

SYRACUSE AREA MUSIC AWARDS



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March 5-6, 2020

syracuseareamusic.com

The 2020 SAMMY Awards Syracuse Area Music Awards

The mission of the Syracuse Area Music Awards has remained true since the first awards ceremony was held in 1993 to honor the musicians who work so hard to imbue the local music scene with their artistry. The SAMMY's has lived on since its founding in 1992, which speaks to the dedication of the volunteers on the Sammy's Executive Committee, aiming to bring Syracuse's most prominent musicians to the forefront of public attention.

The Sammy's Hall of Fame Induction will be Thursday March 5th Upstairs at the Dinosaur Bar-B-Que from 7 – 10 PM. Tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchased @ SyracuseAreaMusic.com.

The Sammy's Awards Show will be Friday March 6th at the Palace Theater in Eastwood @ 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$20. and will be available at Sound Garden and also available at our website: www.SyracuseAreaMusic.com.

The people's choice online voting is now open. Vote once every day. www.SyracuseAreaMusic.com/peopleschoice. Vote for your favorite Artist or Band, Venue to See Live Music, Local Festival or Music Series and Academic or Musical Organization.

**The Syracuse Area Music Awards
Is Proud to Present the Following
Hall of Fame Award Inductees:**

- ❖ Moss Back Mule Band
- ❖ Tim Fox
- ❖ Seth Marcel
- ❖ Judy Mareiniss

The Music Educator of the Year:

- ❖ Casey Vanderstouw

And the Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient:

- ❖ Garland Jeffreys

Founder's Award

- ❖ U A D
 - James 'Saul' Brown
 - Rick Linzy
 - Hollis 'Larry' Mathis
 - Isaac Wynn

Jack O Bocchino Spirit of the Sammys Award

- ❖ Marge Nolan

Moss Back Mule Band



Moss Back Mule Band

Moss Back Mule Band, enriched by diverse musical influences and great group chemistry, continues to sustain the ensemble that formed in the early 1970's. Although there have been a number of noteworthy lineups, for the past 15 years the group has consisted of founding members Steve Quenneville, Dave Liddy, Hal Kent, and until his passing in 2016 Bob Fleming. Along with regular appearances by original member Jeff Baker, the group is joined by drummer Dave Pallas, and they still play their unique style of western swing, country blues and boogie-woogie that found widespread popularity for over four decades.

In the mid to later '70's the band enjoyed several productive years as fiddler Ron Levine and drummer Jim Pacific were added to the lineup. Levin's violin and arranging skills, along with Pacific's sound production experience lifted the band professionally. With steady rehearsals and great support from DMR Booking Agency, radio station WOUR, and a hardworking road crew, they barnstormed clubs, colleges and concert halls throughout New York State and beyond.

The audiences reveled in Bob's rapport and Hal's visual stage presence. In 1978 the band attracted the attention of country music star Mickey Gilley, and he flew them to Texas to record and perform. The recording was never released, and in 1979 Ron moved on to tour and record with Gilley's band. Jeff Baker moved to Georgia in 1980 and joined the award-winning country band "Atlanta". They released two albums that were certified Gold Records, and toured the United States with many major country music acts. Dave left in January 1980 and joined the Syracuse swing outfit Out of the Blue. Shortly after he started playing with Steve and earned a SAMMY Award for their work with the acoustic trio String Bee. Through these personnel changes, Bob, who in many ways was the face of the MBMB, successfully performed with a select group of musicians that added personality and creativity to the music. In the early 1980's the band wound down as members moved on to different projects, until they reunited in 2005.

Since their inception, the Moss Back Mule Band has performed in concerts with Orleans, Freddy King, Charlie Daniels, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Hank Williams Jr., Pure Prairie League, Commander Cody, the Subdudes and other national acts, but their appeal is in large part due to their inclusion in the Central New York music community. Longtime friendships were born at local festivals featuring the Moss Back Mule Band with other local and regional acts such as Todd Hobin, Alecstar, the New York Flyers, Rolling Easy, Homegrown, CRAC, Out of the Blue, 805 and others. This deep well of talented musicians and enthusiastic fans has a rich history of freely interacting to create memorable events for all who attended.



