



Coda Connections

Columbia Bands, Inc.
Quarterly Newsletter

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Columbia Bands Website

Greetings, fans and members of the Columbia Bands!

We have some exciting performances coming up! And no, we do not expect any of them to be cancelled because of "snow events." Read on for Harlem-inspired musical facts, and more.

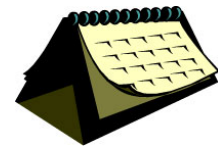
Please also remember that the members of Columbia Bands, Inc. value your feedback, so feel free to contact us any time with comments, questions, or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Len Morse
Coda Connections Editor

Performance Calendar

(Local public performances only)



April:

Sun, 4/19, Evening, Flute Cocktail at [Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church](#), Columbia, MD

May:

Sat, 5/16, 3:00-4:00PM, (**Tentative**) Columbia Concert Band at [River Hill High School](#),
Clarksville, MD

Sat, 5/16, Evening, (**Tentative**), Columbia Jazz Band and Columbia Orchestra at [Jim Rouse Theater](#), Columbia, MD

Sun, 5/17, 1:00-2:30PM, Columbia Jazz Band at [St. Paul's Lutheran Church](#), Fulton, MD

Clark Terry: A Tribute

by Len Morse

Jazz club lights dimmed a bit when legendary jazz trumpeter/flugelhorn player/educator Clark Terry died on Saturday, February 21, 2015, at the age of 94. He was a large part of the "Who's Who" of the Jazz world, and deserves to have a few of his life achievements highlighted.

At 11 years old, he made his first "trumpet" out of a hose and some metal scraps he found in a junkyard. Like many other youngsters dedicated to the art of music, he paid his dues at the beginning: he played in his high school orchestra, local bands, and even a traveling carnival.

He joined the Navy in 1942, playing at the Great Lakes Training Station. When the war was over, he joined George Hudson's big band, where he not only played the music, but conducted rehearsals, suggested charts, and performed other organization duties. When Hudson's band

played Harlem's [Apollo Theater](#), big names heard Terry's talent, and the offers began.

He played with Lionel Hampton's group and some others before joining Count Basie in 1948. A few years later, he got the break he'd been dreaming of - Duke Ellington's Big Band, making him one of the few musicians to perform with both the Duke and the Count. During his time with Ellington, he focused on playing flugelhorn in an effort to create a more expressive sound, while also becoming a more technically proficient player.

In 1960 Terry became NBC's first black staff musician when he joined the Tonight Show Band, led by Doc Severinsen. When Johnny Carson asked audience members to try to "Stump the Band" with song titles they thought the musicians didn't know, Terry often improvised words and melodies with a smooth, mumbling style of scat singing. It was this joking style of scat he used during a 1964 studio session with Oscar Peterson's trio. The song became a surprise hit, aptly titled "[Mumbles](#)." He stayed with the Tonight Show Band until 1972.



Terry later became a band leader and, thanks to sponsorship from the State Department, was able to tour the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia. He became an inspiration to many, including famous performers like [Wynton Marsalis](#), Miles Davis, and Roy Hargrove.

However, his passion was jazz education: he organized youth bands, and taught at numerous jazz camps, clinics, and festivals. He received 15 honorary doctorates, three adjunct professorships, and dozens of other awards, including a Grammy Award for lifetime achievement in 2010. He taught jazz students literally from all over the world.

Terry can be heard on more than 900 recordings, and wrote more than 200 original compositions. He has performed for eight U.S. presidents. He co-authored a handful of books about various subjects such as different trumpet playing styles, jazz interpretation, and circular breathing. He has performed with greats like Aretha Franklin, Dianne Reeves, Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald, Louie Armstrong, Quincy Jones, Ray Charles, Thelonius Monk, Zoot Sims, and many others.

"[Clark: The Autobiography of Clark Terry](#)" includes a preface by Quincy Jones, a foreword by Bill Cosby, and quotes from Nancy Wilson, Clint Eastwood, Dave Brubeck, Billy Dee Williams, and other notable jazz players and enthusiasts. It is available everywhere as both a physical book and an eBook for Kindle, Nook, and other 'e-pub'-compatible readers.

Clark Terry
December 14, 1920 - February 21, 2015

Rest in Peace, Mumbles.

Fun Stuff

Celebrity Birthday: [Billie Holiday](#) (Eleanora Fagan - April 7, 1915 - July 17, 1959); A Baltimore native, Holiday started singing to Bessie Smith and Louis Armstrong records as a teenager. She then moved to New York with her mother, singing her way through Harlem nightclubs, in spite of her lack of training and inability to read music. At age 18, Holiday was given a chance to record under the direction of up-and-coming Benny Goodman, and was soon singing with Count Basie and Arty Shaw. "Strange Fruit," a tune about a black man's lynching, became one of her signature pieces, the success of which prompted the continuation of her moving, passionate ballads. Still popular today, Holiday is known for her unique intensity and her unmatched phrasing and diction.

Happiness (Japan)

Quarterly Word: "[Lindy Hop](#)" - Style of swing dance that began in Harlem, New York during the 1920's and 30's. The Savoy, then one of the few racially integrated ballrooms, was especially popular. The Lindy Hop is a partner dance that includes 8- and 6-count steps and was influenced by various early dance styles, including Charleston, Tap, and Foxtrot. The name was inspired by

Charles Lindberg's first solo flight, or "hop," from New York to Paris in 1927.

Thanks to the rediscovery of choreographer [Frankie Manning](#) in the mid-1980's, Lindy Hop is enjoying a world-wide resurgence. One does not need to look far to find a vast array of lessons, workshops, and live big bands performing for uncountable Lindy Hoppers in the U.S., Europe, Asia, and elsewhere.

Quarterly Quote: "If you play a tune and a person don't tap their feet, don't play the tune." ~ Count Basie

Official CB Positions



Officers

President - John Messinger
Vice President - Harold West
Secretary - Kim Drake
Treasurer - Jeanette Donald

Members-at-Large

Jackie Bryant, Nancy Efron, Bob Frantz, Al Ingalls, Jim Wesloh, Harold West

Ex-Officio Music Directors

CCB Director - [Mike Blackman](#)
CJB Director - [Pete BarenBregge](#)
FC Director - [Len Morse](#)

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Appointees and Volunteers

Accountant - David Weisenfreund, CPA
CBI/CCB Webmaster - Len Morse
CCB Manager - Chris Roscoe
CCB Equipment Manager - Len Morse
CCB Librarian - Karissa Strawley
CCB Personnel Manager - Michelle Sobel
CCB Program Editor - Jeanette Donald
CJB Ensemble Manager - Bob Frantz
CJB Librarian - Bob Frantz
CJB Tour Manager - Randy Malm
CJB Sound System Managers - Mark Morris, Megan Zontek
CJB Webmaster - Matt Williams
Facebook Fan Page Moderator - Katy Clemens
FC Ensemble Manager - Jeanette Donald
Fundraising Chair - Harold West
Grant Manager - Jeanette Donald
Graphic Artist - Corey Holland
HCAC Liaison - *Vacant*
Historian - Melinda Frisch
Insurance Liaison - Kim Drake
MASCB Manager - Jeanette Donald
Poster & Flier Manager - Jim Kaiser