

For Immediate Release

SAN JOSE JAZZ WINTER FEST 2015

FEB 27–MAR 8

Winter Fest 2015

Friday, February 27 - Sunday, March 8, 2015

Cafe Stritch, The Continental, Hedley Club, MACLA, San Pedro Square Market,
San Jose Stage Company and other venues in Downtown San Jose, CA

Event Info: www.sanjosejazz.org/winterfest

Tickets: \$15 - \$30, \$175/VIP All Concert Pass; Select Youth Band Shows Are Free

National Headliners:

Taylor McFerrin

Kris Bowers

Kendrick Scott Oracle

Marc Cary Focus Trio

Diane Schuur

Mads Tolling Quartet with Tierney Sutton

Denise Perrier Trio with Houston Person

Les Yeux Noirs

Bay Area Youth Ensemble Performances:

San Jose Jazz High School All Stars

Homestead Jazz Ensemble

Valley Christian Jazz Ensemble

Los Gatos High School Jazz Band

Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band

"McFerrin has a knack for knowing just how many elements he can balance." -*Pitchfork*

"Kris Bowers is definitely an artist to watch." -*Huffington Post*

"Kendrick Scott is already one of the very finest drummers on the jazz scene." -*All About Jazz*

"(Marc Cary is) a jazz pianist of broad expertise." -*New York Times*

"Now, as a bandleader (Mads Tolling will) showcase not just his flying bow and creatively nimble improvisation, but also his eclectic arrangements." -*SF Bay Guardian*

"To hear this band (Les Yeux Noirs) reworking traditional dance music and Yiddish lullabies is to behold a remarkably deft aesthetic transformation." -*Chicago Tribune*

San Jose, CA -- Friday, February 20, 2015 -- Renowned for its annual Summer Fest, the iconic Bay Area institution **San Jose Jazz** kicks off 2015 with dynamic arts programming honoring the jazz tradition and ever-expanding definitions of the genre with singular concerts curated for audiences within the heart of Silicon Valley. A lively follow-up to last year's 25th Anniversary Summer Fest (August 2014), San Jose Jazz's Winter Fest 2015 presented by Metro continues its steadfast commitment of presenting artists at the bleeding edge of jazz, R&B and hip-hop with an ambitious line-up in association with local production house **Universal Grammar** from February 27 - March 8, 2015. Tickets are now on sale ranging in price between \$12 - \$30, and a limited number of VIP All-Concert Passes are available for \$175. For detailed ticket information, and updates on the artist line-up, please visit: sanjosejazz.org/winterfest.

Having been centered in the San Pedro Square neighborhood for the previous two years, Winter Fest 2015 moves to the South First Street arts district to add to the area's renewed cultural vitality. With new performance venues, bars and restaurants joining many existing cultural institutions, the SoFA District's vibrancy is putting San Jose on the cultural map. **Artistic & Festival Director Bruce Labadie** said of the move: "We had the need to expand our footprint with new venues and opportunities and found that in the South First Street Area (SoFA) of San Jose, where new venues, new restaurants and an increased focus on art have attracted younger crowds. The music this year is geared to take advantage of that energy and excitement."

San Jose Jazz proudly presents the following artists at Winter Fest 2015: **Taylor McFerrin, Kris Bowers, Kendrick Scott Oracle, Marc Cary Focus Trio, Diane Schuur, Mads Tolling Quartet with Tierney Sutton, Denise Perrier Trio with Houston Person, Les Yeux Noirs**, and the Bay Area's premier youth jazz ensembles. Please note that **DJ Ali Shaheed Muhammad** and **Otis Brown III** are no longer performing at Winter Fest 2015. A comprehensive schedule for Winter Fest 2015 as well as artist bios are listed below, and please stay up-to-date on sanjosejazz.org/winterfest. Artist interviews and hi-res photos are available upon request.

Leading this year's Winter Fest 2015 line-up is Brooklyn-based producer, composer and pianist **Taylor McFerrin**, a musician who's style is equally influenced by '60s/'70s soul, free-form jazz, "golden era" hip-hop, and electronic music. Son of vocal legend **Bobby McFerrin**, the multi-instrumentalist released his debut full-length *Early Riser* this summer with guest performances from past Winter Fest artists **Robert Glasper, Thundercat**, and even the senior McFerrin himself. Named by **NPR** as one of **Public Radio's Breakout Artists Of 2014**, New York-based pianist and composer **Kris Bowers** has recorded and toured with the likes of **José James, Marcus Miller, and Terell Stafford**. Bowers was the winner of the **2011 Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition** and current finalist for the American Piano Institute's Jazz Fellowship Award. Recent work has him composing for the documentary "**Kobe Bryant's Muse**." Following an appearance on KQED's *Forum* program, Bowers' appearances at Summer Fest 2014 drew over-capacity crowds, leading San Jose Jazz to present another opportunity for Bay Area audiences to hear this fast-rising artist.

