

SINGERS ON THE *Grand*



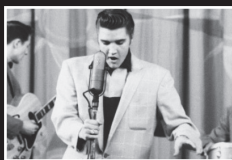
fifties favorites

season 2019-2020

January 25-26, 2020

Grand Ledge Opera House

Grand Ledge, Michigan



fifties favorites

Grand Ledge Opera House

January 25–26, 2020

AMERICAN BANDSTAND MEDLEY

Bandstand Boogie 1954 • Jailhouse Rock 1957 • At the Hop 1957

In the Still of the Night 1956 • Earth Angel 1954 • Jump, Jive an' Wail 1956 The Ensemble

When Sunny Gets Blue 1956 Dave Sincox

I Only Have Eyes for You 1959 | The More I See You 1958 Kaley Rahl, James Hall
Kelly Sandula-Gruner and Dan Templin

Walkin' After Midnight 1956 Katy Brandon McDonough

Unforgettable 1951 Ellen Hoard and Dave Sincox

Come Rain or Come Shine 1956 Kelly Bitz

Johnny B. Goode 1958 Darryl Schmitz

Whatever Lola Wants (Lola Gets) 1955 The Ladies of SOTG

That's Amore! 1953 Charlie Martin and James Hall
Featuring Darryl Schmitz on accordion

In the Wee Small Hours of the Morning 1955 Kelly Sandula-Gruner
Featuring Ellen Hoard on flute

Misty 1954 The Ensemble

INTERMISSION

I Hear You Knockin' 1955 Rachel Paxton

Hernando's Hideaway 1954 The Ensemble

A Kiss to Build a Dream On 1951 Mike Barger

Just In Time 1956 Kelly Sandula-Gruner and Dan Templin

You Make Me Feel So Young 1956 Charlie Martin

La Bamba 1958 Ellen Hoard

Everly Brothers Medley 1957 The Men of SOTG

Get Happy 1950 Kelly Bitz and Rachel Paxton

I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outa My Hair 1958 Katy Brandon McDonough,
Ellen Hoard and Kelly Sandula-Gruner

Hey, Good Lookin' 1951 Dan Templin

Blue Tango 1955 The Grand Band

You'll Never Walk Alone / Climb Ev'ry Mountain 1956 The Ensemble



Mike Barger

— Mike's first performance was singing in the back seat of a car at a drive-in movie theater watching *The Sound of Music*. His parents had to roll up the windows because

people in the other cars were laughing. He was 3. Presently, Mike sings in the Saint Michael's church choir, *Mudge's Follies*, *Holiday Wishes*, and the Take Note Barbershop Quartet of Grand Ledge. Mike is thrilled to be onstage with Singers on the Grand for the first time!



Kelly Bitz —

This is Kelly's first season with Singers on the Grand. After almost thirty years as a church soloist, she began doing shows four years ago with both

Homegrown Productions and Starlight Dinner Theatre. She is very excited for the opportunity to work with these marvelously talented musicians!



James R.

Hall — James is delighted to be in his tenth year with Singers on the Grand! From barbershop quartets and vocal jazz groups to performances in shows like *Pirates of*

Penzance and *Brigadoon*, he enjoys all sorts of vocal harmony. He also currently sings with the Great Lakes Harmony Brigade and he thanks his wife Maureen and his boys Joshua and Patrick for all of their support.



Ellen Hoard

— After a three year hiatus from Singers on the Grand, Ellen is thrilled to return to the ensemble and join this nifty fifties show! She is the director of the Mint City Singers and also

leads the new youth branch of that choir, the Junior Mints. A soprano, she studied voice with Rachel Gates, Richard Fracker, and Cora Enman, and has performed in the greater Lansing

area with several groups, including Starlight Dinner Theater, Homegrown Productions, Riverwalk Theatre, and the (now defunct) Lansing Civic Players. Ellen has a Bachelor of Music Education degree, and a master's degree in guidance and counseling, both from Central Michigan University. She is a retired public school music teacher with 28 years' experience, 26 of which were in the Grand Ledge Public Schools as an elementary music specialist. Ellen dedicates this performance to Doug Hoard her husband of 36 years.



