



Newsletter of

ansas
K City
agtime
R evelry

Presents

Max
Keenlyside



Frank
LiVolsi

Wednesday, November 16, 2016, 6:00 PM

Schmitt Music

7316 W 119th St (at Metcalf), Overland Park, KS 66213, Rosanna Square

Donation - \$20.00 at the door. Children with parents or students with student ID admitted free.

Recognition

Kansas City Ragtime Revelry would like to recognize individuals who volunteer for, or are major contributors to, our efforts.

Board of Directors

Jerry Lanese	President
Don Grimes	Treasurer
Bob Stout	Publicity
Darrel Wingo	

Volunteers

Margaret Grimes	
Jim Hillesheim	e-mail flyers
Mary Grace Lanese	Secretary
Ray Streeter	
Sharon Swartzman	
Smiley Wallace	
Charlie Wehner	Website

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Diane Capps
Smiley Wallace

Donors – Bronze Level and Higher 2016

BRONZE

Don Brekke
Linda & Warren Dieffenbach
Alan Karlin
S. Craig Kirkpatrick, Jr
Jeanne Probst.
James Ray

SILVER

Diane Capps
Bill Coleman Jr.
Mary Ann Eichelberg
Gerre & Bob Gibson
Margaret & Donald Grimes
Lois and Carl Herman
Sandra & Jim Hillesheim
Dewayne Knott
Barbara Mathewson
Margot Sims
Robert Stout
Sharon and Howard Swartzman

GOLD

Megan & Charlie Wehner
Marilyn Youll

PLATINUM

Eileen Chase & William Shefchik
Mary Grace & Jerry Lanese
Smiley Wallace

Thanks to all donors! Your generosity keeps KCRR going.

Frank LiVolsi

is a pianist and composer from Rhode Island who specializes in ragtime and early jazz. Beginning his musical education at the Knapp School of Music, Frank received classical training and only discovered a passionate interest in ragtime during his early teen years. Since 2011, Frank has performed at ragtime festivals across the country, including multiple appearances at the Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival, the West Coast Ragtime Festival, and the Durango Ragtime and Early Jazz Festival.

Max Keenlyside

A dazzling pianist and formidable composer from Prince Edward Island, Canada, Max Keenlyside has made an auspicious entry into the music world. From the age of ten, he has written and performed music in ragtime, stride, and classical styles, gaining a reputation as a top young artist in his field.

In 2009, Max represented Prince Edward Island in the National Artist's Program, held in the conjunction with the Canada Games. A favourite at jazz and ragtime events around the world, he has headlined several times at the Scott Joplin, West Coast Ragtime, and Blind Boone festivals.

While equally at home in ragtime and classical styles, he is especially lauded for his stride and traditional jazz chops. These demanding, two-handed and rich piano styles were crafted by the likes of "Jelly Roll" Morton, Fats Waller, and James P. Johnson. Max plays them all with a stylistic flair and an ear for detail.

Having composed since elementary school, Max's compositions have garnered critical acclaim. He wrote the concert march processional music for his own high school graduation, and his "Northern Lights Rag" has become a fixture on the ragtime scene.

In addition to festivals, Max regularly concertizes and has given a solo program for a live audience on CBC Radio. His debut release, *KeenlyStride*, was issued in 2010 on the Rivermont label. This was followed by *Mostly Max* in 2012, featuring a plethora of Max's original compositions alongside the old classics. Max currently performs around North America, and is composing his first Symphony for orchestra.

About this concert:

Please note the starting time for this concert is 6:00 PM

Frank LiVolsi lives in the area of Providence, Rhode Island. He is an Engineer by education and he currently works at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory. Music is Frank's avocation. As his bio indicates, he actively participates in Ragtime festivals throughout the country.

Max Keenlyside is a music student who has been composing since elementary school. Unfortunately, the Canadian immigration officials make it difficult for Max to come into the US and his opportunities to play in the US have been limited.

Both Max and Frank will be playing at the West Coast Ragtime Festival in Sacramento, CA November 17 to 20, 2016. KCRR is fortunate to have Frank and Max stop off in Kansas City for a day on the way to California. They will arrive on the morning of the 16th. Early the morning of the 17th, Max, Frank, and several ragtime fans from KC will get on a plane and go on to Sacramento.

One year ago, as Frank and Max played a duet set at the West Coast Festival, this concert in Kansas City was conceived and it has been in the planning stages since then. At one point, about a month ago, visa issues almost kept Max in Canada.

Both Max and Frank play the classic rags and both have composed and added their respective styles to the list of contemporary ragtime. They are keeping the genre alive.

Kansas City Ragtime Revelry is very happy to host Max Keenlyside and Frank Livolsi.

A note from Jerry Lanese, President, Kansas City Ragtime revelry

What is the future of Ragtime?

Looking back, 2016 has been a good year for KCRR. We have hosted internationally recognized musicians, playing the genres of ragtime, early jazz and boogie woogie. Artists included Jeff Barnhart, Brian Holland, Danny Coats, Carl Sonny Leyland and Frederick Hodges as well as two locally acclaimed jazz musicians, Bram Wijnands and John Blegen. Our final concert of the year will feature two representatives of the new generation of ragtime musicians, Max Keenlyside and Frank LiVolsi.

At the last concert on October 13th, one of the attendees was heard to ask the question; “Does anyone play just ragtime anymore?” Musicians have answered that question for me many times. They say that if they played only ragtime, they would not have any work. Since the attendance at that last concert was very low, the first question led to another: What is the future of KCRR? It appears that interest in ragtime and other early American music is on the decline. Times are changing. KCRR must be flexible to survive.

