

A TRIBUTE TO
HOWARD JOHNSON

SEPTEMBER 18, 2019 • MERKIN HALL, NYC



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear ISO Community:

I would like to thank everyone who has come together to support the InterSchool Orchestra of New York for the Tribute to Howard Johnson. I would especially like to thank the Board of Trustees and the ISO Event Committee:

Frederick L. Barnfield, Terence

Coppinger, Stephen Metivier, Anna

Snider, William W. Suk, and Naomi Itami Zimmerman. All the proceeds from the concert are going to support scholarships and financial aid for our students. Each year, the Board of Trustees raises nearly \$250,000 to support our students and their musical endeavors. We are a community youth orchestra organization that teaches students how to play in an orchestral setting in service to others by providing community concerts. This year, we are fortunate to be partnering with great New York City community organizations, world renowned American artists and the great Orchestra of St. Lukes at the DiMenna Center.



I met Howard Johnson in my early 20s performing in a recital at Carnegie Hall. Howard has been an inspiration for me and many other tuba players over the decades. He embodies the idea that “anything is possible.” Howard literally can play anything on the tuba. It is with great pride that we offer this Tribute to him which is being spearheaded by two other great artists, Earl McIntyre and Joseph Daley. I am grateful that they, along with all the other musicians presented here, are offering their services for free to help us raise money to teach our students, that indeed, “anything is possible” in your life if you work hard.

The students performing with Taj Mahal are from our ISO Symphony orchestra and have been prepared by our conductor, Barry Stern. The music has been arranged by Earl McIntyre. Our students this year will be performing with the Mingus Dynasty as well as performing over four newly commissioned works. We are also proud to be partnering with the New York Chinese Cultural Center and Ballet Hispanico this year.

We are also spearheading the ISO Orchestral Wind Training Program this year, led by Mary Barto and Lisa Pike where wind students will be studying how to prepare and perform in an orchestral setting. They will be getting additional training from members of the NY Philharmonic, Orchestra of St. Lukes and Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. We are happy to report that in this inaugural year, the program is completely filled. In addition, for the first time in ISO history, each orchestra has a waiting list and two orchestras are completely filled.

Please help us keep Annabelle Prager’s dream alive.

We are offering an option to text a pledge to ISO to support our great cause in honor of Howard Johnson. 100% of your donation is tax deductible and it will go to support a student studying at ISO.

Enjoy the concert.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Geer'.

Karen Geer
Executive Director

Program

NO ME ESQUECA Joe Henderson

Bear Tones Baritone Sax Ensemble

BIG ALICE Don Pullen

Gravity Tuba Ensemble

WORKIN' HARD FOR THE JONESES Nedra Johnson

Gravity, with Nedra Johnson (vocals)

NATURAL ANTHEM Jesse Ed Davis

Levon Helm Horns

GOING UP TO THE COUNTRY, PAINT MY MAILBOX BLUE Taj Mahal

Taj Mahal with Levon Helm Horns

AIN'T GWINE TO WHISTLE DIXIE (ANY MORE) Taj Mahal

Taj Mahal with Levon Helm Horns and ISO Strings

TOM AND SALLY DRAKE Taj Mahal

Taj Mahal with Bob Stewart

BIG KNEED GAL Taj Mahal

Taj Mahal with Real Thing Horns and ISO Strings

SWEET MAMA JANISSE Taj Mahal

Taj Mahal with Real Thing Horns

WAY BACK HOME Wilton Felder

Mass Tuba Ensemble and Taj Mahal



This Evening's Musicians

Bear Tones

Claire Daly
Erik Lawrence
Scott Robinson
Dave Schumacher
Lauren Sevia

Levon Helm Horns

Steven Bernstein
Erik Lawrence
Lou Marini
Earl McIntyre

Gravity with Guests

Randy Andos
Dave Barger
Velvet Brown
Joseph Daley
Joe Exley
Nedra Johnson
Jack Jeffers
Earl McIntyre
Marcus Rojas
Jon Sass
Ben Stapp
Bob Stewart
Keith Walton

Mass Tuba Ensemble

Rebekah Adeyemi
Randy Andos
Dave Barger
Velvet Brown
Joseph Daley
Joe Exley
Dave Grego
Zander Grier
Jack Jeffers
Nedra Johnson
Harper Latcholia
Marc Lindy
Bill Lowe
Earl McIntyre
Marcus Rojas
Jay Rozen
Harry Salotti
Jon Sass
Ben Stapp
Bob Stewart
Keith Walton

Taj Mahal with

Larry Fulcher, *Guitar*
John Simon, *Piano*
Jerome Harris, *Bass*
Victor See Yuen,
Percussion
Buddy Williams, *Drums*
Keith Walton, *Tuba*
Earl McIntyre, *Tuba*
Joseph Daley, *Tuba*
Bob Stewart, *Tuba*

ISO Symphony

Barry Stern, Conductor

Violin

Leo Drazan
Azumi Hattori-Hamilton
Chloe Joo
Jonah Kwon
Aiden Li
Miles Raphael Lytle
Esther Merczynski
Adriana Ondrejka
Ben Rubie
Marc Szammer*
Kaleb Wong
Stanley Zheng

Viola

Arianelle Arroyo
Megan Delatour*
Marcus Gamboa
Lindie Holt
Jake Kitchen
Isabel Rothko

Cello

Molly Aronson*
Maya Holtham
Rachel Joo
Sophia Noh

Tuba

Rebekah Adeyemi
Zander Grier
Harper Latcholia

*ISO Coach

House Rhythm Section

Melissa Slocum, *Bass*
Buddy Williams, *Drums*
Yayoi Ikawa, *Piano*

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Please
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the Howard
Johnson
Scholarship
Committee.

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1. Create a new
text message to
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2. Type
 - your name or
company name
 - the \$ amount
of your pledge
 - any short
message you
want to share
3. Hit Send!



Master of Ceremonies

Rob Crocker



Rob Crocker is a Brooklyn born high school musician whose career took a turn towards broadcasting when injuries, sustained in Vietnam, cut short his future as a performer. He started his broadcasting career as a programmer in Europe; Rob co-hosted

the Holland based show “Sad Eyed Lady of the Lowlands”, by Radio Free America.

After returning to the U.S., he produced, reported the news, and hosted Jazz programs for the Pacifica Network. New York area listeners are sure to recognize Rob’s voice as having hosted the best of jazz, fusion, latin, R&B, and dance music on some of the city’s most popular FM radio stations such as WRVR, WWRL, WBGO, WBLS and KISS FM (whose Pop audience Rob introduced to jazz) as well as WQCD. He was also instrumental in returning to New York the captivating beat of Brazilian music during the ’70’s.

Rob Crocker has the singular distinction of being the longest-running disc jockey in the history of jazz radio in New York City.

In the early 1990’s, Rob relocated to Tokyo where he worked as a disc jockey in the Tokyo market... at BAY-FM and FM Yokohama, hosting programs including “Night Ship,” “Evening Jazz,” and “Night Moves” — the first live all-night radio program in the history of Japanese FM radio. In addition, Rob was the voice on satellite television for “Live At The Bluenote”, the host and writer for “All That Jazz,” on Space Shower TV; and part of the starting lineup of DJs for INTER-FM, Tokyo’s first one-man style FM radio station. There he featured Jazz on the nightly program “Mid Nite Groove.”

As the new century began, Rob returned to New York City. He continued to do Sunday evening radio for INTER FM (New York Groove) from New York until Spring 200, when he returned to WBGO in

the New York market (where he can still be heard today worldwide on the internet). He also returned home to New York with two close companions. Miles and Kimiko, 2 black cats (Bombay breed) from the Hiro section of Tokyo (named for Miles Davis, and the Japanese Jazz singer Kimiko Itoh). He also programmed and produced the New York Jazz segment of Nissan Murano Crossover Style on INTER FM (a radio collaboration he helped arranged between WBGO & INTER FM, using the voice of WBGO’s mid-day DJ Rhonda Hamilton) from 2005-2009.

Aside from FM Radio, Rob also produces Jazz CDs, including Alto Memories (With Sonny Fortune, Gary Bartz, Kenny Barron, Buster Williams and Jack DeJohnette); UK Underground from Japanese alto saxophonist Malta; the 1st & 2nd CDs from Japan’s premier Jazz vocalist and trumpeter Toku (whom Rob discovered in Tokyo); Philly Sounds (with Randy Brecker, Jay Hoggard, Joe Ford, Uri Caine, Buster Williams, Nabaté Isles and Grady Tate) and Dread Rooster, Babi Floyd’s reggae CD featuring Keith Richards on guitar.

Among the live shows he has produced over the years, Rob recently produced the Bobby Hutcherson tribute at New York city’s BIRDLAND in 2012 (featuring Jay Hoggard, Steve Nelson, Mark Sherman & Warren Wolfe on Vibes, with George Cables, Buster Williams, and Victor Lewis in the rhythm section).

As a New York City based Jazz programmer over the decades, Rob has designed musical concepts for such cultural organizations as The Burgess Collection of Fine Art, The National Museum of Sports, and The Brooklyn Museum.

In addition to his work at WBGO, Rob also does programs for J-WAVE in Tokyo thru the London based Sha La La Company.



Howard Johnson

is universally known as the finest proponent of the jazz tuba in the world, as well as being quite proficient on the baritone saxophone. He also plays flugelhorn, bass clarinet, cornet, and penny whistle among other instruments. Howard was born in Montgomery, Alabama on August 7, 1941. He taught himself the baritone sax in 1954 and the tuba a year later. He moved to New York in 1963—at a time when the tuba was not a fashionable jazz instrument (outside of the New Orleans-style bass-line chores, the only visible player was Ray Draper) but Charles Mingus welcomed Howard into his workshop in 1964. In



1965 he toured with soul jazz alto saxophonist Hank Crawford, playing baritone sax, but returned to the Mingus' workshop for a year beginning in July, 1965. In 1966, he played with the Archie Shepp band for some months and appeared with him at the Newport Jazz Festival in 1966 and 1968. Gil Evans used his multi-instrumental capacity at various points between 1966 and 1988.

Active on the West Coast in the mid-60's, Johnson played with Buddy Rich, Gerald Wilson and Oliver Nelson. In 1968 he played in the Jazz Composers Orchestra, an epic combination of scores and extreme performances from Carla Bley, Cecil Taylor, Pharoah Sanders and Larry Coryell. 1968 also saw him forming a tuba ensemble named Substructure. He supplied the tuba solo on Jimi Hendrix's Voodoo Child in 1974 with the Gil Evans Orchestra.

An in-depth list of associations and recordings includes John Scofield, Hank Crawford, Archie Shepp, Buddy Rich, Freddie Hubbard, McCoy Tyner, Marvin Gaye, Miles Davis, Quincy Jones, Abdullah Ibrahim, and John Lennon and a four year association with the NDR Big Band in Hamburg, Germany. In movies he can be heard on the soundtracks of Spike Lee's School Daze, Mo' Better Blues, Malcolm X and Clockers.

Johnson's career makes nonsense of the so-called division between commercial and avant-garde, and he even performed a stint as conductor of the Saturday Night Live Band in the late 70's. He also arranged for Taj Mahal, B.B. King, and Paul Butterfield and played on The Band's Rock of Ages and The Last Waltz. In 1972, Johnson changed the name of Substructure to GRAVITY, which has released two acclaimed late-90s sessions for Verve Records.

Tribute to Howard Johnson — Anything is Possible

Life can easily turn into a numbers game. We evaluate so many things according to how many units sold, awards won, seats filled. But when it comes to Howard Johnson, the most impressive figure to consider would be the size of his remarkably all-encompassing footprint in music and entertainment.

