A Place for Jazz announces its 2009 Concert Series, which begins on Friday, September 11, and continues every other Friday through November 6. All concerts are at 8 p.m. at the Whisperdome, in the First Unitarian Society at 1221 Wendell Ave. in Schenectady. For ticket details, see Page 7. To become a member or to order tickets, call 518-393-4011, email coakjazz@aol.com, print an order form from www.aplaceforjazz.org, or write to PO Box 1059, Schenectady 12301.

Started in 1987 by Butch Conn, A Place for Jazz has brought hundreds of nationally known jazz musicians to the area for concerts, workshops and clinics.

The 2009 Schedule:

Eric Alexander Quintet - Friday, Sept. 11, 8 pm

Dynamic tenor saxophonist Alexander will be joined by trombonist Steve Davis to round out a quintet, which is sure to deliver an evening of straight-ahead yet adventurous music. Influenced by Dizzy, Sonny Stitt, Clifford Brown, Sonny Rollins and others, Alexander has been critically acclaimed by all sides of the jazz community.

Otmaro Ruiz Quartet - Friday, Sept. 25, 8 pm

Latin-jazz pianist Otmaro Ruiz will front a quartet that features versatility. He has a wide-ranging style, which includes classical and Latin influences, with solos that run the gamut, from Monk and Peterson to Chopin and Piazzolla, with South American rhythms.

Tierney Sutton Trio - Friday, Oct. 9, 8 pm

Tierney Sutton possesses one of the loveliest, most supple voices in jazz and her trio specializes in refreshing new arrangements of songs from the jazz canon. In 2005, she was nominated for a Grammy in the category of Best Jazz Vocal Album and won JazzWeek’s Vocalist of the Year Award.

Gene Ludwig Trio - Friday, Oct. 23, 8 pm

As Downbeat Magazine says, “Gene Ludwig is one of jazz’s premier Hammond B-3 organists. His music comes clean and straight, mad with swing and pure logic.” He will appear with guitarist Dave Stryker, who played so well with Karrin Allyson last fall at A Place for Jazz.

Steve Lambert Sextet - Friday, Nov. 6, 8 pm

Steve Lambert, born and raised in Schenectady, has been playing trumpet professionally in the capital region for over 10 years. His sextet features some of the top jazz players in the Capital District and their sets always create musical excitement, from bebop to the beyond.
CD Review: Eric Alexander – “Dead Center”

By Tom Pierce

On Sept 11, jazz fans will be able to catch live at the Whis-perdome one the most ac-claimed & popular saxophonists of his generation. His 18th CD (of 30 as a leader), the 2004 “Dead Center” on High Note Re-cords demonstrates why many feel he embodies the best of the “Old” (seminal artists such as Coleman Hawkins & Ben Web-ster) and the “New” (modern harmony players like John Col-trane & George Coleman). The song choices reflect an interest-ing mix of composers, tempos, and moods. Four of the tunes are seldom heard, but very en-gaging compositions by superior instrumentalists: Herbie Han-cock’s buoyant “Sonrisa”, a waltz “Search for Peace” by McCoy Tyner, guitarist Pat Martino’s driving, straight ahead “Dead Center” and pianist Ma-bern’s funky but melodic refer-ence to his hometown, “A Few Miles From Memphis”.

Two standards by the memora-ble songwriting team, Lerner & Lowe, “Almost Like Being in Love” and “I Could Have Danced all Night” are both taken at delightfully lilting tempos; while the Sammy Cahn-Jule Styne gem, “I’s Magic” is a ren-dered as an hypnotic ballad. Alexander’s own, bluesy “One for Steve” is presumably dedi-cated to his frequent recording partner, trombonist Steve Davis, a featured member of his band on Sept 11.

Half Notes

EJO Presents Ol’ Blue-Eyes

The Empire Jazz Orchestra, the outstanding big band based at the Schenectady County Community College, will present its fall concert on Tuesday, Oct. 20. This year’s performance is titled “Sinatra, a Legacy in Song” and will feature the band playing tunes associated with him, along with vocals by Col-leen Pratt and Bobbie Van Detta. Tickets are $15, $6 for students. Ticket information is available at (518) 381-1231.