TIM FOX

NewsChannel 9 WSYR's

Tim Fox has covered Central New York Music and the Arts for nearly 40 years. He developed the morning show “Bridge Street” and has served as Executive Producer through much of its 16-year run. He’s produced hundreds of hours of local programming ... Parades, Christmas music specials, telethons, town halls, documentaries, sports talk, magazine formats, infomercials and more. He’s a frequent on-air contributor to NewsChannel 9 newscasts and special projects and is seen Friday evenings on the feature “Tell Me Something Good.” Fox grew up in Cortland and graduated from Syracuse University’s S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications.

Along the way, he has:

- Taught Broadcasting at both Newhouse and Cazenovia College
- Written a best-selling history of Syracuse Television with Christie Casciano Burns & Lou Gulino
- Hosted CNY’s Muscular Dystrophy Telethon for 30 years
- Chaired the United Way Community Campaign
- Designed official posters for the Syracuse St. Patrick’s Parade
- Appeared with Syracuse Stage, the Syracuse Symphony, Syracuse Opera, the Landmark Theatre, Redhouse and Cortland Repertory Theatre
- Performed in community theatre with The Talent Company, Theatre 90, Contemporary Theatre and Shattuck-Nye Productions
- Shared a stage with M*A*S*H’s Loretta Swit and quizzed John Cusack for a Civic Center crowd
- Provided voices for two dozen audio books for Bruce Coville’s Full Cast Audio
- Co-hosted the iconic radio show “Teen Talk” for six years
- Produced an eight-hour telethon with live music for the Landmark Theatre
- Worked the sidelines on first season broadcasts of the Syracuse Crunch and the first game of the former Syracuse SkyChiefs at the former P&C Stadium
- And worked with the Syracuse Area Music Awards from the start, as a presenter, producing tribute videos, and as producer of weekly SAMMY Spotlight segments on “Bridge Street”

His proudest professional achievement (to date) has been pulling together a six-market telethon within three days of the 9/11 attacks. It raised over \$1 Million in an evening for the American Red Cross.

He and wife Cheryl are proud parents of Ryan, a recent SUNY Oswego broadcasting graduate.



Seth Marcel

Syracuse Area native Seth M. Bradford discovered his love for music early in life. His journey began as a local DJ at age 14, spinning tunes during what would later be dubbed the “Golden Era” of Hip-Hop. His curiosity led him to seek out how, exactly, the music he was playing was actually made. This was the artistic birth of the DJ, Producer, Writer, and Rapper affectionately known as Seth Marcel.

His earlier projects included recordings for BabyDoll records and VOA Records in 1989. In the early 1990’s he moved from behind the producers table and teamed up with family member Eddie Dowdell to form the group CHANNEL 3, which was awarded the first ever Sammy Award for Hip-Hop in 1993. The group repeated Sammy success with another award in 1994.

Marcel was also a member of the acclaimed Mad Pack, a coalition of 3 local rap groups merged into one unit in 1994. Upon disbandment of Mad Pack, Marcel and Dowdell underwent a name change and became “Mind Theory”. The duo was signed by OnPoint Entertainment in the fall of 1997.

