

NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE CONCERT



NEW JERSEY

njaje
ASSOCIATION FOR
JAZZ EDUCATION



**THE NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE
JAZZ ENSEMBLE**

Dr. Oscar Perez, Director

AND

**THE NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE
JAZZ CHOIR**

Dylan Pramuk, Director

Sponsored by
NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION FOR JAZZ EDUCATION
NEW JERSEY MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

IN ASSOCIATION WITH NJEA AND NJPAC

Thursday, November 9, 2023, 7:30 PM
Claridge Hotel Celebrity Theater, Atlantic City

Friday, November 17, 2023, 7:00 PM
New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Chase Room, Newark

NEW JERSEY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Sean M. Spiller.....	President
Steve Beatty.....	Vice-President
Petal T. Robertson.....	Secretary-Treasurer
Kevin Kelleher.....	Executive Director
Denise Graff Policastro	Deputy Executive Director
Christine Miles, Ed.D.	NJEA/NJMEA Liaison

NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Charles F. Lowrey & Carmen S. Villar	Co-Chairman of the Board
John Schreiber	President and CEO
David Rodriguez.....	Executive Vice-President & Executive Producer
Jennifer Tsukayama	Vice-President of Arts Education
Rosa Hyde & Treasure Borde	NJPAC NJMEA Liaisons

NEW JERSEY MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee

David Westawski, President	West Windsor-Plainsboro
Wayne Mallette, Past President	Scotch Plains-Fanwood
Yale Snyder, President-Elect.....	Monroe Township
William McDevitt, Executive Director.....	Retired
Anthony Lorenzetti, Region I NJSMA President	Clifton
Brian Williams, Region II CJMEA President.....	Robbinsville
Cristin Introcaso, Region III SJEDA President	Collingswood
Sue Mark, Region III SJBODA President	Cherry Hill

Board of Directors

Donna Marie Berchtold	Retired
Amy Burns	Far Hills
Maureen Butler	Retired
Joseph Cantaffa	Howell
Nancy Clasen	Lodi
Zachary Gates.....	East Brunswick
Alfred Hadinger	North Plainfield
Shawna Longo	Westfield
Marie Malara.....	Retired
Isaiah C. Mason	North Brunswick
Susan Meuse	East Brunswick
Patrick O'Keefe	Absegami
Kathleen Spadafino	Retired
Brian Williams	Robbinsville
Preston Wilson	Westminster

PROGRAM

2023 NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE JAZZ CHOIR

Dylan Pramuk, Director

Randy White, Manager

Program to be selected from:

Boogie Stop Shuffle	Mingus/Pramuk, arr. Pramuk
Poinciana (Song of the Tree).....	Bernier & Simon, arr. Pramuk
Strasbourg/St. Denis.....	Hargrove/Taylor, arr. Pramuk
Red Top.....	Pleasure/Ammons/Hampton/Kynard, arr. Pramuk
September Song	Anderson/Weil, arr. Mattson

2023 NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Dr. Oscar Perez, Director

Miguel Bolivar, Manager

Stefon Harris, Vibes

Featured Artist, NJPAC Concert

Program to be selected from:

Brasilliance	Duke Ellington
Mambo Caliente	Arturo Sandoval
Con Alma	Dizzy Gillespie/arr. Mossman
Stablemates.....	Benny Golson/arr. Crenshaw
The Jody Grind.....	Horace Silver/arr. Clayton
Black Narcissus	Joe Henderson/arr. Belden
Ade	Hugh Masekela/arr. Perez
First Love Song.....	Bob Brookmeyer
Vine Street Rumble	Benny Carter
Flight of the Foo Birds	Neil Hefti

Combined Finale

I Can't Believe that You're in Love with Me.....	Gaskill & McHugh/arr. Meader
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NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION FOR JAZZ EDUCATION

Board of Directors – Elected Members

Darrell Hendricks, President Mt. Olive HS
Jeffrey G. Haas, Vice-President..... Ridgewood HS
Angelina Hamada, SecretaryNutmeg HS
Joe Verderese, Treasurer Cresskill MS/HS
Andrew Lopez, President-Elect..... Sparta HS
Miguel Bolivar, Past President Elizabeth HS Frank J Cicarell Academy

Board of Directors – Appointed Members

Jeffrey Lesser, Executive DirectorRowan College at Burlington County
James Hegedus, Region I President Livingston HS
Ken Zampella, Region II PresidentPiscataway HS
Joe Henderson, Region III President.....Kingsway Regional HS
Randy White, Vocal Jazz Chair Hopewell Valley Central HS
Dr. David Demsey, Higher Education William Paterson University
Dr. Jeffrey Kunkel, Retired Members Retired
Earl Phillips, Communications Cherokee HS
Reagan Ott, Auditions Chair Alexandria MS
Tim Hayward, MS Jazz Chair Christopher Columbus MS

