KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament

featuring

KSU Jazz Combo I
Trey Wright, Director

Thursday, October 24, 2019 | 8:00 PM

Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall
Program

KSU Jazz Combo I
Trey Wright, Director

SWINGING AT THE HAVEN
ELLIS MARSALIS

HOW INSENSITIVE
A.C. JOBIM, VINICIUS DE MORAES, NORMAN GIMBEL

JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS
COLE PORTER

–BRIEF INTERMISSION–

KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament

LOVE FOR SALE
COLE PORTER / SKELTON

KEEP THAT SAME OLD FEELING
WAYNE HENDERSON / JACKSON

COME TOGETHER
LENNON & MCCARTNEY / JACKSON

ME AND EINSTEIN
TREY WRIGHT

CHANCE OF SNOW
TREY WRIGHT

SET SOPHIA FREE
KARLA HARRIS

LITHA
CHICK COREA

Audio/video recording and flash photography is prohibited at School of Music concerts.

We welcome all guests with special needs and offer the following services: easy access, companion seating locations, accessible restrooms, and assisted listening devices. Please contact a patron services representative at 470-578-6650 to request services.
Personnel

KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament

Sam Skelton
Reeds

Luke Weathington
Reeds

Rob Opitz
Trumpet

Wes Funderburk
Trombone

Trey Wright
Guitar

Tyrone Jackson
Piano

Brad Cannata
Bass

Justin Chesarek
Drums

Karla Harris
Vocals

Please consider a gift to the Kennesaw State University School of Music. https://community.kennesaw.edu/GiveToMusic
**Biographies**

**Tyrone Jackson** - The name Tyrone Jackson is quickly becoming synonymous with the quintessential jazz piano player. Born in the New Orleans cradle of jazz, Jackson embodies the spirit of the Crescent City. As a composer, Jackson has composed original music for the Alliance theater’s productions of “Native Guard”, “Tell Me My Dream” and “Ethel”. Additionally, Jackson has composed and recorded 4 CD’s and performed on countless others. His newest CD, “From The Mind Of” is a testament of his ability to crossover genre lines. Jackson has performed with Steve Turre, Larry Carlton, Wynton Marsalis, Branford Marsalis, Wycliffe Gordon, Vincent Gardner, Joe Lovano, Jennifer Holliday, Russell Malone, and Marcus Miller. Currently Tyrone Jackson is a professor at Kennesaw State University where he is Lecturer of Jazz Piano and teaches a myriad of classes.
Sam Skelton - A native of Conyers, Georgia, Sam Skelton has been active on the Atlanta music scene for well over three decades. Mr. Skelton graduated summa cum laude from Georgia State University with a degree in Jazz Studies. During his course of study at GSU, Sam was a Montgomery Music Scholar and a two-time fellowship recipient to the Aspen Music Festival. He continued his saxophone studies with Kenneth Radnofsky at Boston University in 1991 focusing on classical saxophone and music education. Other teachers include David and James “Dub” Hudson and Jeff Benedict.

Sam is currently Director of Jazz Studies and Senior Lecturer in Saxophone at Kennesaw State University. He is also Artistic Director of GSO Jazz and GYSO Jazz. Sam served as Professor of Saxophone at Georgia State University from 1991 to 2004 and was Jazz Ensemble Director at Georgia Tech from 2002-2004 and Artist-in-Residence at The University Of Georgia Jazz Department. He served as Visiting Professor of Saxophone at Furman University 2001-02. Professional associations include: The Jazz Educators Network, Georgia Music Educators Association, Georgia Association of Jazz Educators, National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (voting member) and the American Federation of Musicians. For his contributions to the city’s cultural life, Atlanta Public Broadcasting named him a “Lexus Leader in the Arts” in 2003. Sam is proud to be a Conn-Selmer and D’Addario Artist.