DIVA and (much) more

The all-woman big band DIVA will appear at 7:30 p.m. on Sat-urday, Sept. 26, in the Massry Center for the Arts at the Col-lege of Saint Rose in Albany. They will be playing music by the great Johnny Mandel, who wrote such wonderful songs as “The Shadow of your Smile,” “Emily” and the “Theme from M*A*S*H.”

Not only that, Mandel will be there in person! And, as if that weren’t enough, singing his great songs with DIVA will be Ann Hampton Calloway! Tick-ets are $25 and may be re-served online at www.strose.edu or by calling (518) 458-5391. Also, Dave Brubeck is slated for Oct. 14 at Saint Rose.

CDS by local artists

Lee Shaw and her trio, with Rich Syracuse, bass, and Jeff Siegel, drums, recently released their latest CD, “Blossom,” re-corded last year during their successful European tour. Saxophonist Keith Pray and his Big Soul Ensemble, which plays every month at Tess’ Lark Tav-ern in Albany, is finishing re-cording a CD in September, which should be available in late fall. And trumpeter Steve Lambert is also wrapping up a recording, which should be out this fall as well. It will be called “May” and will feature the band he’ll be leading at our Nov. 6 concert (Brian Patneaude, Keith Pray, Mike Delprete, Dave Solazzo and Joe Barna). In fact, our last concert this year will be Steve’s CD release party!

Other CDs this year included ones by Michael Benedict’s “The Next Phase,” Patricia Dalton’s “Frim Fram Sauce,” The Empire Jazz Orchestra’s “Symphonies in Riffs,” Mitch Kessler’s “Erratica,” Rob Lindquist’s “Old Roads…New Paths” and Brian Patneaude’s “Riverview.”
Local Jazz Venues
(Listed Alphabetically)

9 Maple Ave, Saratoga Springs, 518-587-7759
The Bar at 74 State, 74 State St, Albany, 518-434-7410
The Basement, 21 Center St, Northampton, MA, 413-586-9030
Blue Plate, 1 Kinderhook St, Chatham, NY, 518-392-7711
Cabernet Café, 1814 Western Ave, Albany, 518-452-5670
Café Capriccio, 49 Grand St, Albany, 518-65-0439
Castle Street Café, 10 Castle St, Great Barrington, MA, 413-528-5244
Chameleon on the Lake, 251 County Rt. 67, Saratoga Springs, 518-583-3538
Chez Sophie Bistro, 534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 518-583-5358
Circus Café, 392 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 518-583-1106
Comfort Inn, 37 Rte 9W, Glenmont, 518-465-8811
The Fountain Restaurant, 283 New Scotland Ave, Albany, 518-482-9898
Four Corners Luncheonette, 2 Grove St, Delmar, 518-439-0172
Freedom Park, Schonowee Ave, Scotia, 370-0662 (summer only)
Jazz on Jay, in front of City Center (across from Proctor's), Schenectady, 518-372-5656 (summer only)
Justin's, 301 Lark St, Albany, 518-436-7008
Lark Tavern, 453 Madison Ave. Albany, 518-463-9779
Linda Norris Aud., WAMC, 339 Central Ave., Albany, 518-465-5233
Mo' Jazz Café, 7 South Main St Wilmington, VT 802-464-2280
Moon & River Café, 115 S. Ferry St., Schenectady, 518-459-2022
One Caroline Street Bistro, Saratoga Springs, 518-587-2026
Panza's Restaurant, Route 9P Saratoga Lake, Saratoga Spgs, 518-584-6882
Parker Inn, 434 State St, Schenectady, 518-688-1001
Prime 677, 677 Broadway Albany, 518-427-7463
Proctor's, 432 State St, Schenectady, 518-382-3884
Provence Restaurant, Stuyvesant Plaza-Western Ave at Fuller Rd, Albany, 518-689-7777
Quarter Moon Café, 53 Main Street, Delhi, NY, 607-746-8886
Red Onion Restaurant, Route 212, Woodstock, NY 845-679-1223
Saratoga Gaming & Raceway, Saratoga Springs, 518-584-2110
Sarazen Student Union, Siena College, 518-783-4117
Sargo's, Saratoga National Golf Club, 458 Union Ave, Saratoga Springs, 518-583-4653
Scrimshaw Tavern, Desmond Hotel, Colonie, 518-869-8100
Spillin' the Beans, 13 3rd St, Troy, 518-268-1028
Stella's Lounge, 7 Main St, Catskill, 518-943-3173
Stockade Inn, 1 N. Church St, Schenectady, 518-346-3400
Wallabee's Jazz Bar, 190 Glen St, Glens Falls, NY, 518-792-8282
The Wine Bar, 417 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 518-584-8777
Zaika, 54 Clifton Country Rd, Clifton Park, 518-688-1548

