

# KANSAS CITY RAGTIME & BEYOND

Presents

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## William McNally



Saturday, February 23, 2019

7:00 PM

Old Mission United Methodist Church

(directions – page 5)

Admission - \$20 at the door

Students with parents or student ID admitted free

## Recognition

Kansas City Ragtime and Beyond would like to recognize individuals who volunteer their time to organize the concerts and bring talented musicians to Kansas City.

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Kansas City Ragtime and Beyond would also like to recognize those who have made a financial contribution that helps support the continuation of our concerts and other activities.

## 2018/2019 Donors – Bronze Level and Above

Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level
Bill Coleman	Diane Capps	Gerre and Bob Gibson
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		Platinum Level
		Eileen Chase and William Shefchik
		Mary Grace and Jerry Lanese
		Smiley Wallace

## William McNally

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The New York Times calls William McNally “a hot item” and “powerful”. The Santa Barbara Independent referred to him as a pianist “...with great sympathy and insight”

William is the 2016 and 2017 winner of the world Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest, held in Oxford, Mississippi and the first



three-time winner of its New Rag Contest. A CD release (*Chickens ‘n’ Kittens: a Ragtime Coup*) follows his interest in modern and classically trained ragtime composers. He has presented papers on the transatlantic voyages of ragtime at the Society for American Music 2014 Conference and at the Scott Joplin Festival in Sedalia, MO. William will be the Scott Joplin Foundation Artist In Residence the Week of February 25 to March 1, presenting educational concerts to students throughout Pettis County, MO.

William McNally received degrees from the Mannes College of Music and Temple University, studying with Jacob Lateiner, Jerome Rose, Harvey Wedeen and Lambert Orkis. He has performed in the master classes of Sergei Babayan, Claude Frank, Paul Schenly, Peter Serkin, Arie Vardi and Earl Wild, among others. In 2015 he completed a Doctor of Musical Arts degree together with a Doctoral Certificate in American Studies at the City University of New York’s Graduate Center; there he studied with Ursula Oppens. His dissertation, “Ragtime Then and Now,” is being prepared for publication. He joined the faculty of Texas State University in 2016, and currently lives in New Braunfels with his wife, Dasha, and three-year-old son Nick, where he spends most of his “free” time cooking.

Shortly after his ninth birthday, he performed for the first time in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall as a winner of the AMSA World Piano Competition. However, William McNally's interests are not limited to piano and ragtime. He has returned to that venue often, including once in Stern Auditorium as principal bassist of the Mt. Lebanon H.S. Orchestra, and in Zankel Hall as director of opera-shorts presented by the Remarkable Theatre Brigade. He has also performed in Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center, Merkin Hall, Steinway Hall, Elebash Hall of the City University of New York, and other venues in New York City.

William's 2018 CD, *Dream Shadows*, was released to high acclaim: reviews in Fanfare Magazine—two of them—called the recording “highly natural and persuasive...his prismatic range of touch and tone allows him to trace out the shifting moods of the music—from the sentimental to the nonchalant to the smashing—with unusual sensitivity...the disc is so good, from beginning to end, that it's hard to know what to highlight...a treasure!” On this, “Drean Shadows, NcNally performs ragtime works by William Albright, William Bolcum, Igor Stravinsky and David Feurzeig and his own composition. In 2013, William released a CD of works by Brahms, Reger and Busoni as part of the Victor Elmaleh Collection, which the New York Times called “exhilarating” “adventurous,” and “commanding.”

For more information, visit [www.williammcnally.com](http://www.williammcnally.com).

#### About this concert:

Bill McNally will be the 2019 Scott Joplin Foundation Artist in Residence. In that capacity he will spend the week of February 25 through March 1 presenting educational concerts before the students from 20 schools throughout Pettis County, MO. This is an outstanding and unusual experience for the students and an intense week for the musician.

As has been the KCRB practice for the past ten years, we invite the Joplin Artist in Residence to present a KCRB concert before his or her week in Sedalia. This means that we have to fit our concert into the artist's schedule. In order to work within available time, it was necessary to depart from our normal practice of having our concerts on a week day evening. The February 23<sup>rd</sup> concert will be held on a Saturday evening. Please note this change as you plan to attend our concert.



## The Old Time Piano Playing Contest

Coincidentally, as this Newsletter was formulating on my computer, the following notice for the 2019 Old-Time Piano Playing Contest arrived in the e-mail. This is a contest that has received positive reviews and is worth considering for a Memorial Day weekend outing.

### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

May 23-26, 2019

Oxford, Mississippi

Join us in beautiful Oxford, Mississippi for the 45th annual World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest & Festival. The 2019 schedule of events is posted on our web site and performers have begun registering to compete in their respective divisions. Visit the 2019 Schedule/Purchase Tickets page at [www.oldtimepianocontest.com](http://www.oldtimepianocontest.com) for a complete list of events.

New this year is a bus excursion to Clarksdale in the Mississippi Delta for a guided tour of the [Delta Blues Museum](#) followed by a musical luncheon next door at [Ground Zero Blues Club](#). This requires a separate purchase and must be reserved by April 23rd. In addition to the contests and workshops, we are happy to partner once again with [Chancellor's House](#) on the historic Oxford Square for all of our after-hours activities.

Know someone who loves early 20th century American ragtime, jazz, or blues? Forward the link to our web site and spread the word -- and make plans now to visit Oxford this May and have the time of your life!