Luke Weathington - Alabama native Luke Weathington has been active on the Atlanta music scene for a decade. Mr. Weathington graduated from Kennesaw State University with a degree in Saxophone Performance in 2012; and graduated from Georgia State University with a degree in Jazz Studies in 2015. During his course of study at KSU, Luke was a member and composer of the original music group “Sub-list” which was selected to perform at the JEN conference in 2013. His works are featured on the School of Music CD released in 2013. He was also selected to be a member of the Alumni Combo that played for the 10th anniversary of the Bailey Performing Arts Center in 2017. While at GSU, Luke held a teaching assistantship position and was in charge of combos as well as teaching co-teaching improv classes. Mr. Weathington’s teachers were Dr. Mitchel Henson, Sam Skelton, and Mace Hibbard.

As a woodwind doubler, Weathington is well versed in many genres of music. His ability to play saxophone, clarinet, and flute has kept him very busy in musical theaters around Atlanta, most notably the Fox Theater and the Lyric Theatre.

As a sideman; Luke has had the pleasure of performing with The Temptations, The Glen Miller Orchestra, John Driskell Hopkins, Omid, Johnnie Mathis, Carmen Bradford, Francine Reed, Freddie Cole, Jackie Burnes, Alan Vache, Matt Cattigub, The Macon Pops Orchestra, The Cobb Symphony Orchestra Jazz, Joe Gransden’s Big Band, Atlanta All-Star Big Band, Atlanta Latin Jazz Orchestra, The Douglas Cameron Orchestra, and The Due West Celebration Orchestra.

Weathington is proud to be a member of the Georgia Symphony Orchestra JAZZ! since 2013; as well as a founding member of the original big band music group Rebel Big Band.

Luke is currently Artist-in-Residence at KSU and is a member of the Parliament Faculty Jazz Ensemble as well as the Faculty/Student combo that has performed at notable jazz clubs in Atlanta. He also served as Professor of Woodwinds at Miles College 2016 to 2017. Luke is also a proud member of the Atlanta Federation of Musicians.
Biographies

Rob Opitz 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 4 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.

Wes Funderburk has performed across the United States and Europe and is currently one of the most sought after trombonists and arrangers in the Southeast. He has written, performed and recorded with a wide array of national and internationally-renowned artists including: Arrested Development, John Driskell Hopkins, Jennifer Holliday, Natalie Cole, Jermaine Dupri, Cee Lo, the Boston Brass, Dallas Austin, Joe Gransden, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Pops Orchestra, the Macon Pops Orchestra as well as the Cartoon Network and the Weather Channel.

Wes’ arranging credits include music for the Joe Gransden Big Band, Russell Gunn’s Krunk Jazz Orchestra, Jennifer Holliday, John Driskell Hopkins, the Atlanta Pops, Natalie Cole, the Georgia Brass Band, Kennesaw State University Jazz Ensemble, Georgia State University Jazz Ensemble and the Piedmont Trombone Society.

Wes earned his Bachelor’s Degree in trombone performance from the University of North Florida and his Masters’ Degree in trombone performance with a concentration in jazz studies from Georgia State University. He is a former governor for the Atlanta chapter of the Recording Academy and is a performing artist for Rath trombones.
**Trey Wright** is a jazz guitarist and composer based in Roswell, Ga. At KSU, Trey currently teaches Applied Jazz Guitar, Jazz Theory and Composition, Jazz Guitar Ensemble, Jazz History, Jazz Improvisation and The History of Rock. Trey has also taught at LaGrange College, Gainesville College, the Atlanta Institute of Music and the University of Georgia.

Trey leads or co-leads several jazz groups including the Laura Coyle and Trey Wright duo, the Trey Wright Trio and the Hibbard/Wright Project. In addition, Trey also performs freelance in the Atlanta area and has performed with Yellowjackets bassist Jimmy Haslip, John Patitucci, Joe Lovano, Corey Christiansen and Darmon Meader of the New York Voices. Trey has performed at the Montreux Jazz Festival; Jazz A Vienne; the International Festival of University Theatre of Casablanca Morocco; the World Sacred Music Festival in Bangalore, India; and in Montepulciano, Italy. In early 2008, Trey began playing with the Georgia Symphonic Jazz Orchestra.

