

ARTS ALIVE! February 2026

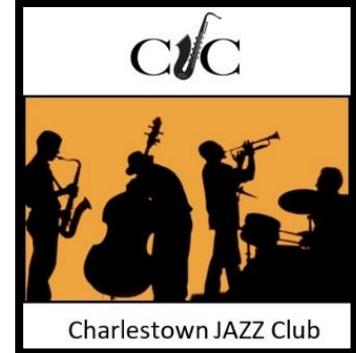
Edited by Jennifer Tillett, Concert Coordinator



JAZZ APPRECIATION CLUB

Jazz Club News, Reviews, and Previews

January was a busy month for the Charlestown Jazz Club. On January 7, club co-chair Sebastian Petix presented an ELLIC program entitled, "The Beginnings of Jazz: Congo Square, Little Palermo and The African- American-Sicilian Sound". He explained how New Orleans, at the end of the 19th century, was home to tens of thousands of immigrants who were recruited to replace the cheap slave labor after the Civil War. Two thirds came from Sicily, and they settled in the neighborhood adjacent to Congo Square where the ex-slaves had gathered. The melding of the two cultures resulted in the unique musical sound eventually known as jazz. Among the many musicians featured were Louis Armstrong and Louis Prima, both New Orleans natives. Plans are in place to repeat the program as a future episode of the "Charlestown Jazz Club on the Air" on Channel 972.



Monthly UMBC Jazz Concerts

On January 14 the UMBC students once again performed in the Shortline Cafe. Even though they were on winter break and were not expected to perform, Leo Hickman, a student who has appeared here many times, was able to put together an ensemble with just a week's notice. We are very grateful to these very talented young people who took time from their school break to entertain our residents.

Another group of students will perform in the **Shortline Café** on **February 11 at 7 p.m.** in the monthly series that has proven to be very popular. These concerts are free, but a donation for the students is always appreciated. *This performance is for Charlestown residents and their invited guests.*

Jazz in the Chapel

On **February 8**, the Chapel Concert Committee and Jazz Club will co-host a jazz performance in the **OLOA Chapel at 3 p.m.** The **Scott Silbert Combo** with Scott Silbert on sax, Amy Shook on bass, and Joe Holt on piano present a special program with a Valentine's touch, *Songs of Love and Romance*. With them is vocalist Sharon Sable who will weave some magic with her interpretations of romantic classics. *This performance is open to the public.*

You Are Invited!



Over the last few months, two club members, Sharon and Tony Matesi, have been busy planning a special event. On **Sunday, February 15**, from **5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Refectory**, the club will be hosting **an evening of viewing and dancing to the music of the famed Buena Vista Social Club.**

A full concert will be shown that captures the heart and soul of the Cuban music played by these legendary performers. It's BYOB and snacks too. Table seating and dance floor will be available. Admission is free but donations to the club are welcome. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. *This event is for Charlestown residents and their invited guests.*

PIANO RECITAL

THOMAS HECHT, PIANO
Sunday / February 1 / **3:00 p.m.**
Chapel

Internationally renowned Baltimorean pianist Thomas Hecht will present a recital of classical music by Ravel and Rachmaninov. Dr. Hecht is a faculty member at the Peabody Institute of Music and has appeared on five continents as a soloist and chamber musician. You won't want to miss his fascinating program entitled "R & R"! *Please note corrected time.*

Admission is free, donations at the door are welcome. Please contact 410-737-8838, ext. 601-8577 for details. *This performance is open to the public.*



CHAPEL CONCERT SERIES



JAZZ IN THE CHAPEL:
THE SCOTT SILBERT QUARTET
Sunday / February 8 / 3:00 p.m.
Chapel

The Scott Silbert Combo with Scott Silbert on sax, Amy Shook on bass, and Joe Holt on piano present a special program with a Valentine's touch, *Songs of Love and Romance*. With them is vocalist Sharon Sable who will weave some magic with her interpretations of romantic classics.

