

DEAR IDYLLWILD COMMUNITY,

On Saturday, July 13, 2024, Idyllwild Arts bid farewell to 30 years of Jazz In The Pines, an adventure that began with Barbara Wood, Lin Carlson, and the vision of Dr. Marshall Hawkins.

The 2024 Jazz In The Pines Festival & Student Clinic began each week with concerts featuring Grammy winners, LA recording session players, and great Jazz practitioners from across Southern California who served on the faculty. Students also ended each week of the festival by playing in combos and big bands, and a new feature this year, Latin bands!

John Daversa's Big Band had listeners in awe as they played the Grammy-nominated album, "Kaleidoscope Eyes: Music of the Beatles" with singer Maiya Sykes bringing down the house with her soulful voice and sheer enjoyment as a performer.

The two-week festival also featured backstories and interviews that surprised and delighted many festival-goers. Highlights included Steve Proffitt's reading from an excerpt of Dr. Hawkins' memoirs followed by an interview that focused more on the life of Dr. Hawkins versus his career. Also featured was John Daversa's podcast interview with Dr. Hawkins (spoiler alert: Marshall reveals how much Miles Davis actually paid him!), and the panel discussion with Marshall and a few of his friends, where you could hear a pin drop during the exchange of these amazing musicians.

This year's festival was dedicated to the memory of legendary guitarist Bob Boss, who passed away earlier this year. The Seahawk MoJO concert on Friday, July 12th lifted Bob in song as his family and a grateful crowd watched from the audience. Longtime favorites including singers Yve Evans and Sherry Williams, clarinetist Evan Christopher, pianist Joshua White and several others joined Seahawk to celebrate Bob's life and incredible career. The evening concluded with a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday" to Dr. Hawkins on the eve of his 85th birthday.

We are grateful to our sponsors who helped make this year possible: The Associates of Idyllwild Arts Foundation, Robin & William Rhoads, Heimark, LLC, La Quinta Brewing, Matin du Bois Vintners, Sparkling Ice, Corbeaux Wine & Tea House, media sponsor The Town Crier, and Premiere sponsors, Linda and Manny Rider, whose love and support of our students knows no bounds. All proceeds from the festival support Academy and Summer Program student scholarships.

The mission of Jazz In The Pines was to support and empower the students of Idyllwild Arts through an inter-generational teaching-artist model anchored in the strategies of jazz music and the artistry of its greatest practitioners. This mission will certainly live on as we continue to teach Jazz to many generations to come. As for the festival, Dr. Hawkins said it best, "Mission Accomplished!"

I extend a heartfelt thanks to the community of Idyllwild for the support that the festival has received throughout the years.

With deep gratitude,



Pamela Jordan
President, Idyllwild Arts Foundation



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