



THE NEXT GENERATION

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COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ ARTISTS

IT'S A PROFESSIONAL MUSIC INDUSTRY
EXPERIENCE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

YOUTH JAZZ is a spring and summer scholarship program residency for the next generation of jazz artists emerging from the Kansas City scene.

FELLOWSHIPS are awarded after a screening audition and participation is FREE of tuition.

SELECTED candidates prepare music to a high level, do paid performances, and record albums.



KANSAS CITY AREA YOUTH JAZZ 2026 FELLOWS



ARC

**YOUTH JAZZ
FELLOWSHIPS ARE
AWARDED BASED
UPON MERIT.**

THERE IS NO COST.

**EACH YOUTH JAZZ
FELLOWSHIP
SCHOLARSHIP IS
WORTH \$2,500.**

CLICK THE YOUTH JAZZ LOGO
TO VISIT [OUR WEBSITE](#) OR
SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT
[OUR INQUIRY FORM](#)



“I had the honor of being a visiting guest lecturer during the Summer session of the **Kansas City Area Youth Jazz** program.

The **Youth Jazz** program is making a profound and lasting impact in the Kansas City jazz community by empowering young musicians and keeping the spirit of jazz vibrantly alive for future generations.

The program creates an inspiring environment where young musicians are encouraged to find their voice, strive for excellence, and deepen their understanding of jazz as an art form.”

--
Matt Otto, Associate Director of Jazz Studies,
University of Kansas School of Music, Recording Artist

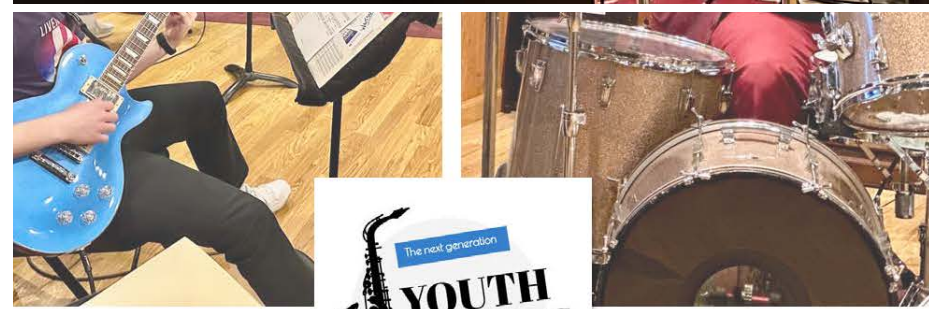
Testimonial

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“The Kansas City Area Youth Jazz organization is *one of the finest organizations that I have ever worked with* for teaching young people the art of jazz. I wished that I had something like this as a young person and now I am always looking to recruit some of those students into my program at UMKC. They are doing great work.”



Carl Allen, William D. and Mary Grant/Missouri Endowed Professor of Jazz Studies at UMKC Conservatory, University of Missouri – Kansas City, Nella Productions, Inc., New York Jazz Symposium

Testimonial

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**"... music education initiative
that fills a needed void"**

"Kansas City Area Youth Jazz is a creative contemporary *music education initiative that fills a needed void* in the greater Kansas City metropolitan area. The education provided to the students in one of the finest recording studios in the Midwest is a true blessing for each participant. This is one of few programs in the nation that not only focuses on creating, rehearsing, and performing music, but also recording a culminating album that students can enjoy for a lifetime."

Dan Thomas

Dan Thomas, Chair, Department of Music
Director of Jazz Studies, Ottawa University (Kansas City)
Yamaha / Vandoren Performing Artist / Master Educator

Testimonial

YOUTHJAZZ.US
The next generation.

CONTRIBUTORS
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PROJECT

2026 FELLOWSHIP
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THE NEXT GENERATION

Youth Jazz Alumni come from cities and towns throughout the **Kansas City metropolitan area**. KC is a bi-state metropolitan area anchored by Kansas City, Missouri. Its 14 counties straddle the border between the U.S. states of Missouri (9 counties) and Kansas (5 counties). With 8,472 square miles (21,940 km) and a population of more than 2.2 million people, it is the second-largest metropolitan area centered in Missouri (after Greater St. Louis) and is the largest metropolitan area in Kansas, though Wichita is the largest metropolitan area centered in Kansas. Alongside Kansas City, Missouri, these are the suburbs with populations above 100,000: Overland Park, Kansas; Kansas City, Kansas; Olathe, Kansas; Independence, Missouri; and Lee's Summit, Missouri. **Youth Jazz** is a unique program based in Creative Youth Development (CYD). CYD describes programs that blend excellence in artistic instruction with principles of positive youth development.

YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Andreas Kellepouris
(2020 FELLOWSHIP)



Brady Johnstone
(2022 FELLOWSHIP)



Amil McDaniel
(2024 FELLOWSHIP)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Kenny Watson
(2022 FELLOWSHIP)



Levi Birks
(2023 FELLOWSHIP)



Kelsey O'Donnell
(2024, 2025 FELLOWSHIPS)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Coleman Glidden
(2019 FELLOWSHIP)



Charles Fisher
(2024 FELLOWSHIP)



Carter Beucher
(2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 FELLOWSHIPS)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Ari Staggs
(2021, 2022 FELLOWSHIPS)



Josiah Assefa
(2023 FELLOWSHIP)



Anna Davis
(2021 FELLOWSHIP)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Henry Fears
(2021, 2022 FELLOWSHIPS)



Henry Scamurra
(2020, 2021, 2023 FELLOWSHIPS)



Dylan Reed
(2023, 2024 FELLOWSHIPS)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



James Barton
(2024 FELLOWSHIP)



Jordan Faught
(2021, 2022 FELLOWSHIPS)



Jackson Harrison
(2022, 2023 FELLOWSHIPS)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Ali Carlton
(2020 FELLOWSHIP)



Ben Ogutu
(2020 FELLOWSHIP)



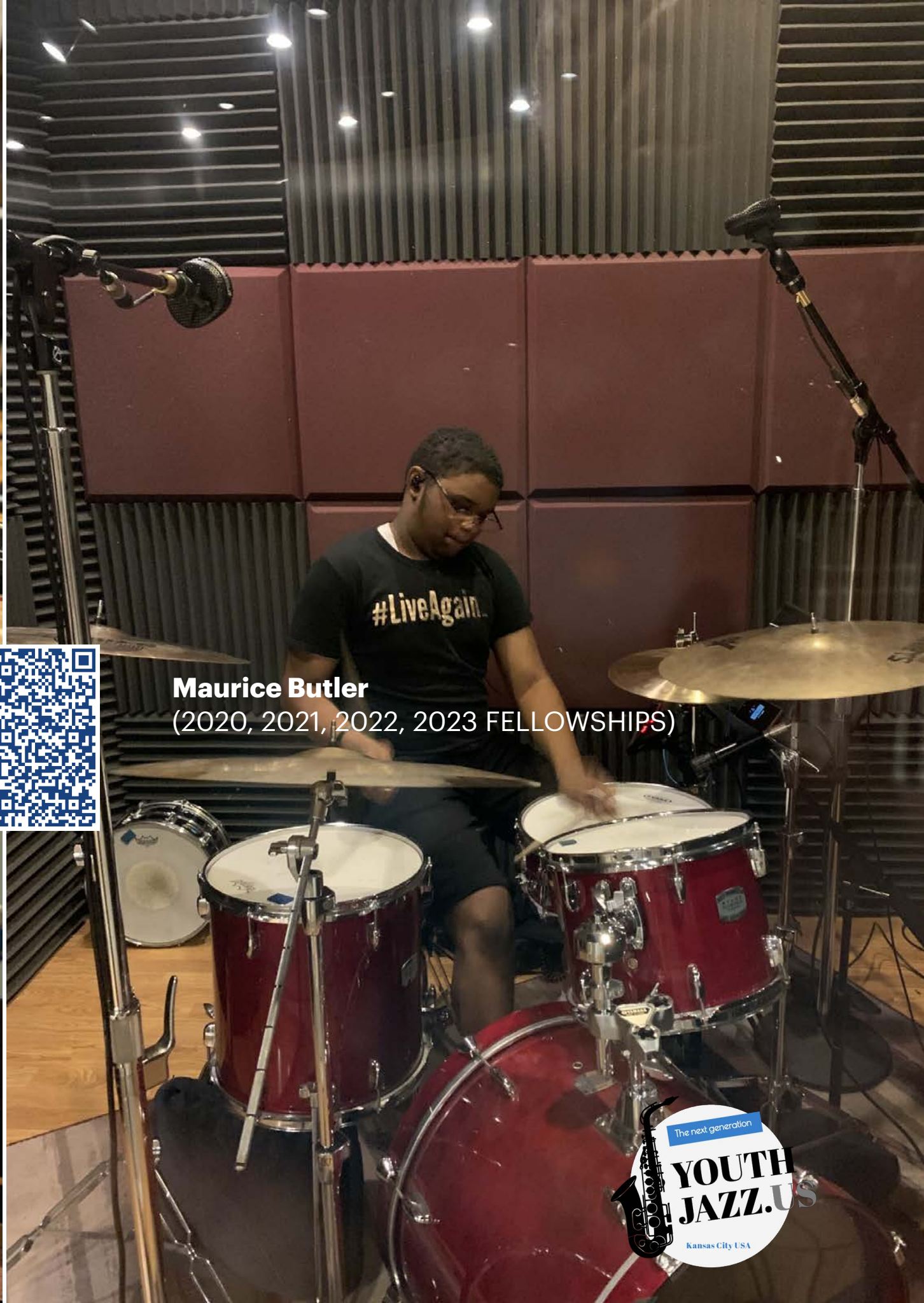
Aiden Hamer
(2023 FELLOWSHIP)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Michael Suriano
(2023 FELLOWSHIP)