In 2006, Trey released his first CD Where I’m Calling From, receiving rave reviews and airplay throughout the United States and abroad. The Trey Wright Trio released Thinking Out Loud in the summer of 2009 on Blue Canoe Records. In the Fall of 2012, the Trey Wright Trio’s version of Thom Yorke’s “Analyze” was included on the compilation Head Radio Retransmissions: A Tribute to Radiohead on the German label ESC records. Other recent CD projects include The Hibbard/Wright Project (2013) and Songs From Oak Avenue (2015). Over the past two years, Trey's Blue Canoe releases were included as part of Delta Airlines In Flight Entertainment on domestic and international routes.

**Brad Cannata**, originally born in Killeen, Texas, is an up and coming bassist from Augusta, Georgia. Cannata lived primarily in Hephzibah, Georgia, but attended Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School near the heart of downtown Augusta. The band program at Davidson was under the direction of Everett Cannady. He laid the foundation of Cannata’s knowledge of music and provided opportunities for Cannata to explore jazz improvisation. In downtown Augusta, Cannata also attended a James Brown music-intensive school known as J.A.M.P. This school of 8-18 year old musicians would tour the U.S. playing Mr.Brown’s music and would create an integral part of Cannata’s playing identity. This root in funk and curiosity with jazz improvisation have pushed him to new heights in the Atlanta music scene.

Cannata is a Junior at KSU and is studying Jazz Bass under Marc Miller in pursuit of his Bachelor of Music Performance degree. He is a recipient of the Audrey and Jack Morgan Music scholarship as well as a Golden Key recipient. Cannata’s past summer was spent playing bass/ bass drum with the DisneyLand All-American College Band in Anaheim, California. Brad Cannata is a frequent freelancer in the areas surrounding Atlanta and has performed with Atlanta’s finest musicians. Notable Atlanta musicians Cannata has performed with include Sam Skelton, Russell Gunn, Kebbi Williams, Landon Jordan, and Robert Boone. He has shared the stage with some world renowned names like Christian McBride, Luke Bryan, and Sharon Jones.
**Justin Chesarek** - Percussionist Justin Chesarek began gigging at the age of twelve with Pittsburgh jazz legend Harold Betters and spent time listening to Roger Humphries live, well-known for his work with Horace Silver.

After earning a Bachelors of Music in Music Education from Slippery Rock University, Justin pursued a Masters of Music and Jazz Studies at Georgia State University. Along the way, Chesarek filled his gig-calendar, making a name for himself as an exceptional musician.

He performs regularly with Joe Alterman, Trey Wright, Gary Motley, The Joe Gransden Big Band, the ATL Collective, and he is a regular at the Atlanta Jazz Festival. He has performed at The Iridium and The Blue Note in New York, Washington D.C’s Kennedy Center, a TED Talk, the Juneau Jazz and Classics Festival in Alaska, The North Sea Jazz Festival in Holland, and the Montreaux Jazz Festival in Switzerland.

Chesarek teaches Jazz Percussion at Kennesaw State University, he is the Artist Affiliate of Jazz Percussion at Emory University, and he runs a private studio of his own, working with students of all ages. His students have gone on to become professional touring musicians, off-broadway theater pit players, and top call Atlanta drummers. He is a board member of the Atlanta Lovers of Music Association, and a proud endorser of Regal Tip drum sticks, mallets, and brushes.

Justin lives in Decatur, with his wife and daughter.

