

Young Performers Keep Jazz Alive!

By Pamela Hart
VILLAGER Contributor

"It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing." Austin heard a lot of swinging at the Women in Jazz Association, Inc. Keepin' It Real Jazz Youth Concert on August 13 at Chez Zee. Most people attending the event probably thought they were going to hear a group of kids giving it their best shot with adolescent jazz tones and rhythms. What they actually got was some pretty sophisticated riffs, phrasing and improvisation – real jazz! Even the MC, Dwayne Jones, was taken aback at the level of talent.

The set started with the Cameron Riggs Trio playing Bill Evans' "Nardis" and Steve Reich's "Piano Phase." We knew right away this was no ordinary band. Just beginning his freshman year at UT as a Jazz Performance/Piano major, Cameron has studied with the best, including Jeff Hellmer. With Alex Freeman on stand-up bass and Nick Chacon on drums, the group played like veteran players. They accompanied all of the other performers of the day, including Miss Kylie Phillips, who effortlessly sang "September in the Rain," "Feeling Good," and "Boy from Ipanema." In her stunning fitted black lace dress and side ponytail, she assumed the classic jazz singer



posture and mesmerized the audience with her dynamics and phrasing. A jazz concert wouldn't be complete without a saxophone, and Blaigne Ayuma Sixon – Ayuma – fantastically filled the void. Ayuma effortlessly blew Sonny Rollins' "Ole," then left the audience in awe with his original tune "With You."

The room was grew completely silent as Kya Monet started the Donny Hathaway version of "A Song for You." Kya sang the song as if it weren't well beyond her years. I believed her. "I was singing this song for you!" That nostalgic feeling quickly turned into sass when Kya sang Etta James' "Something's Got a Hold on Me." I had to join in on the background with Kylie Phillips "Oh, it must be love." Kya ended the evening with "At Last" after a duet with

Kylie singing Ray Charles' "Hit the Road Jack."

All instrumentalists left the stage to make way for the sensational a cappella singing group Harmony. A family trio consisting of Caleb Jordan, Aiah Zarahiah, this young group "takes old jazz songs and brings a new sound to them—a sound of their own." Well we heard "Don't Mean a Thing," "Dream A Little Dream." "Blue Skies," and "Pennies from Heaven" unlike we've heard them before with lip beats, scatting, and yes three-part harmony. Harmony was pitch perfect, and very entertaining in their presentation. We will hear a lot more from them.

The concert ended with the Cameron Riggs Trio and Ayuma playing "Autumn Leaves" and "Softly As in A Morning Sunrise."

Austin City Limits Announces Season 43 lineup

By Naomi Richard | VILLAGER Contributor

Austin City Limits (ACL) announces a new season premiering October 7 with an epic hour featuring global superstar Ed Sheeran. With this season, ACL becomes the longest-running music show in television history, providing viewers with a front-row seat to the best in performance for over 40 years, and continues its legendary run showcasing more stars, innovators and highly-anticipated debuts.

Austin City Limits returns to PBS on Saturday, October 7 at 9pm ET/8pm CT (check local listings) with a season premiere featuring UK hitmaker Ed Sheeran in his second appearance on the ACL stage, returning to perform his biggest hits and new gems from his chart-topping third album *÷ (Divide)*. The upcoming Season 43 is filled with musical treats: trailblazing rock band The Pretenders dazzle in their ACL debut with an electrifying, career-spanning performance. Country superstar (and Texas native) Miranda Lambert, in her third appearance, shines in a stunning hour of music while sharing the stories behind her songs. Multi-platinum Southern country-rock act Zac



Benjamin Booker. KLRU Photo by Scott Newton.

Brown Band make their first ACL visit with a remarkable career-wide hour. The extended lineup features ACL debuts from outstanding newcomers including indie New Orleans blues-rocker Benjamin Booker, while returning Americana favorites Norah Jones and The Head and the Heart bring their latest music to the ACL stage.