Maurice Butler
(2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 FELLOWSHIPS)



Nash Ohlund
(2024 FELLOWSHIP)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Parker Woolworth
(2021, 2022 FELLOWSHIPS)



Patricia Loving
(2021 FELLOWSHIP)



Nic Weaver
(2023 FELLOWSHIP)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Logan Smoot
(2022, 2023 FELLOWSHIPS)



Isaac Pieters
(2020, 2022, 2023 FELLOWSHIPS)



Javier Cruz
(2023, 2024, 2025 FELLOWSHIPS)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Dallas Hall
(2023, 2024, 2025 FELLOWSHIPS)



Brett Carter
(2021, 2024 FELLOWSHIPS)



Carlos Olivas
(2024, 2025 FELLOWSHIPS)



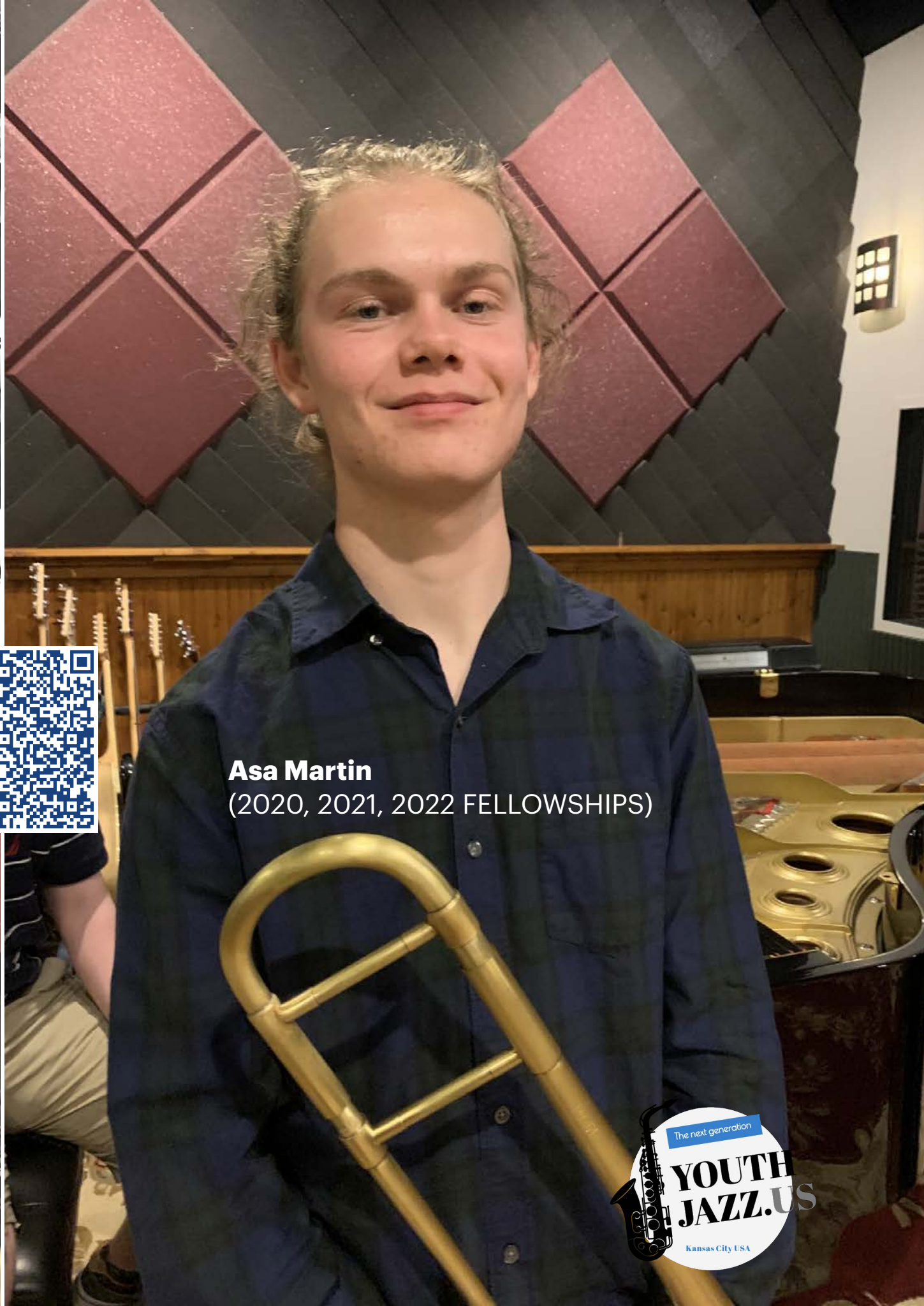
YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Brendan Sullivan
(2019 FELLOWSHIP)



