

**ON THE ROAD**  
The World Famous  
**GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA**  
The One and Only  
**TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA**  
and  
**JUKEBOX SATURDAY NIGHT**  
Big Band Newsletter #244

**NEWS FROM THE ROAD...**  
**May-June: Revisiting Where It all Started...**  
By Kazunori Tanaka



**Another busy month for the Glenn Miller Orchestra! 24 shows in this round of our tour. The Glenn Miller Birthplace Festival took place in Clarinda, IA this month. Checking in with old friends, fans, the battle of big bands, and new connections to the future...**

**The tour started on the East Coast, continued through the Midwest to the Upper Peninsula, further west to Colorado and finishing the month in Nashville. Here are some highlights from May and June. Let's see where this next chapter takes us!**

## Regrouping in Philly

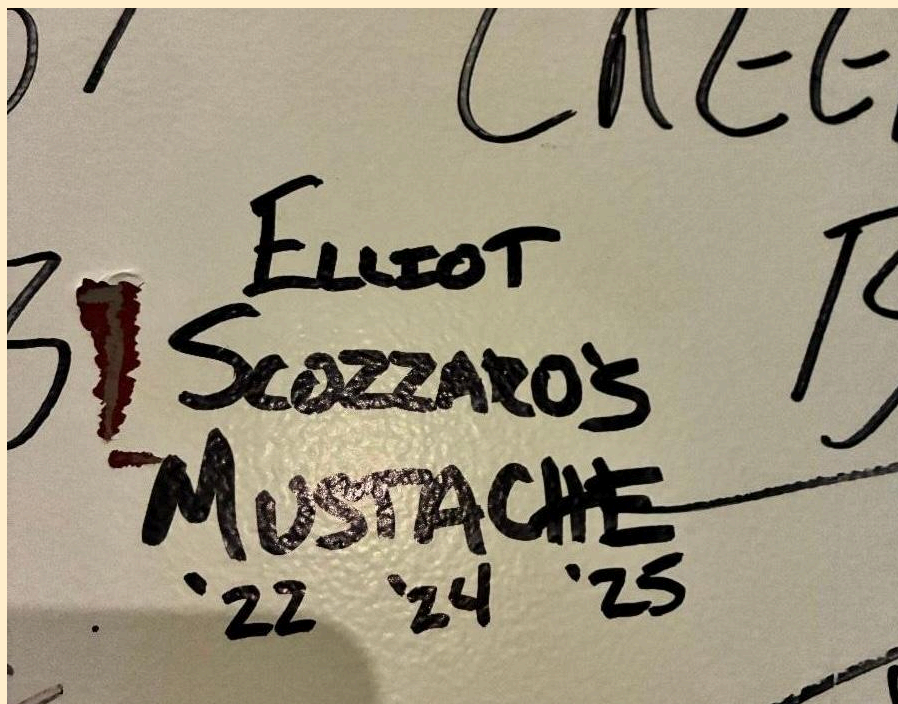
### **Sellersville Theater (Sellersville, PA)**

We opened up the tour with our annual stop at the Sellersville Theater. We have many great memories from our many previous shows at this venue...

Great to be back again !