Hailed by the *New York Times* as one of "**Five Drummers Whose Time Is Now**", **Kendrick Scott** is highly regarded as one of the premier drummers of his generation. Scott is a long-time member of the **Terence Blanchard Band** and has shared the stage with **Herbie Hancock, Diane Reeves**, and countless others. His band, **Kendrick Scott Oracle**, released their second album *Conviction* in early 2013.

Returning after his performance in the Motéma showcase at Summer Fest 2014, **Marc Cary** has spent close to a decade honing a singular sound and improvisational approach with his celebrated **Focus Trio**. Cary's talents have elevated the music of everyone from **Russell Gunn** to **Q-Tip** to **Ani DiFranco** and, as a recording artist, his ensemble work has helped earn **GRAMMY®** Award nominations for albums by **Abbey Lincoln, Betty Carter, Roy Hargrove, and Stefon Harris**. Several of Cary's recordings have earned critical acclaim, including his electronica odyssey *Rhodes Ahead (Vol. 1)*, winning him the first annual **Billboard/BET "Best New Jazz Artist"** award in 2000.

Two-time **GRAMMY®**-winning violinist and composer **Mads Tolling** has performed internationally with the celebrated classical ensemble **Turtle Island Quartet**, and as a part of jazz bassist **Stanley Clarke's** band. As a composer, Tolling has worked with the likes of **Joe Lovano, JoAnne Brackeen, Teena Marie**, and the **Oakland East Bay Symphony**. At Winter Fest 2015, Tolling will be joined by vocalist **Tierney Sutton**, who is a 7-time **GRAMMY®** Award nominee. Known as "The Voice with a Heart", **Denise Perrier** has performed in the theatrical revue "**In the House of the Blues**," portraying **Bessie Smith**; and the vaudeville "**One Mo' Time**." She was also featured on the Grammy®-nominated album *Color Me Blue* with **Brother Jack McDuff**. Her latest album harkens back to the time when a singer told the story and left the rest to the instrumentalists. Denise Perrier has a very welcoming straight-ahead style, concentrating on the standards and adding blues and Latin for variety.

Rounding out the line-up at Winter Fest is French ensemble **Les Yeux Noirs**, who have been carving their own path of Yiddish and Gypsy music for over a decade. Since their United States debut in 2001, the band has performed more than one hundred concerts in their six stateside tours. Les Yeux Noirs' brand new self-produced album *Tchorba* ("soup"), was recorded, co-produced, and mixed by **Stuart Bruce (Frankie Goes To Hollywood, Paco de Lucia, Al di Meola)**. The appearance of Les Yeux

Noirs at Winter Fest 2015 is supported by grants from the **Western States Arts Federation** and the **National Endowment for the Arts**.

Maintaining a focus on the future of jazz, Winter Fest 2015 will offer its own Next Gen Stage at San Pedro Square Market, featuring six of the finest youth jazz ensembles in the region. Highlighted are the **San José State University Jazz Orchestra** and the **San Jose Jazz High School All Stars**, both led by noted saxophonist, composer and educator **Dr. Aaron Lington**. Lington wrote much of the music played by **Pacific Mambo Orchestra** on their 2014 **GRAMMY®** winning album. Other youth ensembles include: **Homestead Jazz Ensemble**, **Valley Christian Jazz Ensemble**, and the **Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band**. A sixth youth ensemble will be announced soon.

San Jose Jazz's Winter Fest 2015 is presented by Metro, as well as sponsored in part by KCSM and The Fairmont San Jose. San Jose Jazz's education programs are supported by Southwest Airlines and Hitachi.

Support for San Jose Jazz and the festival is provided by the City of San Jose, Office of Cultural Affairs; Silicon Valley Creates; The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation; The David & Lucille Packard Foundation; Hitachi; San Jose/Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce; Western States Arts Federation; National Endowment for the Arts; The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; and the San Jose Downtown Association.

San Jose Jazz Winter Fest 2015

When: Friday, February 27 - Sunday, March 8, 2015

Where: Downtown San Jose, CA

Admission: Concert tickets are \$12 - 30 advance; Youth Band Shows Are Free; SJJ members receive 20% off any advance web purchase.