Radio Jazz

WVCR 88.3 FM "The Crossroads of Jazz." Saturday from 11a.m. to 1 p.m. with a mix of the Essentials and the Contemporary. Hosted by Darrin Scott and Ted Moisides.
WCDB 90.9 FM Bill McCann, Saturday 8 am to 12 noon; O.J., "Maiden Voyage", Thursday, 6 - 10 pm; Bill Goss, "TGIF Jazz Party", Friday, 4 - 6 pm; Mark Stevenson, "The Contemporary Jazz Cafe", Saturday, 6 - 8 am
WABY 1160 AM Chris Martin, Make Believe Ballroom, Sat.-Sun. 11-4
WAMC 90.3 FM Tim Coakley, Saturday 10:30 pm-12 midnight; Jim Wilke, Jazz After Hours 1 am to 5 am Friday and Saturday; Marian McPartland, Sunday 9pm; Afro-Pop Worldwide, 8 pm Sunday
WRPI 91.5 FM Kevin Roberts, Thursday. 8-10 pm with his exciting and varied theme shows
WVPR 94.3 FM (Vermont Public Radio) George Thomas Tuesday-Thursday from 8-10 pm, Friday until midnight
WKLI Magic 100.9 FM Sundays Albany (Sunday Morning Jazz Brunch) 6am-8am Dave Koz Radio Show; 8 am.-10.am; Legends of Jazz with Ramsey Lewis; 10am-12 noon: Swingin' with Sinatra with Steve Jackson Vicario.
Swingtime presents
A String of Pearls

The Swingtime Jazz Society will present A String of Pearls in concert at the Stockade Inn, 1 North Church St. in Schenectady, from 4 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 18. The concert will be followed by a jam session from 6 to 7 p.m. Musicians are invited to bring their instruments. A food and drink menu will be available. Admission is $15. Reservations and further information are available at 346-3400.

A String of Pearls is a female jazz vocal trio that performs vintage "girl group" music and modern vocal jazz with swing, style, and superb musicality. Holli, Jeanne, and Sue have brought their harmonies to festivals, concerts, and clubs in the U.S. and abroad. The group has performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. as part of the Mary Lou Williams Women in Jazz Festival. In its New York home region, the group has appeared in the JVC Jazz Festival, Alice Tully Hall, Town Hall, The Manhattan Center, and the Battleship Intrepid.

The "Pearls" have recently been on the bill at Sweet Rhythm, Shanghai Jazz, and the Blue Note. String of Pearls has taken part in the well-known "Lyrics and Lyricists" program at the 92nd Street Y, the annual Jazz Nativity, the New York Cabaret Convention, and the Millbrook and Mohonk Jazz Festivals. Recently the group has appeared at the Cape Cod Jazz Festival, and the Provincetown Cabaret Festival.

The trio has made appearances in Munich nightclubs, summer festivals in France, and nightclubs and concert halls throughout Japan. String of Pearls has released CDs in the U.S. and abroad, including "Gems," a swinging collection of jazz classics, and "Brazilian Jewels." The group's bossa nova version of "Sukiyaki" reached the top 100 on the Tokyo FM radio charts. String of Pearls is currently working on a live recording.

Renowned Jazz Critic to Speak at SCCC

On Thursday, Oct. 22, Gary Giddins, acclaimed music critic and biographer, will present An Evening with Gary Giddins in the Taylor Auditorium at the Schenectady County Community College. The event will start at 7:30 p.m. and is free.

Giddins, a longtime contributor to the Village Voice, received the National Book Critics Circle Award for his book "Visions of Jazz" (1998). His most recent work is "Jazz" (with Scott DeVeaux, 2009), a vivid history of the musical form over the last 100 years. Giddins is also the author of noteworthy books on Bing Crosby, Charlie Parker, and Louis Armstrong.