For anyone who's watched TV or movies, listened to radio, records or downloads, or gone to a club or concert since the mid-1960s, the chances are excellent that you've heard or seen multi-instrumentalist Howard Johnson in action.

He has dressed in nurse's whites and resplendent Egyptian garb on Saturday Night Live, joined James Taylor on Sesame Street, and even played himself in a beer commercial. Howard Johnson performed on the soundtracks of several Spike Lee movies, appeared with The Band in the Scorsese-directed documentary *The Last Waltz*, and fronted his own ensemble Gravity on the long-running and highly popular radio program *A Prairie Home Companion*.

With an arsenal of instruments from tuba to pennywhistle in hand, Howard Johnson has taken to the stage with legends including Josephine Baker, Ray Charles, Miles Davis and Marvin Gaye. He's hit the road with the Spinal Tap tour, Levon Helm and Harry Connick Jr. Howard worked out horn arrangements in the recording studio with John Lennon, has been a mainstay in the ensembles of an impressive roster of NEA Jazz Masters, and backed vocalists as varied as Ella Fitzgerald, Albert King and Paul Simon.

If the mark of genius is reaching a pinnacle before anyone else, then there's no doubt Howard qualifies for the designation. He blazed trails in demonstrating the possibilities of soloing and improvising on the tuba, hitting notes in the range of higher brass instruments or lower than a piano keyboard, introducing the brass behemoth as a featured instrument in jazz and pop music. Many have imitated what he's done but so few—on any instrument—can match Howard as an innovator. While others may emulate what Howard achieved technically, he was there first, and no one since has replicated the unforgettable sound, creativity or feeling in his playing.

Besides his mastery of the tuba, Howard Johnson made his mark excelling on baritone saxophone, bass clarinet, flugelhorn, electric bass and other instruments, and has even been known to raise his voice in song. He's also known for his avuncular personality and great story-telling chops, enthralling diverse audiences with vivid descriptions of more than a half-century of experiences with bandleaders and players from the exalted to the obscure. Occasionally Howard is the hero of these stories, sometimes the butt of them, but he's always bearing witness to the making of this great American music.

As audience members will hear tonight, there's a wonderful accessibility to Howard's artistry. Whether playing a standard from a Broadway show, taking the lead on Jimi Hendrix's "Voodoo Chile" with the Gil Evans Orchestra, or evoking early R&B beats on "Big Alice," with Gravity, his music gets under your skin and may lighten your heart or quicken your step for days to come.

Howard's talent, determination and no-limits viewpoint have been irreplaceable ingredients in his recipe for artistic fulfillment and professional success. Nevertheless, even for someone so prodigiously gifted, it still took a village for him to reach his potential or perhaps even dream of

it. His reminiscences detail the music he first heard at home, his discovery of instruments in the school band room, a music store owner who made it possible for Howard to buy his first baritone saxophone. And, of course, there are his appreciations of the many jazz giants who listened to him, encouraged him, wrote for him, mentored him.

During decades as an in-demand studio musician and first-call jazz player, Howard too made a practice of extending a helping hand, mentoring numerous players—tuba and otherwise, encouraging, guiding, selflessly advising, and opening doors. If he couldn't make a gig, Howard would suggest a sub. He'd make recommendations to bandleaders and contractors, always earmarking the player he felt was right for the gig, rather than the best-known or most obvious choice, changing lives in the process.

He has been a champion of the starting out, the under sung, the local heroes, accepting gigs and even making it to rehearsals for events paying nothing or close to it. The rehearsals may turn into mini master classes in arranging and composing, with Howard making suggestions to improve the writing or tighten up a passage, based on his experience and unique viewpoint. Countless players and colleagues reminisce about the veteran musician schlepping multiple instruments to church basements, suburban clubs, community events, grad student recitals, and subbing or sitting in at pass-the-hat gigs. Regardless of prestige, pay or venue, he has never brought less than his top game. For Howard, it's never been about fame: Life is all about the music, the joy of playing.

As you'll see tonight, he has built enduring relationships that stretch across the decades and generations. Just consider, some of the members of Gravity were teenagers when they began playing with Howard. Almost 50 years after the formation of that ground-breaking multi-tuba brass choir, they're still fired up about the chance to revisit the music recorded in 1971 with the great vocalist Taj Mahal. You'll hear that same level of excitement from each of the dozens of players set to hit the stage tonight.

Though the 78-year-old musical master no longer makes a practice of hoisting the 20-plus-pound tuba to his lips, Howard still feels he has much to offer as a mentor and advisor. Proof required? He recently listened to a brass-playing high school-age neighbor, and shared some pointers.

In a sense, through this fund-raiser Howard could be said to be extending a helping hand to a new generation of youthful players, enabling them to have access to instruments, education and encouragement, mentorship and guidance. While following in Howard's path will take some giant steps, he'd be the first to encourage these young musicians to aim to match – and surpass – his stellar accomplishments and his lasting impact on the world of music.

Have at it, young players, Howard Johnson will be cheering you on.

ELZY KOLB



About ISO

Founded in 1972 and incorporated in 1974, the InterSchool Orchestras of New York (ISO) began with a single orchestra of 20 children. Today, ISO serves more than 250 children, creating opportunities for school-aged children in New York City to make music together through four tiered level orchestras. ISO provides a nurturing environment where all children can realize their personal best, achieve high artistic standards, and share music with the community. The ensembles perform in major concert halls, schools and community centers, bringing great

music to over 7,000 people annually. Generous financial aid and scholarships ensure that every child can participate.

All ISO concerts and educational programs are made possible in part with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council. In addition, ISO is generously supported with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

2019 – 2020 Season

ISO's new direction for youth orchestras gains momentum as the Season progresses with new commissions by Daniel Felsenfeld, Huang Ruo, Trey Trujillo and Arturo O'Farrill. Children will participate in innovative partnerships with the New York Chinese Cultural Center, Mingus Dynasty and Ballet Hispanico. In addition, young people will perform in community concerts at Kumble Theater at LIU, a PhilarMonster on the Upper West Side, and a 50th Anniversary of Earth Day Celebration with the Trinity Church Youth Chorus.

We are so excited to be leading the field in cross-cultural, multi-dimension genre works for youth orchestra. We are focusing on doing concerts for the community, focusing on important social issues like diversity and widening students' experiences in orchestral music beyond the classical repertoire to experience the whole range of what an orchestra can do with collaborative effort and creative input from American jazz artists, Chinese American composers, dancers and musicians and Latin American and Hispanic

artists. We are hopeful that this new direction will encourage students to practice, perform and invite their friends to concerts to make their experiences relevant and meaningful.

ISO would also like to announce the inaugural year of a brand new training program entitled the ISO Youth Orchestra Winds Training Program. ISO will be launching this new program, created by two of ISO's premier coaches: Mary Barto, flute and Lisa Pike, French horn. The students will begin their training program in the beginning orchestra and learn the basics of preparing for orchestra rehearsal, auditioning for placements, listening to scores, ensemble mastery and section leadership. This training program is the first of its kind in New York City and will include certificates of completion for each of the four levels, ultimately preparing the students for their college auditions. Currently this program is completely full.

Upcoming Events

**Concert Orchestra with the New York Chinese Cultural Center –
October 25, 2019**

Kumble Theater: 1 University Plaza, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Morningside and Carnegie Hill “Philharmonster” – October 30, 2019 5pm
St. Paul & St. Andrews: 263 W 86th St, New York, NY 10024

ISO Symphony with the Mingus Dynasty – November 17, 2019
Kumble Theater: 1 University Plaza, Brooklyn, NY 11201

ISO Winter Concert – December 8, 2019
Symphony Space: 2537 Broadway, New York, NY 10025

ISO Symphony and Ballet Hispanico – May 3, 2020
Kumble Theater: 1 University Plaza, Brooklyn, NY 11201

ISO Spring Concert – May 6, 2020
Tribeca Performing Arts Center: 199 Chambers St, New York, NY 10007



Performers



Taj Mahal

Taj Mahal is an American blues musician, singer-songwriter, and film composer who plays the guitar, piano, banjo, harmonica, and many other instruments. He often incorporates

elements of world music into his works and has done much to reshape the definition and scope of blues music by fusing it with nontraditional forms, including sounds from the Caribbean, Africa, and the South Pacific, over the course of his more than 50-year career. Born in Harlem, New York, Mahal grew up in Springfield, Massachusetts.

In 1964 he moved to Santa Monica, California, and formed the Rising Sons with fellow blues rock musicians Ry Cooder and Jessie Lee Kincaid, landing a record deal with Columbia Records soon after. The group was one of the first interracial bands of the period. During this time Mahal was working with musicians like Howlin' Wolf, Buddy Guy, Lightnin' Hopkins, and Muddy Waters. Mahal stayed with Columbia after the Rising Sons to begin his solo career, releasing the self-titled *Taj Mahal* in 1968, *The Natch'l Blues* in 1969, and *Giant Step/De Ole Folks at Home* with Kiowa session musician Jesse Ed Davis from Oklahoma. During this time he and Cooder worked with the Rolling Stones, with whom he has performed at various times throughout his career. In 1968, he performed in the film *The Rolling Stones Rock and Roll Circus*. He recorded a total of twelve albums for Columbia from the late 1960s into the 1970s. In 1972, he acted in and wrote the film score for the movie *Sounder*, which starred Cicely Tyson. He reprised his role and returned as composer in the sequel, *Part 2, Sounder*.

In 1976, Mahal left Columbia and signed with Warner Bros. Records, recording three albums for them. In 1981, Taj moved to Kauai, Hawaii, and formed the Hula Blues Band. Originally just a group of guys getting together for fishing and a good time, the band soon began performing regularly

and touring. In the 1990s he was on the Private Music label, releasing albums full of blues, pop, R&B and rock. He did collaborative works both with Eric Clapton and Etta James.

In 1998, in collaboration with renowned songwriter David Forman, producer Rick Chertoff and musicians Cyndi Lauper, Willie Nile, Joan Osborne, Rob Hyman, Garth Hudson and Levon Helm of the Band, and the Chieftains, he performed on the Americana album *Largo* based on the music of Antonín Dvořák.

In 1997, he won Best Contemporary Blues Album for *Señor Blues* at the Grammy Awards, followed by another Grammy for *Shoutin' in Key* in 2000. He performed the theme song to the children's television show *Peep and the Big Wide World*, which began broadcast in 2004.

In 2002, Mahal appeared on the Red Hot Organization's compilation album *Red Hot and Riot* in tribute to Nigerian afrobeat musician Fela Kuti. The Paul Heck produced album was widely acclaimed, and all proceeds from the record were donated to AIDS charities.

In June 2017, Mahal appeared in the award-winning documentary film *The American Epic Sessions*, directed by Bernard MacMahon, recording Charley Patton's "High Water Everywhere" on the first electrical sound recording system from the 1920s.

Taj Mahal has received three Grammy Awards (ten nominations) over his career. On February 8, 2006 Taj Mahal was designated the official Blues Artist of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In 2014, the Taj Mahal received the Americana Music Association's Lifetime Achievement award.