More Info: sanjosejazz.org/winterfest; (408) 288-7557

Ticket Info: Cash and credit accepted at door; Members get 20% off advance tickets.

Taylor McFerrin -- Co-Presented by Universal Grammar

*Fri, Feb. 27

The Continental

Tickets: \$15 advance/\$20 door

Time: 10 pm

Brooklyn-based producer, composer, pianist, DJ, and live musician **Taylor McFerrin's** musical style is equally influenced by the legends of 60s and 70s Soul, the kings of the Modern Beat Generation, Golden Era of hip hop, free form jazz, and electronic music.

McFerrin released his first full length LP **Early Riser** in June 2014 on **Flying Lotus' Brainfeeder** record label. By playing all of the instruments on his productions, while also relying heavily on sampling and chopping up his live takes, the musician has found a sound that seamlessly bridges myriad musical worlds and draws the listener into a constantly shifting audio soundscape. McFerrin's ability to create and evolve musically by drawing inspiration from all corners of his life translates into music of exceptional honesty and emotional directness, deep sophistication and effortless style.

Early Riser features guest performances from **Thundercat**, **Robert Glasper**, **Nai Palm (Hiatus Kaiyote)**, **Emily King**, **RYAT**, **Marcus Gilmore**, and the performer's father and jazz legend Bobby McFerrin, who teams up with Brazilian master Cesar Camargo Mariano on a track. The key to the whole record is the balance between McFerrin's guest's individuality and his own vision, when he keeps throughout.

<http://brainfeeder.net/taylormcferrin>

Jazz Jam at the Hedley

*Weds, Mar. 4

*Hedley Club

Tickets: Free

Time: 7:30 pm

Mads Tolling Quartet with Tierney Sutton

*Thurs, Mar. 5

Cafe Stritch

Tickets: \$25 advance/\$30 door

Time: 7:30 pm

A meeting of kindred spirits, two-time **GRAMMY**[®]-winning violinist **Mads Tolling** is joining forces with six-time **GRAMMY**[®]-winning Jazz vocalist **Tierney Sutton**. A former long-time member of Turtle Island Quartet and the Stanley Clarke Band, Tolling now heads his own popular Bay Area-based quartet.

Distinguished by their leader's unique perspective, sound, and compositions, the **Mads Tolling Quartet** has released three albums to rave reviews and has been featured on **NPR's Morning Edition**, **Downbeat Magazine**, **Washington Post**, and **San Francisco Chronicle**. Tolling's funky style has inspired string players worldwide.

Tierney Sutton is a 7-time **GRAMMY**[®] **Award** nominee and has received 6 consecutive **GRAMMY**[®] nominations for "**Best Jazz Vocal Album**". Sutton consistently places on top of the **Downbeat** Poll in the same category. She can also be heard on film and television soundtracks including The Academy Award-nominated film "**The Cooler**" as well as on television commercials (BMW, Green Giant, Yoplait Yogurt, Coke). Tolling and Sutton met in 2011, when she began collaborating with the Turtle Island Quartet. The talented pair continues to combine forces to bring the next level of jazz to audiences of all types.

<http://madstolling.com>

<http://www.tierneysutton.com>

Lindy Dance Party with Cosmo Alleycats

*Fri, Mar. 6

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: Free

Time: 7 pm

The Cosmo Alleycats is an emerging San Francisco dance band that brings to the stage a potent mix of vintage dance music with a dynamic, soulful delivery. The band draws from several decades of exhilarating American music spanning the eras of Swing & Big Band, Blues, 60s Soul and R&B, and Motown.

The five-piece swing jazz and retro R&B band performs regularly at both **Le Colonial** and **Blondie's Bar** in San Francisco, a consistent favorite to audiences and dancers throughout the Bay Area. The Band also appears at concert events such as the **Fillmore Street Jazz Festival** and **Sausalito's Jazz & Blues by the Bay** series. A professional, full-service ensemble, The Cosmo Alleycats' diverse repertoire is well-suited for all types of events, from weddings to corporate receptions to dance parties. The talented group consists of vocalist **Emily Day**, pianist **Noam Eisen**, bassist **Steve Height**, drummer **Mike Burns**, saxophonist **Pete Cornell**, and trumpeter **Zach Meyerowitz**.

Four free dance parties are made possible through the generosity of **The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation**, in partnership with the **San Jose Downtown Association**.

The four dance party events will include instruction by expert dance teachers.