It seems our former member Elliot was here👁👁

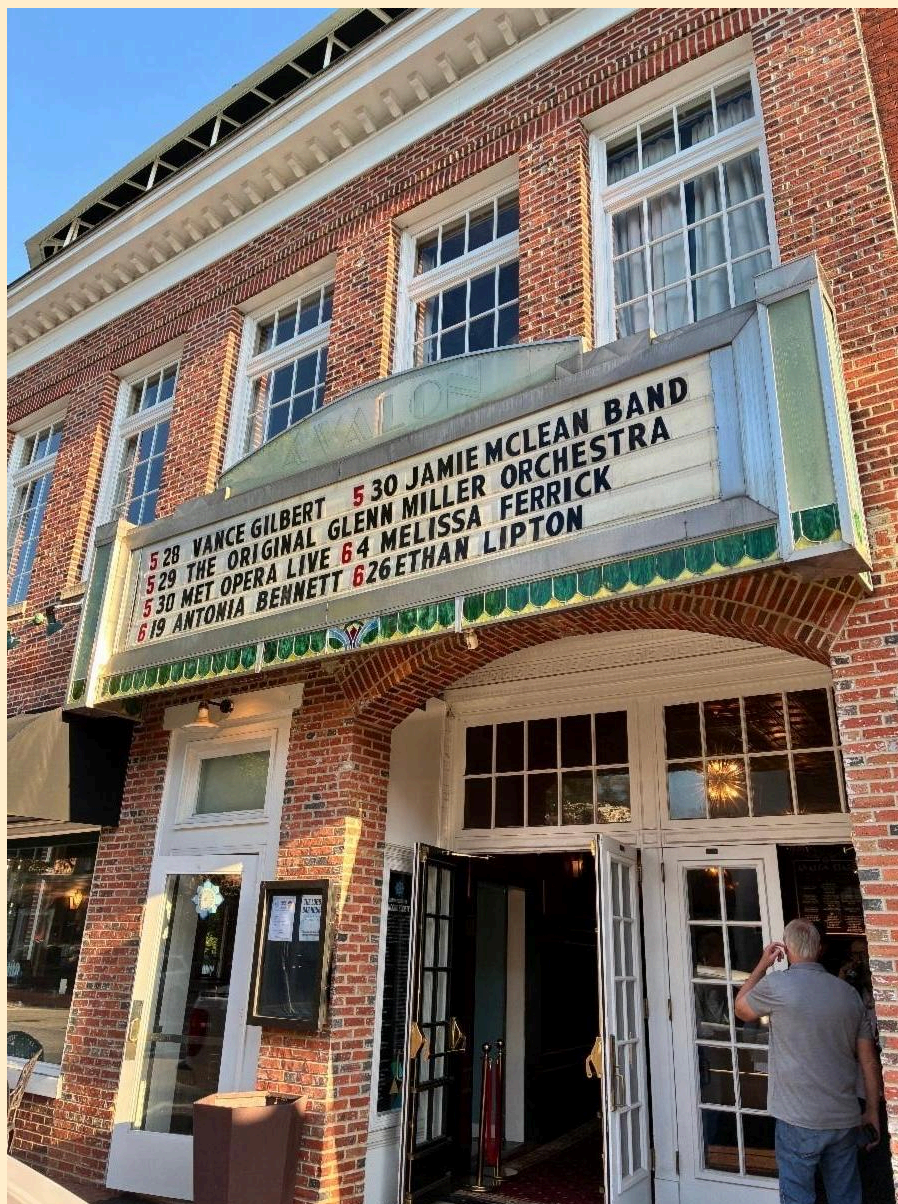


The wall paper and interior are absolutely gorgeous.



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**Avalon Theatre (Easton, MD)**







We were thrilled to have our friend Brian MacDonald join us at our recent performance while we were in his area. Brian is a member of the premier U.S. Air Force jazz ensemble, the Airmen of Note, and it was wonderful to have him in the audience. Thanks for stopping by, Brian—it was great to see you! 🎷

## Two “Glen(n) Town” Hits

### Spanish Ballroom (Glen Echo Park, MD)







We had an amazing time performing Glenn Miller's timeless music for such an enthusiastic group of dancers. Watching everyone fill the dance floor made the experience even more special! 🕺💃





## Cultural Art Center (Glen Allen, VA)



What a perfect sunny day! Thank you to everyone who joined us and made it such a memorable event! 🏃





## Owens Auditorium (Pinehurst, NC)



Green room with an arcade. You don't see that very often! 🎮







Our new pianist Isaiah and Ethan preparing for the show.



A quick jam session before our soundcheck.

## Charleston Music Hall (Charleston, SC)







Charleston, SC, is such a charming city! We enjoyed exploring the historic district and seeing the classic trolley pass by. 🚲

