

THE BUTLER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

The MUSIC
at BUTLER
Series

BUTLER UNIVERSITY
JAZZ COMBOS

Jesse Wittman, Sean Imboden
Kent Hickey, Sandy Williams
Chelsea Hughey, *instructors*

with guest artist
Adam Levy, *guitar/composition*

Monday, April 20, 2026
7:30 P.M.
Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall

PROGRAM

Chelsea Hughey, instructor

How High the Moon

Morgan Lewis (1906-1968)
Nancy Hamilton (1908-1985)

And They All Sang

Adam Levy (b. 1966)

Kent Hickey and Sandy Williams, instructors

Vermouth

Adam Levy

Old Folks

Willard Robison (1894-1968)

Four-Sided Circle

Mark Tonelli (b. 1972)

Jesse Wittman, instructor

Windows

Chick Corea (1941-1921)

Plants

Adam Levy

You and the Night and the Music

Arthur Schwartz (1900-1984)
Howard Dietz (1896-1983)

Sean Imboden, instructor

Cyclic Episode

Sam Rivers (1923-2011)

Flow

Michael Johnson (b. 2004)

Misunderstood

Adam Levy

BUTLER UNIVERSITY COMBOS

Sean Imboden, *instructor*

Olander Porter - Trombone
Aaron Wilson - Tenor Saxophone
Silas Owens - Alto Saxophone
Matthew Norton - Drums
Lucas Samberg - Bass
Devon Wiley - Guitar
Michael Johnson - Piano

Jesse Wittman, *instructor*

Santino Caringella - Drums
Owen Gohr - Bass
Eli Osborne - Piano
Samuel Weber - Trumpet
David Strayhorn - Trumpet
Matthew Campitelli - Trombone

Chelsea Hughey, *instructor*

Dirui Jiang - Bass
Embry Horal - Piano
Braedon Hoy - Trumpet
Gavin Witt - Trombone
Olivia Vogel - Voice

Kent Hickey and Sandy Williams, *instructors*

Teddy Lee - Bass
Matthew Rhoad - Drums
Dylan Noble - Guitar
Ian Knight - Piano
Amy Yactayo - Trumpet/Voice
Christian Miller - Alto Saxophone

ABOUT THE BUTLER UNIVERSITY JAZZ PROGRAM

Located in the heart of Indianapolis, IN, the Butler University Jazz Program provides students with incredible opportunities for development and community.

Whether it's concerts with internationally renowned artists, jam sessions with local professional musicians, travel to New Orleans, Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, Seattle, or a wide range of ensemble participation options, students can expect a demanding, yet fun experience designed to help reach their musical goals.

Participants in the Butler University Jazz Program have achieved success as freelance performers, professors, K-12 music educators, private instructors, arts administrators, composers and even in non-music fields such as medicine, law, actuarial science, engineering, and pharmacy.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQxUmxA68V9l0ETDKovsMKg>
<https://www.instagram.com/butlerujazz/>

PROGRAM ACCOLADES

Under the direction of Dr. Matt Pivec, the award-winning Butler University Jazz Ensemble has performed with world-renowned guest artists such as Kenny Barron, Cécile McLorin-Salvant, Sullivan Fortner, John Clayton, Benny Golson, Stefon Harris, Maria Schneider, Kurt Elling, Christian McBride, Bobby Sanabria, Donny McCaslin, Fred Sturm, Robert Baca, Melvin Rhyne, Steve Allee, Ted Poor, and the Wee Trio.

In the past decade, the Butler University Jazz Ensemble has been selected to perform at several prestigious conferences including the 2023 Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference in Chicago and the 2024 Western International Band Clinic in Seattle. The ensemble has also performed at the Indiana Music Educators Association State Conference in 2023, 2020, and 2014.

The Butler University Jazz Ensemble has been the recipient of many awards, including the winner of the 2020 and 2025 Downbeat Student Music Awards Undergraduate Large Ensemble Category.

The Butler University Jazz Collective has performed at the Jazz Kitchen, The Freddie Hubbard Jazz Festival, the Carmel Jazz Festival, and many other venues throughout the Midwest.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

ADAM LEVY

New York-based guitarist Adam Levy is widely respected as a “musician’s musician” with many featured turns to his credit — including his memorable solos throughout Norah Jones’ “Come Away with Me” album, and juicy lines on Tracy Chapman’s hit “Give Me One Reason.”

JESSE WITTMAN

Jesse Wittman is a bassist, composer, educator, and recording artist based in Indianapolis, Indiana. He holds a degree in Jazz Studies from Indiana University, where he studied with David Baker and Bruce Bransby. He also holds a master’s degree in Composition from Butler University, where he studied with James Aikman and Michael Schelle. He currently teaches jazz bass at Butler University, and has had the pleasure of working with great musicians around the country such as Nicole Henry, Marvin Hamlisch, Steve Houton, Anne Hampton Callaway, and trombonist Steve Davis.

SEAN IMBODEN

Sean Imboden is an American saxophonist and composer. Sean toured internationally for many years with various Broadway productions, and as a featured soloist with Blast II. He has performed on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, and with the Radio City Music Hall Orchestra, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Aretha Franklin, The Temptations, Barry Manilow, Johnny Mathis, Idina Menzel, and Slide Hampton.