<http://www.cosmoalleycats.com>

Afro-Peruvian Dance Party with Jaranon y Bochinche

*Fri, Mar. 6

MACLA

Tickets: Free

Time: 7pm

Jaranon y Bochinche Dance and Music Performance Company is an Afro-Peruvian company that developed in 1995 out of the **Tradicion Peruana Cultural Center**. Their repertoire consists of a diversity of dances and music from the Afro-Peruvian culture.

Jaranon y Bochinche has performed at a multitude of venues including **La Pena**, **Theater Artaud** (now Z Space), **Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts**, **Dance Mission**, and **San Francisco State University**. The company has also participated in the **SF Carnival** several times over the years, winning awards for artistic expression. The artistic philosophy of Jaranon y Bochinche has been

developed by its unique Soto brother and sister team and their families' Afro-Peruvian roots. **Juan de Dios** leads the percussion and male choreography, **Lydia Soto** leads both female and male choreography, and **Rocio Soto** leads vocals. Raised with dance and music in their home, the Sotos have continued their traditions in the United States, collaborating in creative ways to share their cultural knowledge with the San Francisco Bay Area.

Four free dance parties are made possible through the generosity of **The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation**, in partnership with the **San Jose Downtown Association**.

The four dance party events will include instruction by expert dance teachers.

<http://www.perutp.org/group.html>

Les Yeux Noirs

*Fri, Mar. 6

Cafe Stritch

Tickets: \$25 advance/\$30 door

Time: 8 pm

For twelve years, **Les Yeux Noirs** (Black Eyes) have been carving their own path down the road of Yiddish and Gypsy music, supported by a continuously growing fan base across the globe.

Inspired by a vast array of influences, Les Yeux Noirs invites audiences to share in moments of intense emotion and indescribable joy, as they weave their magic with extraordinary energy. In 2001, the ensemble debuted their career in the United States, where they have performed to date more than a hundred concerts in their six tours in the States and they now regularly tour the country three months out of every year. The band have widened their original base out of the comfortable networks of cultural centers and theaters, conquering new venues worldwide: reggae, jazz and classic festivals, Californian biker clubs, churches and smoky cellars. Meeting these different audiences has fulfilled Les Yeux Noirs' dreams and revealed its multiple facets.

Their new album **tChorba** ("soup") is made up of these contrasting experiences. It gathers various ingredients that were recorded, co-produced and mixed by the colorful **Stuart Bruce (Frankie Goes To Hollywood, Al di Meola, Amadou & Mariam)**. Self-produced by the band for the first time, this album includes some songs in French as well as rich and heady atmospheres that are just like these very eyes.

This appearance of Les Yeux Noirs is supported by grants from the **Western States Arts Federation** and the **National Endowment for the Arts**.

<http://www.lesyeuxnoirs.net>

Swing Dance Party with Fundz Jazz

*Fri, Mar. 6

The Fairmont San Jose (Lobby Lounge)

Tickets: Free

Time: 9 pm

Fundz Jazz is a group of talented San Francisco Bay Area musicians that have performed together in a wide variety of musical ensembles over the last 20 years. They come together in Fundz Jazz to perform some of their favorite jazz and R&B compositions from the last six decades. Fundz Jazz features: **John Xepoleas** on drums; **Mike Williams** on guitar; **Marc Levine** on bass; **Dave Scott** on Trumpet and **Chris Cole** on Vocals. The repertoire includes classic compositions by **Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, Horace Silver** and **Duke Ellington**, as well as vocal gems by **Frank Sinatra, Marvin Gaye, Tony Bennett, Van Morrison, Michael Buble** and **Peter Gabriel**.

Four free dance parties are made possible through the generosity of **The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation**, in partnership with the **San Jose Downtown Association**.

The four dance party events will include instruction by expert dance teachers.

<http://www.fundzjazz.com>

Kris Bowers -- Co-Presented by Universal Grammar

*Fri, Mar. 6
San Jose Stage
Tickets: \$25 advance/\$30 door
Time: 9 pm

The winner of the **2011 Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition**, New York-based pianist and composer **Kris Bowers** is a leading voice in a vibrant new wave of jazz, with his compositions drawing from sources as varied as classical, rock, electronic and film scores.