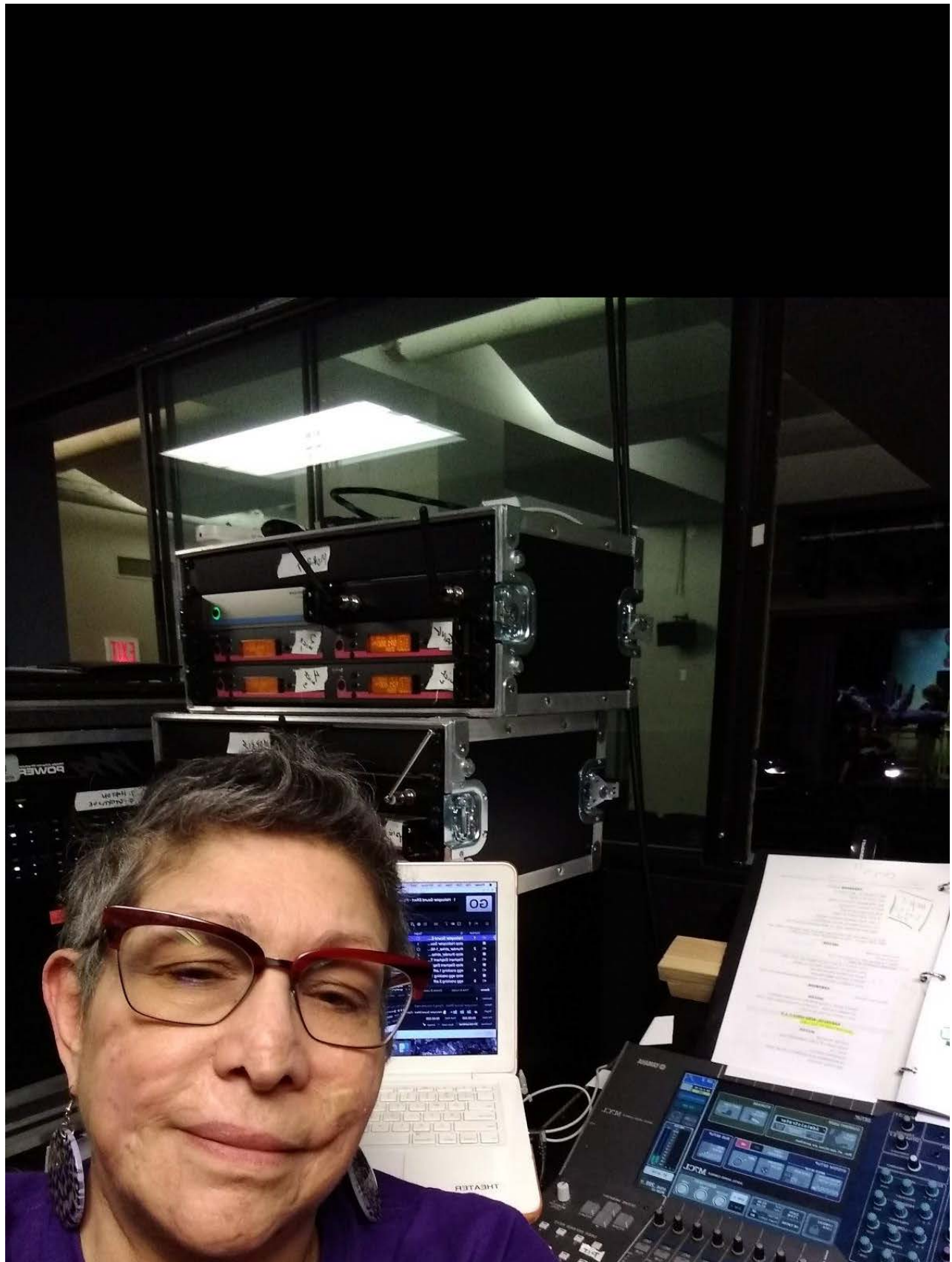
While establishing himself as a skilled wordsmith, Marcel performed at some of HipHop’s most notable venues, including Club Esso’s NYC, the famed Mad Wednesday’s Maria Davis Showcase, and the hallowed CBGB’S in New York City.

In the summer of 2001, foregoing the Mind Theory group name, Marcel released “Hardcore” on OnPoint Entertainment. The song garnered national buzz and even charted on Billboard’s top 200 that year, and earned him a slot to perform at the Billboard Urban Music Stage.

With the dissolving of Onpoint in 2005, he began recording under his own imprint 422 Music Company, releasing a total of 6 albums. The Road Less Traveled, S.O.U.L. M.U.S.I.C , Live From The Podium, Continuum, Looking For Tomorrow, and his latest, MasterPeace.

Music from his catalog has been featured in numerous television shows from networks including ESPN, BET, FOX, and HBO to name a few.

His name is synonymous with professionalism, excellence, and artistry. His influence on the local scene has endured, and as such, has placed him amongst the most revered and respected artists in Syracuse’s Hip-Hop community.



