stars Jam</p> <p>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. Guest musicians can pre-register, and even last-minute walk-ins may be accommodated, checking in the day of the concert.</p>
8/23/2026 Haddonfield	<p>Neville Dickie with Joe and Paul Midiri</p> <p>This Tri-State tradition continues! 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.</p>
9/27/2026 Wallingford	<p>The Blackbird Society Orchestra</p> <p>The 11 to 12-piece Blackbird Society Orchestra has become one of Tri-State's favorites. The Tri-state area's Premier Authentic 1920's/1930's Jazz Band plays original arrangements of bands of the 1920s – 1930s.</p>
10/18/2026 Haddonfield	<p>Pete &amp; Will Anderson with Adam Moezina</p> <p>Twin brothers Peter and Will Anderson have wowed TSJS audiences before with their reed mastery. This time they're bringing a friend – guitarist Adam Moezina – with whom they've played a series of concerts around New York and beyond.</p>
11/15/2026 Wallingford	<p>Kris Tokarski – Piano</p> <p>New Orleans pianist Kris Tokarski offers a solo performance that is sure to feature legendary NOLA composers like Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver.</p>

## THANK YOU TO OUR PREMIUM MEMBERS AND DONORS

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### **SPECIAL MENTION — DONATIONS — High Value, Frequent Donations, Recurring Donations**

Gary Coller  
Scott Ruehr

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](#)

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#### [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

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.

Elevator access is available for the HUMC auditorium level.

Restroom facilities are available at the HUMC auditorium 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

- |                        |   |   |
|------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Basic Dues:</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20          | <input type="checkbox"/> Couple \$40          |
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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.*

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Street \_\_\_\_\_

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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.  
P.O. BOX 896  
MOUNT LAUREL, NJ 08054**