Bowers has already recorded and toured with several of jazz's rising talents and long-time heavyweights, including **Marcus Miller, José James, Terrell Stafford, Vincent Herring, Louis Hayes, Casey Benjamin, Ben Williams**, and **Kenneth Whalum III**. Other collaborations have seen him partnering with artists in hip-hop and soul, including with **Murs, Q-Tip, Ludacris**, and **Kanye West**. Bowers previously appeared in San Jose as part of **José James's** ensemble during Winter Fest 2013. He was the first recipient of the **Luther Henderson Scholarship** at **NYU's Juilliard School of Music**, where he completed his Masters degree in Jazz Performance with a focus on film composition in 2012. Bowers released his debut album, **Heroes + Misfits**, earlier this year on Concord Records.

<http://www.krisbowersmusic.com>

Valley Christian Jazz Ensemble

*Sat, Mar. 7
San Pedro Square Market
Tickets: Free
Time: 12 pm

Under the direction of **Dr. Marcus Wolfe** and **Dr. Michael Jones**, Valley Christian Jazz Ensemble frequently performs at top music venues in the Bay Area, including **Montalvo Arts Center**, the historic **California Theatre** in San Jose, and **The Fairmont San Jose**. They have an annual recording session at **Fantasy Studios** in Berkeley, CA and regularly participate in many benefit concerts, including one in collaboration with **UCLA Jazz Band for Global Outreach International**.

Graduates of the Valley Christian Jazz Ensemble have been awarded positions in top college music programs including the **University of North Texas, Stanford University, The San Francisco Conservatory of Music**, and **Harvard University**. In 2013, the Jazz Ensemble placed first in an international competition, **The Downbeat Magazine Student Music Awards**. They have consistently placed first or second at jazz festivals such as **Folsom, Cabrillo, Campana, Fullerton**, and **Santa Cruz**. Three members of the Jazz Ensemble were also named finalists in the 2010 **Grammy® Jazz Ensemble**. Members of the Jazz ensemble were also instrumental in the creation of the **Valley Christian Conservatory of the Arts**, the first conservatory-model training program in the Bay Area.

San Jose Jazz High School All Stars

*Sat, Mar. 7
San Pedro Square Market
Tickets: Free
Time: 1 pm

San Jose Jazz High School All Stars is a regional, audition-based music education program for some of the Bay Area's most gifted high school jazz musicians. They've earned impressive reviews for their performances while providing members with advanced opportunities to grow and develop.

Dr. Aaron Lington, Director of the Jazz Studies program at **San Jose State University**, leads the group of standout musicians culled from 14 regional schools. The All Stars have received unanimous "command" performance ratings in both big band and combo formats at the **Santa Cruz Jazz Festival**. The big band and combo perform throughout the Bay Area, including such locales as the **Computer History Museum, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose State University Jazz Festival, Santa Cruz Jazz Festival, San Jose Jazz Winter Fest** and **Summer Fest**, and more. Auditions take place in November each year.

<http://sanjosejazz.org/high-school-all-stars>

Diane Schuur

*Sat, Mar. 7
San Jose Stage
Tickets: \$30 advance/\$35 door
Time: 7 pm

Long regarded as one of Contemporary Jazz's leading vocalists, **Diane Schuur** is as eclectic as she is brilliant. Born in Tacoma, Washington in 1953, Schuur was blind from birth; but she was gifted with perfect pitch and initially taught herself piano by ear. She later received formal piano training at the **Washington State School for the Blind**.

With a distinguished recording career that spans three decades, including two **Grammy®** awards (*Timeless* and *Diane Schuur and The Count Basie Orchestra* on **GRP Records**), as well as three additional Grammy® nominations, Schuur's music has explored almost every corner of the 20th Century musical landscape. Her musical collaborations include the aforementioned **Count Basie Orchestra**, **Barry Manilow**, **B.B. King**, **Ray Charles**, and **Jose Feliciano**, among countless others. These collaborations have resulted in numerous #1 **Billboard Chart** recordings, including *Pure Schuur* and *Heart to Heart* with **B.B. King**; Ms. Schuur has appeared on **PBS** and many other television specials...as well as a very special visit to the beloved TV show, *Sesame Street*. Diane has been invited to perform at **The White House** on multiple occasions, and was one of the select musical guests invited to perform for **Stevie Wonder** at the **Kennedy Center Honors** when he received his prestigious award. She continues to tour and perform extensively at major concert halls and venues around the world.

Ms. Schuur has recently recorded *I Remember You (With Love To Stan and Frank)*, an homage to two of her very important mentors, **Frank Sinatra** and **Stan Getz**. The CD also commemorates her "official" discovery 35 years ago by Stan Getz at **The 1979 Monterey Jazz Festival**. The recording features all new arrangements by **Alan Broadbent**, and in addition to Mr. Broadbent on piano, it includes an All-Star Band of **Ben Wolfe**, **Ulysses Owens Jr.**, **Romero Lubambo**, **Roni Ben Hur**, and **Joel Frahm**.

