



scrantonjazzfestival.org

SCRANTON JAZZ FESTIVAL

ABOUT

This summer The Scranton Jazz Festival will celebrate its 11th year at the historic Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel and various downtown Scranton venues. Attracting international, national, and regional jazz/blues and world beat artists, the SJF has proven its true potential to become a long-term musical event. Only with your support, does the festival continue to have the opportunity for an enormous impact on the cultural and economic development of our region. Fostering America's original art form, jazz, Scranton has a rich history, dating back to the 1930's when two jazz legends, Tommy Dorsey and Jimmy Dorsey, performed regularly with the Scranton Sirens Jazz Band. Our area is also credited with hosting the first known recorded jazz festival, "The Cavalcade of Dixieland Jazz", in 1951.

Since its premiere in 2005 the festival has drawn audiences from the entire Mid-Atlantic region, resulting in tremendous notoriety and exposure to the international jazz world. The SJF can help revive our region as a cultural epicenter, spreading the arts throughout the northeast, no different than such festivals as Newport, Rhode Island; Saratoga Springs, Florida; and Monterey, California. With your generosity, to support this program, we will be able to significantly enrich our community and region. Your donation will help us to defer costs for production, artists fees, advertising, and promotional expenses. In addition, your contribution will enable us to receive matching funds, provided by local and state funding organizations.

Together, as a united team, we can make artistic magic happen for Scranton. How incredible would it be to see this festival, in time, be considered a major summer destination place for the jazz/blues and world beat community? Only with your help will that magic happen. Thank you for your time and interest in the Scranton Jazz Festival.

HISTORY OF THE JAZZ FESTIVAL

The Scranton Jazz Festival began in 2005 at the Hanlon's Grove Amphitheatre at Nay Aug Park, Scranton, Pa. After a major snowstorm damaged the facility in 2007, the festival's organizers moved the event to its present home at the historic Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel in downtown Scranton where it has become a permanent fixture on the northeastern Pa. arts and culture scene. Presented in August for a three day weekend, the festival has attracted some of the finest international, national, and regional jazz/blues and world beat artists to showcase their world class talent. Combined with an outstanding staff of artisans, technicians, administrators and volunteers, the SJF literally transforms downtown Scranton in to a vibrant three days of high quality entertainment that has attracted thousands over the years. As a result not only has the festival been a high quality musical event, but it has also had a positive effect on the Scranton regions economy. Scranton has had a rich history in jazz dating back to the 1930's where jazz legends, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, performed regularly with the famous Scranton Sirens Jazz Band. The Scranton Jazz Festival simply wants to carry on this rich tradition while becoming a recognized contributor to the world of jazz/blues and world beat music in its own right. The Scranton Jazz Festival just completed its first decade. It is the hope and desire of every one involved that the festival will continue for decades to come.

OUR VENUE

The historic Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel in Downtown Scranton provides the Annual Jazz Festival with newly remodeled Hotel rooms, a covered outdoor amphitheater, indoor facilities for the late night jazz crowd, as well as the finest food and drink. This beautiful historic building and amphitheater provides the ideal location for a world-class event.

EDUCATION

The Scranton Jazz Festival is proud to present its student jazz educational component. Focusing on the small jazz combo, some of the world class artists performing at the SJF will educate these selected students in the skills necessary to perform jazz, blues, and world beat music. This is the future of America's classical music, and The Scranton Jazz Festival is proud to pass this great tradition onto the next generation. Students attend the Jazz Institute at Keystone College and will be selected from Lackawanna/Luzerne County, as well as the surrounding region.

CONTACT:

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SCRANTON JAZZ FESTIVAL

In The News

Here are just a few samples of the wonderful and supportive press coverage that the Scranton Jazz Festival has received. Visit our website for more coverage spanning the 10 years of the festival.

Cool jazz heats up downtown Scranton for 10th annual festival

By Kathleen Bolus

Published: August 11, 2014

The Times-Tribune



For the past decade, on one summer weekend the cool and hot sounds of jazz reverberate through the downtown.