Judy Mareiniss

Judy was born and raised in Syracuse New York and moved on to the University of Buffalo for her first 2 years of college in the early 1970's. Her first semester junior year was spent abroad in Manchester, England in an elementary education teacher program. Deciding at that point there was more to life, she left the program and spent 6 more months in Manchester before reluctantly returning to Syracuse in June 1975 without any plan whatsoever. However, by August she somehow found herself, via the Syracuse University Summer Orchestra, invited to play violin with a young female accomplished guitarist doing her original music. This person had just moved back to Syracuse from San Francisco. It turned out that Janice D'Amico was the electric guitar player in one of the country's first all female rock bands called "Sweet Jenny Grit" in the very early '70's and it was based out of Syracuse. Perhaps their name can be found somewhere deep in one of the annals of Syracuse Rock and Roll. Due to what would have been many expected challenges, their history is short lived.

From acoustic concerts to more attempts at electric rock and roll bands fed by the pipeline of creativity and determination coming out of and being inspired by the newly established Women's Writer Center at Cazenovia College (remember this was smack dab in the middle of the 70's feminist movement), Judy ended up on the side of the microphone and stage that she was not comfortable with. It was also at this time that she discovered that the microphones and cables were actually setup and managed by someone and when that person was overheard to say one day that they could not remember if the violin could be heard or not, Judy knew where her new home would be...front of house behind a sound board.

In September 1977 Judy was accepted into the Newhouse School at Syracuse University as a junior. As an independent adult armed with a work study grant, she put her name at the bottom of a very long list of wannabe audio techs for the single position available in the audio services department on the 3rd floor of Newhouse II. After stopping by everyday for a week, Bill Cooper agreed to hire her not because she harassed him he assured her, but because of her persistence. Because of that vote of confidence, the opportunity for a tremendous amount of hands-on experience in the 16 track Neve recording studio presented itself, working with students and rogue musicians on a wide variety of projects. She was able to walk away from Newhouse with much more know how and experience than would ever have been possible otherwise.

After graduation, live sound opportunities were the first to present themselves but only by female bands of course. Who would hire a girl "soundman"? "Laura and the Legwarmers" as well as the band Flight of Phoenix were the first. As awkward as it sounded at the time, Judy demanded to be addressed as the bands' "soundperson" when spoken to by club owners or patrons. Interesting tidbit...today this is a commonly used title for both men and women. Still however, only "soundman" appears in the Merriam-Webster Modern Dictionary.

Five more years went by in Syracuse, loading and unloading broken down vans with sound and lighting equipment, setting up and tearing down entire PA systems, running sound for 3 sets a night, playing at the local Syracuse clubs such as The Lost Horizon, Jabberwocky, The Paradise, Poor House North and more as well as traveling the Thruway circuit clubs for several Syracuse bands (Siren, The Pop Tarts, the Antoinettes, the Natives, The Tearjerkers and briefly ETV and The

Miamis). This was all made possible by the generosity of her aunt's cheap room rental and the supplemental income from her temp job at Jean's Potato Chip Factory. By 1984 Judy was ready to make the leap to New York City and its opportunities for success in the music industry.

Perfect timing...so were the Antoinettes! Always easier to make a major move with friends.

The next 35 years were a whirlwind. In August 1984 Judy packed her bags and began to map out a plan for her life in New York. Along with doing sound for any Antoinettes' gigs, she started a great first job in New York City as an audio technician at the American Foundation for the Blind National Headquarters in the Talking Book Department where she learned how to align, maintain and repair the reel to reel tape recorders used in the recording of books just for the blind. This eventually segued nicely into a full time house sound position at the renowned nightclub CBGB OMFUG where not only did she mix over 700 bands a year, but recorded many of them live simultaneously on the in-house 16 track recorder. Much to owner Hilly Kristal's delight, Judy was able to rescue a couple of perfectly good 2 track Ampex recorders from the Foundation for the Blind that were put to good use as the mix down recorders for so many of the tracks recorded at the club. This is how they got things done in the late '80's in NYC.

Old bands, new bands, avant garde, new wave, singer/songwriter, hard core, and any and every style and level in between came through the club on tour, for club auditions or for record company showcases. This is where Judy really learned her craft, eventually working as house sound in multiple clubs and freelancing all over the city. By the late '80's she was out on the road doing International and domestic tours with recording artists Living Colour, The Indigo Girls, The Triplets and other lesser known. She was also featured in an article in Sassy Magazine in September 1991 entitled "How To Have A Job In Music And Be Female". She says she still does not know the answer to that question.