Randy Andos

Randy Andos is a trombonist who has made a name for himself as one of NYC's premier low brass doublers. He has lent his talents to records by artists such as James Taylor, Panic At The Disco!,

Celine Dion, Phillip Phillips, Bob James, Brett Eldredge, David Byrne, Bon Jovi, Dawn Upshaw

and Spyro Gyra. He has held the chair on 16 Broadway Shows including the current hit *The Book Of Mormon*. Randy has performed on SNL, David Letterman, and in concert with Don Henley, Shakira, Seth MacFarlane, They Might Be Giants, Gil Evans, Diana Krall, Rufus Wainwright, and countless others. He has recorded hundreds of jingles, a bunch of TV Themes & Movies and played in parades. Being one of the top brass players in New York takes versatility, adaptability, patience and a lot of hard work. Whether on trombone, bass trombone, tuba or euphonium, Randy's ability to bring a wide variety of musical styles to life has made him one of the most successful low brass doublers of his generation. "I take great pleasure and pride in playing these different instruments, and playing them in a way that is appropriate for the music. I don't feel a need to showcase my ego when I'm on a gig. I do what's best in order to make the music come alive. That's what the best freelance players do. We serve the music."

A self-described "music fan", Randy was born in Staten Island, NY. He attended the High School of Performing Arts, the Pre-college school at Manhattan School of Music, and received a Bachelors Degree in trombone performance from The Manhattan School of Music. "I was fortunate to be able to learn from some of the greatest musicians in the world on a daily basis. I feel that doing such a wide range of gigs as a young musician, taught me to appreciate so many different types of music, and to respect the musicians and audiences as well. It's a big world of music and by being a New Yorker, I was exposed to so much. It was an opportunity most musicians don't get. And yes, I once made 35 cents playing with Tom Pierson's Band at Seventh Avenue South..."



Dave Barger

Dave Barger is a versatile low-brass jazz artist hailing from Athol, Massachusetts, USA. He won his first lead-trombone job playing with Clark Terry's Big Band, and from 1968-1970 played

bass trombone and tuba with Doc Severinson's Band. In 1970, he joined Blood Sweat and Tears, the jazz/rock band known for their number-one hits "Spinning Wheel" and "You made Me So Very Happy," among others. Dave's recording and concert schedule worldwide with Blood Sweat and Tears included eleven albums. A break in their schedule allowed Dave to join the Gil Evans Orchestra in 1972, and he remains a member of that orchestra, which is currently led by Gil's son, Miles Evans.

After leaving Blood Sweat and Tears, Dave became both a sought-after recording musician in New York City and a well known international jazz artist. He has played many diverse musical styles, recording pop albums with Paul Simon, Mick Jagger, James Taylor, and Eric Clapton and jazz albums with Gil Evans, George Russell, Gerry Mulligan, David Sanborn, and Pat Metheny. Dave recorded and toured internationally with the George Gruntz Concert Jazz Band from Switzerland and the George Russell Living Time Orchestra. He felt privileged to be a long time member of Jaco Pastorius's Word of Mouth Band and also a charter member of Howard Johnson's Gravity, the six tuba group that has been together since 1968. *Tuba!Tuba! I* and *Tuba!Tuba! II* are two jazz tuba CDs that have been released under the co-leadership of Dave and French tuba virtuoso Michel Godard. Their band has had many successful concert tours of Europe since 1998. The Broadway musical *Chicago* has been open since 1996, and Dave has been the lead trombonist from the beginning. He continues to record commercials, music for television, radio, albums, and movie scores.

Dave can also be heard on many of the episodes of *Prairie Home Companion* with Garrison Keillor, with whom he has been collaborating for 20 years. *Sesame Street's* long time, tuba-playing character Telly has been voiced by Dave for years. On the fishing side, Dave has plied the piscatorial arts all his life, settling on fly fishing as his absolute avocational obsession. Recent and past trips to the Gander River in Newfoundland and East Grand Lake in Maine—as well as fly fishing the Bear, Kitza, and Kola Rivers in Russia—have sparked a deep love of Atlantic salmon.



Steven Bernstein

An impactful presence on the New York scene over the past 30 years, trumpeter, composer, arranger and bandleader Steven Bernstein has immersed himself in such a wide array of music

with his bands Sexmob (his primary vehicle for exploring the slide trumpet, a rare instrument that he picked up in a Woodstock guitar shop back in 1977), Millennial Territory Orchestra, Diaspora Soul, Universal Melody Brass Band, Spanish Fly, Blue Campfire and the Butler-Bernstein Hot 9 that he defies easy categorization. A former member of the Lounge Lizards and Levon Helm's Midnight Ramble Band, Bernstein has also composed works for film, theater and dance in addition to doing arrangements for a diverse list of artists ranging from Lou Reed to Lee "Scratch" Perry, U2, Marianne Faithfull, Rufus Wainwright, Darlene Love, Mario Pavone, Bill Frisell, John Lurie and the Kansas City All-Stars. His lengthy list of sideman credits includes recent recordings by Elvis Costello (Look Now), Roswell Rudd (Trombone for Lovers), Mostly Other People Do The Killing (Loafer's Hollow), Antony and the Johnsons (Turning) and Nels Cline (Lovers). He also continues to perform with Ray Anderson's Pocket Brass Band, Little Feat, and the Kamikaze Ground Crew.



Velvet Brown

Velvet Brown is a distinguished professor of music at the Pennsylvania State University and Artist Faculty at The Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University. Prior to joining the faculty at Penn

State in 2003, she taught at Bowling Green State University (Ohio), Ball State University (Indiana), and served as an associate director of University Bands at Boston University. She is a founding board member of the International Women's Brass Conference. Ms. Brown is noted for receiving the 1999-2000 William Fulbright Fellowship Vinciguerra

Award. She has had many successful students who have won prestigious playing and teaching positions, as well as prizewinners at various regional, national, and international competitions.

Velvet Brown also enjoys a professional career as an international soloist and chamber ensemble performer, recording artist, conductor, and orchestral player. She has made regular appearances throughout Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Finland, France, England, Hungary, Slovenia, Russia, Japan, Canada, and the United States. Ms. Brown is principal tubist of the New Hampshire Music Festival Orchestra. She has also served as principal tuba with the River City Brass Band, the Lahti Symphony (Finland) and as a substitute or additional tubist with the Detroit Symphony, Saint Louis Symphony, San Francisco Women's Philharmonic, and the Fort Wayne Philharmonic.

In 2004, Brown joined Howard Johnson's "Gravity" Tuba Jazz Ensemble as lead tuba. She has also garnered high praise as a founding member of MOJAtuba (tuba, piano, percussion, and dance collaboration), the Monarch Brass Quintet and Brass Ensemble, and the Pennsylvania Brassworks (Faculty Brass at Penn State). She has released three solo CDs on the Crystal Records label, a CD for the Nicolai Music label, and her CD, Simply Velvet, can be found on the Potenza Record label. Velvet Brown can also be heard on Howard Johnson's Testimony CD with Gravity Tuba Jazz Ensemble and Albany Records in her interpretation of John Williams' Tuba Concerto. Velvet Brown is a Buffet Crampon Performing Artist, performing on the Mienl Weston's 2250 and 2182 F tubas, and the 3450 and 2000 CC tubas and a Denis Wick Performing Artist.



Joseph Daley

After nearly 50 years of recognition as one of the consummate sidemen on the adventurous music scene – with remarkable artists like Sam Rivers, Carla Bley, Gil Evans, Charlie Haden, Muhal

Richard Abrams, Taj Mahal and so many more – Joseph Daley has emerged as one of Jazz’ and contemporary music’s most extraordinary composers and leaders. Stunning musicians and fans alike with his brilliant 2011 CD, *The Seven Deadly Sins*, featuring his Earth Tones Ensemble (a full Jazz orchestra augmented by six additional low-tone horns, and including a seven-member rhythm section and four special guests), this powerfully innovative music mines the same rich vein of musical expression as that of immortals like Charles Mingus, Duke Ellington and George Russell, receiving rave reviews and making several Best of Year lists. In 2013 he followed up with *The Seven Heavenly Virtues*, then in 2014 *Portraits: Wind, Thunder and Love* which includes the five movement suite *Wispercussion: Five Portraits of Warren Smith* – both featuring string orchestras. Drawing the attention of a number of prominent educators and university programs, since 2018 Joseph has become an in-demand and highly compelling educator, providing activities at various institutions in Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Mexico, Washington, as well as a residency at Dartmouth College resulting in a performance of selections from *The Seven Deadly Sins* project.

In 2015, *The Tuba Trio Chronicles* – dedicated to his long time friend and mentor Sam Rivers, in whose Tuba Trio he performed extensively in the U.S. and Europe during the ‘70s and ‘80s – was released to high acclaim, and when time allowed three years later the ensemble toured in more than 15 U.S. cities in the spring of 2018. Joseph is also focused upon developing a series of life celebration projects dedicated to his late wife Wanda Daley, in which Joseph will use both his Tuba Trio Rituals Ensemble and Earth Tones Ensemble to realize this musical quest.

Joseph is also currently a member of the highly eclectic ensemble Hazmat Modine, under the direction of musician and visual artist Wade Schuman. It was Schuman’s paintings that helped inspire the creation of Daley’s *Seven Deadly Sins* project, which was developed at the MacDowell Colony in 2001. Whether performing with his large ensemble; with his evocative Ebony Brass Quintet, his stunning World-music influenced Rituals

Ensemble, the Tuba Trio or in sparer solo, or duo contexts; sheer musicality, deeply-hewn emotion and jubilant innovation are always at the core of Joseph’s most singular musical expression.

Best known for playing the tuba, Joseph also plays euphonium, trombone and piano; but these days his growing reputation as a visionary composer is bringing him worldwide acclaim.



Claire Daly

Winner of the Jazz Journalist “Baritonist of the Year” 2018, 2017, 2005, and Downbeat and Jazztimes Critic and Reader Polls, Claire’s first release as a leader, “Swing Low”, is featured

in the Presidential Library of Bill Clinton, as a CD significant to him while he was in office. Her CD, “Baritone Monk” was on the Jazzweek Charts for 24 weeks, 9 of which were in the top ten. It was also in the year end top 100 CDs on Jazzweek. She has led her quartet at the Monterey Jazz Festival, Juneau Jazz and Classics, as well as touring the west coast, and performed at the Monk Gala with Wayne Shorter and Herbie Hancock.

Her 2012 CD “The Mary Joyce Project” was a tribute to her relative who made a solo 1,000 mile dogsled trip from Juneau to Fairbanks in 1935. The band has performed at many festivals and venues. Claire taught at Jazz at Lincoln Center (MSJA) and the Litchfield Jazz Camp, as well as privately in NYC.

Her most recent CD, “2648 West Grand Blvd” features jazz interpretations of Motown music in the Detroit years. She says, “Improvising a life in music is the best thing I could have done with my life.”

Claire performed and recorded with Joel Forrester for nearly 25 years. Joel was a co-founder of the infamous and acclaimed “Microscopic Septet.” He and Claire had a quartet called “People Like Us” which recorded 5 CDs.



Joe Exley

Dubbed the “Tuba Gunslinger” at a festival in Bordeaux, France, New York’s Joe “TubaJoe” Exley has performed with literally hundreds of different groups across practically every genre; even when

at home in New York City, Joe is ‘perpetually on tour’ as his constant live performances number in the thousands. Raised in Louisiana and Colorado, Joe went on to study in Chicago and later moved to Harlem NYC where he’s lived as a full-time musician for almost 20 years. Some highlights include performances with Howard Johnson & Gravity! (including on the most recent album release “Testimony”); with Austria’s Heavy Tuba; acclaimed solo performances internationally as part of the “psycho-mambo” group Gato Loco; an electric tuba solo on a #1 Billboard album with The Dillinger Escape Plan; brass arranger and music director with Zola Jesus; recordings with Kenny Werner and Joe Lovano, Bernard “Pretty” Purdie, the International Contemporary Ensemble; shows with Red Baraat, Hazmat Modine, The New Orleans Klezmer Allstars, T.S. Monk with Wallace Roney, Nenna Frelon and Kevin Mahogany; on tv news themes, movie soundtracks, well over 100 albums; performances in Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Radio City Music Hall, and co-produced a series of concerts in Venice, Italy to celebrate Festa del Redentore. Most recently, Joe made an appearance on the big screen (as himself) in Mindy Kaling’s current feature film “Late Night” with Dame Emma Thompson.