Sean currently leads three distinct groups, each with a unique sound which feature his original compositions: a trio, a sextet, and a large ensemble. He is also a member of Tucker Brothers, Indy Saxophone Quartet, Hickey-Shanafelt Collective, and Butler Generations Ensemble. Sean teaches at Butler University, Ball State University, and online through his Virtual Studio.

CHELSEA HUGHEY

Chelsea Hughey is a jazz drummer, percussionist, and educator. An Indianapolis native, she attended Butler University and received a BA degree in Music focusing on classical percussion and jazz studies. Chelsea relocated to Jersey City, New Jersey, and attended New Jersey City University where she completed her MM degree in Jazz Performance. She studied with master drummer and composer Tim Horner, vibraphonist Mark Sherman, and Broadway drummers Paul Pizzuti and Jared Schonig.

Throughout her freelance jazz career, Chelsea has shared the stage with Indianapolis jazz legends Steve Allee, Rob Dixon, Frank Glover, and Frank Smith. She has also performed with notable NYC-based jazz musicians Walt Weiskopf, Bob Malach, Dave Douglas, Steve Davis, Steve Wilson, Jimmy Greene, Charles McPherson, and Bobby Sanabria.

Chelsea is active in the Indianapolis jazz scene, frequently appearing at the Chatterbox Jazz Club and The Jazz Kitchen with various local jazz musicians including Frank Glover, Monika Herzig, The Cohen-Rutkowski Project, and the Gary Walters Trio among others. She currently shares the role of percussionist for Beef and Boards Dinner Theater, which includes performances of shows “An American in Paris,” “Beauty and the Beast,” “Grumpy Old Men,” and “White Christmas” this season. Furthering her diverse experience and background, Chelsea has also performed with the Danville Symphony Orchestra and the White River Wind Symphony.

As an educator, Chelsea has had the opportunity to work with middle and high school-aged students since 2010 in and around Indianapolis as well as throughout northern New Jersey. Currently, Chelsea teaches privately at Ben Davis High School, Roncalli High School, Zionsville High School, and Sycamore School. She has appeared as a guest artist for the Butler Youth Jazz Program and as a mentor for Jazz Girls Day at Noblesville High School. In fall 2023, Chelsea joined the faculty of Butler University’s Jordan College of the Arts as Adjunct Instructor of Drum Set.

KENT HICKEY

Kent Hickey is an in-demand trumpet player and educator based in Indianapolis, IN. He received his undergraduate degree in jazz studies from Butler University and his master's degree at the esteemed Indiana University Jacobs School of Music under the tutelage of John Raymond. Locally, Kent has played alongside some of the scene's best including Sean Imboden, Rob Dixon, Nick Tucker, Joel Tucker, and Kenny Phelps, among others. The trumpeter currently leads two of his own projects, the Hickey-Shanafelt Collective and the Kent Hickey Trio. Previously, Kent worked as a trumpeter aboard Royal Caribbean cruise ships in the summers of 2018 and 2019.

The Hickey-Shanafelt Collective is an Indianapolis-based jazz nonet that highlights composers and arrangers within the ensemble with a goal of sharing this music with the community. The Collective plans to release their debut album, "illuminate," independently later this year. The Kent Hickey Trio performs Kent's original compositions and lesser-known jazz standards. The group draws inspiration from groups led by Avishai Cohen, Mike Rodriguez, John Swana, and Tim Hagans. Kent's groups have performed at several venues in the past year including McGowan Hall, Merriman's Playhouse, Chilly Water Brewing Co., Blockhouse Bar, the Chatterbox, and the world-famous Jazz Kitchen.

In addition to performing, Kent is also a passionate educator who strives to share his love of music with the next generation. He maintains a private studio of about 30 trumpet students at various schools in the Indianapolis area and is also the outreach liaison for the Butler Youth Jazz Program, a branch of the Butler Community Arts School. Recently, Kent was also appointed Adjunct Professor of Jazz Trumpet at both Butler University and the University of Indianapolis.

SANDY WILLIAMS

Sandy Williams has been a fixture on the Indiana music scene for several decades. His live performance credits include performing with Idina Menzel, John Waters, Liza Minnelli, Marvin Hamlisch, alt-country rocker Steve Earle, Michael Feinstein's live PBS special, the Steve Allee Big Band, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, and the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra. He has performed in the pit orchestra for a number of touring Broadway shows, including "The Lion King," "Chicago," "Legally Blonde," "Motown," and "Beautiful." As a studio musician, his credits include The Rounder Records box set (with Carrie Newcomer), jazz arranger John Clayton, John Mellencamp's movie soundtrack "Falling from Grace" (with Larry Crane), Hal Leonard publications' Essential Elements series, hundreds of jingles, and gospel singers Sandi Patti and Bill Gaither. He is the author of *Live Sound for Guitar* (pub. Cengage Learning) and technical editor for many of the "Guitar for Dummies" series. In November 2014, he performed four concerts in Guangzhou, China, with jazz pianist Steve Allee.

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JCA LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We gather here at Butler University on the traditional homelands of Indigenous peoples who were forcibly removed from this place. These peoples include the Myaamiaki (Miami), Lenape (Delaware), Bodewadmi (Potawatomi), Saawanwa (Shawnee), Kiiikaapoi (Kickapoo), and Peouaroua (Peoria) peoples. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the indigenous peoples past and present who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This acknowledgement calls us to commit to hearing and engaging Indigenous voices and perspectives and to being better stewards of the land we inhabit. It also calls us to action. Learn more by scanning the QR code for additional information.



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