

NINETY-SIXTH SEASON

Friday, October 16, 2026, at 8:00

Jazz Series

**BRANFORD MARSALIS AND DIANNE REEVES
CELEBRATE JOHN COLTRANE**

Branford Marsalis Saxophones
Dianne Reeves Vocals

Joey Calderazzo Piano
Eric Revis Bass
Justin Faulkner Drums

The program will be announced from the stage.

There will be no intermission.

This evening's concert has been made possible through a generous grant from Dan J. Epstein, Judith Guitelman, and the Dan J. Epstein Family Foundation.

Funding for educational programs during the 2026–27 Season of Chicago Symphony Presents Jazz has been generously provided by Dan J. Epstein, Judith Guitelman, and the Dan J. Epstein Family Foundation.

Chicago Jazz, *DownBeat* magazine, and WDCB 90.9FM Jazz are media partners for this event.

John Coltrane, in his genius, developed a parallel sonic and intellectual understanding of ecumenical 40s swing and early R&B and post-bop to create a sound that, while intellectually challenging, is emotionally stimulating. His embodiment of all these sides of music is what any musician—of any style—should strive to achieve. It was our privilege to honor his contributions to jazz. We hope to have done justice to his ideals.

Branford Marsalis

Branford Marsalis Saxophones



Saxophonist Branford Marsalis is one of the most influential and revered figures in contemporary music. The National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master,

three-time Grammy Award–winner, and Tony and Emmy Award–nominee is equally at home performing concertos with symphony orchestras and sitting in with members of the Grateful Dead, but the core of his musical universe remains the Branford Marsalis Quartet. After more than three decades of existence with minimal personnel changes, this celebrated ensemble is revered for its uncompromising interpretation of a kaleidoscopic range of both original compositions and jazz and popular classics. After receiving Grammy nominations on its last two albums, *Upward Spiral* and *The Secret Between the Shadow and the Soul*, the quartet made its Blue Note Records debut in 2025 with the release of Grammy-nominated *Belonging*, a full album interpretation of Keith Jarrett’s 1974 ECM album of the same name.

Dianne Reeves Vocals



Five-time Grammy Award–winner Dianne Reeves is the world’s preeminent jazz vocalist. As a result of her virtuosity, improvisational prowess, and unique jazz and R&B

stylings, Reeves received the Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Performance for three consecutive recordings—a Grammy-first in any vocal category. Reeves was featured in George Clooney’s award-winning film *Goodnight and Good Luck*, for which she received a Grammy Award. Her most recent release, *Beautiful Life*, features Gregory Porter, Robert Glasper, Lalah Hathaway, and Esperanza Spalding. Produced by Terri Lyne Carrington, *Beautiful Life* also won a Grammy. Reeves has received honorary doctorates from DePaul University, Berklee College of Music, and Juilliard School, and like Branford Marsalis, she was designated a Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts—the highest honor the United States bestows on jazz artists. Apart from a duo recording with Romero Lubambo released in early 2026, her collaboration with the Branford Marsalis Quartet will be Reeves’s first album in twelve years.

Joey Calderazzo Piano



Joey Calderazzo is one of the finest pianists and composers of his generation, with a career spanning more than three decades and thirteen albums as a leader. A former child prodigy, Calderazzo has performed and recorded with some of the most influential figures in jazz, including Michael Brecker, Jack DeJohnette, Dave Holland, and Branford Marsalis, with whom he has been a longtime member of the Branford Marsalis Quartet. Renowned for his lyrical touch, powerful swing, and adventurous improvisational style, Calderazzo draws from the full breadth of the jazz piano tradition while continually pushing his music in new directions. His celebrated trio has released numerous recordings, including *Live from the Cotton Club Tokyo Vol. 1*, and his performances reflect a rare combination of technical mastery, spontaneity, and an unmistakable joy in making music.

Eric Revis Bass



Bassist Eric Revis has firmly established himself as an important voice in jazz. Revis has performed and recorded with Betty Carter, Peter Brötzmann, Jeff “Tain” Watts, Jason Moran, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Steve Coleman, Ralph Peterson, Lionel Hampton, McCoy Tyner, Andrew Cyrille, and Tarbaby, the experimental

trio he trileads with Orrin Evans and Nasheet Waits, as well as with Options, also with Waits and the legendary Bennie Maupin. A recipient of a 2018 grant from the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation, Revis also received the 2017 inaugural Jazz Gallery Fellowship, which included a residency at the Pocantico Center of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. In 2017 Revis was named Rising Star bassist by the *Downbeat* Critics Poll. Manning the bass chair with Branford Marsalis’s quartet since 1997, Revis has recorded twelve albums with the ensemble in addition to touring the globe with them many times over.

Justin Faulkner Drums



Justin Faulkner is a Philadelphia-born drummer, educator, and arts leader whose career has taken him to many of the world’s leading concert halls and jazz stages. A

member of the Branford Marsalis Quartet since 2009, Faulkner has also performed and collaborated with artists including Wynton Marsalis, Kenny Barron, Robert Glasper, Christian McBride, Pharoah Sanders, Terence Blanchard, Ornette Coleman, Jacky Terrasson, and the Mingus ensembles. His international performance credits include the Kennedy Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Sydney Opera House, Blue Note Tokyo, Vienna Konzerthaus, and Amsterdam’s Concertgebouw. Faulkner serves on the jazz faculty at Temple University’s Boyer College of Music and Dance and is director of jazz at Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music

Institute, where he leads the Philadelphia Youth Jazz Orchestra. He also serves as managing and artistic director of the Community Unity Music Festival, a Philadelphia-based initiative focused on music, community

engagement, and youth development. His work as an educator and arts advocate reflects a longstanding commitment to developing young musicians and strengthening Philadelphia's jazz community.

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