Admission to any Chapel Concert Series performance is free; donations at the door are welcome. Call 443-833-3785 for details. *This performance is open to the public.*

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS CONCERT SERIES

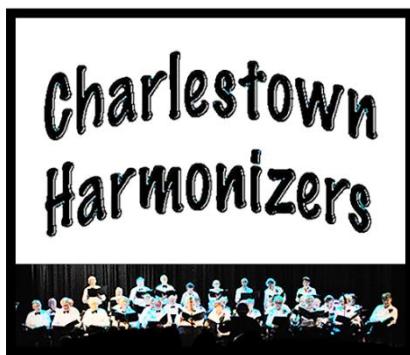
VICTORIA PIANO TRIO
Sunday / February 15 / 3:00 p.m.
Chapel

OLOA Concert Series Presents the Victoria Piano Trio on Sunday, February 15, 2026, in the Chapel at 3 p.m. Enjoy the beautiful combination of Cello, Violin and Piano in works by Dvorak, Joaquin Turina, and Carlos Simon.

This performance is free; no tickets or reservations are required. Donations at the door are welcome. For further information, please contact Mary Slomba at 410-737-8838, Ext. 601-8298. *This performance is open to the public.*



THE HARMONIZERS



Harmonizers Begin Rehearsing for June Concert

The Harmonizers kick off the Spring season with a full chorus rehearsal on Thursday, February 5th at 1 p.m. in the Music Room. Rehearsals will continue with Tuesday sectional rehearsals and Thursday full chorus rehearsals until the performances in early June. Returning members will be augmented by new members who auditioned in January. If you are an experienced choral singer who missed the auditions and would like to join, give director Linda Burgard a call. She is listed in the Member Directory.

Music will be issued to all at the first rehearsal. Please come a bit early, if you can, so that we will be ready to start singing at 1 p.m. The theme for the Spring Concert is “The Great American Songbook” featuring music and genres through the years in America. We will draw material from spirituals, classical music, jazz, and pop. It promises to be an exciting and rewarding experience for the chorus.

If you will not be singing with us but enjoy our concerts, mark your calendars with the Concert dates of June 3rd through 5th. Tickets will go on sale about a week before. We promise you will enjoy the music!

LITTLE THEATRE COMPANY

Fiddler Begins the Production Process

The excitement of Fiddler on The Roof being the Little Theatre Company’s Spring Production drew over 40 residents to attend the Pre-Audition Information Session and Workshop on January 5. Most of those residents submitted applications for the auditions, which were held in mid-January (after this article’s deadline). Director Marianne Reichelt was “thrilled by the turnout and by the enthusiasm for this project!” One applicant wrote, “I’ll play anything – I just want to be part of this production!”



Following the casting of the show, acting rehearsals are set to begin February 9. Music Director Chris Buppert and Accompanist Elizabeth Caluda have set up a schedule of Friday solo and chorus rehearsals. Production Designer Michael Rogan is creating the set design (a challenge with a large cast) and will be seeking assistance during the fabrication process (contact him directly if interested (857) 272-3867). Costumer, Diane Powers is culling a *Fiddler* wardrobe from a variety of sources. We are most grateful to Mount de Sales Academy, our neighbor in Catonsville, who has generously offered the loan of any of the set pieces, props, and costumes from their recent production of *Fiddler*. “They say that theater is the most collaborative of the arts,” notes Marianne Reichelt, “and this show will certainly prove that assertion accurate!”

It’s never too early to mark your calendars!

Show Performance Dates

Tuesday, April 21	2:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Thursday, April 23	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Tuesday, April 28	2:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Thursday, April 30	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium

STUDIO 7-1-5 February/March Workshops

February 26 / 1:00-3:00 p.m. / Auditorium

Part 2 of Preparation for a Readers Theatre presentation of Rosemary Frisino Toohey's two one act plays, *Cosmic Fruit Bowl and Socks*. Bob Fletcher and Craig Ellis lead the session.

March 26 / 1:00-3:00 p.m. / Auditorium

Readers Theatre staged presentation of *Cosmic Fruit Bowl and Socks*, hosted by Bob Fletcher and Craig Ellis.