Larry Fulcher

Guitarist Larry Fulcher, born in Houston, Tx., began his musical career singing in church at the age of 5, and has been the bassist with Taj Mahal & The Phantom Blues Band since 1993. His bass

is featured on four Grammy nominated albums

with Taj Mahal, “Phantom Blues”, “Señor Blues”, “Shoutin’ In Key” and “Maestro”, with “Señor” and “Shoutin’” being Grammy Winners. In addition to the Grammy awards, Larry also has 2 W.C. Handy Blues Awards for his work with Taj Mahal and W. C. Clark. Larry Fulcher has recorded as a bassist with Taj Mahal, Smokey Robinson, The Crusaders, Willie Nelson, Ruthie Foster, Robben Ford, Maria Muldaur, Marcia Ball, Lonnie Brooks, Cornell Dupree, Los Super Seven... As keyboardist and guitarist, Larry also recorded with many reggae artists, including The Wailers, Third Word, Sly & Robbie, Andrew Tosh, The Mighty Diamonds, Big Youth and The Ark Angels. He was also featured vocalist on the Emmy Award winning ABC-TV series “I’ll Fly Away”.



Jerome Harris

Jerome Harris has been widely acclaimed as a versatile and penetrating stylist on both guitar and bass guitar. Harris’s first major professional performing experience came as bass guitarist

with Sonny Rollins in 1978; from 1988 to 1994 he played guitar with Rollins, and has also recorded and/or performed live on six continents with Jack DeJohnette, Bill Frisell, Amina Claudine Myers, Ray Anderson, Bobby Previte, Oliver Lake, Martha Redbone, Bob Stewart, George Russell, Julius Hemphill, Ned Rothenberg, and many others. His extensive international touring has included U.S. State Department tours with Jamie Baum, Sam Newsome, Jay Hoggard, and Oliver Lake and Jump Up. Jerome Harris has appeared on over fifty recordings, and has taught history and social context of blues and jazz at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts. Harris served as arranger, rhythm guitarist and assistant to musical director Vernon Reid in 1999’s celebratory “Joni’s Jazz” concert in New York’s Central Park, where—with Joni Mitchell herself in the audience—he accompanied singers as wide-ranging as Chaka Khan, Jane Siberry, Duncan Sheik and P.M. Dawn. Jerome Harris’s formative musical experiences included singing and playing rural and urban blues, folk and gospel music, as well as a full

range of American popular music genres. After studying psychology and social relations at Harvard University (A.B. 1973), he attended New England Conservatory of Music as a scholarship student in jazz guitar, graduating with honors in 1977.



David Grego

David Grego has played tuba and upright bass since he was 10 years old. Since that time he became a life long explorer and experimenter of sonic altered tuba sounds using exterior and electronic

devices. Some of his favorite experiences include those with Gravity, Hazmat Modine, New Jersey Pops, LeMonte Young Big Band, The Spike Jones Band, the musical 'Chicago' and as composer of music for 10 Horror Films.



Yayoi Ikawa

Born in Tokyo, Japan, but raised musically in New York, Yayoi is an experience in ingenuity and compassion. Being exposed to diverse music scene in New York, Yayoi plays Jazz, Gospel, R&B,

Hiphop, Classical, African and Caribbean music. Using music as a powerful communicational tool, Yayoi strives to lift up humanity through understanding and encouraging herself and others. After a Nippon Crown release "Angel Eyes", she self-produced "Color of Dreams" displaying her original compositions. "L'Arena" (Italy) described her work as "a pure expression of New York modern Jazz". In 2008, Yayoi started "The Bridge Project" to create musical dialogue between different cultures and toured in U.S., Japan and Costa Rica. Yayoi's work has been commissioned by venerable artists and institutions worldwide, and she has worked with Reggie Workman, Michael Carvin, Howard Johnson, Michal Urbaniak, Emeline Michel, Daniel Bernard Roumain, the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance

Company etc. Currently jazz piano lecturer at The City University of New York-Brooklyn College, Yayoi earned a master's degree in Jazz composition from New York University.



Jack Jeffers

Jack Jeffers studied trombone in Boston around 1950 and then worked in the house band of Howard Theater in Washington DC. In the second half of the 1950s he played with Buddy Johnson

and Warren Smith, in 1960 with Lionel Hampton. In the mid-1960s, he was part of Charlie Barnet's orchestra, recording his first recordings. In the following years, he played with Warren Smith and the Composers Workshop Orchestra, as well as the Jazz Composer's Orchestra with Michael Mantler. In the big band of Dizzy Gillespie he appeared in 1968 on the Newport Jazz Festival. He also worked with Carla Bley's "Escalator over the Hill" and worked around 1970 with Herbie Hancock, Ernie Wilkins, Clark Terry, Hermeto Pascoal, Houston Person, and Thad Jones. In the 1970s, he was also on recordings by Charles Earland, Cal Tjader, Randy Weston, Ella Fitzgerald, Grachan Moncur III (Echoes of Prayer), Charles Tolliver, Anthony Braxton, Yusef Lateef, and Harold Wick. In the 1980s, he also worked with Lena Horne, Charlie Haden (The Ballad of the Fallen), Muhal Richard Abrams, and in the following two decades in big band projects by Nancie Banks, Chico O'Farrill, Arturo O'Farrill, Louie Bellson, and Jimmy Heath. He also arranged music for his own bands. In 1995, he recorded with his New York Classics Big Band the album New York Dances (Mapleshade Records) and belonged to the participating musicians James Zollar, Bill Easley, and Warren Smith. In the field of jazz he was involved between 1966 and 2011 in 84 recording sessions. Jeffers also frequently worked as a studio musician and for Broadway productions.



Nedra Johnson

Nedra Johnson is a singer/songwriter, guitar, bass and tuba player. As the daughter of Howard Johnson, she grew up listening to and loving a diversity of musical styles, in part, informed

by the diversity of genres and artists that Howard performed with which is then reflected in her songwriting and performance.



Erik Lawrence

Erik Lawrence has been a sideman with greats from Buddy Miles to Sonny Sharrock, from Louis Armstrong sideman Big Chief Russell Moore to Velvet Underground's John Cale. He has

toured with Chico Hamilton, Henry Butler/Steven Bernstein, Little Feat and countless others. Erik was a founding member of the legendary Levon Helm Band (2004-2012), with whom he was featured on the Grammy winning albums *Electric Dirt* and *Ramble at the Ryman*. He has also garnered certified multi-platinum albums for his work with Joan Osborne and the Spin Doctors. He is dedicated to expanding the role as an artist, educator and journalist and has collaborated with poets (Robert Pinsky, Eric Mingus etc), Dancers (Jose Limon Dance Company, Flamenco Pittsburgh), and visual artists. He began teaching in colleges and universities at the age of 18 and has held positions and residencies at Williams College, Dartmouth and many other school. Erik is also a certified sound and vibrational healer.



Marc Lindy

Marc Lindy resides in Vancouver, BC and for ten years has led the Homegoing Brass Band, Canada's only dedicated brass funeral band. Whilst he is not one of the top

tuba players in Vancouver, he does consider himself the most available. Currently he tours with Ryan McNally & the Messa Rounders from Yukon Territory, and East Vancouver's Petunia & The Vipers. Thanks to Howard Johnson, Marc practices tuba rather than practicing as a podiatrist.



Bill Lowe

Bass trombonist and tubaist Bill Lowe has been a major force in the music world for over thirty years as a performer, composer, producer, and educator. He has worked with most of

the masters of African-American creative music, across all genres and musical cliques, from musical legends like Dizzy Gillespie, Eartha Kitt, and Clark Terry, to the leaders of the avant-garde like Muhal Richard Abrams, Henry Threadgill, and Cecil Taylor, to under-heralded greats like George Russell, James 'Jabbo' Ware and Bill Barron. He has co-led the Boston Jazz Repertory Orchestra, the Bill Lowe/Phillipe Cretian Quintet, and JUBA, co-produced Boston's annual John Coltrane Memorial Concert, and composed several major works, including his opera, *Reb's Last Funeral*, his ongoing interdisciplinary project *Signifyin' Natives*, and the music/theater piece *Crossing John at the Crossroads*. As an educator, Lowe has taught at several major universities, lectured throughout the world from Cuba to Paris, and mentored countless young musicians.



Lou Marini

Often referred to as an “unsung jazz hero,” platinum recording artist, Lou Marini, Jr. is the seasoned soul and adept multi-instrumentalist, arranger, composer, educator, and producer

credited with inspiring the origins of a fan-following cult across multiple genres of music.

Making a name for himself as a sideman in various high profile groups, any top New York jazz musician will tell you he’s “one of the absolute best jazz musicians.” The New York based Marini is famed for his chameleon-like adaptability to imagine and perform inventive ideas in jazz, rock, blues and classical music. Describing Lou’s performances, the New York Times said, “(he’s) the focal point of the group...(who) gives the band most of its colors and shadings, and provides it with a strongly melodic lead voice.”

Five time Grammy Award winning arranger / composer Bob Belden had this to say about one of the time-honored contributions from Lou Marini, Jr., “This composition and arrangement reflects Lou’s ability to create exciting, new music that embraces rock and the most advanced ideas of jazz music.” The statement helps illustrate Marini’s ability to inspire and traverse multiple music disciplines. Lou Marini, Jr. is best known as a member of several distinguished bands: Woody Herman Orchestra, Doc Severinson, Blood, Sweat and Tears, The Band, Levon Helm & the RCO All-Stars, Dr. John, Frank Zappa, Saturday Night Live (SNL) Band, The Blues Brothers, Maureen McGovern, Lew Soloff Quintet, Blue Beck with Joe Beck, Eric Clapton, Red House, and the Magic City Jazz Orchestra. He has toured four times each with James Taylor’s Band of Legends and the John Tropea Band. A true blue lover of big bands, Lou has had the honor of performing with some of his childhood idols such as Thad Jones-Mel Lewis and the Buddy Rich Band, the latter with whom he also arranged. It is Marini’s seven year association as an original SNL band member that led to his role as “Blue Lou” in John Belushi and Dan Akroyd’s cult classic movie,

“The Blues Brothers.” To this day, the remarkable popularity of the Blues Brothers Band is kept alive. Lou and the other band members tour worldwide, giving live concerts to packed houses and hundreds of thousands screaming fans.

Born May 13, 1945 in Charleston, S.C. and raised in Ohio, making music is in the roots of the Marini family tree. At Fairless High School where Blue Lou attended, his father Lou Marini, Sr. directed his high school band and composed the alma mater. Each year the school bestows the Lou Marini Award in honor of his father. In 2010 the Marini’s were honored by the school, when they received the ‘Distinguished Fairless Falcon Award’ given to Blue Lou and his late father. Marini, Jr. carries on the tradition of education previously started by his father. He has arranged for Stan Kenton, and been on the faculties of both the Stan Kenton Camps and National Stage Band camps. Currently, he is an active clinician with high school and university jazz bands, and serves as Musical Director of the Brianza. Blues Festival in Monza, Italy. Married to his beautiful Spanish bride, Carmen, Blue Lou is a long time resident of Manhattan’s Upper West Side where he continues his life-long pursuit of musical excellence. Known as “Double-Dad” by his granddaughter Alaina, Blue Lou’s son performed with him in Tuscany during the summer of 2010. Dubbed ‘Louie Tre’ (Italian style), Lou’s son carries on the music roots as a vocalist in the Dallas area.