In early 1992, in pursuit of a salaried position, Judy decided to run away with the renowned Big Apple Circus where she acted as show sound engineer setting up an extensive in house system (in house means in a large tent that came down every week) mixing a very talented 8 piece show band and pinning lavalier mics on clowns. After 2 years she also become the show's first official Sound Designer.

In the late '90's she returned to the clubs (Mercury Lounge, Acme Underground, Fez Under the Time Cafe) meeting and mixing many wonderful bands and shows while figuring out the next way to keep her head above water. Corporate AV beckoned with the highest hourly wage she had ever known. For the next 10 years she set up events and meetings at one of the world's largest financial firms in lower Manhattan, running slideshows and pinning lavalier mics on what would eventually prove to be different kinds of clowns that helped to bring down the economy of the world. In 2009 she was laid off from that position and like many others in their mid 50's lived

in fear and anxiety for 2 years completely unable to find a job in the corporate world or the music industry.

But in April 2011 things surprisingly came full circle. Thirty-six years after abandoning a possible career in an elementary school environment, an unexpected email from a long ago application came in asking her to fill in for an elementary school concert in a new private school in lower Manhattan. This led to an 8 year position as she made herself more and more indispensable to both the lower school (pre-k through 5th) and the upper school (6th through 12th) by providing IT support, classroom technology installation and teacher assistance, high standard support for virtually every special public event designed to impress and recruit new potential students and families as well as for every concert in both schools. As the school tripled in size she played a major role in the elevation of the Performing Arts Department's productions such as taking the school musicals from 12 microphones to 40 microphones. After the class of 2019's graduation ceremony she announced her departure as a time to retire "on" from what turned out to be quite the departure from her original plans made during the summer of 1984.

Judy would like to thank Meegan Voss and Steve Jordan for asking her to send them a summary of her career, forcing her to review it and the SAMMY's Committee for finding it interesting.



Casey Vanderstouw

Mr. Casey Vanderstouw is the president of the New York State field band conference, and the proud director of the Baker high school band program in Baldwinsville, NY. His roles include directing the Baldwinsville 'Bees' marching band, concert band, 'Plan Bee' pep band, jazz band and coordinating the winter marching and color guard programs. Under his direction, the Baldwinsville marching band has enjoyed numerous accolades. The band has performed in both the prestigious Tournament of Roses Parade (2020) in Pasadena, California and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (2014). The band has won multiple New York State championships, performed for the New York Jets and Buffalo Bills, as well as appearing in multiple college bowl games. The band also performed as overnight guests at the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida, and performed a salute to military veterans onboard the USS Intrepid in Manhattan, NY.

Mr. Vanderstouw founded the 'Plan Bee' Pep Band at Baldwinsville in 2009. In addition to appearing in numerous television appearances and sporting events throughout New York State, this group has performed as the annual guest house-band for the Syracuse men's basketball team from 2011 to the present. In 2018 the band traveled to Nashville, Tennessee and recorded a four-track vinyl 45 in the famous 'blue room' at Jack White's Third Man Records facility. In 2019 the band released 'Bee Sides', a self-produced full-length vinyl record of recordings celebrating the ten-year anniversary of the group.

Prior to his position in Baldwinsville, Mr. Vanderstouw was the Director of Bands in Wellsville, NY. In 2008 the Wellsville Marching Band completed the first-ever undefeated field band season in the 22-year history of the program.

Mr. Vanderstouw has earned academic degrees from Boston University (M. M. E.) magna cum laude, Syracuse University (B.M.E.) magna cum laude, and Onondaga Community College (A.A.S) magna cum laude. At Onondaga, he founded and taught the Onondaga Community College Indoor Drumline. In 2006, Mr. Vanderstouw was selected as Class Marshal for the 2006 graduating class for the Syracuse University school of Visual and Performing Arts. In this role, he was instrumental in inviting and hosting performer/entertainer Billy Joel as commencement speaker. In 2018, Mr. Vanderstouw was awarded the Clarkson University 'Inspirational Educator' award for outstanding New York State teachers. In 2019, Mr. Vanderstouw was named 'Gael of the Year' by the Syracuse St. Patrick's Parade committee, and was honored by the city of Syracuse.