Blue Noyes
(2022, 2023 FELLOWSHIPS)



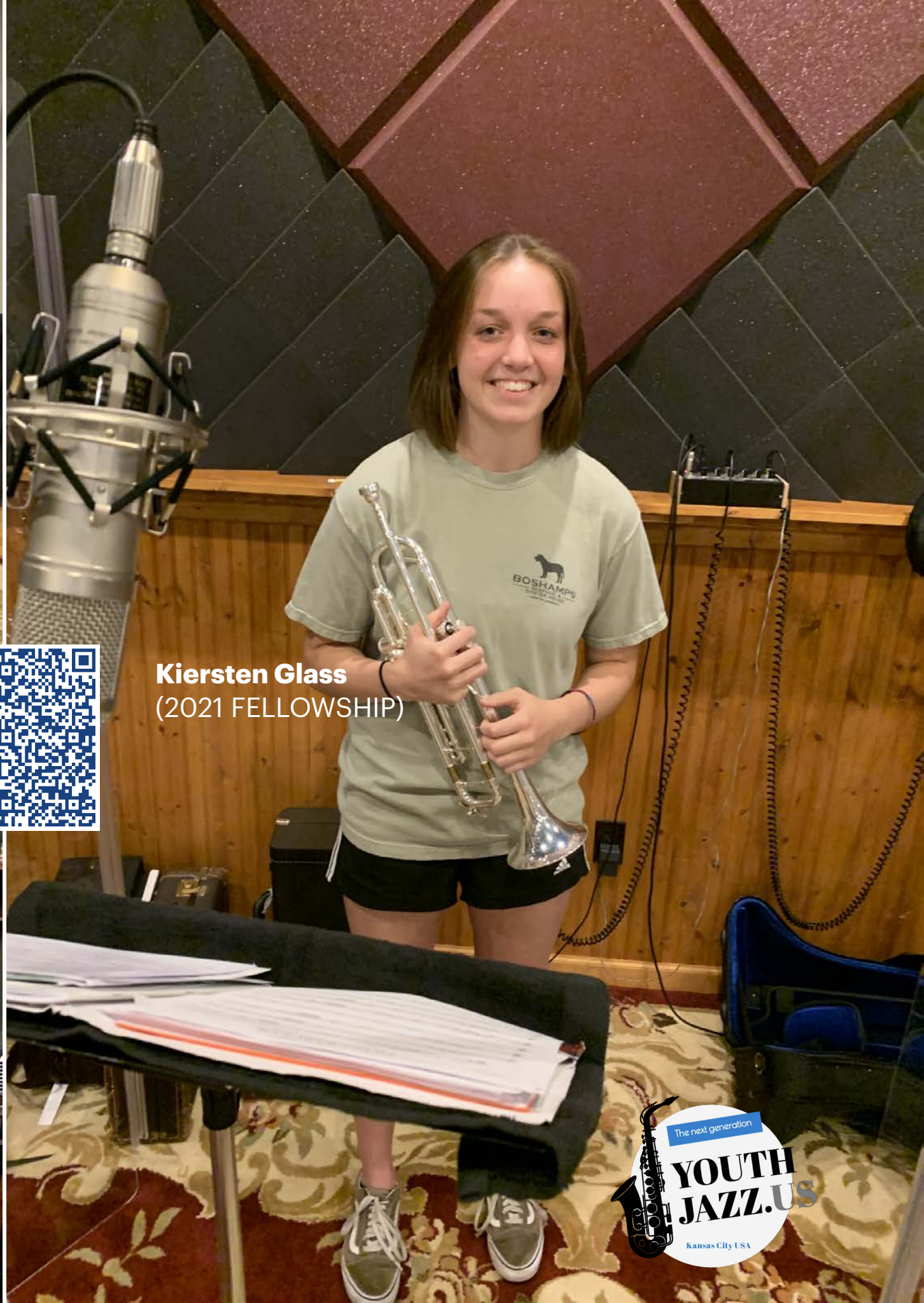
Asa Martin
(2020, 2021, 2022 FELLOWSHIPS)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Leah DeGarmo
(2022 FELLOWSHIP)



