TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY

The Strutter

VOLUME 37 NUMBER 3 | *Traditional Jazz in the Philadelphia Tri-State Area* | September 2026

Our Next Concert:

Richard Barnes' Blackbird Society Orchestra

September 27, 2026, 2:00 pm

Wallingford Community Arts Center

Photo by Jim McGann

Richard Barnes' BSO returns! The Blackbird Society Orchestra has become one of Tri-State's favorites. Working from Richard's collection of original vintage stock charts and arrangements, BSO authentically and accurately recreates many classic jazz recordings that once spun from scratchy 78 RPM records on a Victrola when the world was still in black and white!

Barnes discovered the jazz/blues guitarist and vocalist Leon Redbone in 1992, playing regionally with him for a decade. He also spent five years performing obscure 1920s jazz with the Kim Milliner Band.

In 1997, Barnes formed BSO with the intention of preserving 1920s jazz in note-for-note re-creations using original stock charts and transcriptions from vintage recordings. Thirteen years later, he launched Eddie Lang Day, an annual music/charity event celebrating the musical contributions of the native Philadelphian and pioneer jazz guitarist (nee Salvatore Massaro), who teamed with his boyhood pal, violinist Joe Venuti, to form one of the all-time legendary duos in jazz history.

Coming Soon:

The Anderson Brothers Play Gershwin – with Adam Moezinia

October 18, 2026, Haddonfield United Methodist Church

Photo credit: Lynn Redmile

"Virtuosos on clarinet and saxophone" (New York Times), Grammy-winning Juilliard graduates and identical twins Peter and Will Anderson present the music of George Gershwin. The Anderson brothers have performed on Broadway, at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, the New Orleans Jazz Festival, for radio and film, and regularly perform at the famed Birdland Jazz Club in the heart of New York City. The Washington Post said they "consistently bring a fresh perspective to classic jazz." Guitarist Adam Moezinia, a graduate of the Juilliard School's Jazz Studies program, has shared the stage with Herbie Hancock, Wynton Marsalis, George Coleman, Paquito D'Rivera, Jane Monheit, Jon Faddis, Antonio Hart, and Bobby Watson. He has also performed at the Hollywood Bowl, the Kodak Theatre, Monterey Jazz Festival, the Kennedy Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Blue Note, the Jazz Standard, Joe's Pub, and Jazz Alley. Join Peter and Will (saxophones, clarinets, flutes) and guitarist Adam Moezinia for a wonderful afternoon of jazz favorites: "Rhapsody in Blue," "Summertime," "I Got Rhythm," "They Can't Take That Away from Me," and more in a show chronicling Gershwin's musical journey.

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

Neville Dickie with Joe and Paul Midiri

August 23, 2026, Haddonfield United Methodist Church

Review and photos by Jim McGann

On social media, I came across 78rpm collectors posting of a Bob Crosby recording of "South Rampart Street Parade." I have listened to the Bob Haggart-Ray Bauduc arrangement more occasions than I can remember. So I listened once more, and with all the pops, clicks and whatnot with a 78rpm recording, and having listened to it multiple times in the past, the Crosby band recording still excited, with the out chorus metaphorically defined as a freight train running at full throttle.

So do Neville Dickie and the Midiri Brothers. Since 2013, the trio has never failed to please.

For this 2026 concert, you had your "You've Got To Be Modernistic" and the played-as-fast-as-possible "Hobson Street Blues." The boogie woogie numbers ("Swanee River" "Pinetop's..."). The Trio flag-wavers ("Oh, Lady Be Good," "Nobody's Sweetheart," "September Song"), Ballads ("Don't Blame Me," "Out Of Nowhere") and the expected Armstrong vocal, in this case, vocals ("Keepin' Out Of Mischief Now," "Pennies From Heaven," "On The Sunny Side Of the Street"). All were enjoyable save for the Armstrong vocals; while Joe Midiri sings the novelty vocal well, three songs were a bit much.

There were some new and improved items presented for this concert. A trio version of George Gershwin's "S'Wonderful," a duo version of Fats Waller's "Wildcat Blues," a nice companion piece to the aforementioned "Hobson Street Blues" – Bob Zurke's "South Side Strut" represented the new items. An improved (or re-thought) Donald Lambert feature, where "Tea for Two" performed with the left-hand piano part while another melody (usually "Don't Worry 'Bout Me") played with the right hand simultaneously. For this concert, several melodies were played with the right hand in continuing choruses, "April Showers" being one of them, followed by a steady increase in tempo. All that was missing was the trademark "Cocktails for Two" coda that was a staple in every Lambert performance.

The highlight for me came early on with a trio performance of "Wolverine Blues," with Joe Midiri approximating Omer Simeon while Neville inserted some of Fats Waller's technique during his solo. Midiri in his second solo returned to the modern Goodmanesque sounds, capping it with a nice break. All this and Paul Midiri socking away with the "fly swatters" (brushes).

Like the Crosby 78 mentioned earlier, a performance by Neville Dickie and the Midiri Brothers will generate levels of excitement. South Rampart never got old. Neither does Neville and the Midiris.

Review and All Photos by Jim McGann

With a passion for traditional jazz, Jim McGann has reviewed and photographed Tri-State Jazz concerts since the early 2000's.