Attendance at KCRR concerts has been falling over the past years. As I was considering this, I picked up the most recent issue of “Syncopated Times”. You might think this newspaper is committed to ragtime. It was at one time. Until recently the publication was named “The American Rag”. The banner just below the current “Syncopated Times” title on the first page states “Exploring the World of Hot Jazz, Ragtime and Swing”. Each issue of this newspaper includes a listing of coming festivals. In this issue, the list included 23 festivals between October, 2016 and February, 2017. Only one, the West Coast Ragtime Festival, was identified as a ragtime festival. Most of the others were listed as jazz festivals. There has been a trend in the naming of festivals from ragtime events to ragtime and early jazz events. There has also been a trend in which one ragtime festival after another ceases existence. The Blind Boone Ragtime and Early Jazz Festival, Eau Claire Ragtime Festival, and the Rocky Mountain Ragtime Festival are no longer on the list of coming events. Times are changing. Despite all of these changes, ragtime should not be allowed to die.

It is clear that most of the people who come to KCRR concerts are eligible for AARP membership, 55 years old or older. We treasure memories of ragtime, early jazz and show tunes. They have impacted our lives. The demographics for ragtime and early jazz events around the country are similar. Organizations similar to KCRR are struggling.

Some of our patrons liked the ability to have dinner at the previous venue just before or during the concert. That venue ceased that feature because of low attendance. The venue became less appealing to some. Is the option to have dinner in a near-by restaurant important to you in the choice of a concert venue?

We will continue to search out venues that have a quality piano, ample parking, ease of access and the possibility of a dinner. If any of our readers know of a venue that meets these criteria, please let us know.

We will also continue to search for answers to the following:

Why has KCRR concert attendance been declining? How can KCRR increase concert attendance?

If a ragtime organization, such as KCRR, includes other genres in its concerts, which should be included? Which should not be included? Where is the line?

What is the best time for a concert? (weekdays or weekends, daytimes or evenings)

What venue might be the “ideal” for KCRR events?

The ability to continue to plan and present concerts by talented musicians that play the appropriate mix of ragtime and related music in venues that draw interested patrons is dependent upon the continued support of our followers. Money from ticket purchases does not cover concert costs and general donations or gifts are very important to balance the budget. We also need your support in the form of opinion and feedback. We need to know what will keep you coming and what will encourage you to bring your friends. We also want to know the negative – what will drive you away?

There are a number of ways to provide feedback. Most Newsletters include a form that has space for feedback. Fill out the form, or jot your comments on a piece of paper and drop it into the mail (Jerry Lanese, 12401 Catalina, Leawood, KS 66209). The KCRR website (www.kcragtimerevelry.org) also has a form for feedback. Fill in that form on the internet and it will get to us. The website and Newsletters include my phone number of (913 491 6923). Give me a call.

Thank you for your support in the past. Your input will help determine the future of KCRR.

Dick Hawks

GASLIGHT GRILL

Featuring

Lynn Zimmer

and the Jazz Band
in the back Room

6:30 PM Wednesday through Saturday

6:00 PM Sunday

Special appearance the first Monday of each month

The New Red Onion Jazz Babies

Continental Cuisine
with an American twist
in the main dining room
beginning 4:00 PM

GASLIGHT GRILL
5020 West 137th Street
(between Roe and Nall)
Leawood, Kansas 66224
(913) 897-3540

KANSAS CITY RAGTIME REVELRY MEMBERSHIP

By becoming a member of, or donor to, Kansas City Ragtime Revelry you can support our yearly concert series and other activities of this organization, including taking our musicians into schools. Specific donations have made it possible to take Frederick Hodges, Nan Bostick, Bryan Wright, the Barnharts, Carl Sonny Leyland and others into schools. Another special donation made it possible for KCRR to support the Vine Street Seven at the 2015 Union Station Memorial Day concert, giving KCRR visibility on the large screens on either side of the stage. Identify and sponsor a musical event or a musician that means something to you and help KCRR make it happen! Call Jerry (913 491 6923) for details.

All levels of membership will receive our newsletters. KCRR is a 501(c)(3) corporation and deductions allowable within the tax law apply. Donors at the bronze level and above, will be listed in KCRR newsletters, programs and other literature. Membership and donor levels are listed in the table below.

Donor Level	Annual Donation Amount
Basic Membership	\$25 to \$49
Bronze	\$50 to \$99
Silver	\$100 to \$249
Gold	\$250 to \$499
Platinum	\$500 and above

Current and new members – Use the form, below to update your contact or preference information.

A similar form is available in the KCRR website (www.kcragtimerevelry.org)

KCRR Membership and Contact List Information

Name(s) _____ Address _____

e-mail _____

Phone _____

I am joining KCRR or renewing my KCRR membership. My donation of _____ is enclosed.

Preferences

Please update my contact information and/or preferences

Please remove my name from the KCRR member/ mailing list.

Send Newsletter by _____ e-mail _____ U.S. Postal Service

Please send/do not send e-mail concert reminders. (Circle one)

I am interested in sponsoring a specific KCRR event or musician. Event or musician _____

I am interested in seeing/hearing the following artist. _____

I suggest: _____

Complete the above form and send it and your donation to: Don Grimes, 6606 Hauser, Shawnee, KS 66216

Make checks payable to KCRR.

Kansas City Ragtime Revelry, Inc.

722 Walnut

#706

Kansas City, MO 64106

Non Profit Org.

US Postage

Paid

KC Presort

Coming KCRR Concerts

February, 2017

The Scott Joplin Foundation Artist in Residence

To be determined

March, 2017

Carl Sonny Leyland
and friends

For current dates, times and locations, visit our website – www.kcragtimerevelry.org