

# *Jazz Ensemble III*

ROB OPITZ, Director

and

## **Vocal Jazz Combo**

KARLA HARRIS, Director



Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 8 pm

Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall

Sixty-fourth Concert of the 2018-19 Concert Season



## **Vocal Jazz Combo**

Karla Harris, Director

***Blue Skies*** / Irvin Berlin

Vocal Jazz Combo  
Brian Reid, piano

## **Jazz Ensemble III**

presents ***Big Band is Back!***

Rob Opitz, Director

***Ran Kan Kan*** / Puente / arr. Mossman

***Caught a Touch of Your Love*** / Ojeda

***At Last*** / Warren / arr. Carubia

***Beyond the Limit*** / Mintzer

***I Just Found Out About Love*** / arr. Menza

***Fever*** / Davenport and Cooley / arr. Holmes

***Two Seconds to Midnight*** / Baylock

# Personnel



Karla Harris



Rob Opitz

## VOCAL JAZZ COMBO

Melodie Fort  
Sofia Friederwitzer  
Sadie Llop  
Yazmeen Mayes  
Susan Reyes  
Ezra Trotman

## JAZZ ENSEMBLE III

### REEDS

Brandon Printup, alto sax  
Ben Podrazhansky, alto sax  
Andrew Shaw, tenor sax  
Jacob Martinez, tenor sax  
Tommy Smith, bari sax

### TRUMPETS

Mason Black  
Cierra Weldin  
Steven Lukehart  
Jeremy Perkins

### TROMBONES

Kirill Wood  
Wes McDonald  
Devin Witt  
Patrick Reyman

### RHYTHM

Carlos Diaz, drums  
Trevor Lynch, bass  
Diego Perez, guitar

### VOCALS

Nasia Gladmon  
Sadie Llop

# Biographies



**Karla Harris, director** known for nuanced jazz vocals that bring a sophisticated ease and dynamic delivery, has made a career within the art form she loves for more than three decades, performing for audiences from Portland to Provence. She displays an instinctive ability to share the story, emotion and musical substance of the songs she sings, spanning genres and styles, blending boundaries with subtlety.

A St. Louis native, Karla began singing jazz during college as a member of the St. Louis Jazz Quartet. In 2004, she moved to Portland, OR, and was quickly embraced by that city's vibrant jazz scene, performing regularly with the area's celebrated artists at top venues and events such as the Portland Jazz Festival, Cathedral Park Jazz Festival, and Newport Jazz Party.

In 2012, she relocated to Atlanta. She has sung at jazz events and venues throughout the region including the Sarasota Jazz Festival, the Callanwolde Arts Festival, the Jazz Corner, the Palladium, Churchill Grounds and more, and headlined numerous shows at *Downbeat* magazine top-rated Velvet Note Acoustic Living Room.

In 2015, Karla released *Karla Harris Sings the Dave and Iola Brubeck Songbook* on Summit Records. Of the project, critics write: "A work of sheer elegance and distinction." – *Jazz da Gama*; "The Brubecks would have been pleased." – *Jazziz Magazine*. "A vocal artist with impeccable phrasing and the innate gift to have the band play with and not around her." – *Critical Jazz*. Karla's contemporary versions of Brubeck classics such as "Take Five" are played on jazz stations internationally.



**Rob Opitz, director** holds the title of Artist-in-Residence in Jazz Trumpet at Kennesaw State University. Originally from Illinois, Mr. Opitz's career has ranged from elementary music, to middle school, high school, and now at the collegiate level. Mr. Opitz has been the Director of Bands at Marietta High School, Creekview High School, Barber Middle School, and Reinhardt University.

Rob is a very active performer. Recently, Rob completed a four week tour with international superstar Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds. The tour featured multiple US Cities, Austin City Limits, and the Jimmy

Kimmel show. Rob is the founder and director of his own group, the Atlanta Latin Jazz Orchestra – an 18 piece big band featuring the music of some of the greats in Latin Jazz.

He has also appeared as a sideman with Tito Puente, Louis Bellson, Marian McPartland, Rufus Reid, Hal Crook, Marshal Royal, Jon Faddis, Diane Schuur, Paquito D'Rivera, Cladio Roditi, Bob Mintzer, and many more. Rob has performed in local groups in the metro Atlanta Area, including Orquesta MaCuba, the Georgia Symphony Orchestra Jazz Ensemble, Yacht Rock Revue, Bumpin' the Mango, Bogey and the Viceroy, the Joe Gransden Big Band, Macon Pops Orchestra, and numerous others.

Rob has been married to a terrific woman and Pre-K teacher, Stacie, for over 20 years and has two wonderful sons, Michael and Zach – both of whom are musicians.

## SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY AND STAFF

Stephen W. Plate, *Director*

### Music Education

Judith Beale	Angela McKee
Janet Boner	Richard McKee
Nancy Conley	Terri Talley
Kathleen Creasy	Paula Thomas-Lee
McKenzi Fenn	Charles Tighe
Kimberly Inks	Amber Weldon-
Charles Jackson	Stephens
Alison Mann	

### Music History & Appreciation

Drew Dolan	Kayleen Justus
Edward Eanes	Harry Price
Heather Hart	Sean Thrower

### Music Theory, Composition, Technology

Judith Cole	Matt Still
Steve Dancz	Benjamin
Kelly Francis	Wadsworth
Jennifer Mitchell	Jeff Yunek
Laurence Sherr	

### Woodwinds

Kelly Bryant, *Flute, Chamber Music*  
Robert Cronin, *Flute*  
Todd Skitch, *Flute*  
Christina Smith, *Flute*  
Cecilia Price, *Flute, Chamber Music*  
Barbara Cook, *Oboe*  
Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, *Oboe*  
John Warren, *Clarinet, Chamber Music*  
Andrew Brady, *Bassoon*  
Anthony Georgeson, *Bassoon*  
Sam Skelton, *Saxophone*  
Luke Weathington, *Saxophone*

### Brass & Percussion

Doug Lindsey, *Trumpet, Chamber Music*  
Ryan Moser, *Trumpet*  
Mike Tiscione, *Trumpet*  
Jason Eklund, *Horn*  
Richard Williams, *Horn*  
Tom Gibson, *Trombone*  
Hollie Pritchard, *Trombone*  
Brian Hecht, *Bass Trombone*  
Jason Casanova, *Tuba / Euphonium*  
Paul Dickinson, *Tuba / Euphonium*  
Marja Kerney, *Percussion*  
John Lawless, *Percussion*

### Strings

Helen Kim, *Violin*  
Kenn Wagner, *Violin, Chamber Music*  
David Coucheron, *Orchestral Studies*  
Catherine Lynn, *Viola*  
Paul Murphy, *Viola*  
Charae Krueger, *Cello*  
James Barket, *Double Bass*  
Joseph McFadden, *Double Bass*  
Elisabeth Remy Johnson, *Harp*  
Sean Thrower, *Classical Guitar*

### Voice

Eileen Moremen	Todd Wedge
Oral Moses	Heather Witt
Nathan Munson	Jana Young
Valerie Walters	

### Piano

Judith Cole,	Julie Coucheron
<i>Collaborative Piano</i>	Robert Henry
Eric Jenkins,	Huu Mai
<i>Collaborative Piano</i>	John Marsh
Erika Tazawa,	
<i>Collaborative Piano</i>	

### Jazz

Justin Chesarek, *Jazz Percussion*  
Wes Funderburk, *Jazz Trombone, Jazz Ensembles*  
Karla Harris, *Vocal Jazz*  
Tyronne Jackson, *Jazz Piano*  
Marc Miller, *Jazz Bass*  
Sam Skelton, *Jazz Ensembles*  
Rob Opitz, *Jazz Trumpet*  
Trey Wright, *Jazz Guitar, Jazz Combos*

### Ensembles & Conductors

Leslie J. Blackwell, *Choral Activities*  
Nancy Conley, *Philharmonic Orchestra*  
Trey Harris, *University Band, Marching Band*  
Alison Mann, *Choral Activities*  
Oral Moses, *Gospel Choir*  
Eileen Moremen, *Opera*  
Nathaniel F. Parker, *Symphony Orchestra*  
Debra Traficante, *Wind Symphony, Marching Band*  
David Kehler, *Wind Ensemble*

### School of Music Staff

Julia Becker, *Administrative Associate*  
Susan M. Grant Robinson, *Associate Director for Administration*  
Joseph Greenway, *Assistant Director for Production & Technology*  
Dan Hesketh, *Assistant Director for Marketing and Outreach*  
June Mauser, *Administrative Associate*  
Daniel Pattillo, *Technical Manager*  
Richard Peluso, *Coordinator of Band Operations and Outreach*  
Shawn Rieschl Johnson, *Associate Director for Operations & Programming*

### Ensembles in Residence

KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament  
Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus  
KSU Faculty Chamber Players  
Summit Piano Trio  
KSU Community and Alumni Choir



## Welcome!

Thank you for making time in your busy schedules to support the performances of the Kennesaw State University School of Music. We are excited that you are here and we appreciate your love of music and support of our faculty, students and musical guests!

The School of Music at Kennesaw State University continues to be an exciting place! This year's *Signature Series* features four wonderful performances that we know will be memorable and well worth your investment. The

27-time Grammy Award winning Atlanta Symphony is with us again. We so value our professional relationship with this orchestra and we love having them here on our Morgan stage.


Having just completed our 10th Anniversary Season, the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center is poised to begin the next decade of bringing you outstanding musical performances and artists from around the world! The Bailey Center continues to be transformational in the life of our school and for you, our patrons!


We are continuing our *Name a Seat* campaign this year. If you have a friend, loved one, child, student, teacher, or significant other that you would like to honor or memorialize, we welcome your support. Your \$1,000 gift to the *Name a Seat* endowment helps us to ensure that we can continue to bring you amazing musical performances well into the future.


I look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with you. With your continued support of music and the arts, I look forward to all we can accomplish together!


Stephen W. Plate, *Director, KSU School of Music*

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