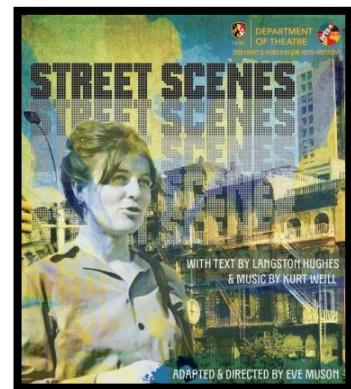
UMBC THEATER PRODUCTION

UMBC Theater Department: Scenes from "Street Scenes"

**Sunday / March 1 / 3:00 PM
Auditorium**

Street Scenes weaves together scenes and songs from 20th-century films, plays, and musicals that explore the promises and failures of the American Dream. Their works pulse with young characters fighting barriers of class, faith, work, and identity, all bound by a shared mission: honoring the dignity of everyday people. The piece features works by Arthur Miller, Eulalie Spence, Langston Hughes, Kurt Weill, and Cole Porter.

This production is co-sponsored by Friends of UMBC and Little Theatre Company. **Free tickets** will be available in the **Auditorium on Monday, February 23 from 11 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** and again from **3:00-4:30 p.m.** Call ext. 601-8577 for details. *This performance is for Charlestown residents and their invited guests.*



COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES



SHOWTIME SINGERS

****Saturday** / February 21 / **2:00 p.m.**
Auditorium**

The ShowTime Singers are dedicated to staging high quality musical performances for the community at large, enjoying both a cappella and accompanied singing, while specializing in songs that audiences can easily relate to—and perhaps even sing along with—like Broadway tunes, popular songs, and even a little rock and roll! Come and see! Sing along with fellow Charlestown residents Joanne Collins, Dennis Lape, and Mary Strassner and enjoy the fun! *Please note special day and time.*

Tickets will cost \$8. An advance ticket sale will take place on **Monday, February 16 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon in the Cross Creek Lobby** and from **12:30-1:20 p.m. in the Fireside Lobby**. Limit of 4 tickets per person at the advance sale. Any remaining tickets will be available at the door 30 minutes before the show. Contact 410-737-8838, ext. 601-8577 or Jennifer.Tillett@erickson.com for more information. *The public may purchase tickets at the door only; please call ahead for availability.*

HOT CLUB OF BALTIMORE
Friday / March 6 /7:00 p.m.
Auditorium

The Hot Club of Baltimore performs inspired arrangements of the Django Reinhardt repertoire, French waltzes, and Trad Jazz. The ensemble boasts a variety of configurations including an instrumental trio of two guitars and upright bass, a classic quintet with violin, a late 40's instrumentation adding piano, drums, and horns, and a Django Big Band, which emulates the sound of the early 1950's when Reinhardt performed with Duke Ellington.

The group's program for Charlestown will feature captivating vocalist Alexis Tantau who sings in her native Occitan language, as well as songs in French and English by Edith Piaf, Eartha Kitt, Charles Trenet, Maxine Sullivan, Jacques Dutronc, Ella Fitzgerald, Peggy Lee, and Henri Salvador.

Tickets will cost \$8. An advance ticket sale will take place on Monday, March 2 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon in the Cross Creek Lobby and from 12:30-1:20 p.m. in the Fireside Lobby. Limit of 4 tickets per person at the advance sale. Any remaining tickets will be available at the door 30 minutes before the show. Contact 410-737-8838, ext. 601-8577 or Jennifer.Tillett@erickson.com for more information. *The public may purchase tickets at the door only; please call ahead for availability.*



All performances at Charlestown are open to the public unless otherwise indicated.

Outside guests attending events in the Auditorium are asked to park at Cross Creek Station or Charlestown Square and walk or take the shuttle to the Auditorium.

Guests attending weekend/evening events in the Chapel may park in the Carriage House parking lot. (If the Carriage House lot is not available, please park at Charlestown Square and take the shuttle to the Chapel.)

Guests attending events in the Conference Center may utilize the Cross Creek parking lot.

Please refrain from parking in reserved spaces while on campus. To request a campus map, please e-mail your request to Jennifer.Tillett@erickson.com.

To receive this newsletter each month, send your request to Jennifer.Tillett@erickson.com.