Earl McIntyre

Born in Brooklyn N.Y. Earl received his first musical training from his father (a very gifted amateur musician) who saw to it that the entire family became proficient at playing brass instruments. While

attending the High School of Music & Art, he studied trombone with John Clark, Jack Jeffers, Alan Raph and Benny Powell. It was during this period that he also developed relationships with composer William S. Fischer and tuba player Howard Johnson. At Mannes College of Music, he studied Bass trombone with Simone Karasick and tuba with Thompson Hanks. Later he studied arranging with

Slide Hampton and Bob Brookmeyer. He also studied privately with the famous brass teacher Carmine Caruso. Since then he has played with Gil Evans, Charles Mingus, Miles Davis, Taj Mahal, Lester Bowie, The Band, Stevie Wonder, McCoy Tyner, Carla Bley, Lou Rawls, Jeffrey Osborne, Aretha Franklin, Cedar Walton, Levon Helm, the Count Basie Orchestra, the Ellington Orchestra, the Thad Jones Mel Lewis Orchestra (with whom he was associated for over 20 years) Slide Hampton, George Gruntz, the Mingus Big Band, Cecil Taylor, the Carnegie Hall Jazz band, the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra, Chico O'Farrill, The Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra, Fred Ho, Renée Manning and others. He served as guest conductor for the Brooklyn Philharmonic, wrote large ensemble compositions for (and directed) the Musicians of Brooklyn Initiative Big Band, (an organization founded by Lester Bowie, Oliver Lake and others.)

Mr. McIntyre was also musical director for Town Hall's "Ragtime to Broadway" featuring music from 1900-1909. His arranging and orchestrating credits include Roberta Flack, Luther Vandross, the "Saturday Night Live" band, Lester Bowie's Brass Fantasy, Johnny Copeland, Cedar Walton, Renée Manning, the Mel Lewis Orchestra, The Mingus Big Band, Elvis Costello, Steve Turré, Bob Stewart, Jon Faddis, J.J. Johnson, the Art Ensemble of Chicago as well as Cannonball and Nat Adderley.

Earl has received the National Endowments of the Arts grants for jazz study, jazz composition and instruction. He is a recipient of grants from New York State Council of the Arts; Meet the Composer, and others. He has been nominated for the "Most Valuable Player of The Year" award from the NARAS as well as sitting on various arts and grants panels. He appears on at least three Grammy award-winning records as well. He has numerous film & Broadway credits and been involved in a number of Tony winning productions.

Earl has been on faculty at Long Island University, The New School for Social Research, SUNY at Purchase and the Wachovia "Jazz For Teens" at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. Mr. McIntyre has also been a teaching artist for Young Audiences and Brooklyn Arts Council. He's done clinics through various arts organizations as well. At

the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, he served as Director for the Jazz division. He also produced the "Jazz at The Conservatory" series at The Brooklyn Conservatory presenting artists like Jimmy Heath, Benny Golson Roy Hargrove, Taj Mahal, the Persuasions and many others. His latest CD release is "Brass Carnival & Tribute". He is co-founder and music director of Excelsior Music Studio, a new music school in Brooklyn, NY.



Scott Robinson

Since moving to New York in 1984, Scott has been awarded four fellowships by the National Endowment for the Arts, and participated in a number of Grammy-nominated and Grammy-

winning recordings. He has been profiled in new editions of the Encyclopedia of Jazz and Grove's Dictionary of Jazz, along with books by Royal Stokes, Nat Hentoff and others. In 1997, a 4-minute CNN program featured Scott and the giant contrabass saxophone which he used on his CD, Thinking Big. Scott has been the winner of a number DownBeat Critics Polls and Jazz Journalists Association awards in recent years.

Now a resident of Teaneck, NJ, Scott has constructed a studio/laboratory for sonic research, containing an astonishing assortment of instruments and devices. Many adventurous and far-reaching recordings from this facility have appeared on his own ScienSonic Laboratories imprint. Scott's collaborators on these projects include Frank Kimbrough, Julian Thayer, Henry Grimes, Roscoe Mitchell and longtime Sun Ra saxophonist Marshall Allen. Since 2012, ScienSonic's recordings have been certified by the Space Foundation as Certified Space Imagination Products, entitled to bear the Foundation's certification seal. In 2014, ScienSonic Laboratories launched its innovative membership program and "Sound-of-the-Month Club." Under the Doc-Tone imprint, Scott released Bronze Nemesis, a CD featuring 12 compositions based on the exploits of 1930s pulp adventure hero Doc Savage. This

project, ten years in the making, was greeted with extensive press coverage in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, DownBeat and elsewhere. The group known as the “Doctette” - was a hit at the 2015 Newport Jazz Festival, giving what the Boston Globe called “the most quirky and delightful set of the weekend.”

An endorsing artist for Vandoren reeds and mouthpieces since the mid-eighties, Scott has recently been signed to Denis Wick of London as an artist/endorser of their products for brass. A respected performer in all areas of jazz, from traditional to avant-garde, Scott Robinson has arrived at his own unique musical voice which, as once described in a Northsea Jazz Festival program, “combines solid foundations with great daring”.



Jay Rozen

Educated at Ithaca College, Yale University and University of North Texas, tubist, composer, improviser JAY ROZEN has had a diverse career. From 1978-1980, he was tubist with the Jerusalem

Symphony Orchestra. During his “Texas years” (1984-1999), Rozen played and recorded with the Creative Opportunity Orchestra (jazz ensemble), The Capital of Texas Brass Quintet, the Austin Klezmer and the European Tuba Quartet. Since moving to New York in 1999, Jay has performed with many ensembles, including the American Symphony Orchestra, the SEM Ensemble, the LOW FREQUENCY TUBA BAND and UNDERGROUND BRASS. He has performed with jazz greats Ray Anderson, Burton Greene, Perry Robinson, Wadada Leo Smith, Hamiett Bluiett and Charli Persip. Rozen currently performs with Anthony Braxton and can be heard on several of his recent recordings, including the ground-breaking 9 CD/1 DVD set 9 COMPOSITIONS (Firehouse 12 Records). A champion of new music, Rozen has had works written for him by Virgil Thomson, David Lang and novelist/composer Anthony Burgess, among others. Jay appears on many recordings, including his own KILLER TUBA SONGS and David Lang’s ARE YOU EXPERIENCED? on which he plays the electric tuba.

His second solo CD-NAKED SINGULARITY, was released in 2015.



Marcus Rojas

Tubist Marcus Rojas has performed with such diverse groups as The Metropolitan Opera, The American Ballet Theatre, American Symphony Orchestra, Radio City Music Hall, and ensembles led by

Lionel Hampton, David Byrne, and P.D.Q. Bach. An avid proponent of contemporary, improvised, and classical music, he has performed the premieres of such notable composers as LaMonte Young, Gunther Schuller, and Peter Schickele. He has recorded with CBS Records, Sony Records, A&M Records, and has been heard on countless film scores, including Interview with a Vampire and Sleepless in Seattle.



Jon Sass

Jon Sass is world renowned as a true Groove Master and to be arguably one of the most creative tuba players today! He is uniquely versatile and is known as “Der Tausendsassa der Tuba.”

His imitable approach and soulful sound on the tuba has given him a truly unique solo career, being one of the few tubists in the world who create their own music and performance concepts such as the multi-media programs “Sassified-Live” , Souluba and “Sassy the Tuba” which was featured at the, Jazz Festivals Frankfurt, Moers Wiener-Konzerthaus, etc. Jon can be heard on over 90 recordings. Since 2008 Jon has established himself as a solo artist featured with groups such as Major European Big-bands to Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Symphonic Wind Ensembles as well as many feature events. Jon has played, recorded and toured worldwide with the creme de la creme of musicians and been featured together with artists such as Ivan Neville, Vince Mendoza, Peter Wolf, Ricky Ford, Bobby

Shew, Eric Bibb, Steven Mead, chamber ensembles of the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic, in duo with Dave Taylor, Arkady Shilkloper, Wolfgang Puschnig, and Milagros Pinera. Other artists include Ray Anderson, Michelle Rosewoman, David Murray, Sunny Murray, Butch Morris, James Spaulding, Leon Thomas, Peter Erskine, Frank Foster, Erika Stucky, Henry Threadgill, Linda Tillery and the Heritage Cultural Choir, Howard Johnson Heavy Tuba and Vienna Art Orchestra. throughout Europe. Jon composes his own music and has arranged music for the James Brown Horns. Jon developed a basis for progressive creative thinking called-Creative Impulse which has inspired the play along books from Editions BIM and TMV records, and for team-building seminars- such as The Corporate Groove. Jon Sass is also a YAMAHA endorser. www.jonsass.com.



Dave Schumacher

As a freelance Baritone Saxophonist, Chicago native Dave Schumacher has been active on the New York scene for more than the 35 years. He has performed for audiences in more than 465 cities

in 41 countries on 5 continents. As member of Lionel Hampton's Orchestra from 1983 to 1987 he toured the Americas and Europe. He again toured with Hamp in 1988 and 1989. A highlight in Dave's career was traveling with the Art Blakey Big Band to Japan in 1987 to perform at the Mt. Fuji Jazz Festival. Dave was an original member of Harry Connick, Jr.'s Orchestra from its beginnings in 1990 until 2009. He has thrilled audiences touring with Harry in North America, Europe, Asia (Japan, China, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and South Korea) and Australia. His baritone sax can be heard on each of these Harry Connick, Jr., Columbia recordings: Oh My NOLA, Chanson du Vieux Carré, Only You, When My Heart Finds Christmas, Come By Me, Blue Light Red Light, Songs I Heard, Thou Shalt Not, What A Night and others. As a freelance artist Dave was a touring member of the T.S. Monk on Monk Ensemble from 1999 to 2000 touring the U.S. and Europe, as well as touring Europe with

the Tom Harrell Octet in 2000. Dave has also done freelance work with Howard Johnson's Beartones, Nicholas Payton's Louis Armstrong Tribute Big Band, Joe Lovano's 52nd Street Themes Nonet, the groups of Jack McDuff, Eddie Gladden, Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra, Chico O'Farrill's Afro-Cuban Big Band, Tom Harrell Big Band, Lin Halliday and many others.

As a leader and composer/arranger, Dave has recorded 3 CD's - Every Corner and from Another Life on the Amosaya Music label and Endangered Species on Summit Records. Dave has recorded as a sideman with Lionel Hampton, Harry Connick, Jr., Tom Harrell, Scott Whitfield, Jason Lindner, Mel Torme, Ben Wolfe and salsero Billy Carrion among others.



Henry Salotti

Harry Salotti has performed in the Philadelphia and Atlantic City areas on the tuba and bass. Mr. Salotti studied with Dr. Owen Metcalf and Harvey Phillips; Jazz Tuba CD, Full Swing Ahead; original compositions

include Etudes with Style - Music for the Tuba, winner of 2003 ITEA Tuba Etude Competition; selections are currently used as audition material for the New Jersey All-State Band.



