

ON CAMPUS

Letters From the Past, Cont.

They offered this rating to me after I rejected their offer of corporal (sic). You see when they transfere me form one outfit to another you lose all your rating and must start from scratch. That is in the way of ratings. I would tell you right where I am but I can't. This is my new address. /Pvt. George Fagan 33087099, 22nd Material Squadron, A.P.O. Postmaster San Francisco, Cal./ I will write you soon and tell you more Your Loving Son George"

(Credit: Professor Richard Trimble. The letter appears as it was written by George D. Fagan on April 17, 1942, in Honolulu, Hawaii. Clippergram. Stamped as passed by Army Censor 117.)

During the war, Fagan acted as a Staff Sergeant of the 7th Air Force Machinist Division, where he helped work on planes such as the Pursuit, B-24s and B-17s.

One of Trimble's students, Jacob Morgan, said that the most rewarding part of participating in the project is "being able to transcribe a piece of history for the ancestors of this war hero [Fagan] so his grandchildren can know that he was a part of something that shaped today's world."

"I think the most rewarding part [of participating in this project] has been being able to learn about the man behind the letters and what being in the war must have been like," Reyna Diaz, one of Trimble's students, said. "It has been truly amazing to sort of travel back in time through these letters."

"I work on a letter a day, and I look forward to it," Trimble said. "I feel like I've gotten to know George Fagan."

By: Brandon Lee

From humble beginnings, the OCC Jazz Band has grown into a musical force to be reckoned with.

The band originated from a Beginning Jazz Theory and Improvisation class in the spring semester of 2014. There were only eight students enrolled in the class and each of them had their fair share of musical experience. Some were jazz players and others were rock and heavy metal players, but through the music they found a connection and formed the OCC Jazz Band.

After weeks of practice, Dave Marowitz, the OCC Jazz Band director, decided to get the band into the studio to record their first CD entitled, "Good Chemistry."

Over the next year, they added a few other talented members, including two singers and a new bass player.

With the new members,

the OCC Jazz Band chose to record one of their live shows for a new CD called, "Live From The 3 Sails Jazz Festival 2015."

Marowitz explained his approach to the song choices on the new CD.

"My motive was to fashion a musical performance around the strengths of the players," he said.

The CD includes songs from The Average White Band, Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock and many others. Marowitz even threw in an original instrumental piece of his own called "Just For Kicks."

The OCC Jazz Band is always open to gaining new members who are dedicated and passionate about playing music. Joining the OCC Jazz Band will open up a whole new realm of experiences and opportunities for local musicians.

Since their formation in

2014, a few of their members have been given the chance to perform with some very talented local acts. For example, Shorty Long and The Jersey Horns hired singer Caroline Rea and saxophonist Nick Clifford after seeing them perform with the OCC Jazz Band.

As for the future of the OCC Jazz Band, they are set to perform at The Elk's Lodge in Toms River on December 18 and at the Grunin Center Theater at OCC's Toms River campus on May 25 with Bria Skonberg, an up and coming jazz artist. Also, in May they will be recording their third CD, which will be available on SoundCloud by simply searching for the OCC Jazz Band.

To keep up with any other upcoming events or plans for the OCC Jazz Band, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Occjazz/.