Other Jazz Happenings

Potomac River Jazz Club Zoom Jazz Talk, September 14, 2026:
Jazz Talk: Shrieks, Dances, and Revels: Early Jazz Venues in Storyville
featuring **Jordan Hirsch**

Jordan Hirsch takes us on a musical journey through New Orleans' red light district in the formative years of early jazz.

> *In recent years, scholars have debunked the long-held misconception that Storyville, New Orleans' red light district, was the center of early jazz performance, and the point from which the music spread across the country.*
> *However, Storyville was still an important site in the music's formative years. This talk will offer a fresh look at a single block of Franklin Street in the heart of the district, which was a hotbed of music before, during, and after the Storyville era, which lasted from 1898 until 1917.*

Monday, September 14, 2026 – 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm EDT

Register by 5:00 p.m. the day of the talk to receive the Zoom link.
Although all of our Jazz Talks are FREE, we appreciate donations to offset the cost of the program.

Registration

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jazz-talk-shrieks-dances-and-revels-early-jazz-venues-in-storyville-tickets-1992722862725

Or, go to the PRJC website at https://prjc.org/ for more information.

Concert Schedule

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

9/27/2026 Wallingford	**The Blackbird Society Orchestra** 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.
10/18/2026 Haddonfield	**The Anderson Brothers Play Gershwin – with Adam Moezinia** Twin brothers Peter and Will Anderson have wowed TSJS audiences before with their reed mastery. This time they're bringing a friend – guitarist Adam Moezinia – with whom they've played a series of concerts around New York and beyond.
11/15/2026 Wallingford	**Kris Tokarski – Piano** Living in New Orleans, the "Cradle of Jazz", Kris embraced the early piano traditions of the city as well as those of the early New York and Chicago masters. A keen interest in the music of Jelly Roll Morton, James P. Johnson, Earl Hines and Teddy Wilson – combined with his bebop roots – allowed Tokarski to develop an all-encompassing voice of his own, deeply rooted in the jazz piano tradition.
1/10/2027 Wallingford	**The Midiri Brothers Sextet** The Midiri Brothers return with their sextet to Wallingford today. The Midiris have delighted swing dancers and been acclaimed by critics at jazz festivals throughout the country for many years. They have recorded with groups ranging from trios to big bands – featuring the arrangements of Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw and the Dorsey Brothers.
2/21/2027 Haddonfield	**Miss Maybell and her Ragtime Romeos** 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, giving new life to songs created over 100 years ago!
3/14/2027 Wallingford	**Danny Tobias and Friends** Get ready for "an oasis of joy!" (in the words of our reviewer after Dan's last appearance). Dan last brought his friends to Tri-State in June 2024; today we see the return of Dan leading and playing trumpet, with Dan Block on reeds, Pat Mercuri on guitar and banjo, Joe Plowman on bass and Jim Lawlor on drums.
4/18/2027 Haddonfield	**TBD** Our TSJS Artistic Director is hard at work finalizing the April schedule.
5/23/2027 Wallingford	**Glenn Crytzer Quartet** Glenn Crytzer returns with his Quartet to Tri-State, playing music from the Jazz Age and the Swing Era - "Vintage American Jazz". Glenn draws on the broad repertoire of styles of jazz that were performed prior to World War II. This includes the earliest jazz from New Orleans around the turn of the 20th century, and the styles that were part of the gradual morphing into the "hot jazz" style played by the dance orchestras (early big bands) and combos of the 1920s.
6/13/2027 Haddonfield	**Neville Dickie with Danny Coots and Dan Levinson** Neville Dickie, top stride/boogie-woogie pianist from Surrey England is joined by Danny Coots, Grammy award winning drummer, and Tri-State favorite Dan Levinson on reeds, for a concert of traditional jazz. Think Fats Waller, James P. Johnson, Louis Armstrong, Art Tatum, Earl Hines, and more!!

THANK YOU TO OUR PREMIUM MEMBERS AND DONORS

SUSTAINERS **$200 for individuals $220 for couples**

Sanford Catz
William N. Hoffman
Richard & Peggy Hughlett
Amy Galer & Chris Jones
Robert and Sandra Lowe
DeWitt Peterson
Jazz Bo Jay & Orinda Lou Schultz
Natalie Sturr
Elizabeth Hazard & Ken Wright

PATRONS **$100 for individuals $120 for couples**

Gary Coller
Michael G. Galan
Bruce Gast
David Gray
Bob Kreitz
Arnhard Kuhk
Sheila Larson
Michael & Katherine Perloff
Sharon Cottrell & Andrew Pleninger
Mark Raymond
Peter & Susan Reichlin
Scott Ricketts
Adam Rogers
Sylvia Rosenberg
Adam & Vivien Seyhan
Constance & Donald Windus

SPONSORS **$50 for individuals $70 for couples**

Joel Albert
Tim Bell
Charles Haggerty & Sarah Burke
Gim Burton
Gary Cornelius
Estherose Heyman
Roger W. Jacobs
Evgueni Kadossov
Peggy de Prophetis & Louis Kaplan
Susan Miller
Michael Olderman
Carol Otte
Nancy Pontone & Steve Peitzman
Scott & Gail Ruehr

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

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

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.

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).

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.

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