Lauren Sevan

Grammy award winning baritone saxophonist Lauren Sevan is one of the most in demand musicians on the scene today. Ms. Sevan came to NYC in 1997 to attend the Manhattan School

of Music, and soon thereafter began touring with groups such as Diva and the Artie Shaw Orchestra. She can be seen performing as a bandleader around the NYC area with her quartet, the LSQ; or LSAT, her quintet co-led with alto saxophonist Alexa Tarantino, which recently won first place in

the “Made in NY” jazz competition. As a sidewoman, she can be heard regularly with the Mingus Big Band, and has performed with countless other groups, notably the Dizzy Gillespie all star big band, Christian McBride’s Big Band, Robin Eubanks Big Band, and the legendary Count Basie Orchestra. Her debut album “Blueprint” was released on saxophonist Greg Osby’s label Inner Circle Music to critical acclaim, winning a SESAC jazz award for national performance activity, and receiving rave reviews in publications such as Downbeat, Cadence, and All About Jazz. Her sophomore album, “Bliss”, was released spring 2018 on Positone Records, and features all stars of the jazz scene, Alexa Tarantino, Robert Rodriguez, Christian McBride, and E.J. Strickland, also receiving critical reviews. Ms. Sevia also co-leads “Lioness”, an all female collective featuring the horn section of Alexa Tarantino, on alto sax, Jenny Hill on tenor sax, organist Akiko Tsuruga, guitarist Amanda Monaco, & drummer Allison Miller. Her versatility as a musician has led her to a variety of playing situations, working with the likes of actor Denis Leary, and Maurice Hines in the theater production of “Tappin Thru Life”, and Gloria Estefan. She was voted “Rising Star” for Downbeat Critics poll in 2019, and had been nominated since 2007, also nominated in JazzTimes for baritone saxophonist of the year, and the 2019 Jazz Journalist Association awards. As an educator, she has been teaching privately for over 15 years, she is on faculty at the Manhattan School of Music, and Jazz at Lincoln Center as director of the “Young Women’s Jazz Orchestra” and instructor for the middle school jazz academy, and has also taught at Jazz House Kids and NJPAC. She is a frequent guest artist at many universities, high schools, middle schools, and has adjudicated at numerous jazz competitions & festivals all over the world, notably the Essentially Ellington Competition at Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Monterey Jazz Festivals’ “Next Generation Jazz Festival”, the Victoria Music Festival in Melbourne, Australia, and the Eau Claire Jazz Festival at the University of Wisconsin in Eau Claire. Ms. Sevia endorses Buffet-Crampon saxophones, D’addario reeds, RPC mouthpieces, and BG France accessories.



John Simon

John Simon (born Norwalk, Connecticut, August 11, 1941) is an American music producer, composer, writer and performer. Simon produced numerous classic albums that continue to sell more than 40 years later, including The Band’s “Music from Big Pink”, “The Band”, and “The Last Waltz”, “Cheap Thrills” by Big Brother & the Holding Company featuring Janis Joplin, “Bookends” by Simon & Garfunkel, “Songs of Leonard Cohen” by Leonard Cohen, and “The Child Is Father to the Man” by Blood, Sweat & Tears. In the early Seventies, he recorded two albums for Warner Brothers, “John Simon’s Album” and “Journey”. Then, fifteen years later, saw the first of four albums for labels in Japan, the first of which, “Out On The Street”, was released in the U.S. by Vanguard. In the Eighties, Simon composed the score for the film, “Last Summer”, wrote two ballet scores for the choreographer, Twyla Tharp and composed circus music for aerialist Philip Petit (after his solo walk between the World Trade Towers). He was the Music Supervisor for a Broadway venture called “Rock & Roll! The First 5,000 Years”. Simon and wife, C.C. Loveheart, wrote and performed a cabaret act called “Alone Together For The First Time Again” and co-authored a popular play, “Jackass Flats”, which had its professional premiere in June of 2011. A self-described “compulsive musician”. Simon continues to be active. These days he performs his own material in concerts on rare occasions, but plays piano weekly with his jazz trio in his hometown near Woodstock, NY. In 2018 he wrote “TRUTH, LIES & HEARSAY: A Memoir Of A Musical Life In And Out Of Rock And Roll”, available on Amazon or through your local bookstore.



Melissa Slocum

Bassist Melissa Slocum has been performing worldwide since 1982 and has worked with such legends as Art Blakey, Lionel Hampton, Cab Calloway, Clark Terry, Wynton Marsalis,

Woody Shaw and Hank Jones. Comfortable in genres ranging from duo to big band, traditional to avant garde, she has performed and recorded with Charli Persip and Superband, Ralph Peterson and the Fo'tet, Avery Brooks with Craig Harris, Howard Johnson and Gravity, Dakota Staton, Kevin Mahogany, the Firey String Sistas and the all woman big band DIVA, among many others. She has worked with bandleaders Eddie Chamblee, David "Fathead" Newman, Frank Wess, Hamiet Bluiett, Don Byron, Jay Rodriguez, Frank Lacy and Nioka Workman; pianists Walter Davis, Jr., James Williams, John Hicks, Kirk Lightsey, Cyrus Chestnut, Roy Merriwether, Henry Butler, James Weidman and Darrel Grant to name a few. She has played for numerous vocalists including Dee Dee Bridgewater, Nnenna Freelon, Michelle Lee, Maurice Hines, Jeannie Bryson, Leon Thomas, Jon Hendricks, Michelle Hendricks, Ann Hampton Callaway and Dianne Reeves. Television appearances include Newport Jazz Festival 1999, Kennedy Center 25th Anniversary Gala, BET Interview, CBS Sunday Morning, CNN with the Kevin Mahogany Quintet and CBS News with Lionel Hampton. Ms. Slocum holds a Master of Music in Jazz Studies from the Manhattan School of Music as well as a DMA from Stony Brook University.



Ben Stapp

Ben Stapp, is one of New York City's rising stars on tuba and as a composer. His group, the Zozimos, won 1st place in the Bob Stewart Tuba Competition at the 38th Duke Ellington Jazz Festival. Stapp has performed, recorded, and/or toured with several top-tier ensembles and musicians from a variety

of musical disciplines including such groups as Steven Bernstein's Universal Melody Brass Band, Red Baraat, the International Contemporary Ensemble, Eli Yamin Blues Band, ECCE, Slavic Soul Party, TILT, New England Symphonic Ensemble, Principal tubist for the Chelsea Symphony, Mino Cinelu's World Jazz Ensemble, Billy Martin, William Parker, Joe Morris, Tony Malaby, Satoshi Takeishi, Mario Pavone's Accordion Project, Affinity Brass Quintet, Steven Haynes Quintet(New Atlantis), and Joel Harrison 19(Sunnyside). As a composer, Stapp received the Roulette Large Ensemble Commission and most recently, the Jerome Roulette Commission for his Opera, "Myrrha's Red Book." His trio CD, "Mind Creature Sound Dasein," with Joe Morris and Stephen Haynes, has just been released by Fundacja Sluchaj. Stapp is adjunct tuba professor at Mahanaim College.



Bob Stewart

Tubist Bob Stewart is a freelance concert artist, educator, and studio musician. Having received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the Philadelphia College of the Performing Arts

and his Masters in Education at Lehman College Graduate School. He has been involved with public education for over fifty years and is now teaching in The Juilliard School's Music History department - Masters level "History of Jazz". Bob has toured and recorded with such artists as Howard Johnson, Charles Mingus, Gil Evans, Carla Bley, David Murray, Taj Mahal, Dizzy Gillespie, Jimmy Heath, Sonny Rollins, McCoy Tyner, Arthur Blythe, Freddie Hubbard, Don Cherry, Jason Moran, Wynton Marsalis, Charlie Haden and many others both in the United States, Europe and the Far East. "The Tuba was phased out of most ensembles around 1923 with the introduction of the "walking" upright bass. More recently contemporary composers, arrangers and bandleaders are realizing the flexibility of the instrument. As a result, there are more instances in which the Tuba appears in modern ensembles. Bob Stewart is bridging the gap between 1923 and the present by bringing the

Tuba back into the modern ensemble as the bass in the rhythm section and as a horn available for melodic lines and soloing.



Dr. Keith Hartshorn-Walton

Multi-instrumentalist Keith Hartshorn-Walton relocated to Ottawa in 2015 and has established himself in the City's Jazz scene specialising in Tuba, Sousaphone, Electric and

Acoustic Bass. Originally from Winnipeg, Keith toured extensively with the Foothills Brass Quintet. He has performed with Clark Terry, Louis Bellson, Quinsin Nachoff, as well as orchestras throughout Canada. In Ottawa he can be found in bands as diverse as The Bank Street Bonbons, Safe Low Limit (an all-bass clef jazz group), Linsey Wellman's Wedding and Funeral Trio, and particularly Mélanie E., a quartet featuring his wife Mélanie Hartshorn-Walton on French Jazz vocals. As a bassist he has performed with the Beeched Wailers, Alex Moxon, Zakari Frantz, Peter Hum, Stephen Berndt and Steve Boudreau. Keith hosts the monthly Neighborhood Jazz in Barrhaven series at Anabia Cupcakery. In addition, Keith is music director and organist. He received his Doctorate of Music from McGill University in 2010, and has studied with Dennis Miller and Mark Tetreault, and McGill and the University of Toronto, respectively.



Victor See Yuen

Victor Y. See Yuen came to New York City at the age of 17 from the Caribbean Island of Trinidad and Tobago in the West Indies. He studied multiple percussion instruments for 4 years with the legendary

Joe Papo Daddiego, founder of "Jopa Percussion Instruments". Since then, Victor has recorded over 300 CDs with various artists and has performed with some of the greats including "Sonny Rollins", "Ron

Carter", "Wynton Marsalis", "The Mighty Sparrow", "Arrow", "Lord Kitchener", "Lord Nelson", "Mos Def", "Sarah Vaughn", "Luther Vandross", "Phyllis Hyman", "Kathleen Battle", "T.S. Monk", "Mongo Santamaria", "Andre Previn", "Ola Onabule", "Judith Jamison" and the "Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater", "Countess Luann's" Xmas Celebration, and "Allison Eikerenkoetter's" off Broadway Play "You Think You Know Brooklyn" to name a few. Victor has travelled to many countries all over the world to perform and still enjoys the experience. Victor is currently an accompanist at The Ailey School in NYC and has been for the past 31 years. Victor is the co-founder of the dynamic ensemble "Heritage O.P." (Organic Percussion) and the group has released 4 original. CDs; "Heritage" (Percussion Music For Dance, Exercise And Aerobics), "Universal Healing" (Double CD), "When I Start To Play" and "Come To The River" (a inspirational gospel CD produced and arranged by Jason Shelton with his 20 piece First UU Nashville Singers).

Victor also co-wrote 2 CDs with William Catanzaro and Ms. Ann Marie Forsythe titled "Percussion for the Dance Technique of Lester Horton" volumes one and two. And has a soundtrack on the Netflix 2019 series "Street Food" on the explode "India". He has released his solo CD titled "Raise Your Hand For Love", a fusion of poetry and music. All of Victor's music is available on iTunes, Amazon and CDBABY.COM. He is currently the musical director for the "ICHNUSA" festival in Sardinia, Italy. Mr. See Yuen is a songwriter, record producer, poet and arranger, and remains a much sought after and highly regarded musician because of his enduring style and the unique skill set he brings to every endeavor.