2023 NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE ORGANIZATION

Coordinating Chairman/Production ManagerJoseph M. Cantaffa, Howell
Housing Director..... Nancy Dickinson, Washington Twp.
Head Counselor Hillary Colton, Hunterdon Central
Transportation Directors.....David Westawski, West Windsor-Plainsboro
Sara Munson, Parsippany Hills
Food and Beverage Manager Natalie Cardillo, Ridgewood High School
Attendance Manager Cristin Introcaso,Collingswood
Percussion Coordinator Chris Janney, Haddonfield
Pre-Production Coordinator William McDevitt, NJMEA
Jazz Chaperone..... Doug Heyburn
Nurses in Atlantic CityBarbara Bretz
Margaret Ann Raab
Helen Stellwag

NJMEA and NJAJE would like to thank:

Piscataway Township Schools for hosting Jazz Band and Jazz Choir Rehearsals

2023 NEW JERSEY ALL STATE JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Personnel

Saxophones

Jack Crawford, Alto I Washington Twp HS
Jared Berkoff, Alto II Moorestown HS
Abhik Mojumdar, Tenor I So Brunswick HS
Dan Ruzicka, Tenor II New Providence HS
Christian Klimczak, Bari Deptford HS

Trumpets

Jacob Tolento Newark Academy
Evan Boltnew Rancocas Valley Reg HS
Julian Marlin Ridgewood HS
Nathanael Gaw Egg Harbor Twp HS

Trombones

Alexander Massuet Mount Olive HS
Shane Shenk Clearview Reg HS
Ming-Lang Qin Pascack Valley HS
Vanessa Fang Newark Academy

Rhythm Section

Thomas Dinh, Piano Robbinsville HS
Jeff Andolaro, Bass Shawnee HS
Sally Shupe, Guitar Columbia HS
Kai Koyama, Drums Ridgewood HS

2023 NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE JAZZ CHOIR

Personnel

Thomas Anzuini Burlington City HS
David Audige Abraham Clark HS
Malcolm Bolton Cicarell Acad-Elizabeth HS
Connor Bowden Hopewell Valley Central HS
Charles Japheth Elio Rahway HS
Maanasa Jagan Montclair Kimberley Acad
Marni E Kramer Churchill JR HS
Gillian Rasp West Milford HS
Om Sharma Hopewell Valley Central HS
Arushi Vadlamani Columbia HS
Jenny Zhu The Pennington School

Rhythm Section

Gavin Oh, Piano Shawnee HS
Desmond Diehl, Guitar Ridge HS
Eleanor Race, Bass Clearview Reg HS
Kabir Srivastav, Drums Newark Academy

Oscar Perez

OSCAR PEREZ, a New York City native, has performed, traveled and recorded in the musical groups of Phoebe Snow, Wycliffe Gordon, Christian McBride, Charenee Wade, Dave Stryker, Steve Turre, Eddie Allen, Ted Chubb, the Mingus Big Band, Abel Mireles LatiNext Project, Charlie Porter, Roseanna Vitro, Bruce Williams and Don Braden. Oscar is Coordinator of Jazz Studies at the Cali School of Music at Montclair State University. He has been an educator through Carnegie Hall, the Kupferberg Center at Queens College, Jazz House Kids in Montclair, Jazz at Lincoln Center and has held faculty positions at Drew University and the Manhattan School of Music.

Perez earned a Doctorate in Jazz Arts Advancement from the Manhattan School of Music under the tutelage of Stefon Harris, Ingrid Jensen, and Jim McNeely. Previous studies at the New England Conservatory, University of North Florida and the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, gave him the opportunity to serve under the guidance of Danilo Perez, Michael Mossman, and Sir Roland Hanna, respectively. During his formative years he shared the stage with jazz legends Bunky Green, George Russell, Dianne Reeves and Curtis Fuller.

He is the recipient of the 2006 ASCAP/IAJE Commission in honor of Billy Strayhorn. Oscar's group featuring Antonio Hart premiered the work at the 2007 International Association of Jazz Education Convention. He has also been commissioned to arrange music for Chick Corea, Regina Carter, Arturo Sandoval, R&B vocalist Jon B, and the MSM Jazz Orchestra featuring Sean Jones. His critically acclaimed CD Afropean Affair, is the result of a New Works Grant by Chamber Music America for his septet Oscar Perez Nuevo Comienzo. He placed 2nd in the 2014 Jacksonville Jazz Piano Competition. His latest endeavor, Prepare a Place for Me, is available through all media outlets.

Dylan Pramuk

Hailed by the New York Times for his “killer scat singing,” **DYLAN PRAMUK** is an adept NYC-based vocalist, improviser, lyricist, bandleader, and educator. He has toured internationally as a founding member, a principal arranger, and the baritone voice of the Royal Bopsters, the award-winning jazz vocal quartet founded with Amy London and selected #1 Vocal Group in JazzTimes’ 2020 Expanded Critics’ Poll.

The Royal Bopsters have released two internationally acclaimed albums on Motéma Music. The group’s debut, *The Royal Bopsters Project* (2015), with Darmon Meader in the tenor chair, features jazz legends Jon Hendricks, Annie Ross, Bob Dorough, Sheila Jordan, and Mark Murphy and garnered 4 1/2 stars in *DownBeat Magazine*. Joined by Grammy-nominated arranger and tenor Pete McGuinness, *Party of Four* (2020), awarded 4 stars in *Jazzwise* and *DownBeat*, again features Jordan and Dorough with renowned bassist Christian McBride.