Kiersten Glass
(2021 FELLOWSHIP)



Joshua Rivera
(2021, 2022 FELLOWSHIPS)



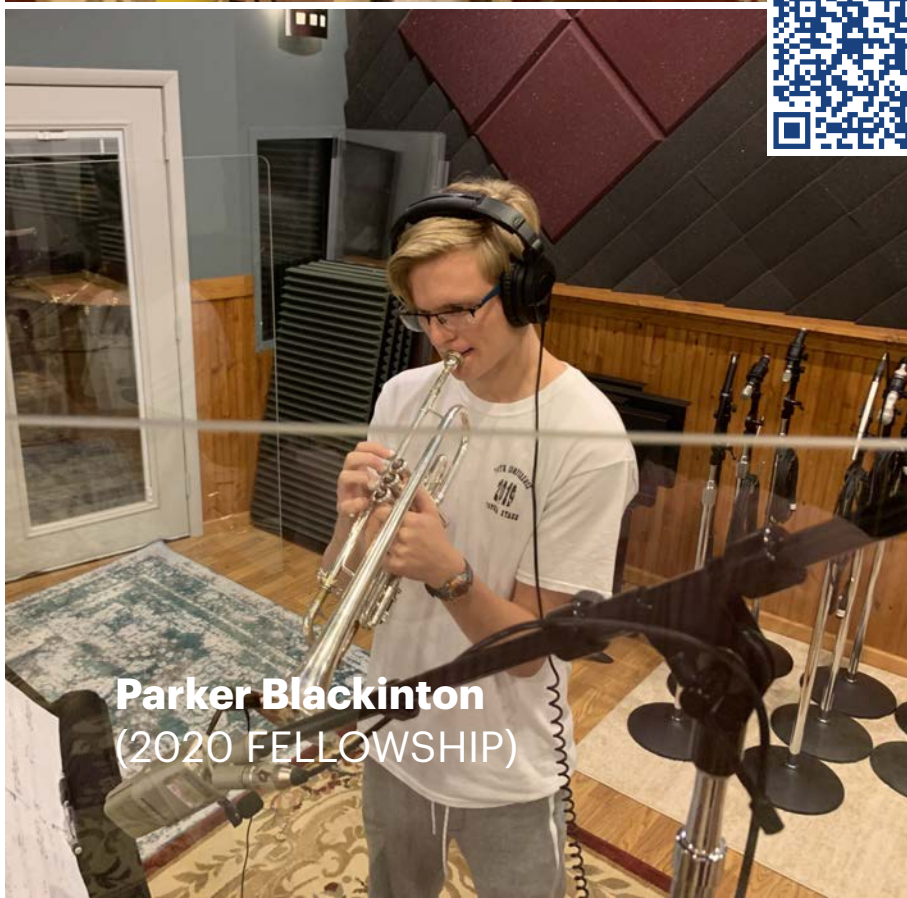
YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Paige Ely
(2020 FELLOWSHIP)