The 10th annual Scranton Jazz Festival was no different.

On Sunday, for the festival's last night, a small audience was still taking to white chairs on the Radisson at Lackawanna Station hotel's platform to watch a five-piece New York City/Miami group perform in front of a starry backdrop.

"It's a great way to kick off a new decade," producer Bob Shlesinger said of the well-received event.

He estimated close to 3,000 people attended during the three-day festival.

A self-professed "great jazz lover," Mr. Shlesinger has been on board since before the first note was played that first year. Organizers of that event "felt this area needed a permanent one-weekend festival," he said. Their original plan of featuring "great music and world-class entertainment" still works a decade later.

Multi-Grammy-winning Manhattan Transfer drew a huge crowd Saturday night. The train-station-turned-hotel was "jampacked" — from the stage to the bar, people crowded in to enjoy the music, Mr. Shlesinger said.

Brass instruments, drums and bass could be heard where Lackawanna becomes Jefferson Avenue on Sunday evening, but on Saturday night the music was all over downtown.

During a Jazz Walk, Marko Marcinko, artistic director, said the tour had stops at Ale Mary's, the Bog, Posh at the Scranton Club, Trax Patio at the Radisson and Le Bistro.

Musicians were a blend of national, international, regional and local performers, said Mr. Marcinko, who performed during the festival, including at a Jazz Brunch that kicked off Sunday's events.

Saxophone player Tom Hamilton of Blakely has been playing the festival for 10 years. "It keeps getting better," he said.

He works with the Keystone College Jazz Institute, which helps high school musicians perfect their jazz technique every year during the last week of July. A band composed of those students took the stage Sunday afternoon.

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/cool-jazz-heats-up-downtown-scranton-for-10th-annual-festival-1.1733859>

Contact the writer:

kbolus@timeshamrock.com, @kbolusTT on Twitter



Scranton **JAZZ** FESTIVAL

Featuring some of the most iconic names in Jazz!
THE STANLEY CLARKE BAND jazz bass legend
JOHN PIZZARELLI w/ the SJF Blg Band
THE ROYAL SCAM a tribute to Steely Dan

The Historic Radisson
Lackawanna Station Hotel
and numerous downtown
Scranton, PA venues

TICKETS ON SALE

APRIL 1ST

ScrantonJazzFestival.org

Box Office: 570.575.5282

August 4-6 2017



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and numerous downtown Scranton, PA venues

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SCRANTON JAZZ FESTIVAL

In The News

Scranton Jazz Festival features three summer days of cool music

BY JOSH MCAULIFFE (STAFF WRITER) Published: July 26, 2013



All sorts of cool, wonderful sounds will fill the downtown air when the Scranton Jazz Festival returns for another set next weekend. Now in its ninth year, the festival will be held Friday through Sunday, Aug. 2 through 4, at Radisson at Lackawanna Station hotel.

This year's headliner is Freddy Cole, younger brother of music icon Nat King Cole. Also set to take the stage are: Grammy Award winner Dave Samuels and the Organik Vibe Trio, with saxophonist Adam Niewood; guitar icon Vic Juris with Jay Anderson and Adam Nussbaum; the Carl Fischer Nouveau Big Band paying tribute to jazz great Maynard Ferguson; and the Benny Carter Saxes.

Returning favorites to the festival include the Keystone College Jazz Institute Student Combos, the Sunday Jazz Brunch plus the Jazz Walk, which will feature local and national acts performing at several downtown venues in

addition to the Radisson on the first two nights of the festival. Jazz Walk acts will include the Merchants of Groove, Nate Birkey and the Bog Swing Group.

Friday night's main stage performances by Indigo Moon Brass Band and La Cuchina - The Ultimate Gato Barbieri Tribute, come with a new wrinkle - free admission. That was possible thanks to funding from Lackawanna County, according to festival artistic director and well-known local musician Marko Marcinko.

Affordable, accessible

Saturday's tickets cost \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, while Sunday's are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. There also will be a number of vendors selling an eclectic assortment of foods and wines.