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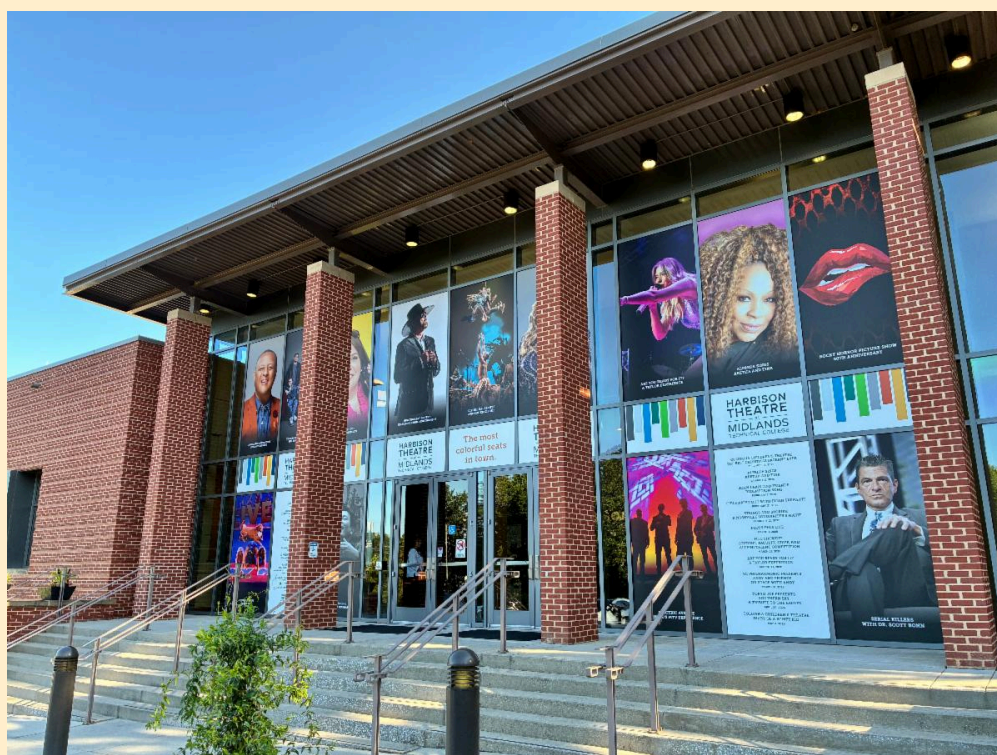


A little behind-the-scenes fun! During a lunch stop on the way to our next gig, our new pianist, Isaiah, pulled out his melodica and treated us to an impromptu performance right next to the bus.

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**Harbison Theatre (Irmo SC)**





That evening, we celebrated Aidan's birthday with a little party and a few friendly card games. Happy Birthday, Aidan!



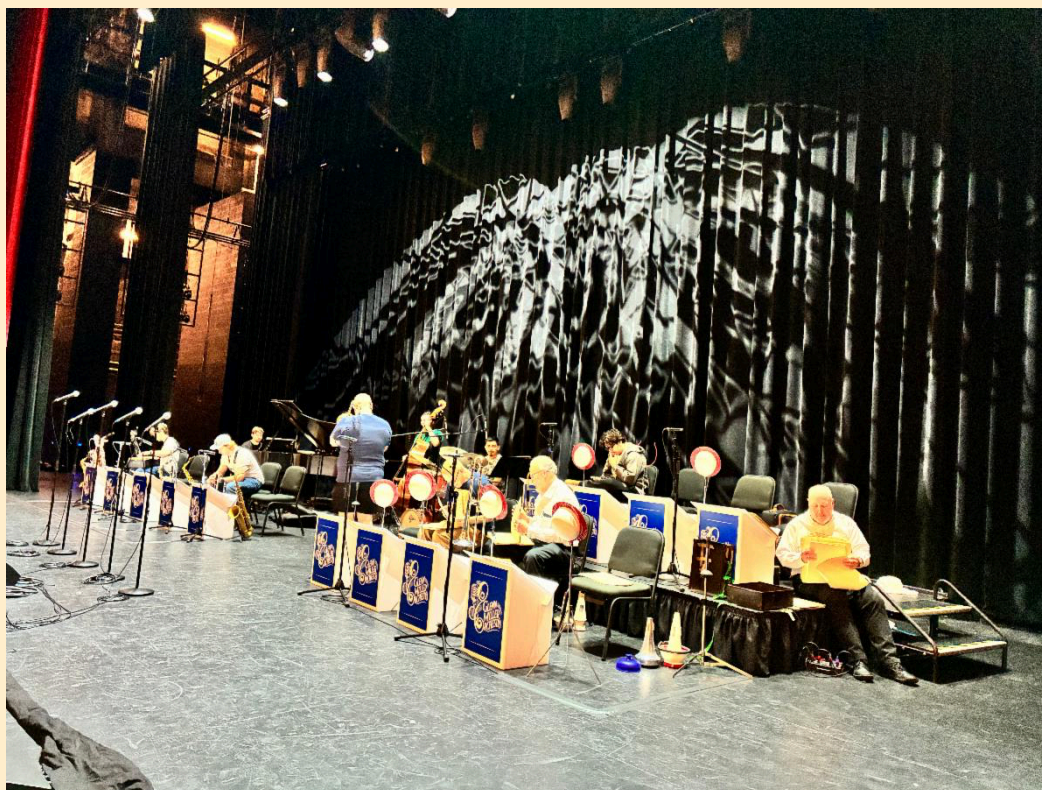


Pool has become a favorite pastime for the band, thanks in large part to our tenor saxophonist, Devin, who has led the way!



