

PERFORMANCE
MUSIC AT THE U OF S
PRESENTS...

LUCKY CHOPS

WITH AN APPEARANCE
BY THE
U OF S
JAZZ BAND!

THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 12
7:30PM
HOULIHAN-MCLEAN
CENTER

**FREE
ADMISSION!**

Lucky Chops has been unleashing high-energy brassy funk on the world since forming in NYC in 2006. The intensity of the band's energy is fueled by their desire to share the healing and inspirational power of music with others. That power has resonated with audiences around the globe, giving the band hundreds of millions of views on their online videos and leading to live performances in more than twenty-five countries. Lucky Chops maintains a busy schedule touring across several continents.

Josh Holcomb - trombone
Ben Holcomb - drums
Joshua Gawel - trumpet

Daro Behroozi - baritone saxophone
Rogerst Charles - alto saxophone
Nora Nalepka - sousaphone

**Please welcome our visiting students
and their directors & chaperones from
Wallenpaupack Area High School (Mr. Eric Warner, Director) and
Wilkes Barre Area High School (Mr. Michael Pryor, Director).**

The University of Scranton Jazz Band is a 25-member ensemble of big band style instrumentation, made up of University of Scranton student musicians from majors spanning the curriculum. (scranton.edu/music)

The primary focus of Performance Music at The University of Scranton is upon our student choral and instrumental performing ensembles. There is no major in music at The University of Scranton, and all enrolled Scranton students (undergraduate and graduate) are eligible for membership in the University Bands, University Performance Choirs, University String Orchestra & Ensembles, and Steel Drum Ensemble. Neither an audition nor enrollment fee is required for membership. A number of members of the faculty and staff, as well as alumni from the region, also perform with the groups. Hundreds of students participate in the ensembles each year.

Large ensembles include Concert/Symphonic Band, Concert Choir/Singers, String Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble (big band format), and Steel Drum Ensemble. Smaller groups are made up of members from within the large ensembles, and vary by semester, including groups such as String Quartet, Flute Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble, Low Brass Sextet, Trumpet Choir, Clarinet Ensemble, Jazz Combo, Percussion Ensemble, and small vocal groups in various formats. Solo, duo, trio, and quartet performance opportunities are available to members of the ensembles through the semesterly General Recitals.

Other programs within the department - such as our Guest Artist Series concert programming, World Premiere Composition Series, The Nelhybel Collection, and Scranton Brass Orchestra - closely coordinate programming with the student ensembles and offer unique opportunities for student musicians in the ensembles to hear, observe, interact and perform with a variety of world class musicians and artist-teachers.

High school juniors and seniors considering application to Scranton for future years are encouraged to contact Performance Music to arrange to sit in on a rehearsal, meet the staff, attend a concert or masterclass/clinic, or tour the building.

Daro Behroozi is a musician, composer, and educator performing on saxophone, clarinet, Iranian ney, and other end blown flutes. Born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, his musical interests reflect the rich cultural tapestry of the city. In addition to Lucky Chops, he performs in traditional and fusion ensembles focusing on Arabic, Iranian, and Balkan repertoire, including Taktouka, Brooklyn Nomads, and Mountain Lions.

Joshua Gawel is a trumpet player from the Greater Philadelphia area. He performs with Lucky Chops, touring internationally and appearing with the group in over 30 countries. Joshua earned his undergraduate degree from the Manhattan School of Music, where he focused on performance and ensemble work. He continues to work as a performing trumpeter, with experience in both live shows and group settings across a range of styles.

Rogerst Charles is a dynamic saxophonist and has performed at prestigious venues from Blue Note, Smalls, to NY Atrium and more. Rogerst was educated at La Guardia Performing Arts High School and Harlem School of The Arts, where he concentrated in alto sax and studied under JD Paran and Calvin Bell. Rogerst interned at Jazz at Lincoln Center and went on to study at the New School with Jim Snider and Reggie Workman. Rogerst is committed to education and has a gift for teaching music at a wide variety of levels.

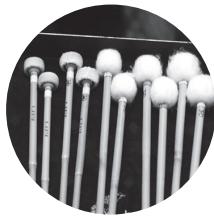
Ben Holcomb is from Queens, New York. He started playing drumset at 8 years old, where he began playing in the church worship band and school ensembles led by his mother. After graduating from LaGuardia Highschool, Ben received a Bachelor's Degree in Jazz Performance at The University of Alabama. In 2021, Ben joined Lucky Chops and started performing and recording with the band shortly after. Besides playing in Lucky Chops, Ben also teaches music privately and is a certified Pickleball coach.

Trombonist **Josh Holcomb** is a native of New York City, where he graduated with a full tuition scholarship from the Manhattan School of Music in 2013. In 2006 he co-founded the pop/world music fusion band “Lucky Chops” and has since led a full-time career with the group, performing headline concerts in over 35 countries and amassing a social media following of over two million fans. In addition to his work with Lucky Chops, Josh maintains an active freelance career within the NYC jazz, world music and gospel music scenes.

Nora Nalepka is a New York City based tuba player / music supervisor. She got her start at Belmont University studying Music Business, where she graduated in 2016. She went on to work various music supervision and clearance jobs, including at Vice Media, and on various movies and TV shows like *The Bear*, *Killers of the Flower Moon*, and more. Besides spending time with her wonderful boyfriend, friends, family, and dog, she loves playing the tuba above all else. She loves her bands Brass Queens and Lucky Chops.

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