"We make it affordable and accessible to the audience of NEPA," Mr. Marcinko said. "They're getting the most amazing representation of jazz, blues and world beat music in the world, and they're getting it in their town for next to nothing.

"It's about supporting (jazz), which is our American classical music." Mr. Cole will perform Sunday, Aug. 4, at 8 p.m. Just before coming to Scranton, he'll appear with his niece, Natalie Cole, at the prestigious Newport Jazz Festival in Rhode Island.

"If that doesn't give us cred, what does?" Mr. Marcinko said. "It's a real honor for us. ... He's amazing. He's just one of those guys who for years and years and years was in the trenches, playing clubs. He just did his thing."

"I've never played that festival, and I've heard it's a very good one," Mr. Cole said during a recent phone conversation.

A pianist and vocalist, Mr. Cole said he and his quartet will offer a program that includes everything "from Broadway to the blues."

"It all depends upon the crowd in the selections you choose. But it'll be interesting," said Mr. Cole, who will likely include songs from his new album, "This and That." "Whatever happens, we'll be swinging." Mr. Cole grew up in Chicago, the youngest kid in a highly musical family. All of the Cole boys were accomplished players who ultimately made music their livelihood. Mr. Cole started playing around age 5 and had his first professional gig at 12. Of course, the most popular of the siblings was Nat, a prominent jazz pianist before becoming one of the biggest pop music stars of the 1940s and '50s, known for such standards as "Mona Lisa," "Unforgettable" and "The Christmas Song." Mr. Cole was 11 when he first took the train to New York City to visit Nat, who at the time was working with Bing Crosby. During those visits, the brothers would mostly talk sports and go to Brooklyn Dodgers games. Music, Mr. Cole said, "would be the last thing we'd talk about." That said, his brother had a huge influence on him musically. "I grew up during that time he impacted all of America," Mr. Cole said. "He was quite the man."

While Mr. Cole never achieved the same level of fame as his brother, he's nonetheless carved out a terrific career within the jazz world. All these decades later, he's still hitting the road and playing for live audiences. Why? Because "when I get into the music, I don't care what else is happening at that time," he said.

"This is all I've ever done, so I gotta love it," he said. "I don't have my life to live over, but if I did it again I'd do the same thing."

thetimes-tribune.com

9th Annual



AUGUST 2 - 4, 2013

**Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel
700 Lackawanna Ave. Scranton, PA**

FREE NIGHT of Jazz!!!

**Friday Aug 2nd only.
Radisson Main Stage**

Tickets:

**Saturday - \$15 advance, \$20 at the door
Sunday - \$20 advance, \$25 at the door**

**Tickets Available at all
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The Scranton Jazz Festival Box Office:**

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email hrunco@yahoo.com

www.scrantonjazzfestival.org

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The Freddy Cole Quartet



**Living Jazz Legend and
younger brother of
Nat King Cole**

Featuring:

**Freddy Cole - piano/vocals
Elias Bailey - bass
Curtis Boyd - drums
Randy Napoleon - guitar**



Carl Fischer



Joel Frahm



Vic Juris



Organik Vibe Trio



The Bog Swing Group



Merchants of Groove

**For full weekend schedule of events and sponsor information please visit:
www.ScrantonJazzFestival.org**

Celebrate!

The Ninth Annual Scranton Jazz Festival

The Electric City will come alive with the sounds of Jazz this weekend as The Scranton Jazz Festival celebrates its ninth year at the historic Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel as well as many other downtown Scranton venues. Some of this year's participating artists are Freddy Cole, Dave Samuels and The Organik Vibe Trio with saxophonist Joel Frahm, La Cuchina, Vic Juris with Jay Anderson and Adam Nussbaum, and The Carl Fischer Nouveau Big Band. The event is free on Friday night, Aug. 2; \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door for Saturday, Aug. 3; and \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door for Sunday, Aug. 4. Tickets are available at all Gallery of Sound locations, by phone at 487-3954 or by emailing hrunco@yahoo.com.