Mr. Vanderstouw loves providing new performance opportunities for his students, and greatly values his role in helping young students achieve success as musicians and as citizens.



Garland Jeffreys

For all inquiries, contact Tom Honan at 315-263-2254 or info@livespaceentertainment.com.

For over fifty years, Garland Jeffreys has truly been the “King of In Between.” His deep, eclectic song catalog is heavily influenced by his 1950’s Brooklyn upbringing and reflects his love of rock, gospel, folk, blues, reggae and jazz. He is most definitely a songwriter’s songwriter. From his self-titled 1973 debut album to his 2017 “14 Steps to Harlem” (produced by British singer-songwriter James Maddock), Garland has shared his stories, insight and journey as a mixed race man (black, white and Puerto Rican) with honesty, colorful characters and vivid imagery. He also knew how to cover a song, hitting #5 on the Billboard charts with his version of “96 Tears” by the band “? and the Mysterians.”

New York Times critic Stephen Holden says: Mr. Jefferys’ raw, hungry singing which combines the fervor of Frankie Lymon and the edge of Mick Jagger, gives it an incendiary immediacy.” Jeffreys illustrates this through a story involving his long-time friend Lou Reed: “I met Lou at Syracuse University in the early sixties and I thought if that guy can get up and sing a song, then I can too! Lou got up and sang with me and when he left the stage, I sang a Frankie Lymon song and in front of the whole house, Lou got on his knees and bowed down to me. It was both hilarious and absolutely wonderful!”

Village Voice critic Robert Christgau in reviewing “Garland Jeffreys” in 1973 wrote: “This man should be given the keys to every city on whose streets he walks – ours first.” And issued a bold prophecy: “staying power.” The Voice also ranked Garland’s signature song “Wild in the Streets” as the seventh best song ever written about New York City.

Garland has a loyal global fan-base and has earned the respect of everyone in the music industry. He has been inducted into the Long Island Hall of Fame and appears in the documentary “The Blues” produced by Martin Scorsese. He has regularly shared the stage with Bruce Springsteen, Lou Reed, Little Steven, Suzanne Vega, Laurie Anderson and many others.

He has stepped back from touring, but continues to write new songs and is working with his wife Claire on a documentary about his long and fruitful life and career.

He now joins Reed and another Syracuse classmate Felix Cavaliere in being honored by the SAMMY’s.

FOUNDERS AWARD



UAD

Childhood friends *Hollis 'Larry' Mathis* and *Isaac Wynn* are the co-founding members of the Syracuse-based vocal group, U A D, where they alternate lead vocals on falsetto and second tenor respectively.

Another childhood friend, first tenor and lead vocalist *James 'Saul' Brown* has an out-sized stage presence and personality and a big voice to match it. Over the years his backing and fronting vocals have graced many popular Syracuse bands including, Lil' Georgie & the Shuffling Hungarians and the After FX Band (which also featured Larry), and of course U A D.

U A D's fourth lead vocalist *Rick Linzy* can be heard weekends performing with the male chorus at Peoples AME Zion Church, and of course while he's onstage with U A D. In the past he has also sung and performed with the Soul Mine band and the prestigious Paul Robeson Performing Arts Company.

For more than a quarter century, U A D has performed its electrifying and dynamic brand of R&B and Old School Soul classics at Syracuse Jazz Fest, The Great New York State Fair and at JAMS Funk Fest, and at all of the Syracuse region's major concert venues and festivals. Especially beloved in Syracuse's African-American community, they're also noted for their annual Mother's Day shows at The Palace Theatre, where they cover an entire set of tunes paying tribute to moms, and to women in general. A few of their crowd favorites are, "*Treat Her Like a Lady*" by the Temptations; "*I'll Always Love my Momma*" by the Intruders and "*Heaven Must be Missing an Angel*" by Tavares.