The Austin Villager was present for the live taping of Grammy® winning pop star Ed Sheeran. Whatever you do don't miss this episode. All seats were taken and some fans camped out overnight to catch the show. Sheeran took the stage singing songs from his multiple projects like *It's Too Cold Outside for Angels to Fly*, *Walking*

20th & Park, *Sitting on a Red Plane*, *The Hobbit: the Desolation of Smaug* and of course *Shape of You!*

The music seemed to be inspired by the audience's vibe. He felt comfortable with the audience and he was excited to be back in Austin. We counted 10 guitar changes! "This is really fun. I'm happy to do this. From 14-20 [years old] I performed in bars and clubs. From 22 [years old] to now I like places like this arena," remarked Sheeran with a contagious smile.

The complete lineup for the full 14-week season, including eight new episodes to air beginning December 31, 2017, will be announced at a later date. Check the news section of acltv.com for all episode updates.



(Austin, TX) - The Original L. C. Anderson Alumni Assoc. Austin Chapter (OLCAAAC) and the Austin Capital City Lions Club combine their school supplies for donation to two adopted schools, Barbara Jordan and Sims Elementary. Pictured at Barbara Jordan; left to right: Charles Johnson, Asst. Principal, Alicia Sanchez, Parent Support Specialist, Rudy Reyes, Jr., Asst. Principal Dorcas Seals, Counselor, Adrienne Williams, Principal, Lion Mirian Jones-Clark, Lions Club Scholarship/Education Chair, Albert J. Walker, OLCAAAC President, Vivian Gee, OLCAAAC Fundraiser Chair, Marvin Douglas, Lion Club member, L.M. Rivers, National Original L.C. Anderson Alumni Assoc. First Vice President and students.

Pflugerville City Council Seeks Candidates

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon | Villager Columnist

Over the years, Pflugerville has seen massive growth. In the past 10 years, it has seen an influx of African Americans and Africans Diaspora members into the city. Unlike Austin, Pflugerville gained in African Americans and Africans have created more businesses and therefore, have a desire to be more represented at the Pflugerville City Council level and on the School Board. In other words, it is a very diverse city. However, the diversity of the city is often time not represented at the level of the



Rudy Metayer

City Council.

Once again Rudy Metayer plans to run for the Pflugerville City Council. Despite running twice in the past, Mr. Metayer believes that this time he has an opportunity to win. In the last election cycle, Rudy Metayer fell short by just 44 votes. Conse-

quently, he has a greater knowledge on how to get people to vote. In other words, Rudy has learned what works and does not work.

For the 2017 November race, Rudy plans to run for Place 4. According to Rudy Metayer, "After much prayer, reflection, and conversation with my loved ones, I have decided to run for the Pflugerville City Council Place 4. I want to thank the outpouring of support from so many in the community who have seen and frankly reminded me, of what I already do in service to others and the unique skill set I can bring to the City."

Labor Day Union Fundraiser

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon | Villager Columnist

On September 2, 2017 the AFL-CIO held their annual fundraiser event. As usual, their fundraiser consist of the following: Fried Fish, Cole-slaw, fries, salad, and a good drink that varied from a soft drink to alcohol. Just like the past event, the fundraiser was well attended and very well organized. Some of the attendee consisted of a cross-section of political leaders, candidates, concerned citizens and union members.

Moreover, the event was attended by the majority of Travis County elected officials, candidates, union members and party activist. Some of the elected individuals, included the following: Vince Harding, the Travis County Democratic Party Chair (TDCP); John Bucy Williamson County Party Chair; Judge Gonzales of Travis County Justice of Peace Precinct 4; Judge Yvonne Williams of Travis County Justice of the Peace Precinct 1; and Con-



Pictured left to right: Officer Tonya Nixon and Vince Harding. Photo by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

gressman Llyod Doggett. Some of the candidates present included the following: Maya Guerra Gambles and Aurora Martinez Jones who are both running for the 459th District Court. In addition, there were numerous Precinct chairs present at this event.

Not only was it time for Democrats in Central Texas to met each other, but also an opportunity to rally on the issue that the Labor Union cares about.

After having a time of socializing and delicious fish fry, Congressman Lloyd Doggett gave a speech honoring the great efforts and works done by the labor union to provide a better America for everyone. Moreover, the crowd was galvanized by Congressman Doggett speech. Finally, it was another successful fundraiser that was organized by the AFL-CIO who will probably use this money to do more for its members.