

Central PA Jazz Camp Faculty



Bassist **BEN WOLFE** has worked with Junior Cook, Jimmy Cobb, the Mel Lewis Orchestra, & Harry Connick Jr. Ben was a member of the Wynton Marsalis Septet and has also recorded with James Moody, Marcus Roberts, Branford Marsalis, and Diana Krall. While a member of the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, he accompanied jazz legends Joe Henderson and Jon Hendricks among others. Also a very talented composer, he was awarded a grant from Chamber Music America's New Works: Creation and Presentation Program, funded through the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Ben's Trio with talented band mates - Philadelphia pianist Orrin Evans and NYC drummer Donald Edwards - will perform Friday 6/16 at 7:30pm in a tribute to Thelonious Monk's 100th year



PAUL BRATCHER, a Harrisburg native, began playing piano at age 11. He attended Bishop McDevitt H. S. where he played in the Jazz Band under the direction of David Knott. Paul then attended Messiah College, receiving a Bachelors of Science in Music Education. While attending Messiah he studied with jazz masters Tim Warfield, Kirk Reese, Cyrus Chestnut and Bruce Barth. Paul went to Michigan State Univ. studying under world renowned bassist Rodney Whitaker, graduating with his M.M. in Jazz Studies. Paul has shared the stage with Diego Rivera, Etienne Charles, Jeff "Tain" Watts and Branford Marsalis. He has played on international tours to South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Canada, and Uruguay, and recently recorded an album with Detroit rising star Anthony Stanco. Paul is working on his own CD to be released soon. He is on faculty at the Levine School of Music in Washington D.C. and Messiah College.



KIRK REESE has been an active part of the jazz scene in Pennsylvania for over thirty years. He has performed with numerous notable jazz artists including Phil Woods, Lou Marini, Marvin Stamm, Tim Warfield, Jr. and Terrell Stafford. and has been the opening act for Bela Fleck, B.B. King and others. An active recording artist, he has appeared on countless CDs including one by the Reese Project, "*Blue Etude*", which received a Grammy nomination in 2002. Reese has been on the music faculty at Messiah College for nearly 10 years and in that time has established a culture of small-group jazz that has enhanced the department, reinforced the big bands, and has been the catalyst for many students developing a lifelong appreciation for the art form. His latest recording - *Impressions* - was released in February 2015.

STEVE VARNER was born and raised in Tennessee, where he entered the world of music playing electric bass. In 1980, Steve moved to the Harrisburg, PA area, where he soon became a local favorite. After switching to acoustic bass in the early 1990's, he began to work, tour and record with a wider circle of improvisational musicians. Now residing in northern New Jersey, Steve has performed with such jazz greats as: Pat Martino, Phil Woods, Dave Liebman, Billy Hart, Tim Warfield, Eric Alexander, James Moody, Vic Juris, Ernie Watts, Bill Goodwin, Bob Dorough, Jean-Michel Pilc, Dennis DeBlasio, Tierney Sutton, and Karrin Allyson.

JEFF STABLEY teaches Jazz Studies at York College of Pennsylvania where he directs the jazz ensemble and the percussion ensemble. He is also a music teacher at Lincoln Intermediate Unit #12 in York County. For more than ten years, Stabley has been the music director of the First Presbyterian Church of York's popular jazz vespers concerts honoring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.. Locally Jeff can be heard drumming with Kirk Reese, Tim Warfield, Jr., and Jim Wood. He also plays keyboard with Kris Kostoff's hip-hop jazz group *Compound*. The Jeff Stabley Trio has released a CD entitled "Music To Listen to Music To" with Steve Meashey & Andy Roberts.

CATHY CHEMI is currently on faculty at Kutztown University. She toured and recorded with the legendary trumpeter Harry James and is one of the greatest vocal interpreters of the American Songbook. Her career included time in Las Vegas sharing the stage with Red Buttons and Earl "Fatha" Hines.



CENTRAL PA FRIENDS OF

 5721 JONESTOWN RD., HBG 17112

CENTRAL PA
 JAZZ CAMP

June 14, 15, 16 & 17, 2017

Central PA Friends of 

16th Annual

CENTRAL PA JAZZ CAMP

June 14 - 15 - 16 & 17, 2017
 Messiah College - Mechanicsburg, PA



2017 Guest Educators

Ben Wolfe - Kirk Reese
 Steve Varner - Cathy Chemi



Last year's Campers -
 Come Join the Fun!



www.friendsofjazz.org