**Karla Harris**, 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.
Ezra Trotman started singing in his high school choir when he was a sophomore in high school. At age 16 he began to take an interest in vocal jazz. In 2016 Trotman studied at Middle Tennessee State University for three semesters, where he studied vocal jazz under Dr. Cedric Dent; former member of the 10 times Grammy award-winning group Take 6, professional jazz bassist and vocalist Jim Ferguson, and lastly former student of composer Steve Zegree Ashley Kimbrough. After studying in Murfreesboro, Trotman decided to transfer to Kennesaw State University to further his studies in vocal Jazz, where he currently studies under artist in residence Karla Harris.

Grady Housworth was born in Atlanta, Georgia in the year 2000. Growing up in the Decatur area, he started playing the piano at age 8 and picked up the trombone at age 10. In high school, he became more interested in music as a serious pursuit and played with several dynamic groups including the All State Jazz Ensemble and the Rialto Youth Jazz Orchestra as well participating in the Governors Honors Program in 2017. After graduating Druid Hills High School in 2018, he began his Bachelor’s studies in Music Performance at KSU and is now a sophomore.

Chris Marks is an Atlanta-based guitarist, pianist, and producer from Augusta, Georgia. He is a jazz performance major at Kennesaw State University, and is currently studying with Trey Wright. Chris has a wide range of roots in musical disciplines from classical to contemporary. He began playing piano at young age and became an accomplished cellist performing chamber music at Augusta University, while keeping guitar and improvised music his main focus. He has shared the stage with contemporary artists such as Baby Rose and Lola Cole at Dogwood Festival, the Oakhurst Porchfest, the Strand Theater, Smiths Olde Bar, and Elliott Street Pub. Chris has released two albums of self-produced, original music during his time studying at KSU and is planning more collaborative and creative efforts for the future.

Zachary Smith is a Senior at Kennesaw State University and is pursuing a Bachelor’s Degree in Music Performance with a focus in drumset. He is primarily taught by Justin Cheserak, and is currently working on finishing his degree and preparing his senior recital. Zachary is excited to share the great work being done within the Kennesaw State Combo program, and he hopes that the performance will help inspire other students enrolled in the School of Music or otherwise to learn about the program and consider enrolling. Additionally, he is honored to share the stage with the KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament and work alongside the incredible musicians and educators that have helped him hone his craft and give him the tools to succeed in his artistic endeavors. When not practicing or studying, Zachary enjoys exercising, reading, and playing table-top games with friends.

Connect with the Kennesaw State University School of Music!

Visit the Live Streaming page on musicKSU.com to watch live broadcasts of many of our concerts and to view the full schedule of upcoming live streamed events.
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Tom Gibson, Trombone
Brian Hecht, Bass Trombone
John Lawless, Percussion, Area Coordinator
Doug Lindsey, Trumpet, Area Coordinator
Ryan Moser, Trumpet
Hollie Pritchard, Trombone
Michael Stubbart, Percussion
Mike Tiscione, Trumpet
Richard Williams, Horn

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Elisabeth Remy Johnson, Harp
Helen Kim, Violin, Area Coordinator
Yinzi Kong, Viola
Charae Krueger, Cello
Joseph McFadden, Double Bass
Sean Thrower, Classical Guitar
Kenn Wagner, Violin

Woodwinds
Andrew Brady, Bassoon
Kelly Bryant, Flute
Barbara Cook, Oboe
Robert Cronin, Flute
Anthony Georgeson, Bassoon
Cecilia Price, Flute
Sam Skelton, Saxophone
Todd Skitch, Flute
Christina Smith, Flute
Justin Stanley, Clarinet
Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, Oboe
John Warren, Clarinet, Area Coordinator
Luke Weathington, Saxophone

Jazz
Justin Chesarek, Jazz Percussion & Combos
Wes Funderburk, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Trombone
Karla Harris, Vocal Jazz & Combo
Tyrone Jackson, Jazz Piano & Combos
Marc Miller, Jazz Bass & Combos
Rob Opitz, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Trumpet
Sam Skelton, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Saxophone, Area Coordinator
Luke Weathington, Jazz Saxophone & Combos
Trey Wright, Jazz Guitar & Combos, Area Coordinator

