

# JAZZ NOTES

PERPETUATING JAZZ MUSIC THROUGH LIVE PERFORMANCES AND EDUCATION

VOLUME 5 - ISSUE 1

THE VAIL JAZZ  
FOUNDATION,  
INC.



P.O. BOX 3035  
VAIL, COLORADO  
81658-3035

Winter, 2003

Dear Friends:

970-479-6146 Tel  
970-477-0866 Fax

E-Mail:  
vjf@vailjazz.org  
Web Site:  
www.vailjazz.org

CHRISTINE CARLSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JOHN CLAYTON, JR.  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HOWARD L. STONE  
CHAIRMAN

DR. KEN BLAYDOW

ROSS BOYLE

JOHN CLAYTON, JR.

ROBERT E. FORD

JERRY FREDERICKS

JOHN W. GIOVANDO

ANDREA L. GRABOW

DR. WILLIE L. HILL, JR.

CHUCK HOLCOMB

MIKE PEAK

CATHY STONE

As the Vail Jazz Foundation embarks on its ninth year, we have enjoyed many successes and look forward to continuing our mission of perpetuating jazz through live performances and jazz education with a focus on young musicians and young audiences. Your help is imperative this year more than ever, if the Foundation is to continue to present its educational programs and summer festival series. In an effort to raise additional funding this year, it is with great pleasure, we announce that Curtis Stigers will perform a benefit concert for the Vail Jazz Foundation on Thursday, February 27, 2003, at the Vilar Center for the Arts, Beaver Creek in an effort to help support VJF's ongoing educational activities in the community. We hope you will show your support by coming out for this sensational evening of blues and jazz.

Looking back to this past summer, the Festival was an exciting one for us, as we broadened our presence in the Vail Valley adding new performance venues in both Beaver Creek and at the Minturn Market. Over 33 performances were held during an eleven-week long festival thanks to the support of many community sponsors. The ever-popular Jammin' Jazz Nights concert series experienced record crowds due to terrific lineups and an all new tented venue in Lionshead, and the Labor Day Weekend Party continued to grow in numbers as well, while still maintaining the intimacy the Party is renown for. For the seventh year, the Vail Jazz Workshop continued to provide dedicated and deserving high school students with the opportunity to study with an all-star faculty during its weeklong music residency; and as we wrapped up the summer season, our popular Jazz Goes to School program kicked off its fifth year teaching jazz education to over 1,000 fourth and fifth graders in the Eagle County School District. This April, Jazz Goes to School will present the fourth annual Jazz Goes to School Concerts at the Vilar Center for the Arts for the students participating in the program and the second annual Jazz Goes to Night School Concert and Fundraiser.

Unfortunately, due to significant funding cuts this year by the Town of Vail and the Vail Commission on Special Events, we have been forced to eliminate our free Thursday night Jammin' Jazz Nights in August, as well as our Free Afternoon Jazz Series. Therefore, this summer, our performance series will be limited to the 9th Annual Labor Day Weekend Party, Friday, August 23 through Monday, September 1, 2003.

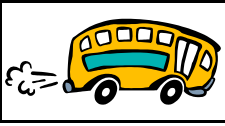
The VJF has accomplished a great deal, but more can be done with increased support. The Vail Jazz Foundation relies on the generous support of individuals and organizations that share our dream of preserving and promoting jazz - America's gift to the world. Whether you are a dedicated jazz aficionado, concerned about dwindling American traditions, or simply wish to support youth oriented cultural education, please join us in supporting the Vail Jazz Foundation.

Yours truly,

Christine Richards-Carlson  
Executive Director

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

JAZZ GOES TO SCHOOL	2
WE STAYED FOR THE JAZZ	3
THE VAIL JAZZ FOUNDATION WORKSHOP & WINTER TRIP TO VAIL FOR WASHINGTON PREP	4
CURTIS STIGERS TO PERFORM AT VJF BENEFIT	5
9TH ANNUAL LABOR DAY WEEKEND PARTY	6



## Jazz Goes to School Kick's Off Fifth Year in Eagle County Schools

The Vail Jazz Foundation's (VJF) Jazz Goes to School program now in its fifth year in Eagle County Schools offers an innovative and fully integrated approach to teaching music and social studies at the elementary school level.