ISO Symphony



Barry Stern, *ISO Symphony Conductor*

Barry Stern, a resident of Oceanside, NY, will lead the ISO Symphony Orchestra in the 2019-2020 Season. He is in his first year as the ISO

Symphony Conductor after three seasons with the Turtle Bay Orchestra, and is an alumnus of the ISO Symphony, having been in the orchestra from 1985 – 1987 under the tutelage of Music Director Emeritus, Jonathan Strasser. He currently serves as Principal Conductor of the All City High School Orchestra, and is the orchestra director at Brooklyn's Fort Hamilton High School. As a violist, Mr. Stern has collaborated and performed with artists such as Quincy Jones, Mark Wood, Tevin Campbell, and Sarah Brightman. He is the founding conductor of NYC's Summer Arts Institute String Studio, meeting at Frank Sinatra High School for the Arts in Astoria.

A recognized curriculum development specialist, he is a co-author of the New York City Department of Education's Commencement Music Examination, and a lead facilitator for professional development for New York City music teachers. Prior to becoming a full time educator, Mr. Stern had been Director of Orchestral Operations at Manhattan School of Music and Director of the Bronx House School for the Performing Arts. He is a graduate of Lehman College (MAT), and the Manhattan School of Music (BM, MM), where he studied viola with Burton Kaplan and Karen Dreyfus, and conducting with David Gilbert and Jonathan Strasser.

The ISO Symphony is the top ensemble among ISO's four major groups and one of the leading youth orchestras in the New York City area. Its alumni include musicians holding principal chairs in professional orchestras in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis, and other cities. Several notable conductors are also among its alumni, including James Gaffigan (chief conductor, Lucerne

Symphony, Switzerland) and Tito Muñoz (Music Director, Opéra national de Lorraine & Orchestre symphonique et lyrique de Nancy, France).

VIOLIN



Chloe Joo, *Concertmaster*

Chloe Joo, 14, is currently a 9th grader attending the St. Vincent Ferrer School. She is studying violin at the 92Y School of Music with a merit scholarship in the Recanati

Kaplan Program. She is the concertmaster of the ISO Symphony Orchestra. She was interviewed by Andrea Grimes from CBS on WCBS-TV in April 2018. Chloe was the winner of ISO's 2015 Concerto Competition and performed as a soloist with the ISO Concert Orchestra at Rose Theatre in Jazz at Lincoln Center. She performed twice at Carnegie Weill Hall after winning first place at the 2015 Forte International Music Competition as well as the 2016 Rondo Vanguard Music Competition. She won third place at the 2018 International Grande Music Competition and performed in Merkin Concert Hall. She also won Maxima Cum Laude for an outstanding performance in the National Latin Exam by the University of Mary Washington in Virginia. Outside of school, she takes ballet classes with Parsla Vintere at Lucy Moses and Korean drumming classes with the Ko-Art drum team.



Leo Drazan

Leo Drazan is a 14-year-old NYC public high school sophomore. He has been playing the violin since kindergarten and has studied with Sam Marchan and

Megan Atchly. This is Leo's 2nd year with ISO, his first with the Symphony. Leo also loves to play ice hockey and is a forward on the NJ Devils AAA 04 travel team. Taj Mahal is one of the very first artists Leo would sing along with on the car stereo.



Jade Azumi Hattori Hamilton

Jade is a junior at Edward R. Murrow High School. She started to play the violin at the age of 4 at the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music. During the summer she enjoys playing the violin at Piper Theatre. Jade enjoys listening to a different variety of music as a hobby.



Jonah Kwon

Jonah is a member of the orchestra who is currently a sixth grader at a specialty music school. Having played the violin since he was 3, Jonah enjoys activities such as music theory, choir, and music history. His favorite composer is Dvorak, and in his free time you can find Jonah either reading or playing tennis with his peers.



Aiden Li

Aiden Li is 14 years old and will be a freshman at Stuyvesant High School this fall. He began studying the violin at the age of 6 under Jonathan Strasser and is currently studying under Elizabeth Faidley. Earlier this year, Aiden toured around Central and Eastern Europe with the Elizabeth Faidley Violin Studio, performing at the Salzburg Cathedral, St Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna, and Pomaz. He has been a member of ISO for the past 4 years, and is currently a member of the Symphony Orchestra.



Miles Raphael Lytle

Milo started playing violin in London, where he was born, at the age of 4. His older twin siblings are also violinists and his Mom is a former professional opera singer, so there is always lots of music at his house. He studies with Carmit Zori and just finished a Chamber Music Course in Italy this summer where he played second violin in a Borodin String Quartet as well as playing in two other string quartets and an orchestra. He goes to Friends Seminary and some day he would like to become an architect.



Esther Merczynski

Esther Merczynski is a senior in high school and has been playing the violin since she was eight. In seventh grade, she joined ISO beginning in the intermediate level orchestra. Aside from the violin, Esther also enjoys creative writing, acting in her school play, jazz dancing, and film making. Over the summer, she made her very first short film! During her free time, she frequently listens to music, especially instrumentals. Something she particularly enjoys doing with family and friends is going to see Broadway shows.



Adriana Ondrejka

Adriana is 14 years old, and will be entering the 10th grade this fall. She was introduced to the violin at the age of 4, after which she started taking private lessons as well as conducting solo performances. She embarked on her first experience performing in an orchestra in middle school after joining ISO. When she's not playing the violin, Adriana is most likely cooking, in the middle of a page turner, or spending time with her family.



Ben Rubie

Ben is 16 years old and a rising junior at the Special Music School High School of New York. He plays the violin and, besides his classical playing, is an aspiring jazz violinist. He started playing the violin when he was five years old and fell in love with the instrument. Since his dad is a professional jazz guitarist and his mom was an opera singer who also sang on Broadway for many years, it was somewhat inevitable that he would want to play music. He has been a member of ISO for over five years, and is now thrilled to be in their Symphony Orchestra. He attends the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) Jazz for Teens Program, which has given him the opportunity to meet, play, and in some cases, study with jazz musicians such as Carl Allen, Javon Jackson, Christian McBride, and Freddie Cole, Nat King Cole's brother. He has played at the Litchfield Jazz Festival as a student performer for two years running and has been fortunate enough to play with jazz violinists Regina Carter at the NJPAC, and Sarah Caswell at Merkin Hall, Kaufman Music Center. In 2019 he won a Merit award for jazz violin in the national YoungArts competition.



Kaleb Wong

Kaleb is fourteen years old and will be starting high school this fall. He began his violin studies when he was six, and currently studies with Dr. Julie Lawrence and Dr. Patricia Davis at the Geneva Conservatory of Music. Kaleb enjoys Broadway shows and musical theater, and he loves acting and singing as well. During the year, he performs with the ISO orchestra as well as outreach performances with GSMC. When he's not playing his violin, Kaleb loves to play basketball, skateboard, and listen to his cassette tapes of 80's music on his Walkman. Kaleb has been a member of ISO since 2017 and is currently a member of the ISO Symphony.



Stanley Zheng

Stanley is currently fourteen years old and will be a freshman at Stuyvesant High school in the fall. He began studying violin when he was in kindergarten, and joined ISO upon entering middle school. Outside of playing the violin, Stanley likes to swim and hang out with his friends.

VIOLA



Arianelle Arroyo

Arianelle began studying music at a very early age, first on piano, and then violin a few years later. She is currently a student at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts, where she currently studies viola. Arianelle has been attending The Music Advancement Program at Juilliard for the past two years where she is cultivating her musical studies while developing her talents as an artist, leader, and a global citizen. With ISO, Arianelle has had the opportunity to perform in venues such as Symphony Space, Rose Theatre at Jazz at Lincoln Center, and Carnegie Hall. As a composer she has performed and composed short pieces with The Opportunity Music Project and The America Youth Orchestra (AYO), all within the past five years.



Marcus Gamboa

Marcus has played the viola for six years at the Herricks District and is currently fourteen years old. He is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society and enjoys playing for his community at the Long Island Jewish Hospital. He also enjoys dancing, performing K-pop, and listening to music on his free time. In addition, Marcus is involved in various school activities and plays junior varsity volleyball.



Lindie Holt

Born in Virginia, Lindie started playing the violin at the age of 7, studying with Dan Zhang and Diao Zhuo. At 12, she decided to switch to viola at the request of conductor Catherine Nelson,

who became her teacher. After moving to New York, she began studying at the Opportunity Music Project with Jessica Garand and, since 2017, she has studied with Joan Plana. In 2016, Lindie won first place in the Virginia Private School System music competition. She has played with different orchestras including the Shenandoah Valley Youth Orchestra (SVYO), The OMP Honors Orchestra, the Forest Hills High School Symphony Orchestra, and the ISO Symphony Orchestra. Outside of music, Lindie also has a passion and love for sports, and is a very active athlete for track and field. She recently placed 3rd in the PSAL City Championships for high jump, which made her the youngest high jumper to place in 2019.



Jake Kitchen

Jake Kitchen is a multi-instrumentalist based in Staten Island, New York. He is currently a senior at Tottenville High School in Staten Island and has played in the orchestra since his freshman

year. Since he started his musical journey on viola, he has been in many orchestras such as the All City Orchestra, the Frenchwoods Symphony orchestra and the NYSSMA All State Symphony Orchestra. In the future, he will be attending the Manhattan School of Music for Precollege and finishing up his high school journey.



Isabel Rothko

Isabel Rothko will be a senior in high school this fall. She has played violin since the age of 3 and viola since the age of 11. She loves to play chamber as well as orchestral music.

She was the viola soloist in the Mozart Sinfonia Concertante with her high school orchestra in 2017 and concerto competition winner at her music school in 2018, where she played the Telemann Double Viola concerto. Isabel enjoys printmaking, sewing, and baking, and plans to study history and literature in college.

CELLO



Maya Holtman

Maya is a 17-year old senior at the Brooklyn Friends School. They began studying the cello at age 9 after being awarded a four-year, full scholarship for group study at Turtle Bay Music School.

Maya has performed with ISO for the past two years and attended Luzerne Music Center during these two summers. In the spring semester, Maya studied at Mannes Prep and performed with a chamber ensemble. On March 10th, 2019, Maya was one of five musicians selected to play for a benefit concert at the Kendal on Hudson nursing home to a warm reception. Maya studies privately with Molly Aronson.



Rachel Joo

Rachel is a senior at Beacon High School, NY. She is studying cello with Vladimir Panteleyev in the Young Artist Program with honors at the Lucy Moses School.

Rachel was interviewed by Andrea Grimes from CBS and performed with her sister, Chloe, on WCBS-TV on Apr 8th, 2018. She received Honorable Mention twice from the InterSchool Orchestra Concerto Competition in

2015 and 2016. She won a gold medal and the Best Strings Technique award at the 2016 Forte International Music Competition, and performed at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall on Feb 4th, 2017. During that same year, she performed in the Henry Schneider Scholarship Concert at Merkin Hall on March 7th. She performed at the Scandinavia House Victor Borge Hall as a second-place winner of 2017 Rondo Vanguard competition, and also performed at Merkin Hall as a second-place winner of 2019 International Grande Music Competition of the chamber group division. She also studies the piano with Jeffrey Biegel. At the age of eleven, she appeared in "The Positively Ernie TV Show." She performed at Steinway Hall (2012) and at the Kosciuszko Foundation (2013 and 2014). She performed in piano masterclasses with Dr. Phillip Kawin (2013) and Jerome Rose (2015). She received First Class Honors on Level 8 piano performance at the Royal Conservatory Music Development Program (2013). In that same year, she won second place for the Concerto Competition with piano at the Diller-Quaile school of music. She was a recipient of the Irving Caesar Music Scholarship (2013). She is also a member of Ko-Art drum team, which won 1st place in the 2019 World Korean Traditional Art Competition. Despite her busy schedule she served her community at Mount Sinai Hospital community concerts, TD bank holiday concerts, Concerts In Motion for elderly people, and mentored cellists at ISO Morningside Orchestra.