Miles Clemons
(2020, 2022, 2023 FELLOWSHIPS)



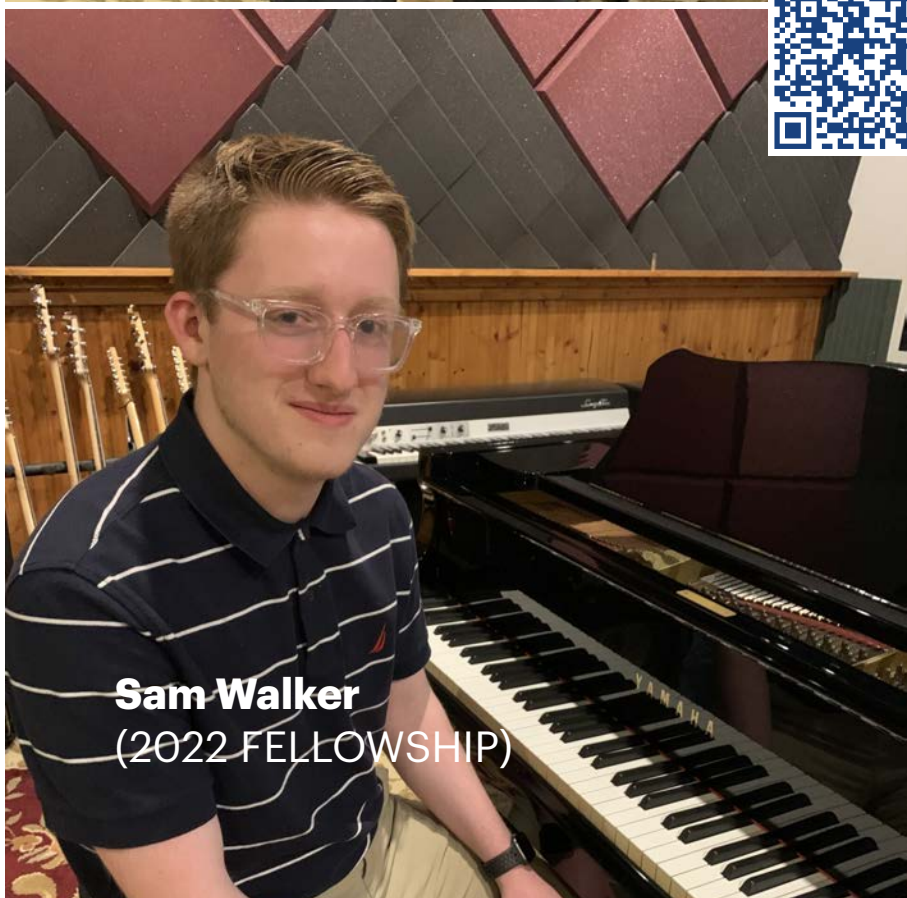
Parker Blackinton
(2020 FELLOWSHIP)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Nick Walker
(2022 FELLOWSHIP)



Sam Walker
(2022 FELLOWSHIP)



Joshua McKeague
(2019, 2022 FELLOWSHIPS)



YOUTH JAZZ ALUMNI NETWORK



Will Elling
(2022 FELLOWSHIP)



Quinn Spear
(2023 FELLOWSHIP)



Spencer Addis
(2019 FELLOWSHIP)



AND MORE ALUMNI ...

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NOTICE: Kansas City Area Youth Jazz Inc (aka Youth Jazz) 92-2098803 is officially determined by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt nonprofit organization under IRC Section 501(c)(3) with further Public Charity status allowing donors to deduct contributions they make to Youth Jazz under IRC Section 170.

VISIT OUR OTHER JAZZ ARTS RELATED NONPROFIT PROGRAMS - Record Label: [Artists Recording Collective](#). Celebrating Charlie Parker: [Bird Boot Camp + Musical Salute](#). Digital Magazine: [Jazz Artistry Now](#).

