

PRESS RELEASE

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MIDWEEK JAZZ HEATS UP WINTER NIGHTS AND SIZZLES IN SPRING

TOMS RIVER, NJ – Ocean County College’s Arts and Community Center continues the **MidWeek Jazz Series** off-campus on **Wednesdays** at **8:00 p.m.** at Mancini Hall, Ocean County Library, 101 Washington Street, Toms River. Come hear acclaimed artists play classic jazz and swing in a single 90-minute set!

March 17: **Big Bix Blast** – This year’s **Big Bix Blast** will be the largest and greatest ever, with both **Randy Sandke** and **Jon-Erik Kellso** playing cornets, plus clarinetist **Dan Levinson**, multi-instrumentalist **Scott Robinson**, pianist **Mark Shane**, and several other well-known musicians. Tributes to jazz icon Bix Beiderbecke, the legendary “young man with a horn,” are among the most popular themes of this awesome series.

April 14: **Atlantic City Jazz Band** – The complete, seven-piece **Atlantic City Jazz Band** will visit MidWeek Jazz for the first time, though they’re not strangers to the region. They have played for the Cape May and Tri-State Jazz Societies, among other groups well-versed in early jazz. Hear the music of Gershwin, Berlin, Arlen, Mercer, and many more from the band’s extensive repertoire, in styles that recall Louis, Bix, Benny, Jelly Roll, and the Duke. This band loves the music they play, and it shows!

May 12: **Vocalist Nancy Nelson with Pianist Keith Ingram** – Vocalist **Nancy Nelson** has been thrilling audiences in the northern part of the state for years, garnering recognition and a solid reputation. “She’s a remarkable singer,” writes Dan Morgenstern, “who takes her cues...from the great classic song stylists of jazz.” Grammy nominee **Keith Ingram** accompanies Nelson on piano, contributing his own original arrangements and an occasional thrilling solo.

June 16: **Bucky’s Back!** – Jazz legend **Bucky Pizzarelli** has brought his seven string guitar magic to Mancini Hall before, filling the room every time. Bucky’s career spans jazz history, and he has performed and recorded with a veritable *Who’s Who* of jazz and swing music. For this MidWeek Jazz performance, he’ll be joined by violin virtuoso **Aaron Weinstein** and veteran bassist **Jerry Bruno**, so there won’t be a dull moment!

Admission: \$13 in advance and \$15 at-the-door. Advance tickets are only available through the Ocean County College Arts and Community Center Box Office. For information or to charge tickets, call 732.255.0500. Visit us on the web at www.ocean.edu. (*Tickets will be available at-the-door on the night of the performance, one hour before show time.*)