The festival's committee had the initial goal of reinstating the summer music festival that Scranton hosted for many years at Nay Aug Park. After reestablishing the event, the festival as we currently know it began as a Saturday of jazz under the tent at Hanlon's Grove and soon blossomed into a 3-day event in downtown Scranton. The historic Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel plays host to the Annual Jazz Festival and boasts a covered outdoor amphitheater and a lounge for the late night jazz crowd.

"The primary artistic goal was to present the highest quality jazz, blues and world beat," executive committee member Marko Marcinko said. "We consistently do a great job presenting that and we also want to present the highest quality festival atmosphere, where people can have great food, great drinks and see all of the artists and vendors involved. We want all of this rolled up into one giant ball for three days in downtown Scranton. We have a successful record of presenting artists from all over the world and we're always trying to be something slightly different each year that is enticing unto itself."

Keeping that approach intact, a new aspect of this year's Jazz Festival is that all of Friday's performances are free to the public. "We had additional funding that came in from the county," Marcinko said. "The festival coincides with First Friday and we thought it would be a good idea to offer the Friday as a free night being that there are so many other things going on in downtown Scranton. We're inviting everyone to finish their night at the Radisson, to come in and enjoy the music at the end of the night."

Established in 2004, The Scranton Jazz Festival has become a permanent fixture on the northeastern

Pennsylvania arts and jazz circuits. Attracting international, national and regional artists, the festival brings downtown Scranton a breath of life with more than 100 musicians, artisans, staff, and volunteers.

"When we started, we went from 300 people to 3,000. That's a good way of defining what's happening locally and regionally. It's grown significantly on the vendor end, the music end, the audience participation end, on the educational end. People are recognizing the festival, traveling from far away to Scranton because they love the music, patronizing our restaurants and hotels."

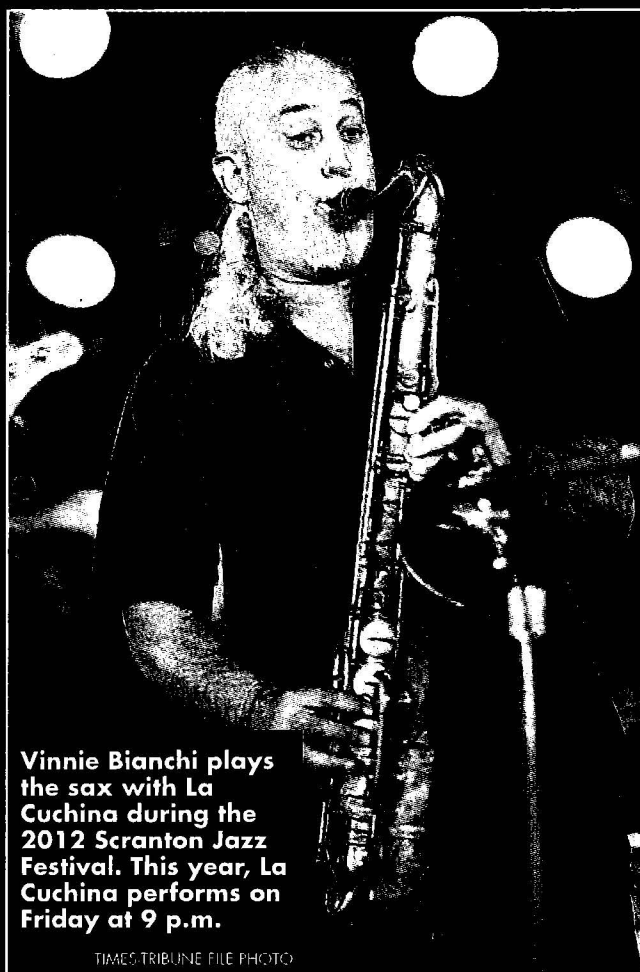
Once again, The Scranton Jazz Festival is also proud to present its student jazz educational com-

ponent. Some artists performing at the festival will educate selected students at Keystone College in the skills necessary to perform jazz, blues, and world beat music. The students will then deliver a performance on Sunday.

