



## The 2021 Jazz Club Scholarship Awards

The Jazz Club of Sarasota continues their tradition of supporting emerging talent by announcing the Scholarship recipients for 2021. Despite the many challenges faced by the students during the pandemic, the Jazz Club's encouragement and outreach resulted in nine awardees, six college students and three high school seniors. This year, there are three special awards to honor those students who have risen well above the unique educational challenges.

**The Matt Bokulic\* Memorial Award** – this is an annual award set up by Karen Bokulic and friends. The criteria for the award are being a team player, supportive of fellow musicians, guiding, assisting, and encouraging others.

**The Blake Bennett Scholarship** – given in memory of Blake Bennett who was an accomplished trumpet player and talented musician in his final year at Florida State University when he was tragically killed by a hit and run driver last fall.

**The Distinguished Musician Award** – Many of the scholarship winners are encouraged to and do apply each year. This award is the first of its kind and was created to award a student who has excelled beyond expectations year after year showing growth and great promise.

### Jazz Club Scholarship Award Winners for 2021

Gavin Ard	Trumpet	Montclair State College
Kaleen Barton	Vocalist	University of Miami
Ben Dunham	Vibraphone	Tarpon Springs High School
Liam Kaiser	Guitar	University of North Florida
Colin Leonard	Tenor Saxophone	Booker High School
David Mason.	Alto Saxophone	University of Miami
Dylan McHann	Tenor Saxophone	University of Miami
Jonathan Munoz	Tenor Saxophone	Gibbs High School
Luca Stine	Trumpet	University of Miami

The award presentation and student performances were open to the public on Sunday July 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 til 3:00 at Bevardi's Salute! 23 N Lemon Ave, Sarasota. Several of the award winners performed and were accompanied by some of the Jazz Club's favorite support players. Since 1983 the Jazz Club of Sarasota has continued their generous support of young players who inspire us as they preserve and promote America's original musical art form. Photos provided by Carol LoRiccio:



Vern and Bob Weitz, Scholarship co-chairs with Isaac Mingus, Cole Hazlitt, Anthony Aldissi and the scholarship winners Dylan McHann, Kayleen Barton, Colin Leonard, Ben Dunham and Jonathan Munoz



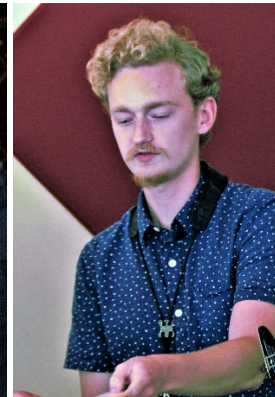
Jonathan Munoz receives award from Bob Weitz. Ben Dunham receives award from Vern Weitz



Vocalist Kayleen Barton



Colin Leonard receives award from Bob Weitz



Dylan McHann receives Matt Bokulic Memorial Scholarship