<http://www.dianeschuur.com>

Marc Cary Focus Trio

*Sat, Mar. 7
Cafe Stritch
Tickets: \$25 advance/\$30 door
Time: 8:30 pm

Marc Cary has spent close to a decade honing a distinctive sound and improvisational approach with his enduring and much acclaimed **Focus Trio**. He attended the **Duke Ellington School of the Arts** and began his rise as a jazz piano modernist in 1988.

Cary has worked with such masters as **Arthur Taylor**, **Dizzy Gillespie**, and **Max Roach**. His talent has elevated the music of everyone from **Russell Gunn** to **Q-Tip** to **Ani DiFranco** and as a recording artist his ensemble work has helped earn **Grammy® Award**-nominations for albums by **Abbey Lincoln**, **Betty Carter**, **Roy Hargrove**, and **Stefon Harris**. His 12-year tenure with vocalist, songwriter, and jazz icon **Abbey Lincoln** also shaped his incredible talent.

Several of Cary's albums have earned critical acclaim, including his electronica odyssey *Rhodes Ahead (Vol. 1)* that won him the first annual **Billboard/BET "Best New Jazz Artist"** award in 2000. Cary debuted his fledgling **Focus Trio** project on the **Motéma** label in 2006. *Four Directions*, Focus Trio's first studio recording in eight years, follows on the heels of two powerful interim releases (*Focus Trio Live 2008* and *Focus Trio Live 2009*). Despite a few shifts in the bass chair, and an ever-transforming array of instrumentation, the band's original mission remains the same: "to bring indigenous rhythms together with American jazz to create new palettes of sound."

<http://marccary.com>

Salsa Dance Party with Edgardo Cambon y LaTiDo

*Sat, Mar. 7
The Fairmont San Jose (Lobby Lounge)
Tickets: Free
Time: 9 pm

From the Cuban flavor of **Buena Vista Social Club** to the New York Salsa grooves of **Ruben Blades**, **Edgardo Cambon y LaTiDo** touch upon a number of Latin styles with energy and ease, including bolero, cha-cha and mambo. Described as a "Power Salsa 5tet," the band specializes in traditional Latin dance music of varying flavors.

The group was founded in 2003 by renowned conguero and Uruguayan-born lead vocalist **Edgardo Cambón** -- a Summer Fest favorite -- who draws upon more than 30 years as a working musician. In just five short years of existence, the ensemble has already performed to sold-out audiences at a number of renowned venues, including **Yoshi's, Yerba Buena Gardens, San Francisco Jazz Festival** and the **Sonoma Jazz Festival**. They've also appeared on the **Food Network** show *Easy Entertaining* with host **Michael Chiarello**.

Intricate vocal harmonies and energetic rhythms and throbbing pulses instantly bring to mind the inspiration for LaTiDo, which is a play on the Spanish word for heartbeat. Cambon adds atop their sound a bandstand expertise that lets him expertly read crowds to keep dancers on the floor. As **KCSM Program Director Jesse "Chuy" Varela** declares, Cambon "has mastered that great ability to lead his Salsa band from the conga drums while singing lead vocals. Now that's a show by itself!"

Four free dance parties are made possible through the generosity of **The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation**, in partnership with the **San Jose Downtown Association**.

The four dance party events will include instruction by expert dance teachers.

[facebook.com/LaTiDoSon](https://www.facebook.com/LaTiDoSon)

Homestead Jazz Ensemble

*Sun, Mar. 8

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: Free

Time: 12 pm

The Homestead Jazz Ensemble is comprised of 22 of the top student musicians in Homestead High School's large and vibrant music program.

The Homestead Jazz Ensemble was founded in 1974 by then band director, Rory Snyder. John Burn, a Homestead Jazz Ensemble Alum, has been the director since 1991.

Throughout the past four decades, the Homestead Jazz Ensemble has continually earned high ratings at adjudicated festivals such as the CMEA Jazz Festival, the Reno Jazz Festival, and the Santa Cruz Jazz Festival. In 2009, the Homestead Jazz Ensemble performed in the Australian International Music Festival in Sydney, Australia and in 2005 the Homestead Jazz Ensemble performed in both the "Next Generation" Monterey Jazz Festival and the Kobe Jazz Festival in Kobe, Japan.