U A D's presentation is 'Old School' and similar in style to that of the legendary Soul stand-up vocal groups that were popular in the 60's & 70's like The Temptations, O'Jays The Whispers and The Four Tops. When they hit the stage - dressed in their high fashion matching outfits - audiences reminisce about the great Soul era, while enjoying the group's electrifying choreographed display of dance moves, and brilliant four part harmonies and alternating leads. For younger audiences who didn't attend the old school, the group uses their tight vocal harmonies to revamp newer R&B-flavored hits while staying true to their old school style.

Their first shows under the *U A D* moniker came 25 years ago in the mid 1990's. It's an acronym that stands for **Uplites, Avatar and Destiny**, . . . the names of some of the early groups that Wynn and Mathis were a part of dating back to their teenage years.

JACK O BOCCHINO

SPIRIT OF THE SAMMYS AWARD



Marge Nolan

In the 1970's, Dr. Hook & the Medicine Show humorously defined the pinnacle of musical success as getting your picture on "The Cover of Rolling Stone". For years in Syracuse, a musician knew he or she had made it when the beloved Marge Nolan made an appearance to dance at their gig.

Marge was born November 8, 1930, and raised in Queens, NY. When she was 17, she met the love of her life, Phil Nolan, a young airman on leave from the Air Force, whom she married after a courtship of several years, and they raised their family in New York City. A gigantic heart beat within her diminutive five-foot frame. The couple loved to dance, and when Phil passed in 2005, Marge moved to Syracuse, a city her husband had loved, because it reminded her of him, and she stayed...and she danced. Boy, did she dance!

Never having learned to drive, Marge took a cab from her home in Fairmount four or five times a week to local venues that host live music. A formidable vocalist in her own right, she began attending open mic nights, and was as renowned for her singing as for her dancing. She would slowly nurse a scotch and soda, quick to point out she never got "ossified", a word she preferred to "intoxicated" because it "sounds more classy". That was Marge: pure class all the way. Men a third of her age vied to dance with her. She became so popular a fixture on the nightlife that a "Fans of Marge" Facebook page was created, and she was profiled on Syracuse.com. That 2014 profile, identifying her as "Syracuse's biggest music fan" concludes by saying "Marge is one-of-a-kind, an inspiration. She isn't defined by her age, but by her attitude. She's a shining example of the benefits of a positive outlook, an ardent supporter of a sometimes-downtrodden city, a tribute to the power of a musical soul, and a joyful reminder: you're never too old to dance."

On August 2nd, 2019, the Syracuse music community was heartbroken to read on the "Fans of Marge" Facebook page "The amazing Marge transitioned to dance and shine her light with all of heaven's all-star bands. We are all better for having known Marge." Truer words were never spoken. Among the multitude of tributes poured her way by the grieving community, one of the comments said simply "It won't be Syracuse anymore."

It will still be Syracuse, but it will not be the same without her. The beautiful star that shined on the dance floor will now shine down brightly from the heavens, and when loading out gear into the frosty air at the end of a late night gig, our musicians can look up and notice a brighter star in the sky, and know that their guardian angel is looking down with a sassy smile and a wink that lets them know they did a good job.

It is with the same love for Marge that she showed to our local musical community that the Syracuse Area Music Awards proudly announces Marge Nolan as the 2020 recipient of the Jack O Bocchino Spirit of the SAMMYs Award, in gratitude for her years of love, passion, and dedication to the music and musicians of our community.

March 6 – Award Show Performances:

- ❖ Garland Jeffreys
- ❖ Moss Back Mule Band
- ❖ Melissa Gardiner
- ❖ Emma Jude
- ❖ Seth Marcel
- ❖ Ron Spencer Band

In addition to these performances, awards will be presented in 14 recording categories, as well as the People's Choice award for Best Band, Best Venue to see Live Music, Best Festival or Music Series and Academic or Musical Organization.

The Brian Bourke award sponsored by CNYAlive.com for Best New Artist will also be announced.

As in the past, this year's Best New Artist will receive six hours of recording time from SubCat Studios.

SUBMISSION & JUDGING PROCESS

SAMMY awards are given based on the judgment of submissions sent by mail to the SAMMYS Board by musicians in Syracuse and the surrounding area.

An independent panel of music industry professionals and educators from around the country, led by James Abbott, review the submissions and make their selections based on their merit and their genre.