The program is presented by the VJF to all fourth and fifth graders in the public schools of Eagle County, plus the Eagle County Charter Academy, Vail Mountain School, Eagle Valley Christian Academy and St. Clare of Assisi. This year Jazz Goes to School will reach over 1,000 students as the program continues to expand to serve the ever-increasing student population.

Jazz Goes to School is a fun and interactive program, formatted as a sequential series of four 45-minute lessons that are presented during the course of the school year. The curriculum fully integrates jazz music education and social studies subjects, such as World/American geography and history, and has been enthusiastically embraced by school administrators and instructors, parents and students. Former Eagle County Music Director Michael Markley commented, "The quality teachings of Tony Gulizia and friends, along with their enthusiasm for what they are doing is outstanding. Their advice to the kids is relevant, easy to understand and well prepared. My own program has been rewarded from their visits...and more students have joined the School Jazz Band program as a result."

Up to five professional musicians present a lesson that includes age-appropriate discussions of the history of jazz and the fundamental elements comprising jazz. In addition, there are demonstrations of the playing of instruments generally used in jazz and of famous jazz compositions and popular children's songs in jazz style. In every lesson students learn through participation by playing a variety of drums and percussion instruments to understand jazz rhythms; singing and clapping to demonstrate concepts such as call and response; and playing special melodic instruments in order to experience improvisation. Formal lesson plans, post-lesson plans and visual aids are provided to each of the school's music instructors to help reinforce the lessons taught in each session. By blending these subjects in a lesson plan, the educators link various social studies subjects that students are exposed to in their regular curriculum to the history of jazz in a unique and stimulating manner.

Local jazz musician and professional jazz educator, Tony Gulizia (keyboard and vocals), directs the Jazz Goes to School program. Tony's brother, Joey (drummer) is also a professional jazz musician and educator, co-presents the sessions. Other professional musicians and clinicians who assist the Gulizia brothers include – Kirk Garrison (trumpet), Andy Hall (bass) and Roger Neumann (saxophone).

The fourth and final session scheduled for mid-April, will feature the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Jazz Goes to School Student Concerts at the Vilar Center for the Arts, Beaver Creek for all students participating in the program. The Student Concerts demonstrate

all of the concepts taught in the first three classroom sessions and feature music composed and/or performed by the greatest jazz musicians in history as well as blues tunes written by the fifth grade students.

The Jazz Goes to Night School Concert will continue for its second year and is designed to provide an opportunity for parents of the Jazz Goes to School students, family members and members of our community to learn more about jazz and see and hear some of the lessons that JGTS teaches each school year. The Jazz Goes to School Quintet, featuring the JGTS clinicians, will host the evening and demonstrate various jazz styles and concepts the students learn throughout the school year, and will feature a medley of 12 bar blues tunes written by the Eagle County fifth graders. Other bands performing will include local middle school jazz bands, the VJF Regional Big Band lead by Dave Laub, Regional Big Band Director.

The Jazz Goes to Night School Concert and Fundraiser is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15, 2003 at 7:00 pm at the Vilar Center for the Arts, Beaver Creek. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 12 & under and are available by calling (970) 845-TIXS. All proceeds from the Jazz Goes to Night School Concert and Fundraiser will benefit the Vail Jazz Foundation and the Buckman/Blount Community Use Fund.



Dave Laub directs the VJF Regional Big Band at Last Year's Concert & Fundraiser at the Vilar Center

**Jazz Goes to School is sponsored in part by:** Alpine Bank, Buckman/Blount Community Use Fund, City Market/The Kroger Foundation, Colorado Mountain Express, Eagle County RE-50J School District and PTOs, Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, Taste of Vail, The Vail Valley Foundation, Vilar Center for the Arts, Beaver Creek, Walmart Foundation, Wells Fargo Bank and the Colorado Council on the Arts—a state agency funded by the Colorado General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



# We Came for the Winters, We Stayed for the Jazz

By: Gary Thornton



Gary Thornton

Moving to the Vail Valley in 1998, my wife Patti and I knew that world class winter sports awaited us but feared a cultural void in satisfying our love for jazz. We were delighted to discover the Vail Jazz Festival but sobered by the reality that its survival was not guaranteed beyond

founder and benefactor Howard Stone's initial five-year commitment.