"The Scranton Jazz Festival is a unique thing and we're doing it for those wonderful reasons," Marcinko said.

— tom graham

For a complete list of participating Jazz Walk venues and more information, visit www.scrantonjazzfestival.org.



Vinnie Bianchi plays the sax with La Cuchina during the 2012 Scranton Jazz Festival. This year, La Cuchina performs on Friday at 9 p.m.

TIMES TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO



Carl Fischer will perform on Saturday at 9 p.m.



Music For Models will perform at the Jazz Walk at the Radisson on Friday at 10 p.m.

IF YOU GO:

What: 9th Annual Scranton Jazz Festival & Jazz Walk

When: August 2, 3, and 4

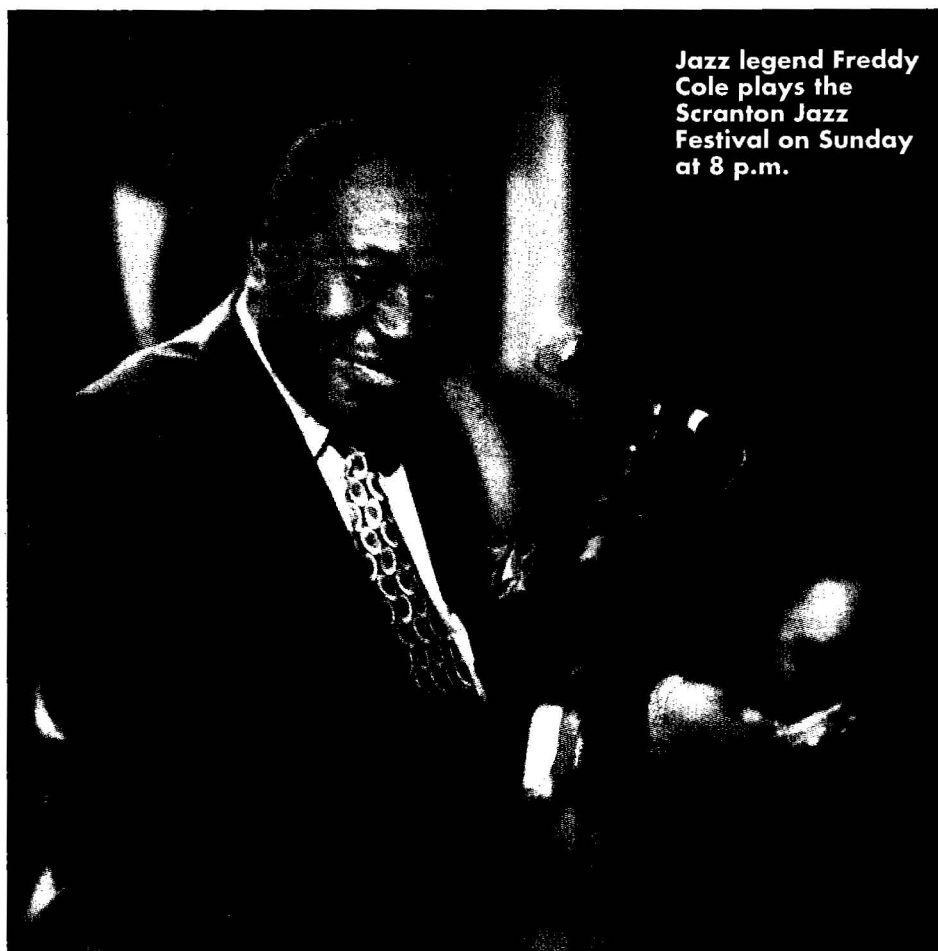
Where: The Historic Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel, 700 Lackawanna Ave., Scranton

Tickets: Available at all Joe Nardone Gallery of Sound locations; 487-3954; or hrunco@yahoo.com.

Information: www.scrantonjazzfestival.org

A Jazz Legend Speaks

An interview with Freddy Cole



Jazz legend Freddy Cole plays the Scranton Jazz Festival on Sunday at 8 p.m.