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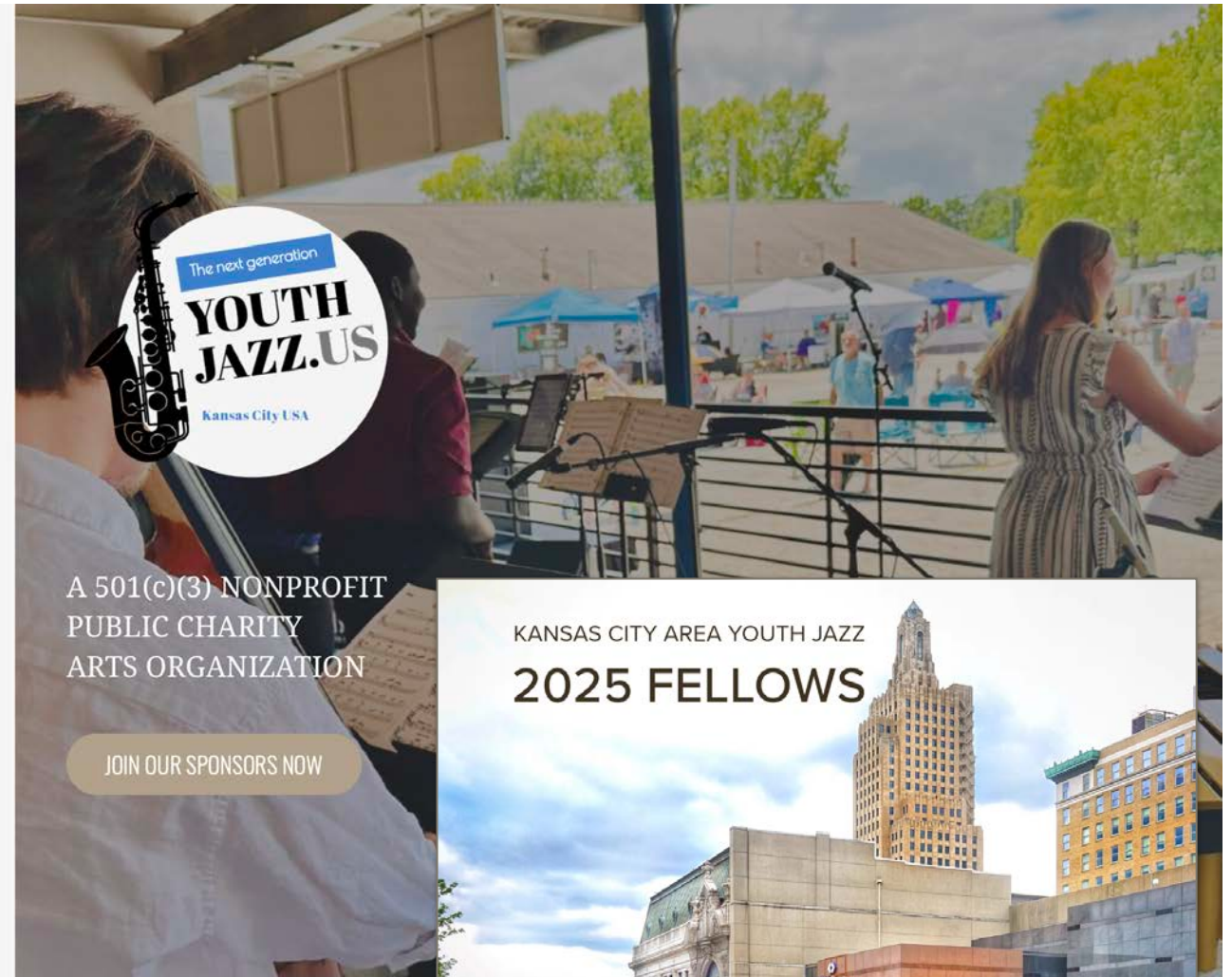
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2025 FELLOWS



 **Kansas City Area Youth Jazz** ▾

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Albums



2024 Fellows
December 24, 2024



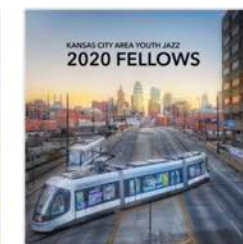
2023 Fellows
February 9, 2024



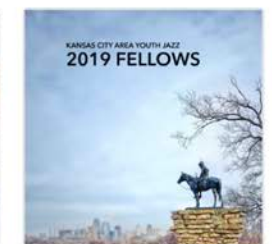
2022 FELLOWS
February 9, 2024



2021 Fellows
February 9, 2024



2020 Fellows
September 20, 2021



2019 Fellows
September 18, 2021