Looking closer we saw how our own son Kristofer, then six, would benefit musically from the Jazz Foundation's local programs. After experiencing the Fifth Annual Festival, Patti and I decided to do whatever we could to help assure the future of Vail jazz. With our new home still unfinished and new careers not yet established, our most available resource was time. My first volunteer experience was collecting tickets and audience surveys at the Sixth Annual Festival and Party. These tasks were surprisingly uplifting as I met many knowledgeable and dedicated jazz fans from across the nation. Having attended many other music festivals, I was particularly struck by the reverent audiences at every concert set. I volunteered for the same role in Festival Seven.

For Festivals Seven and Eight, Patti and I did advance marketing, distributing posters and programs from Vail to Glenwood Springs. With all of the local newspaper advertising and event reporting, it is surprising how many Valley residents are still unaware of the Festival and the Foundation's local music education contributions. Expanding the knowledge base has been most rewarding and we plan to continue that effort.

For this past summer's 8th Annual Festival, I got my first experience as stage crew. Therein I had more personal contact with the musicians, both the professionals and the Workshop kids. I discovered beautiful and unassuming artists who cherished the opportunity to perform in Vail before truly appreciative audiences. The students were remarkably focused on their musical goals and spoke glowingly of their education here. It gave me an extra sense of pride to represent our community with these very special guests. Patti had similarly satisfying experiences in ticket and retail sales. A high point for both of us was helping host this year's July 4 visit of the Washington Preparatory High School Band. We saw first hand what a memorable experience it was for these talented Los Angeles teens and their escorts.

Now as I spend another winter teaching children how to ski, I find myself reflecting on the individual challenges and freedom of expression that both skiing and jazz exemplify. Vail was established and developed to support the athletic art of skiing at its highest levels. Now the Vail Jazz Festival upholds that tradition of excellence by assembling the world's finest artists and most promising students for an annual Workshop and Party. It seems like a perfect fit. I am proud to be an active volunteer supporting the Vail Jazz Foundation's many endeavors. Anyone who wants to keep this musical jewel in Vail should consider playing a role.

*The VJF is greatly indebted to the unselfish support of its many friends and volunteers who have provided assistance, advice, moral support and plain old hard work. For more information about volunteering, please call the Vail Jazz Foundation at 970-479-6146.*

## '02 Party Highlights



Victor Goines



Marlena Shaw



Russell Malone & Benny Green



Monty Alexander & John Clayton

# The Vail Jazz Foundation Workshop 2002



Kevin Kanner, Gerald Clayton & Miles Mosely perform at a VJF Fundraiser

Since 1996, the VJF has been organizing the Vail Jazz Workshop in conjunction with the annual Vail Jazz Festival in order to assist in the development of the next generation of jazz musicians. To date, 82 students have participated in the Workshop.

Twelve gifted, dedicated and deserving high school musicians are chosen each year to receive a full scholarship from the VJF and an opportunity to learn from the jazz greats in residence. The all-

star faculty teaches and mentors the students and many of the Workshop's young alumni have gone on to win awards, honors and musical scholarships to leading colleges and universities around the country.

One criteria for selection to the Workshop is a student's commitment to giving back to his/her community. At a recent fundraiser for VJF at Mike and Lucy Peak's home in CA, Gerald Clayton and Miles Mosley, two Workshop alumni, continued the tradition of Workshop alumni giving back to the Foundation by performing for (and wowing) VJF supporters.

John Clayton, noted jazz educator, bass virtuoso and co-leader of the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra and the Clayton

Brothers Quartet is the director of the Workshop. Joining him as instructors are Jeff Clayton; Terell Stafford; Bill Cunliffe and Lewis Nash. We are deeply indebted to this all-star faculty for its extraordinary generosity in helping continue a tradition that has established the Workshop as one of our nation's leading jazz education programs.