Charlie Martin

— Charlie started his love of music playing trumpet and singing in a polka band as a teenager. The group performed on local radio and TV, and produced an album and a 45 rpm record

(remember those?). He ventured into musical comedies while studying music in college. Charlie was drafted in the Vietnam War and became an officer and pilot. He recently retired from flying the Blackhawk helicopter for the National Guard in Grand Ledge. Charlie also sings in barbershop quartets, and is the Assistant Director for the Capital City Chordsmen barbershop chorus.



Katy Brandon McDonough

— Katy is an original member of the SOTG, which was founded by her mother, Libby Brandon. She is an elementary music teacher for Greenville

Public Schools, having received her BA in music education and MA in choral direction from MSU. She is also a member of the Flat River Community Players, appearing in and doing musical direction for over 20 musicals. Her last appearance for FRCP was Senator Fipp in *Urinetown*. Katy got started singing in the GL Methodist Church choirs, Grand Ledge schools and doing gigs with her two sisters — thanks to a very supportive stage mom! She has been married to husband Martin for 33 years, and they have two grown children, Ian and Mary. Katy would like to dedicate this performance to her mother. She would also like to thank her family for their inspiration and support of her performing arts involvement throughout the years.



Rachel Paxton

— Rachel is excited to return to the SOTG stage after several years on hiatus. She stays busy with her 2 amazing kids, Nathan and Adeline, and managing her

family business Paxton Countertops. She wants to thank her mom and dad, Jane and Stephen Paxton, for all of their support!



Kaley Rahl

— Kaley is excited for her second season with Singers on the Grand! Dancing and singing since childhood, she is enjoying the opportunity to be part of live music and

vocal harmonies. She feels fortunate to also share a love of music with her husband, Daniel, especially as he continues playing with the Grand Band on trumpet and flugelhorn. Kaley would like to thank her family and friends in the audience for their support and attendance. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Kelly Sandula-Gruner

— Music has given Kelly the opportunity to travel the world and meet amazing people. She holds degrees in both music and commercial art and

currently works as a graphic designer (Gruner Graphics). She is a long-time member of the Lansing Concert Band on French horn, and vocalist with the LCB Jazz Big Band. You can also catch her in vocal duo act, Clique. Kelly is active at Starlight Dinner Theatre, appearing recently in the zany musical mystery *Something's Afoot*, and co-directing and performing in the *Red Carpet Melodies* music revue. She and her husband David live in Grand Ledge with their two clever sons, Nathan and Declan. She thanks them for their support in all her creative endeavors!



Darryl Schmitz

— Darryl has a varied musical background. A trombonist and tuba player, he was a member of the Michigan State University Spartan Marching Band. A keyboardist, he serves as

substitute pianist and organist at St. Joseph Church in St. Johns. An accordionist, he has played in a German band at the Bavarian Inn Restaurant in Frankenmuth for 30 years. A vocalist, he sings for his church and has appeared in programs for Starlight Dinner Theatre (Lansing) and Homegrown Productions (St. Johns) — most recently in *Swinging on a Star* and *Grand Night for Singing*, respectively. He is honored to be able to participate with SOTG for their 2019–20 season.



David Sincx

— Dave is a familiar face and voice in the Lansing area theatre community and he is excited to be a part of Singers on the Grand. His love for singing started in elementary school, and he's

performed in numerous choirs, musicals and revues through the years as well as earning a degree in vocal performance. Dave is the Executive Pastor for Endeavor House Ministries in Lansing where he works with an amazing house full of men trusting God to bring them through lives plagued by addictive/compulsive behaviors. He continues to serve at Olivet Baptist Church in Delhi township. He and fellow musician wife Ann have two grown children, Tad and Abby.



Dan Templin

—Dan loves to entertain, and sings, acts and plays piano with several mid-Michigan performing arts organizations including Singers on the Grand, the LCB Jazz Big Band, and Starlight

Dinner Theater. He sings in the Take Note Barbershop Quartet of Grand Ledge, and also gigs locally in a vocal duo act, Clique (see ad). By day, Dan is an attorney, practicing for over 30 years. He thanks his wife, Julie, for her patience and support.