Giddins was kind enough to contribute his tribute to the late Nick Brignola for our own Peg Delaney's book "Solo Transcriptions by Nick Brignola," which is used by professionals, colleges and high schools. Peg feels it helps complete Nick's history and gives the readers a few perspectives on the man and player. She says, "Giddins' history with Nick goes as far back as when he was in college. You get a strong sense of the admiration he had for Nick."
Albany Riverfront Jazz Festival

Sat. Sept. 12 --- The Albany Riverfront Jazz Festival is held along the banks of the Hudson River in downtown Albany. This free public concert is at the Riverfront Park Amphitheater in the Corning Preserve. In case of rain, the performance is held a few blocks away at the Palace Theater on the corner of Clinton Ave. and N. Pearl St. Look for the A Place for Jazz booth, with information on our group and this year's concert series.

- Lee Shaw Trio – 12:30-1:15 p.m.
- Dan Loomis Quartet – 1:45-2:45 p.m.
- The Dirty Dozen Brass Band – 3:15-4:15 p.m.
- Lizz Wright – 4:45-5:45 p.m.
- Joe Lovano Us Five – 6:15-7:30 p.m

2009 Tanglewood Jazz Festival

Tickets are available through Tanglewood’s website, www.tanglewood.org and through SymphonyCharge at 888-266-1200.

Friday, September 4, 8 p.m. An Evening with Paquito d’Rivera $41/$48/$59/lawn $17

Saturday, September 5, 2 p.m. “Radio Deluxe” with John Pizzarelli and Jessica Molaskey Live taping for national radio broadcast with special guests TBA $32/$40/$55/lawn $18

Saturday, September 5, 8 p.m. Regina Carter Quartet “Reverse Thread” “Dreaming the Duke” with Nnenna Freelon, Harolyn Blackwell, and Mike Garson $45/$60/$75/lawn $19

Sunday, September 6, 2 p.m. Piano Duet with Kenny Barron and Mulgrew Miller Vanguard Jazz Orchestra $32/$40/$55/lawn $18

Sunday, September 6, 8 p.m. “A Triumph of Trumpets” with the Jon Faddis Quartet and special guests TBA Dave Holland $41/$48/$59/lawn $17

Lake George Jazz Weekend

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 19-20 --- The Lake George Jazz Weekend is a free event in Shepard Park on Canada Street in the village. The rain site is the Lake George High School Auditorium.

Sept. 19:
Bill Mays Inventions Trio --- 1 - 2:15 p.m.
Ignacio Berroa Quartet --- 2:45 - 4 p.m.
Giacomo Gates --- 4:30 p.m.

Sept. 20:
Roland Vasquez Quintet --- 1 - 2:15 p.m.
Steve Turre Quintet --- 2:45 - 4 p.m.
Diane Moser’s Composer's Big Band --- 4:30 p.m.

Check out our monthly calendar on our website at www.aplaceforjazz.org.

The calendar is updated daily and includes links to Jazz Festivals, clubs and concert series.
In its heyday, Schenectady’s Van Dyck was synonymous with fine jazz: Bucky Pizzarelli, Red Norvo, Lee Shaw, Earl Hines and my beloved Dave McKenna. I recall walking to the Van Dyck on a sweet-scented warm spring Tuesday evening, sidling up to the table nearest the piano, and swooning over McKenna’s artistry. Sometimes, he would play my then favorite “Emily” without prompting.

Marvin Friedman opened the restaurant in 1947 and watched over it like a benevolent uncle. But when he died, the establishment changed hands at least twice, and despite renovations, eventually neglect brought the once grand jazz venue to its knees. Not even the new 65-foot mahogany bar (the club’s original circular oak bar from the 1800s, which came from the historic Grand Union Hotel in Saratoga Springs, was moved up to the second floor, where it will continue to hold court), 18-foot skylight, and a brewery could save the Van Dyck from closing its doors.

Enter the McDonalds. With the successful renovation and re-establishment of both Pinhead’s and the Stockade Inn to their credit, the McDonald family purchased the forlorn Van Dyck with the intent of restoring it as a historical building in the Stockade, as well as returning the establishment to a place where fine food, service and music are presented in an equally fine neighborhood.

Before its grand opening Jeff McDonald invited me in for a look at the new roof, relocated restrooms, and the relocated staircase in the entryway, as well as the mostly cosmetic redesign (mosaic tiles in the entryway, glass tiles on the fireplace, new carpeting). Landscaping the patio was to follow, and Jeff expects the brewery will eventually be brought back to life.