The Workshop is a highly structured program that requires dedication and commitment to hard work, includes jazz theory, group and private lessons and practice in jazz improvisation and ensemble playing. The teaching philosophy of the Workshop stresses learning by transcribing the performances of the masters in order to understand their techniques so that students can develop their own technique and voice. In addition to their musical instruction and performances, hiking, chair lift rides, picnics and other outdoor outings are organized so the students have an opportunity to take advantage of the unique activities that the Vail Valley has to offer. It is the VJF's goal that the Workshop provides students with the highest level of musical instruction in a unique and enjoyable environment that combines music with the beauty and grandeur of nature.

Each year Workshop students are featured performers, along with their instructors, at the annual Labor Day Weekend Party. Their attendance at the Party not only provides them with multiple performance opportunities but the opportunity to see, hear and interact with the world renowned jazz artists who perform at the Party. This unique, intensive music residency is one of the country's leading jazz education programs.

## Winter Trip to Vail for Washington Prep Students

The VJF recently hosted the first-ever winter trip to Vail for four deserving students from Washington Prep High School. Over the past four years the VJF and others have sponsored the School's Jazz and Marching Band trip to Vail for 4th of July performances. The students have been so well received by the community that long-time Vail local Bill Hanlon, who has spearheaded past summer trips, and the Vail Mountain School, where the students have "camped-out" during their summer stays, joined with the VJF to organize the students' week-long visit to Winter Vail!

The students were selected by Wash Prep's Music Director Fernando Pullum based on academic excellence. They were: freshman Royal Young and three seniors, Loraine Johnson,

Michael Roundtree and Alexis Campbell. The students flew from L.A. to Denver and traveled by car to Vail on January 23, 2003. After getting fitted for ski equipment, the "city" kids met their host "mountain" families from Vail Mountain School for the week. In addition to attending classes at the school, the visitors, along with VMS buddies, participated in a variety of winter activities, including skiing on Vail Mountain, tubing at Adventure Ridge and sitting in with the VMS band.

"We wanted to show these children the best that Vail has to offer and that included spending quality time with the host families", stated Peter Abuisi, Headmaster at Vail Mountain School. "This is the type of program that can have a positive impact on the students, and we were thrilled to participate."

## 8th Annual Vail Jazz Festival Sponsors

### *The VJF would like to extend a special thank you to:*

Alpine Bank  
BBE Sound, Inc.  
Beaver Creek Resort Company  
Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival  
City Market  
Colorado Council on the Arts  
Colorado H2O  
Colorado Mountain Express – the Official Transportation Provider

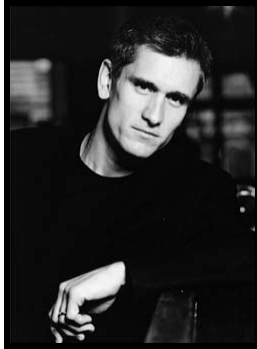
Colorado Mountain Medical  
EEF Productions  
Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation  
Evergreen Lodge  
FirstBank of Colorado  
High Country Shirtworks  
KUVU-89.3 FM  
KVBA-TV8  
National Endowment for the Arts  
notablyfineaudio.com  
Sign-On Design  
Studio Aiello

The Golden Bear  
The Minturn Market  
TIGA Advertising, LLC  
Town of Vail  
Vail Chamber and Business Association  
Vail Daily  
Vail Marriott Mountain Resort & Spa  
Vail Resorts, Inc.  
Vail Valley Chamber & Tourism Bureau  
Vilar Center for the Arts, Beaver Creek  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Yamaha

# Curtis Stigers to Perform at Benefit Concert for VJF

On Thursday, February 27, 2003, Curtis Stigers will perform at a benefit concert for the Vail Jazz Foundation at the Vilar Center for the Arts, Beaver Creek. Proceeds from the concert will be used to support the Foundation's educational programs, some of which are highlighted in this newsletter. Curtis will be backed-up by his trio, Matthew Fries (piano), Greg Ryan (bass), and Keith Hall (drums). The band appeared at last summer's Festival and was a huge crowd pleaser, so we know you won't want to miss this special evening of blues and jazz.

Raised in Boise, Idaho, Curtis played jazz, blues and rock & roll in the local clubs while attending high school and was a regular at jazz legend Gene Harris' Tuesday night jam sessions at the Idanha Hotel. "Gene was always supportive of the young players. He gave me encouragement that led me to pursue music as a career," is how he explains it. Like a lot of young musicians, Curtis was drawn to New York where he began a regular gig at Wilson's on Manhattan's Upper West Side in 1987, ultimately landing a recording contract with Arista Records. His self-titled debut, released in 1991, sold nearly 2 million copies and spawned several hit singles, including a top 10 hit that he wrote "I Wonder Why".