Dylan is a soloist and bandleader in his own right and has performed in such projects as the award-winning a cappella quintet *West Side 5*, with whom he was a Mid-Atlantic Champion and National Finalist in the 2016 *Harmony Sweepstakes*; *Miho Hazama’s A Little Jazz Mass*; *Billy Harper’s Voices*; *Max Pollak’s RumbaTap*; and *Anne Phillips’s Bending Towards the Light: A Jazz Nativity*.

Dylan holds a Master of Music degree from the City College of New York. He has taught at New York University and The New School and teaches at CCNY, Montclair State University, and Jazz House Kids.

Stefon Harris

STEFON HARRIS’ passionate artistry and astonishing virtuosity have propelled him to the forefront of the jazz scene. In 2020 on National Public Radio (NPR), Harris’ feature highlighted his contributions as a musician but also as an educator and thought leader who teaches empathy from the bandstand. Harris has also been featured as one of the leading and emerging artists for Apollo’s New Works Master Artist residency. In 2019, *Hot House* and *Jazz Mobile* awarded Harris best vibes as part of the best and brightest for the New York Readers Jazz awards. Heralded as “one of the most important artists in jazz” (*Los Angeles Times*), he is a recipient of the prestigious 2018 Doris Duke Artist Award, the Martin E. Segal Award from Lincoln Center, has earned four GRAMMY™ nominations, and has been named Best Mallet player eight times by the Jazz Journalist Association. He was also chosen Best Vibes in the 2018 and 2017 *Downbeat Magazine Critic’s Poll*, the 2016 *Jazz Times Expanded Critics Poll*, the 2014 *Jazz Times Critics Poll* and the 2013 *Downbeat Critics Poll*. NPR’s *All Things Considered* praised Mr. Harris’ audacious CD *Urbanus* , which also earned a GRAMMY™ nomination for Best Contemporary Jazz Album, as one of “The Year’s Best New Jazz” recordings. As a member of the *SFJAZZ Collective*, their 2014 CD, *Wonder: The Songs of Stevie Wonder* , won an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Jazz Album.

Mr. Harris received his Bachelor of Music degree in classical music and Master of Music degree in jazz performance at Manhattan School of Music where he formerly served as the Associate Dean and Director of Jazz Arts. He has taught at universities throughout the world in person and virtually via his Distance Learning Studio, has led curriculum development at the Brubeck Institute, and serves as Artistic Director of Jazz Education at New Jersey Performing Arts Center. Mr. Harris is a Professor at Rutgers University-Newark and served on the jazz faculty of New York University for the past decade. “The Art of Listening,” part of a series of documentaries focusing on Harris’ community work in arts education in Kalamazoo, won 3 Gold Camera awards and 3 Michigan EMMY nominations. More recently he was the subject of a documentary, *The Sound of New York*, viewable on QwestTV and produced and directed by Italian filmmaker Gloria Rebecchi.

As a thought leader, Mr. Harris leads transformative presentations on corporate leadership development and team empowerment to Fortune 100 companies using jazz as a metaphor. His inspiring 2012 TED talk, “There Are No Mistakes on the Bandstand,” has gained nearly 800,000 views to date. Mr. Harris has served on the Board of Directors for Chamber Music America, WBGO-FM and on the Board of Advisors for Percussive Arts Society.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE and JAZZ CHOIR PAST DIRECTORS

NJ All-State Jazz Ensemble

2022 - Gunnar Mossblad
2021 - Anthony Branker
2019 - Dennis Mackrel
2018 - Pete McGuinness
2017 - Walt Weiskopf
2016 - Mark Taylor
2015 - Conrad Herwig
2014 - Tim Hagans
2013 - David Demsey
2011 - Mark Gross
2010 - Jeff Kunkel
2009 - Cecil Bridgewater
2008 - Anthony Branker
2007 - Jim McFalls
2006 - Sherrie Maricle
2005 - Mike Brignola
2004 - Terell Stafford
2003 - Don Braden
2002 - Mike Tomaro
2001 - Jeff Jarvis
1999 - Denis DiBlasio
1998 - Darmon Meader
1997 - Rufus Reid
1996 - David Demsey
1982 - Jerry Nowack

NJ All-State Jazz Choir

2022 - Amy London
2021 - Gaw Vang Williams
2019 - Ned J. Rosenblatt
2018 - Lisa DeSpain
2017 - Tim Brent
2016 - Randy White
2015 - Kerry Marsh
2014 - Steve Bishop
2013 - Justin Binek
2011 - Justin Binek
2010 - Justin Binek
2009 - Justin Binek
2008 - Justin Binek
2007 - Justin Binek
2006 - Diana Dohrman
2005 - Nancy Lafferty
2004 - Nancy Lafferty
2003 - Cindy Geinert-Harddyl
2002 - Cindy Geinert-Harddyl
2001 - Barbara Klemp
2000 - Diana Dohrman
1999 - Diana Dohrman