The Scranton Jazz Festival is proud to welcome The Freddy Cole Quartet, featuring Freddy Cole piano/vocals, Elias Bailey bass, Curtis Boyd drums, and Randy Napoleon guitar.

He has emerged from the shadow cast by his elder brother Nat King Cole to secure a place in jazz music all his own. After playing and singing in Chicago clubs as a teenager, Cole has enjoyed a successful career with many critics likening his smooth vocals to Frank Sinatra. Cole took some time to speak with us about his start in the music industry, his career and his approach to playing a festival.

You started playing music at an early age. How did music enter your life?

That's kind of hard to explain. It's been around me all of my life. Everybody in my family had been a

musician; my mother played piano and was a choir director; my brothers and sisters played; everybody played. Music was just a natural thing. It's funny how things rub off on you. You don't know it then, but you do after you get older. You realize what was happening.

How has the music changed for you throughout the years? Has your approach to performing evolved as well?

Yes. You grow with the times. Things enter around you and influence you. Whether you know it or not, you store it into that computer you have up there you call a brain. Then you can apply these techniques.

What are some memorable moments?
I have so many; I couldn't begin to tell you.

Life's been very good to me. I can't complain. Having had the privilege of being around such great entertainers like Duke Ellington, Lionel Hampton, Sonny Greer, Miles Davis. I can go on for ever and ever.

What would you be doing if you weren't a successful musician?

I don't know. I hope that never happens. (Laughs.) When that happens, I'm on my way out and you'll have to carry me down the aisle.

How do you get ready to play something like the Scranton Jazz Festival? Is a set list prepared beforehand?

There's no set list. I don't use a set list anyway. Some people do, but I don't. We'll play to what's happening with the crowd. I get my vibes back from the audience. We'll play along those lines. We'll play all the way from Broadway to the blues. This is my first time playing Scranton Jazz Fest, but I've played Scranton many, many years ago and I used to live in Philadelphia. I played all over that area.

So maybe you'll see some old faces in the crowd.

Yeah. (Laughs.) Mine will be old too!

What are your plans for the rest of the year?

We have a new CD out now (*This and That*) and hopefully it'll get bigger and bigger and maybe snatch a Grammy. We've had good reactions and good reviews (no. 8 on the jazz charts). Then we're going back to Europe and South America.

What are some things you'd still like to achieve?

To be able to continue on the level that I am and maybe even try to improve a bit, I hope. (Laughs.) To play to as many people as I can before I leave this planet earth. To spread the word of music around is a wonderful thing. When you get on that bandstand, you forget about everything else in the world except that music and that's the greatest feeling. Musicians have a way of getting lost in music.

— tom graham

SCRANTON JAZZ FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Main Stage at The Radisson Hotel



Organik Vibe Trio performs Sunday at 7 p.m.

AUGUST 2

8 p.m. — Indigo Moon Brass Band

9 p.m. — La Cuchina

10 p.m. — 1 a.m. The Jazz Walk

AUGUST 3

8 p.m.

— The Vic Juris Trio with bassist Jay Anderson and drummer Adam Nussbaum

9 p.m. — Carl Fischer Nouveau Big Band Remembering Maynard Ferguson featuring alumni of the MF Big Bop Nouveau Band

10 p.m. — 1 a.m. The Jazz Walk



AUGUST 4

11:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m. The Jazz Brunch, Carmen's Restaurant, Radisson Hotel

5 p.m. — The Keystone College Jazz Institute Student Combos

6 p.m. — The Benny Carter Saxes

7 p.m. — Dave Samuels and the Organik Vibe Trio with saxophone great Joel Frahm

8 p.m. — Jazz Legend Freddy Cole

9:30 p.m. — 12 a.m. The Festival Jazz Jam in Trax Bar, Radisson Hotel



Erin Malloy will perform at P.J.'s Pub at the Hilton Scranton on Friday at 11 p.m. at the Jazz Walk. For the full Jazz Walk schedule, visit scrantonjazz-festival.org.

*The 8th Annual
Scranton*



Festival

AUGUST 3-5 | 2012

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