Los Gatos High School Jazz Band

*Sun, Mar. 8

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: Free

Time: 1:30 pm

The Los Gatos High School Jazz Band is an audition-based big band comprised of students in grades 9-12. In the past 5 years, the jazz band has grown in both size and quality; in addition to performing around the Bay Area at town events, school concerts and adjudicated festivals, the group has also consistently received "unanimous superior" ratings at CMEA jazz festivals.

The jazz ensemble performs diverse styles of music such as swing, Latin, bebop, ragtime, and pop/rock/jazz fusion. Clinicians who specialize in various jazz styles will also guest lecture during the year, helping students gain a deeper understanding about the performance style. Members of this ensemble explore improvising and playing in smaller "combo" groups. Students in this ensemble typically take this class as their second music elective in addition to taking a foreign language and Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble.

<http://www.lghsmusic.net/ensembles/jazz-band>

Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band

*Sun, Mar. 8

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: Free
Time: 3 pm

Led by Director, **Dillon Baiocchi** and Ensemble Advisor, **Eddie Mendenhall**, the **Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band** is an all-star ensemble of high school musicians from Santa Cruz and the surrounding areas.

Having successfully auditioned, band members attend weekly rehearsals, study complex jazz theory, improvisation and arranging, and learn essential life skills such as communication, cooperation and critical thinking. The Honor Band performs at community benefits, festivals and special events, ending each school year with a concert at the renowned **Kuumbwa Jazz Center**.

<http://kuumbwajazz.org/education/honor-band>

Kendrick Scott Oracle

*Sun, Mar. 8
Cafe Stritch
Tickets: \$25 advance/\$30 door
Time: 5 pm

Kendrick Scott is highly regarded as one of the premier drummers of his generation, as shown by the *New York Times* naming him one of "**Five Drummers Whose Times Is Now**".

His band, **Kendrick Scott Oracle** released its second recording *Conviction* in 2013, showcasing Scott's incredible subtlety and intensity, and highlighting his strengths as a drummer, composer, and bandleader. Kendrick Scott Oracle is comprised of like-minded talents **Aaron Goldberg**, **Joe Sanders**, **Mike Moreno**, and **John Ellis**. A long-time member of the **Terence Blanchard Band**, Scott is a rising star in his generation alongside **Robert Glasper**, **Gretchen Parlato**, and **Lionel Loueke**. Sought after by many, Scott has shared the stage with a diverse and amazing list of artists including **Herbie Hancock**, **Dianne Reeves**, and **Kurt Elling**. Scott was recently signed to Blue Note Records.

<http://kendrickscott.com>

Denise Perrier Trio with Houston Person

*Sun, Mar. 8
Cafe Stritch
Tickets: \$25 advance/\$30 door
Time: 7 pm

Known as "The Voice with a Heart", **Denise Perrier** has spent most of her thirty-year career performing in the San Francisco Bay Area and touring Europe, Latin America, and Asia. With her fifth album, *Denise Perrier and the Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra*, she has moved to a higher level of artistry and popularity. Blessed with a rich contralto voice and the ability to sing ballads and blues with equal artistry, Perrier has performed in the theatrical revue "**In the House of the Blues**," portraying **Bessie Smith**; and the vaudeville "**One Mo' Time**." She was also featured on the Grammy®-nominated album *Color Me Blue* with **Brother Jack McDuff**. Her latest album harkens back to the time when a singer told the story and left the rest to the instrumentalists. Denise Perrier has a very welcoming straight-ahead style, concentrating on the standards and adding blues and Latin for variety.

deniseperrier.com

The Eulipions Jazz Jam Session with Peppe Merolla

*Sun, Mar. 8
Café Stritch
Tickets: Free
Time: 9 pm

VENUES

For Winter Fest 2015, San Jose Jazz moved many of their programs to the South First Street arts district to add their voice to the renewed cultural energy. From restaurants and bars like Original Joe's, Caffe Frascati, and Singlebarrel, to visual and performing arts venues like Cafe Stritch, the California Theatre, The Institute of Contemporary Art, Anno Domini and MACLA, The SoFA

District's vibrancy is putting San Jose on the cultural map. South First Street venues and The Fairmont San Jose are all within walking distance of one another.

Cafe Stritch

374 South First Street
cafestritch.com

Cafe Stritch is a cornerstone of San Jose's burgeoning SoFA District. With a bar, curated menu of classic dishes and organic, direct trade specialty coffee from San Jose-based Chromatic Coffee, the venue satisfies all tastes and appetites. Its centerpiece is music, evidenced by the mural of legendary saxophonist Rahsaan Roland Kirk near the cafe entrance. Called one of the best jazz clubs on the West Coast, Stritch is a destination for local jazz and indie performances, and features cabaret seating.

