Texins Jazz Band

The Texins Jazz Band is a full 18-piece community big band based in Dallas, TX. The band is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. From 1986-2019 the band operated as The Texas Instruments Jazz Band and was organized through the Texins Association (Dallas, Texas) of Texas Instruments. The Texins Association ceased operation in 2019 and the band became the Texins Jazz Band in 2020. The majority of band members have STEM-based degrees and careers (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). The band is under the musical direction of Bill Centera.

The band rehearses on Tuesday nights at Dallas College, Richland Campus and performs about 7 concerts per year, including hosting a couple of professional jazz artists each year.

Upcoming Public Concerts:

Sat, Sep 6, 7pm – Fannin Hall at Richland College (free)

Sun, Nov 2, 7pm – Concert at the Eisemann Center with Veronica Swift

Sun, Feb 15, 4pm – Big Band Mardi Gras Concert in Allen (free)

Sun, Apr 19, 7pm – Concert at the Eisemann Center and guest TBD

texinsjazz.com < join our email list here facebook.com/TexinsJazz (follow us)

Matt Harris

Our guest artist is Matt Harris, who has arranged eight Stevie Wonder songs for full big band. Matt is a distinguished jazz pianist, composer, arranger, and educator with a career spanning several decades. A Cincinnati native, Matt honed his craft at the University of Miami, earning a Bachelor of Music degree, and at the Eastman School of Music, where he obtained a Master's degree.

Following his studies, Matt toured, wrote, and recorded with jazz legends Maynard Ferguson and Buddy Rich. In 1985, he relocated to Los Angeles, immersing himself in the vibrant studio scene as a versatile musician, composer, arranger, and orchestrator. Matt's compositions and arrangements have been performed by esteemed ensembles such as the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, the Metropole Orchestra (Netherlands), and various professional big bands across Europe, New Zealand, and the United States. His works have been published by Kendor Music, UNC Jazz Press, Alfred Music, and Excelcia Music.



with Matt Harris

The Music of Stevie Wonder

McKinney Performing Arts Center June 22nd, 2025 7pm

texinsjazz.com

Roster

Saxes

Paul Westbrook (President) - B.S. Mechanical Engineering

Alejandro Vera (Treasurer) - M.S. Electrical Engineering

Gerry Burnham - Ph.D. Electrical Engineering

David West - M.S. Manufacturing Engr / Materials Science

Tom Hilbun (Secretary) - B.S. Chem Engr; Patent Attorney

Trombones

Dan Canterbury - B.A. Music Education

Jason Shick - B.S. Computer Science

Marco Samperio - D.M.A. Trombone Performance

Ken Kunz - M.A. Music Education

Trumpets

Rob Jonas - Medicaid Biller

John Alptekin - Ph.D. Chemistry

Andrew Kortze - B.S. Electrical Engineering

Dennis Doane - B.S. Mechanical Engineering

Rhythm

Frank Luna (bass) - B.S. Chemical & Biological Engineering

Terry Bartlett (guitar) - M.S. Electrical Engineering

Mike Coldewey (piano) - Software Developer

Chris Lichtenberg (drums) - Ph.D. Electrical Engineering

Vocalist

Nicole Bernard - B.S. Advertising - Business

Audia: Carl Askew

Program (to be selected from)

Sir Duke

By Stevie Wonder (1976); Arr. Dave Wolpe



Link to online

For Once in My Life

By Ron Miller and Orlando Murden (1965); Arr. Lennie Niehaus

I Can't Help It

By Stevie Wonder and Susaye Greene (1979); Arr. Matt Harris

Higher Ground

By Stevie Wonder (1973); Arr. Matt Harris

Don't You Worry About A Thing

By Stevie Wonder (1973); Arr. Matt Harris

Do I Do

By Stevie Wonder (1982); Arr. Matt Harris

Livin' For the City

By Stevie Wonder (1972); Arr. Matt Harris

Tell Me Something Good

By Stevie Wonder (1974); Arr. Matt Harris

If It's Magic

By Stevie Wonder (1976); Arr. Matt Harris

Superstition / You Haven't Done Nothin'

By Stevie Wonder (1972 / 1974); Arr. Matt Harris

Thanks to the MPAC staff and volunteers
Thanks to Kelly Evans for supplying the Nord keyboard for Matt Harris