Sophia Noh

Sophia is a rising sophomore at the Brearley School where she is active in the orchestra, chamber music program, and a counselor in the Summer Interlude program for chamber music. Sophia

began playing the cello in 2nd grade and has been studying with Ms. Deborah Park (Manhattan School of Music) for the last 3 years. Sophia also plays the bass guitar and is in a rock band with her twin sister and friends from school.

TUBA



Rebekah Adeyemi

Rebekah has been a tuba player for four years now, she currently attends LaGuardia High school where she is a rising sophomore. At LaGuardia she plays in both the intermediate and junior

bands there. Rebekah is in Carnegie Hill Orchestra at ISO and will be performing in the Mass Tuba Ensemble.



Zander Grier

Zander Grier has been playing tuba for 4 years, and, in addition to ISO, plays tuba in the Juilliard MAP program. He is a junior at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School, where he plays cello in Senior

Orchestra and in pit orchestra for the upcoming musical "Cinderella". He also enjoys science, math and geography. Zander is in Symphony at ISO and will be performing in the Mass Tuba Ensemble.



Harper Latcholia

Harper has played tuba for 5 years now ever since the 6th grade. In the fall she will be a junior at Harvest Collegiate. Harper is in Concert Orchestra at ISO and will be performing in the Mass Tuba

Ensemble.



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007

September 18, 2019

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to welcome everyone as the InterSchool Orchestras of New York hosts a Tribute to Howard Johnson at its Annual Gala.

Exposure to the arts helps young people tap into their potential, and that is why my administration and I have made an unprecedented investment in arts education. Established in 1972, InterSchool Orchestras advances our efforts through its musician training and mentorship programs for children and teens of all backgrounds and its youth ensembles that perform in major concert halls and in schools, senior centers, churches, and parks across New York City. This wonderful organization also expands access to the arts by offering financial aid and scholarships to more than 80 percent of its students. This year's gala is not only an opportunity to support ISO's vital mission and enjoy performances featuring its young artists, but also a chance to recognize the incredible legacy and unmatched talent of tonight's honoree, Howard Johnson. I join with all those gathered in celebrating Mr. Johnson for his tremendous contributions to the world of jazz and his support of arts education in our city, as well as in looking forward to ISO inspiring even more instrumentalists to follow in his footsteps.

On behalf of the City of New York, I offer my best wishes for a wonderful evening and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bill de Blasio".

Bill de Blasio
Mayor

KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND
NEW YORK



UNITED STATES SENATOR

September 18, 2019

Dear Friends,

It is a privilege to send greetings to everyone attending the InterSchool Orchestras of New York's Annual Gala. I am delighted to congratulate tonight's esteemed honoree, Howard Johnson, for his distinguished career in music.

Since its founding in 1972, ISO has introduced thousands of young New Yorkers to the joys of classical music and nurtured their talents as performers. Providing students with the opportunity to perform in such venerated halls as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Brooklyn Museum, and Symphony Space is an extraordinary gift. No less special is the chance for these young musicians to come together in pursuit of excellence and connect with like-minded peers. I am grateful that ISO provides nearly a quarter of a million dollars in financial aid each year, and I commend this organization for all it does for school-aged musicians in New York.

Congratulations once again to Mr. Johnson on an extraordinary career. To everyone joining the celebration tonight, please accept my best wishes for a joyous, musical evening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kirsten Gillibrand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kirsten" being more prominent than the last name "Gillibrand".

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator

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EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

September 18, 2019

InterSchool Orchestras of New York
121 West 27th Street, Suite 902
New York, NY 10001

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the InterSchool Orchestras Annual Gala and Concert, this year themed "A Tribute to Howard Johnson."

Founded in 1972 by Annabelle F. Prager, the InterOrchestras of New York – four graded orchestras comprised of students from throughout the Metropolitan area – allows children to perform in an ensemble of their peers and coaches. Dedicated to teaching children the language of music, students receive an excellent set of fundamental skills that can lead to professional music training for some, or to the joy of performing, the thrill of belonging, and the lifelong love of music for others.

Tonight, you come together to pay tribute to international jazz artist and acclaimed tubist and multi-instrumentalist, Howard Johnson, who is credited with expanding the range and repertoire of less familiar instruments, blending them into jazz and popular music. On behalf of all New Yorkers, I commend the creative energies and enormous talent of Howard Johnson. As well, I applaud ISO's Executive Director Karen Greer and the Board of Trustees and Advisory Council, as well as each and every supporter and benefactor present this evening, with my best wishes for a very special tribute concert.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

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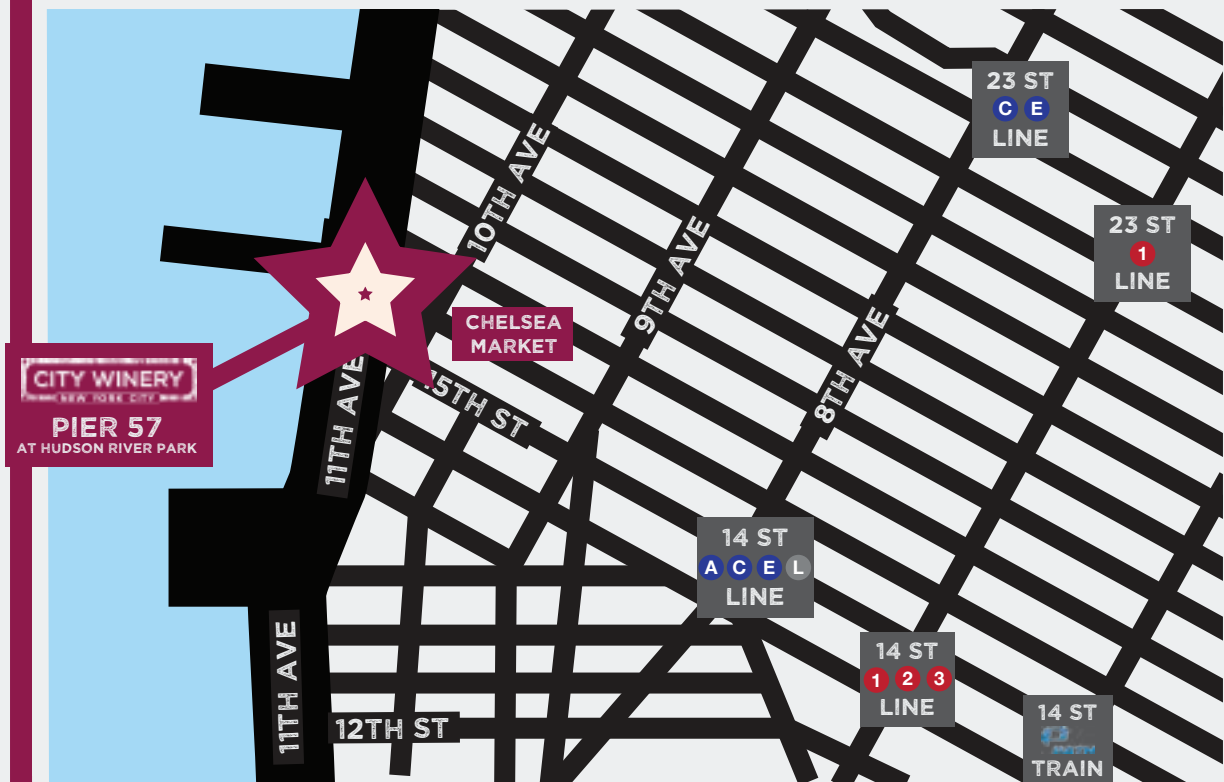
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The Mass Tuba Ensemble Howard Johnson Tribute

Howard, I hope that when I get my lifetime achievement tribute, it's as wonderful as yours. Umm... I guess I'd better get busy. RANDY ANDOS

So glad that the music community has recognized your contribution to furthering the tuba you've done that like nobody else and we all thank you. DAVE BARGERON

Howard, you have done it all and set the standard of excellence in everything in music and beyond and so I say — Congratulations! Thank you for making a monumental difference in our world. VELVET BROWN

Howard is our guide into the world of infinite possibilities. JOSEPH DALEY

Hugest Congratulations to you Howard; You are such an influence, a mentor, a neighbor and a friend! JOE EXLEY

Wonderful being a cog in the wheel aligning with your enthusiasm and drive.
DAVE GREGO

Hooray for the BASS CLEF!!! JACK JEFFERS

I've had the great privilege of knowing my entire life that a good band needs at least 4 tubas, though more is always better. What a blessing you bring in so many ways to the planet! NEDRA JOHNSON

Dear Howard, you are the very definition of Newton's Gravity; attracts everything instantaneously over an infinite range - your influence is massive. MARC LINDY

I explained to my sister, who is a long time member of the stage community, that Howard is the Gregory Hines of the tuba world: now she understands. BILL LOWE

Howard, you've changed so many lives! As Jimmy Heath would say, — Without you, no me. EARL MCINTRYE

To the one and only, the Godfather of jazz tuba and so much more, we owe you a tremendous debt. Much Love and Respect, MARCUS ROJAS

I don't know Howard as well as most of the others contributing to this tribute. I only know that he has been a source of inspiration for me ever since I saw him and his group SUBSTRUCTURE (the pre-GRAVITY name) on the David Frost show many, many years ago. JAY ROZEN

Howard, I will always remember the concert at Harlem Meer. HARRY SALOTTI

With regard to the fact that Howard Johnson was the person who made a recommendation in 1979 which was the key to my being able to establish my voice with the tuba, today, we celebrate you, who is the true master, a living legend and the torchbearer with a tuba in hand, who is the reason so many of us are here TODAY. JON SASS

You are an iconic musician and transcend your instruments and the tuba world is lucky to have you. Many congratulations to your achievements and all of the music gifts you've left for us as composer, arranger, improviser, and virtuoso tubaist. Your impact on the tuba community has been positively profound. BEN STAPP

Hey Howard, we've come a long way together since 1967 looking forward, my brother, to celebrating the journey on September 18th 2019 @ Merkin Hall. BOB STEWART

Howard, meeting you 20 years ago changed what I thought possible on the tuba. Thanks for always being generous with your time and spirit and continuing to inspire us all. KEITH WALTON

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Suk Design Group
thanks Howard Johnson
for his extraordinary
contribution to the
world of jazz!



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**As a tribute to Howard Johnson, it is
my great pleasure to support the
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**Howard's music, inspiration, kindness,
and generosity have absolutely altered
the course of my life.**

**Your support for the ISO Student
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for so many aspiring musicians.**



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TO HOWARD JOHNSON AND ISO:
CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU
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JFA averages 30 individual musician emergency cases a day and approximately 7,000 assists annually. For 30 years, JFA has prevented homelessness with housing assistance, kept artists healthy with pro bono medical care and provided financial support that keeps the lights on and food on the table. Through its Gig Fund and Jazz and Blues in the Schools programs, JFA creates meaningful work for musicians while exposing thousands to world-class jazz and blues.

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Congratulations to all involved in the ISO Gala this year! Spanning musical genres and consummate performers of every generation, the concert promises to be an unforgettable testament to all of the donors who through their love of music and their generosity have provided opportunity to talented young musicians.

The mission of InterSchool Orchestras of New York has never been more important. We are proud to be a part of that mission and are proud of the donors, musicians and ISO organization who have made that mission and this Gala possible.

**Best regards,
*Fred Barnfield and Lawrence Rodriguez***



Congratulations!

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For being recognized for your
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