The menu—which will include gourmet pizzas and panini—will be essentially the same regardless of where the customer dines, lounge area or one of the dining rooms, except for slightly lighter fare on the second floor, where most of the entertainment (both local and national jazz, blues, comedy) will be held.

According to Jeff, the Van Dyck promises to be “an historical building with a comfortable feel.” He expects it to be “what people want,” offering a little of the best of both already established venues. The McDonalds are aware that the Van Dyck is an entrance to the Historic Stockade, and they believe it will be worthy of this lovely neighborhood. Said Jeff: “The Van Dyck will make the Stockade an even more attractive place for residents.”

The new black awning with gold lettering will be a fitting welcome for the “Early Hollywood” themed Soiree guests on September 13, as well as heralding the Van Dyck as the “gateway to the Stockade and a bridge from downtown.”

(Editor’s note: While the entertainment at the Van Dyck will include more than jazz, three events so far have been promising: Sonny and Perley gave an excellent performance this summer, young violinist Jonathan Russell made a hit with Doc Scanlon’s band, and vocalist Colleen Pratt launched the first of what are to be regular appearances on the third Thursday of each month.)
## APFJ Membership Form

**Date** _________________________________________

**Name** ________________________________________

**Address**_______________________________________

______________________________________________

**Phone**_________________________________________

**E-Mail**________________________________________

### Membership Levels (Circle One)

- No Bread (But Want to Help) $20
- Individual $30
- Family $50
- Supporter (+1 Series Ticket) $100
- Patron (+2 Series Tickets) $250
- Underwriter (+4 series Tickets) $500
- Jazz Hero (5 Year membership) $1,000

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### 2009 Ticket Order Form

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<th>Concert</th>
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<td><strong>September 11</strong></td>
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<td>Eric Alexander and his quintet, featuring trombonist Steve Davis</td>
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<td><strong>September 25</strong></td>
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<td>Gene Ludwig Trio featuring guitarist Dave Stryker</td>
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<td><strong>November 6</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Lambert Sextet</td>
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**2009 Ticket Order Form**

**Concert Number**

- September 11
- September 25
- October 9
- October 23
- November 6

**Price**

- $15

**Total**

- $15

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### Special Thanks

- Norm Ainslie; Rob Aronstein; Ed August; C. Robie Booth; Joe Bowman; Al Brooks; Jody Shayne & Russ Brooks; Tim Coakley; College of St. Rose; Bob Cudmore; Evvie & Bob Currie; James & Margaret Cunningham; Peg & Bill Delaney; Jan Egly; Beverly Elander; The Goldberg Clan; Jerry Gordon; The Hamilton Hill Arts Center; The Hart Clan; Anita and Al Haugen; Leslie & Mark Hyland; Pete Jacobs; Barbara Kaiser; Mike and Rosemary Lategano; Peter Lesser; Eleanor Lindberg; Chris Martin; Bill McCann; Gail & Bill Mattsson; Bill Meckley; Media Well Done, Peg Miller; Bobbie Monterose; John & Donna Moroney; Yves Nazon; Brian Patneaud; Tom Pierce; Kevin Roberts; Alice Rudnick; Schenectady County Community College; Joe Slomka & Claudia White; The Stockade Inn, Randy Treece; Chris Waldron; Sharon Wesley; David Wilkinson

Thanks also to the **Schenectady County Initiative Program, the New York State Council on the Arts** and **National Grid** for their generous support.
A Place for Jazz is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to presenting the best in jazz. We receive funding from the Schenectady County Initiative Program, the NYS Council on the Arts, and National Grid, as well as ticket sales and membership contributions.

Programs include concerts, public workshops, school-based clinics, a Jazz website, and general support of Jazz and its musicians. We welcome announcements and comments.

Editor: Tim Coakley
Contributors: Norm Ainslie, Tim Coakley, Beverly Elander, Jerry Gordon, Tom Pierce
Web Mensch: Jerry Gordon
Newsletter: Chris Waldron

A Place for Jazz  PO Box 1059 , Schenectady, NY 12301 518 393-4011 coakjazz@aol.com

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Calendar can be found at www.aplaceforjazz.org

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A Place for Jazz
PO Box 1059
Schenectady, NY 12301

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