Appearances on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and Late Night with David Letterman were followed by world tours with

artists such as Elton John, Eric Clapton, Bonnie Raitt, and Rod Stewart. In 1992 he recorded "(What's So Funny 'Bout) Peace, Love and Understanding", as part of the soundtrack to The Bodyguard, which was a worldwide hit - 30 million sales.

In the late 1990's, Curtis began to move away from the performance of pop music and to explore songwriting, collaborating with Carol King, Jules Shear and others. At about the same time, he started to reconnect with his jazz roots, appearing on several CDs with Gene Harris and performing alongside Toots Thielemans, Randy Brecker, Cleo Laine, Jimmy Scott, Chuck Mangione, Frank Wess, Brother Jack McDuff, Ernie Watts, and Red Holloway. In 1997, the New York City Cabaret Society voted Curtis the Best Jazz Singer. In 2001, he was signed by Concord Records and has released two CDs "Baby Plays Around" and most recently "Secret Heart" establishing himself as a jazz singer, songwriter and saxophone player. Curtis is currently working on a new CD, which will be released this summer.

The show begins at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$40 per person.

**To purchase tickets, call (970) 845-TIXS; for additional info please contact the VJF at (970) 479-6146**

The performance is sponsored in part by: the Vail Daily, the Antlers at Vail, KKCH Choice FM 92.3, Colorado Mountain Express, the Park Hyatt Beaver Creek, Vail Resorts Development Co., and the Vilar Center for the Arts, Beaver Creek.

## We Need Your Support



The Vail Jazz Foundation needs your financial support to carry on its mission and achieve its goals. Unfortunately, ticket sales don't begin to cover the cost of our performances, let alone all the other programs the Vail Jazz Foundation presents. Therefore, the Vail Jazz Foundation must rely on the generous support of people and organizations that share our dream of preserving jazz. You don't have to be a dedicated jazz fan to help. If you believe it is important to nurture one of our nation's greatest artistic and cultural achievements, a century long evolution of a distinctively American music treasured throughout the world, then you will want to support the work of the Vail Jazz Foundation.

I enclose a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for THE VAIL JAZZ FOUNDATION, INC. W03

Charge my gift to my credit card in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MasterCard  Visa  American Express Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name as appears on card \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to: The Vail Jazz Foundation, PO Box 3035, Vail, CO 81658 Donations are tax deductible within IRS guidelines.

## The 9th Annual Vail Jazz Festival's Labor Day Weekend Party

**M**ake your plans now to attend the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Vail Jazz Festival's Labor Day Weekend Party, scheduled for Friday, August 29 through Monday, September 1, 2003. We are thrilled to announce that this year's Party will take place at the Vail Cascade Resort and Spa – just a short distance west from Lionshead. The Vail Cascade Hotel is the birthplace of the Vail Jazz Party and hosted the event 9 years ago! Room rates start at \$129 for a single or double main lodge room.

The lineup for this year's Labor Day Weekend Party includes Curtis Stigers, the Clayton Brothers Quintet – John Clayton, Jeff Clayton, Bill Cunliffe, Terell Stafford and Lewis Nash; Rhoda Scott and Dr. Lonnie Smith in a battle of the B-3s; Plas Johnson, Rodney Jones, Ben Dixon and many more to follow. So mark your calendar now to attend! For information and reservations, call 1888-VAILJAM (824-5526) or log on to our website at [www.vailjazz.org](http://www.vailjazz.org).



Rhoda Scott



Plas Johnson



Dr. Lonnie Smith



Rodney Jones

## SAVE THE DATE

**MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW: AUGUST 29 — SEPTEMBER 1, 2003  
THE NINTH ANNUAL LABOR DAY WEEKEND JAZZ PARTY**

THE **VAIL JAZZ**  
**FOUNDATION,**  
INC.



P.O. Box 3035  
Vail, CO 81658

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
LOS ANGELES, CA  
MEYER & SON