And The Nominees Are:

Best Pop

- ❖ Stephen Phillips
- ❖ Jenna Cunningham

Big Eyes & Rosy Cheeks
Seizing Self

Best Hip Hop/Rap

- ❖ Slick Fashion 2
- ❖ 315 CASH
- ❖ Coughlin
- ❖ The Real Raw Breed
- ❖ MBK Richy

Purple
A Rough Start#RELOADED
#TheHeat
No Excuse
RSZ

Best Americana

- ❖ Mike Powell
- ❖ The Ripcords
- ❖ Coffee & Beer
- ❖ Off the Ground
- ❖ Ghost Town Ramblers

The Full Nelson: Live at the Odeon
Last Dance
Leap
Cleared for Takeoff
Outlaw Highway

Best Alternative

- ❖ Late Earth
- ❖ Keep Up
- ❖ The Action!
- ❖ Mandate of Heaven
- ❖ Devinne Meyers

Eleventh Hour
Up In Flames
20 Years Alive
Least Concern
Silver Line

Best Rock

- ❖ Atkins Riot
- ❖ Underwater Bosses
- ❖ Chris Eves and the New Normal
- ❖ Slow Train
- ❖ Mike Powell & The Black River
- ❖ Ronnie Dark

Too Much Whisky
Aqua La Vista
One Spark
In Between
Gypsy Winnebago
Sky

Best Hard Rock

- ❖ Kris Wiechmann
- ❖ Cry to the Blind
- ❖ Ecliptic Vision
- ❖ Murder in Rue Morgue
- ❖ Killaton

The Heaviest Tenderness
Deliver Me
Ecliptic Vision
Endless Cycles
My Abyss

Best Other Style

- ❖ Mark Nanni
- ❖ Josh Dekaney
- ❖ Leo Crandall & Hymie Witthoft
- ❖ Spotlight Studios
- ❖ O'Connor & Dunn

Towns & Spaces In Between
All the Americas
Unknowable & Stunning Thing
A Holiday Spotlight
Which Way to Neverland?

Best Jam Band

- ❖ Big Sexy & The Scrambled Eggs
- ❖ Vaporeyes

Road Less Traveled
Vaporeyes

Best Singer/Songwriter

- ❖ Dale Randall
- ❖ Andrew VanNorstrand
- ❖ Cam Caruso
- ❖ Sydney Irving
- ❖ Jeffrey Pepper Rodgers

All the Love I Know
That We Could Find a Way to Be
Up Above & Down Below
The Greene EP
Live and Listening

Best Blues

- ❖ Sean McLeod
- ❖ King Kool and His Royal Blues
- ❖ Diana Jacobs
- ❖ Chris Terra Band
- ❖ Earl Slick & The West Side Social Club

Harriet Tubman Freedom Music
Festival-Live! Vol. 4
Train Wreck
What She Needs
Lady Luck
The West Side Social Club

Best R & B

- ❖ Gary Carpentier
- ❖ Barroom Philosophers
- ❖ Jaquiel
- ❖ Alani Skye

LUCID
Digital Demise
Changes
Alani Skye

Best Country

- ❖ The Cadleys
- ❖ Whiskey Hollow Rush
- ❖ Jon Rogalia
- ❖ Emalee Herrington
- ❖ D. Dusk Rogers

Duets & Ballads
True Stories
A Little Too Country
Plans Change
Pounded Down By Christmas

Best Jazz

- ❖ London McDaniel
- ❖ Melissa Gardiner

Masterpieces
Empowered

Best Electronica

- ❖ Ruby C.
- ❖ Empires in Orbit

Ruby C.
Doom City Limits & Singles

SYRACUSE AREA MUSIC AWARDS MARCH 5 – 6, 2020

Sponsorship

Each year, hundreds of local musicians and members of the Syracuse music community attend the SAMMY's. Since the first SAMMY award show was held at the Landmark Theater in 1993, this annual celebration of the Syracuse music scene has become the number one local music event in Central New York. The Board of Directors would like to thank all of our sponsors for supporting this community focused event, which is produced by a dedicated group of volunteers and supported by grants as well as private and corporate donations.