-- Ian Hominick

Artistic Director

662-915-1282

[oldtimepianocontest@olemiss.edu](mailto:oldtimepianocontest@olemiss.edu)

The February 23 KCRB concert venue, The Old Mission United Methodist Church, is a beautiful church located along Shawnee Mission Parkway. Its official address is 5519 State Park Rd., Fairway Kansas 66205. The parking area is off State Park Rd. which is the first road east of Mission Rd. off of Shawnee Mission Parkway.

KCRB thanks the Old Mission United Methodist Church for allowing KCRB to use their facility and for the friendly cooperation and help of the staff

## Johnny Maddox (1927 to 2018)<sup>1</sup>

The music world lost a enthusiastic advocate and performer of ragtime music on November 27, 2018 when Johnny Maddox died near his birth home and long-time residence of Gallatin, Tennessee. Johnny's legendary career was built on his love of ragtime music which he learned from his great-aunt. His first public performance was at age 5 and his first professional performance was at the age of 12 in Gallatin.

As a young musician, one of Johnny's first jobs was in Randy's Record Shop in Gallatin. This was the beginning of his recording career. The owner, Randy Wood, founded Dot Records. Johnny was a key factor in the growth of Dot Records to become one of the top recording companies of the 1950s. In 1954, Johnny Maddox was voted the Number 1 Jukebox artist in the country and in 1958 his recording of Bob Willis' "San Antonio Rose" sold over a million copies. In the 1950s and 1960s Johnny toured the world with many of the famous performers of the time.

At the beginning of the 1970s, Johnny started to think of settling down and retiring, but he did not finally end his career and settle down until 2012. In the intervening years he lived and played in Austria, Alexandria, VA, where he was the featured pianist at Il Porto Ristorante, and finally, Durango, CO, where he was the resident pianist at the Diamond Belle Saloon at the Strater Hotel.<sup>2, 3</sup>

Johnny Maddox was also referred to as Crazy Otto. Many people thought he was Crazy Otto and at times Johnny took Crazy Otto as his stage name. The real Crazy Otto was Fritz Schulz-Reichel, a German pianist with a unique ragtime style. Johnny Maddox's 1955 recording of "The Crazy Otto Melody", written by Fritz Schulz Reichel was an instant hit. It was the #2 selling record and the first all-piano record to sell more than one million copies.

Johnny Maddox was also known as a musicologist, music historian and collector of sheet music. His collection included more than 100,000 items of antique sheet music<sup>4</sup>, piano rolls, records and photographs.

1 – Condensed from: "Remembering Johnny Maddox"; Larry Melton; The Syncopated Times; January 2019, p10.

2 – The Strater Hotel was the site of The Durango Ragtime Festival that was held several years ago.

3 – Adam Swanson has recently taken up residence in Durango, CO and often plays at the Strater Hotel.

4 – Shortly before the death of Johnny Maddox, it was announced that Andrew Greene, Director of the Peacherine Ragtime Society Orchestra (which played for KCRB last October) had obtained a considerable part of Johnny Maddox's sheet music collection. The Peacherine Ragtime Society Orchestra will include many of these compositions in their concerts and recordings.

## KANSAS CITY RAGTIME AND BEYOND MEMBERSHIP

I decided to replace the traditional boiler plate request for support with a more personal note. The mission of KCRB is to bring to Kansas City and the surrounding area four to six concerts of ragtime and early American music, featuring nationally recognized musicians, each year; to expose our youth (and other age groups) to this music and educate all on the contributions of the Kansas City and Midwest area to our musical culture. Concert admissions do not cover the cost of our concerts. In order to continue to bring you these concerts and expose our youth and others to this music genre, we need your support in the form of KCRB membership and donations and attendance at our concerts.

Jerry Lanese, President, Kansas City Ragtime and Beyond

All levels of membership will receive our newsletters. KCRB is a 501(c)(3) corporation and deductions allowable within the tax law apply. Donors at the bronze level and above, will be listed in KCRB newsletters, programs and other literature. Membership and donor levels are listed in the table below.

Donor Level	Annual Donation Amount
Basic Membership	\$25 to \$49
Bronze	\$50 to \$99
Silver	\$100 to \$249
Gold	\$250 to \$499
Platinum	\$500 and above

Current and new members – Use the form, below to update your contact or preference information.

A similar form is available in the KCRB website ([www.kcragtime.org](http://www.kcragtime.org))

### KCRB Membership and Contact List Information

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am joining KCRB or renewing my KCRB membership. My donation of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

#### Preferences

\_\_\_\_\_ Please update my contact information and/or preferences

\_\_\_\_\_ Please remove my name from the KCRB member/mailling list.

Send Newsletter by \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Postal Service

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send/do not send e-mail concert reminders. (Circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in sponsoring a specific KCRB event. Event or activity \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in seeing/hearing the following artist. \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the above form and send it and your donation to: Don Grimes, 6606 Hauser, Shawnee, KS 66216

Make checks payable to KCRB.

[www.kcragtime.org](http://www.kcragtime.org) or call 913 491 6923

*Kansas City Ragtime and Beyond*

827 S. Home Ave.

Independence, MO 64053

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Coming KCRB Concerts

February 23, 2019

William McNally

April 18, 2019

Brian Holland and Danny Coots

June 9, 2019

Annual House Concert at home of Dr. and Mrs. Doug Cusick  
featuring

Frederick Hodges and Richard Dowling

[www.kcragtime.org](http://www.kcragtime.org) or call 913 491 6923