The Continental

349 South First Street
thecontinentalbar.com

Downtown San Jose's newest hot spot, The Continental is located across from Cafe Stritch, adjacent to the California Theatre. Craft cocktails and local microbrews are specialties here and the ambiance is warm and hip, with an interior featuring repurposed barn wood, vintage wrought-iron chandeliers, brick walls and exposed beams. The Continental's regular DJs leans toward a modern interpretation of soul, don't miss their regular Thursday night party, "The Changing Same" by SJJ's Jazz Beyond curator, Universal Grammar. Seating is limited.

Hotel de Anza, Hedley Club

233 West Santa Clara Street
hoteldeanza.com

The Hotel de Anza's Hedley Club is one of the most sumptuous and beautifully appointed rooms in the Bay Area. The Hedley's art-deco elegance and plush seating sets the perfect mood for their seasonal cocktails, dynamic wine program and Mediterranean influenced appetizers. Long known for its consistent and high-quality jazz programming, the Hedley is the home of our bi-weekly Jazz Jam. The Hotel de Anza is a 15-minute walk from the South First Street venues.

Fairmont San Jose, Lobby Lounge

170 South Market Street
fairmont.com/san-jose

Opulence is redefined in the luxurious Lobby Lounge at The Fairmont San Jose, the centerpiece of downtown San Jose. This lush space, with its breathtaking chandelier, palms and plush seating is one of the most romantic destinations in town. Lounge specialties include martinis and single-malt scotches, as well as contemporary bar bites and a full menu from the adjacent sushi bar.

MACLA (Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana), Castellano Playhouse

510 South First Street
maclaarte.org

Founded in 1989, MACLA is a hybrid urban arts space rooted in the Chicano/Latino experience. A pioneer in the vibrant SoFA arts and entertainment district, it offers groundbreaking and risk-taking programs in the visual, performing and literary arts that intentionally bridge cultural divides. Their work challenges notions about contemporary Latino arts and culture, celebrates all cultures, engages urban youth and confronts urgent themes in today's society. MACLA's Castellano Playhouse is an intimate, recently renovated black box space, perfect for theatre and live music.

San Jose Stage Company

490 South First Street
thestage.org

Now in its 29th season, San Jose Stage Company opened its dedicated theater space in 1990 to present award-winning, innovative and contemporary programming in a unique 200-seat, thrust stage venue.

San Pedro Square Market

87 South San Pedro Street
sanpedrosquaremarket.com

Home to SJJ's Winter Fest youth performances and the Lindy Dance Party on Friday, March 6, San Pedro Square Market has a variety of bars and restaurants serving some of the finest food, beer and wine anywhere. Come early and make a day or evening of it! SJJ's concerts will be held in the "industrial chic" indoor corner space at San Pedro and St, John streets, where seating is limited only for the dance party event.

About San Jose Jazz

Founded in 1986, San Jose Jazz is a public benefit corporation celebrating jazz as a dynamic, evolving art form and is producer of the annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest and Winter Fest. With its eclectic music programming and innovative educational offerings, San Jose Jazz preserves the jazz tradition while actively supporting the next generation of performers within the genre and beyond. Summer Fest has become the flagship annual cultural event of Silicon Valley featuring the world's most acclaimed artists and the region's brightest emerging talent.

San Jose Jazz is dedicated to the enrichment of the South Bay music and arts scene by providing eclectic year-round free weekly performances, pop-up jazz shows at Bay Area institutions and their latest "Music Mobile" program appearing at parks, schools, urban events and corporate campuses. Standout education initiatives ensure a vital connection with the greater community through San Jose Jazz's elementary public school-based Progressions, the two-decade old San Jose High School All Stars, and 19th Annual Summer Jazz Camp.

San Jose Jazz produced its first Winter Jazz Series in 1987; its first jazz festival was produced in 1990, and in 1993, it debuted their first youth education program. The evolution of San Jose Jazz coincides with Silicon Valley's spirit of invention and the prospering redevelopment of downtown San Jose, CA. Cornerstones of San Jose Jazz's mission to keep jazz and its related genres thriving are to honor the South Bay's diverse culture through the discovery of new music and implement opportunities for the community to unite around the arts. San Jose Jazz is proud to say the annual Summer Fest is one of the largest Latin music festivals in the country. For more information, please visit sanjosejazz.org.

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