

Chords & Discords

An Educator's Thanks

When I joined the Booker T. Washington High School For the Performing and Visual Arts in 1983, I immediately realized that the school housed some of the most extraordinary talent in the country. I have always known that by giving these students a chance to show their art on a national stage, someone would notice. You have supplied Jazzfest USA, the annual Education issue, the annual Festival issue. Auditions and for 33 years, the DownBeat Student Music Awards: recognizing and identifying the next generation of jazz leaders for our industry. By allowing the educators around the world an incentive that came way before it was "cool" to be in jazz education, you have been an integral part of the jazz education movement and subsequent growth for all educators and students of the music. Jack, Kevin and John "Butch" Maher, along with some of the same staff still onboard today, laid the groundwork for others to follow.

The Vail Jazz Workshop, The Brubeck Institute, The Monk Institute, The Stanford Summer Residency, The Monterey Jazz Festival, The Grammy Big Band and Grammy Choir along with the new Jazz Education Network all owe you a big thanks for laying the groundwork for what was to come.

Jazz has moved off of the street and resides in the halls of academia. Thanks to you and the path set by the above mentioned, we all had a road map to follow. Thank you for this great honor, Jazz Educator Hall of Fame for 2010. I am very humbled by this award and know deep down that it was DownBeat who allowed us to identify and hear them first before we read about those artists as masters of jazz in your magazine.

BART MARANTZ BOOKER T. WASHINGTON HSPVA DALLAS

Big Band Rediscoveries

Thank you for your recent listing of 25 favorite big band recordings (April). The article has led me to some discoveries that I might not have made otherwise, especially Count Basie's Chairman Of The Board, Duke Ellington's Far East Suite and the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis recordings. I also realized that I had several of the listed recordings in my collection already that I had not played in quite a while. Those were real re-discoveries for me, as well. That list has truly helped deepen my respect for, and appreciation of, this art from.

TIMOTHY VOKES DEARBORN, MICH.

Thanks for the "My Favorite Big Band Album" article. I own 12 of the recommendations and immediately ordered five of your recommen-



dations to strengthen my collection of 3,500 CDs. DownBeat is a great resource for updating my collection.

I have been a subscriber for more than 32 years and have loved every issue.

STAN DAVIS ASTANDAVIS@CHARTER.NET

Thank The Teacher

As Downbeat Student Music Award winners (June) we would like to thank Professor Brent Wallarab for his invaluable guidance in the process of writing and performing our arrangements. We could not have done it without him! CURT SYDNOR AND MAX THOLENAAR-MAPLES INDIANA UNIVERSITY CURT.SYDNOR@GMAIL.COM

Corrections

- The feature on Chick Corea's Further Explorations of Bill Evans (June) misstated the anniversary of Evans' death. This year marks the 30th anniversary of Evans' passing.
- Engineer Ron Saint Germain's name was misspelled in the review of the Nels Cline Singers album *Initiate* ("Reviews," June).
- Virginia Valdes should have been credited as the photographer of a Cuong Vu photo ("Woodshed," June).
- Eastman School of Music instructor Bob Sneider's name was misspelled in the Student Music Awards (June).

DOWNBEAT REGRETS THE ERRORS.

HAVE A CHORD OR DISCORD? E-MAIL US AT EDITOR@DOWNBEAT.COM.