Producer, Stage Manager, Technical Coordinator, Costumes & Props



Gloria Wilcox

— Gloria is one of the original members of the group, always busy behind-the-scenes! Combining her love of music and being with wonderful friends, working with Singers on the Grand,

Mudge's Follies, ABC Club, and The Habibi Dancers are some of her favorite hobbies! She serves as SOTG producer, technical/stage director, seamstress and historian. Gloria would like to thank you, the audience, for being here today and supporting live music performances.



the Grand Band



Mike Anderson

— SOTG is excited to welcome a saxophonist to our Grand Band this year! Mike developed his love for music in childhood, listening to horn bands like

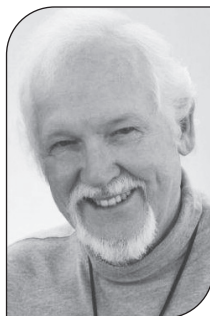
Chicago and Blood Sweat and Tears. He started playing saxophone in high school at Lansing Everett, performing in jazz band and marching band. Mike has now been playing sax for 28 years, including gigs with MSU bands, *Mudge's Follies*, Grand Ledge Bums, and others.



Phil Barger

— This is Phil's debut season with the Grand Band. He lives in Mulliken and has been playing trombone with various local ensembles for 16 years. He currently plays

with the Grand Ledge Community Band, as well as serving as the Vice President of their Board. Phil also recently played in the Grand Ledge *Mudge's Follies* pit band.



Don Farnum

— Retirement from Michigan State University's chemistry department in 1992 has left Don more time for other pleasures, such as the seven children, 19 grandchildren,

18 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren he and his second wife, Sandy, share in their blended family. Musical performance has become a large part of retirement life! He feels very privileged to be realizing a childhood dream and checking off another "bucket list" item by playing with the fine musicians of Singers on the Grand. Don hopes for more years to share in bringing joy and inspiration through music.



Bill Holda

— Bill earned a BA degree from Olivet Nazarene University in Kankakee, IL, and a MBA degree from MSU. While at Olivet, he studied organ with Ovid Young.

He was a featured piano soloist with the Kankakee Symphony Orchestra, performing Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*. Since 1973, Bill has been a church organist as well as a featured soloist and accompanist throughout greater Lansing. He is retired from Lansing Community College. He and his wife, Joan, live in DeWitt and enjoy spending time with their family.

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Gary Ford	1994-2010
Harvey Hoffman	1994-1999
Melissa Brandon Smith	1994-2000
David Songer	1994-2000
Celiarose Varner	1994-1999
Kathe Leyrer	1994-2018
Deb DeWitt	guest artist since 1994
Mary Jenks	1999-2000

Martin Underhill	1999-2010
Sue VanKampen	1999-2007
Bob Engardio	1999-2015
Scott Stearns	2000-2009
Jon Underhill	2000-2005
Angie Carr	2001
Herm Bushnell	2001-2014
Dorothea Martin	2001-2019
Sally Brown	2003-2008

1999-2010
1999-2007
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2003-2008

SOTG *Alumni*

Mark Peterson	2004-2005
Chris Eberhart	2005-2006
Abbie Matthews	2007-2011
Barb Frazier	2008-2016
Bill DeWitt	2009-2016
John Ross	2014-2019
Alison Grojean	2016-2018



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The Mint City Singers (adult choir, ages 14+)
rehearse Mondays from 7:00 – 8:30p

Ellen Hoard
Director
989-233-5775

The Junior Mints (grades 4-8/ages 9-14)
rehearse Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:00p

Location for all rehearsals:

South Point Mall (next to the Secretary of State)
1035 Old U.S. 27
St. Johns, MI 48879

Fall session: September – December • Winter/Spring: January – April

Follow us on Facebook for more information: @Mint City Singers and @Junior Mints Community Youth Choir or visit clintoncountyarts.org



Mint City Singers and the Junior Mints are branches of the Clinton County Arts Council, which receives financial operating support from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment of the Arts. clintoncountyarts.org



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W 9:30a – 6:00p

F 8:00a – 5:30p

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Loved what you heard? Spread the word that our **Fifties Favorites** show will play again in East Lansing: **Saturday, March 28 at Hannah Center, 7:00**

Coming soon to Grand Ledge Opera House

- | | |
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| February 9 | 17 th Annual Bridal Show: noon – 3:00; \$5 admission
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| February 20–21 | Annual Daddy-Daughter Dance: Thurs and Fri 6:30 |
| February 22 | Taste of Grand Ledge: noon – 4:00 |
| March 12 | Annual Mother-Son Dance: 6:30 |
| March 13–14 | St. Patrick's Day Celebrations: Fri 5:00–11; Sat 11:00–6
Embrace Irish traditions at the Opera House with live music, dancers, beer, corned beef sandwiches and potato soup.
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