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Oral Moses
Nathan Munson
Valerie Walters
Todd Wedge
Heather Witt
Jana Young, Area Coordinator

Piano
Judy Cole, Collaborative Piano
Julie Coucheron
Robert Henry, Area Coordinator
Eric Jenkins, Collaborative Piano Coordinator
Huu Mai
John Marsh
Erika Tazawa, Collaborative Piano

Ensembles in Residence

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

Ensembles & Conductors

Leslie Blackwell, Director of
    Choral Activities
Nancy Conley, Philharmonic Orchestra
David T. Kehler, Director of Bands
Alison Mann, Women’s Choir
Reid Masters, Assistant Director of
    Choral Activities
Eileen Moremen, Opera Theater
Oral Moses, Gospel Choir
Nathaniel F. Parker, Director of
    Orchestral Studies
Joseph Scheivert,
    Assistant Director of Bands
Sam Skelton, Director of Jazz Studies
Debra Traficante, Director of
    Athletic Bands and
    “The Marching Owls”

Chamber Music

Julie Coucheron, Piano Ensemble
    John Warren,
    Woodwind Chamber Music
Charae Krueger, String Chamber Music
    Trey Wright, Jazz Combos
Doug Lindsey, Brass Chamber Music
Music Education

Judith Beale
    Richard McKee
Janet Boner
    Terri Talley
Nancy Conley
    Paula Thomas-Lee
Kathleen D. Creasy
    Charles Tighe
Charles R. Jackson
    Amber Weldon-Stephens
Alison Mann, Area Coordinator
    John Warren,
    Woodwind Chamber Music
Angee McKee

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    John Marsh
Edward Eanes, Area Coordinator
    Jennifer Marsh
Heather Hart
    Harry E. Price
Kayleen Justus
    Sean Thrower

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Judy Cole, Music Theory
    Laurence Sherr, Composition, Technology,
    Bachelor of Arts Area Coordinator
Steve Dancz, Composition, Technology
    Benjamin Wadsworth, Music Theory
    Area Coordinator
Kelly Francis, Music Theory
Tyrone Jackson, Music Theory
    Jeff Yunek, Music Theory, Aural Skills
    Area Coordinator
Jennifer Mitchell, Composition
    Jennifer Marsh

School of Music Staff

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Joseph Greenway, Assistant Director
    for Production & Technology
Richard Peluso, Coordinator of Band
    Operations and Outreach
Colleen Radbill, Office Manager
Upcoming Events

Brass Ensembles
Monday, 10/28/19 at 8 pm

Concerto Competition Finals
Tuesday, 10/29/2019 at 8 pm

Jazz Ensembles II & III
Thursday, 10/31/2019 at 8 pm

Jazz Combos
Monday, 11/4/2019 at 5:30 pm and 8 pm in Scott Hall

artsKSU presents: Anat Cohen Tentet,
Musical Director Oded Lev-Ari
Saturday, 11/9/2019 at 8 pm

Ever charismatic, prolific, and inspired, GRAMMY-nominated clarinetist-saxophonist Anat Cohen has won hearts and minds the world over with her expressive virtuosity and delightful stage presence. Anat has been declared Clarinetist of the Year by the Jazz Journalists Association every year since 2007 and has also been named the Top Clarinetist, Rising Star, and Jazz Artist of the Year by Downbeat Magazine. The tentet (rhythm section, horns, vibraphone, cello, and accordion) performs tunes from their recent album Happy Song which draws influence from Brazilian music and African grooves to vintage swing and touching ballads.

Trumpet Festival of the Southeast
January 31 - February 2, 2020
Register at musicKSU.com under Clinics and Workshops.

Our two featured trumpet artists this year are Jose Sibaja, Paul Merkelo, Brian Shaw, Melvin Jones. Our evening concert artists include the KSU Jazz Parliament, Georgia Brass Band, and KSU Wind Ensemble.