
MEADOW CITY ACADEMY OF MUSIC



812 Highland Drive
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701
(505) 718-6597
www.meadowcitymusic.org

Ronald Maltais, DMA, President, Artistic Director
Phillip Schroeder, Ph.D. Vice President
Niki Sebastian, MA, Secretary
David Ponder, MM, Treasurer



Ifield Auditorium at
Highlands University,
donated site of Benefit
Concert for Fire Relief

Benefit Concert for Fire Relief

On Sunday, June 26, 2022 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Ifield Auditorium at Highlands University, the Meadow City Academy of Music will be holding a benefit concert for the victims of our community's recent fires featuring local musicians. All proceeds will be given to the Red Cross.

An Update on Meadow City Academy of Music _____

I am proud to announce the first edition of what we hope will be a quarterly newsletter containing behind-the-scenes information about Meadow City Academy of Music!

On Sunday, March 27, after many months of silence, it was a pleasure to see members of our community at Immaculate Conception Church in Las Vegas turn out for an event featuring the Chatter String Quartet, performing works by Prokofiev, Vasks and Beethoven. The players came from Santa Fe and were surprised to learn that they would open our fifth season. Our second event was a collaborative performance by Kevin Zoernig and David Friesen at the Historic Plaza Hotel Ballroom on Friday April 29 which coincided with the beginning of evacuations due to the escalating wildfires approaching Las Vegas. Although some of our friends could not be there because of the rising threat of the wildfires, those who were able to attend were treated to an amazing program featuring original works and improvisations best described as contemporary Jazz. Be sure to read Zoernig's reflections of his New Mexico tour with Friesen which appears in a separate segment in the newsletter. Special thanks to the Historic Plaza Hotel and their staff for the generous donation of their wonderful venue.

The Academy continues to grow and to develop in surprising ways. Our technical staff now includes Karri Scott (technical assistant/grant writer) of Ribera, New Mexico and David Wells (proofreader) of Toronto. Without the assistance of these and many other individuals I would have been at a loss on how to focus on matters of artistic direction, communicating with board members, donors, subscribers etc. It goes without saying that my occasional plunges into the action as a performer really keeps me on my toes!

Upcoming is a benefit concert being planned to raise funds for victims of the New Mexico wildfires. Dr. Sam Minner, President of New Mexico Highlands University has graciously donated the use of Ilfeld Auditorium for the concert which is scheduled for Sunday, June 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. Details for this exciting event will be posted on our website shortly. We anticipate a stage filled with local musicians in support of this fundraiser.

Also in the works for late summer is a house concert featuring classical guitarist Roberto Capocchi of Santa Fe. Details to follow soon.

Our mission also strives to provide music scholarships for local talented youth, providing financial assistance enabling them to pursue private music lessons with one

of our qualified music instructors. See the photo of Aaron Garcia, a former scholarship awardee who just completed his first year at the New Mexico School for the Arts in Santa Fe! He was awarded a superior rating in piano performance by the New Mexico Music Educators Association. This summer guitarist/music educator Quintin Leger will conduct a 6-week music camp for students at the West Las Vegas Schools with the goal of enrolling about 10 students. Classes are slated to begin during the first week of July. We hope this pilot program will extend to an after-school program in the fall!

In closing, I look forward to seeing you at our Benefit Concert for Fire Relief on June 26. In this time of need I am gratified to see the generosity of so many in our community during these challenging times.




Sincerely,


Ronald Maltais

President/Artistic Director
Meadow City Academy of Music

MUSICAL NOTES




 Aaron Garcia, a former recipient of scholarships from Meadow City Academy of Music has just completed his first year at the New Mexico School for the Arts in Santa Fe. His recent piano performance earned him a superior rating, awarded by the New Mexico Music Educators Association. Aaron is continuing his piano studies with Ronald Maltais in Las Vegas New Mexico.

 This 3/4 sized instrument was used by Mark Alloway in elementary school. Mark and his wife, Coleen, recently relocated to Las Vegas, NM and was looking for a place to donate the violin for some years. It is now at home at the Meadow City Academy of Music.



**Violin donated by
Coleen and Mark
Alloway on
March 23, 2022**



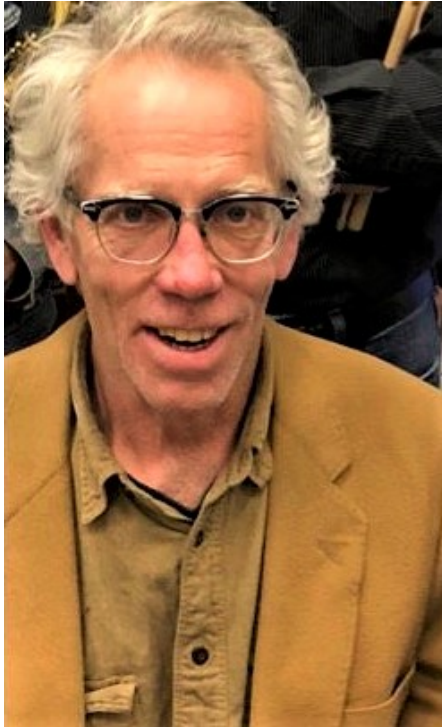
 The Cecilio Mendini alto saxophone (with accessories) was donated by Kader Bouhdili. Kader bought the instrument for himself, but later decided to give it to the Academy.

**Cecilio Mendini
alto saxophone
donated by Kader
Bouhdili.**

REFLECTIONS

Friesen/Zoernig Duo Tour 2022

When I had the opportunity to record with renowned bassist David Friesen in 1994, the encounter was brief but infused with magical rapport. Three of those tracks were subsequently released on my album Number 23; I had no reason to expect our paths would ever cross again. But this spring, amidst growing wildfire threats, we played three concerts of original music in Northern New Mexico. Considering that we barely knew each other except through sharing recorded music over the years, I am gratified that our five days together were so productive and smooth.



Much of this can be attributed to the professionalism and welcoming atmosphere of the venues. We had great sound, great pianos, and great audiences at all three shows. I am grateful to the promoters and their teams:

Tom Guralnick at the Outpost Performance Space in Albuquerque, Ron Maltais of the Meadow City Music Academy (and the Plaza Hotel staff) in Las Vegas, and Bruce Dunlap at Gig in Santa Fe.

“...magical rapport may hibernate but never really fades.”

-KEVIN ZOERNIG

This tour was a highlight of my career, and a reminder that magical rapport may hibernate but never really fades.

-Kevin Zoernig 5/23/22

See attached concert program.

Convergence

David Friesen, bass Kevin Zoernig, piano

Friday, April 29, 2022
7:30 pm

Historic Plaza Hotel Ballroom
Las Vegas, New Mexico

Notre-Dame Cathedral at Midnight

Ronald Maltais

Composed in 2017, this studio generated recording was inspired by the natural acoustics in Notre-Dame Cathedral. It was made in collaboration with David Cragin/recording technician at his studio in Santa Fe. "When I first entered Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, I imagined the history and events in that wonderful space over several centuries. Stylistically unlike any of my previous works, it has an intensely Gothic feel; a fantasy of the spirits and sounds which must reside in that structure during the night when no mortals are present."

The remainder of the program will be announced by the performers.

Kevin Zoernig, composer, keyboardist, and music educator was initially classically trained. He has dedicated his life to exploring diverse traditions including jazz, blues, rock, funk, and electronica. Zoernig worked as a sideman or leader on dozens of recording projects including Jim Wilson's Sacred Ground compilation which won a Grammy in 2006. In demand as a performer, he toured with Eddie Harris, Nat Adderley, Ferron, and Boris McCutcheon among many others. Zoernig founded the Contemporary Music Program at the College of Santa Fe in 1992 and continues to cultivate young musicians through his work at New Mexico Highlands University and the United World College in Montezuma, NM. Regarding composition, he studied with George Russell, Bill Dixon, and Lou Calabro among others, and has written big band arrangements, piano instrumentals, songs, and music for theatre and dance productions as well as two Meow Wolf locations. His recordings as a leader defy categorization but include a rich duo collaboration with renowned bassist David Friesen from 1995. Zoernig and Friesen reunite in April, 2022 for a New Mexico tour which includes tonight's performance in Las Vegas.

David Friesen, bassist, pianist, composer and educator has recorded over 80 CD's as leader or co-leader and appeared as a sideman or featured artist on more than 100 recordings. has performed and/ or recorded with many of the great names and legends of jazz including: Stan Getz, Dexter Gordon, Joe Henderson, Sam Rivers, Michael Brecker, Bud Shank, Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Shaw, Freddy Hubbard, Art Farmer, Clark Terry, Joe Venuti, Mal Waldron, Jaki Byard, Kenny Drew Sr., Chick Corea, Milt Jackson, Slim Gaillard, John Scofield, Philly Joe Jones, Elvin Jones, Paul Motian, Jack DeJohnette, Airto Moreira, and many others. He has performed in concert as a soloist, and Friesen is one of two or three bassists in the world who is able to play a solo concert and keep an audience riveted. As a touring artist he has appeared with his own groups throughout the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Netherlands, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, Turkey, Poland, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Chile, China, Russia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Nigeria and the Ukraine.

presented by

Meadow City Academy of Music
Ronald Maltais, Artistic Director

We request that all cell phones and electronic devices be silenced for the duration of the performance. Unauthorized audio and video recordings are not permitted.

Meadow City Academy of Music was founded by Artistic Director Ronald Maltais in the spring of 2017, with a mission to provide excellent musical/dance training and performances for the Las Vegas, New Mexico community. The Academy seeks to present professional New Mexico musicians and dancers in performance venues throughout the city. As we proceed into our fifth season, we are proud to announce that the Academy has featured over 74 performance artists primarily from New Mexico. Due to the generosity of our donors, we are committed to awarding music scholarships for talented Las Vegas youth.

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To become a sponsor or donor of Meadow City Academy of Music please contact Ronald Maltais via e-mail at remalt@q.com. Meadow City Academy of Music is incorporated in New Mexico and is registered as 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Donations may be tax deductible as allowed by law.

Please visit us at www.meadowcitymusic.org