## Big Time in Little Rock

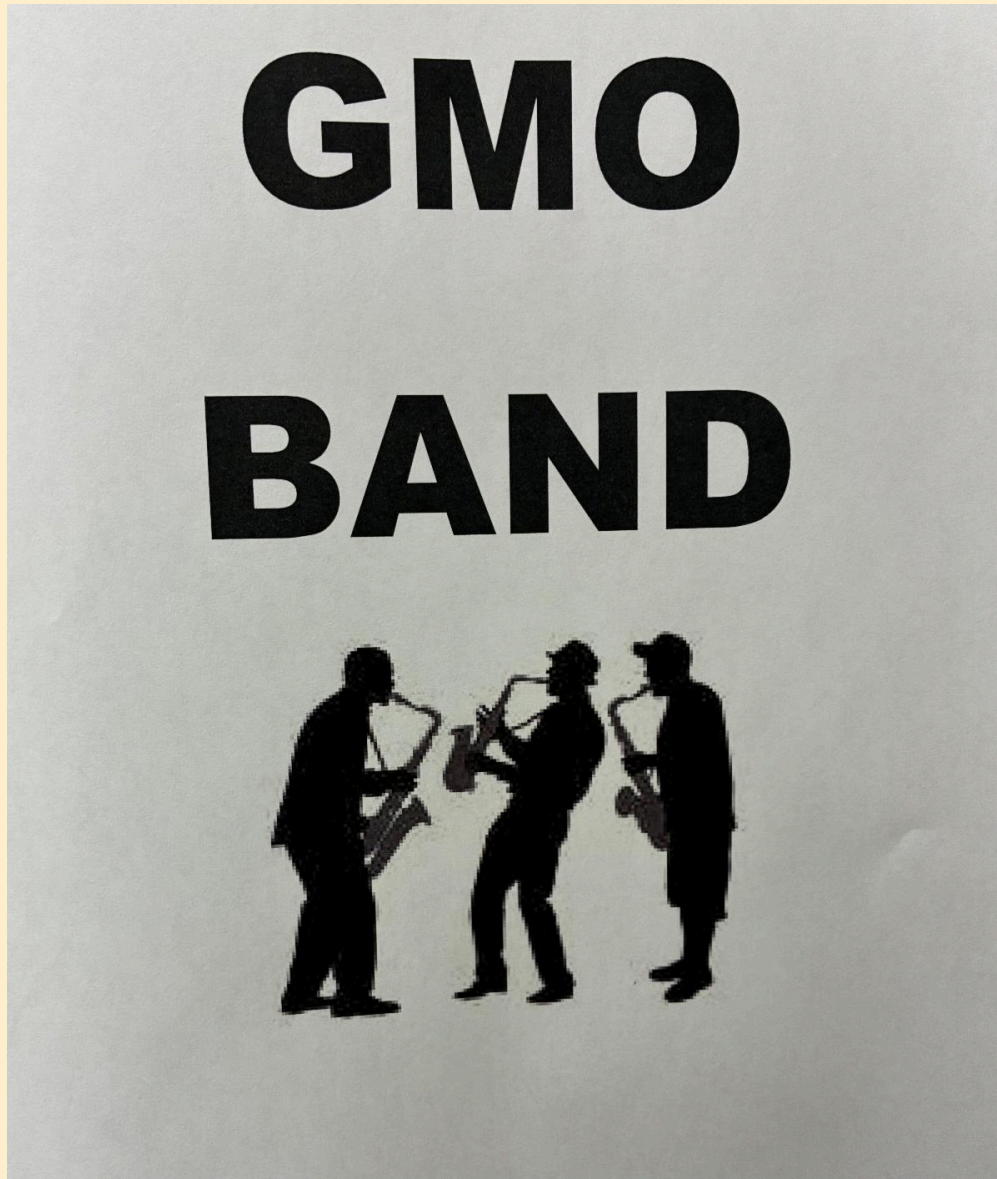
### Robinson Center (Little Rock, AR)







Each section discussing a few last-minute details and fine-tuning everything to make sure the show would be as great as possible for our fans that night. 🎷🎺



Loved seeing this cool sign on the green room door—thanks, Robinson Center!

# HANNAH



Hannah's even had a star on it★ ★ ★

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## "The Very Solid Tennessee Excursion"

**Dixie Carter PAC (Huntington, TN)**

Just a quick stop in Tennessee for now—we'll return later in the month for Nashville. 🏠 🏠 🏠





They made this very cool graphic using our logo, and the lines actually moved while we played.





Fans stopped by the booth to browse our merchandise and to say hello to Devin and Aidan. 😊

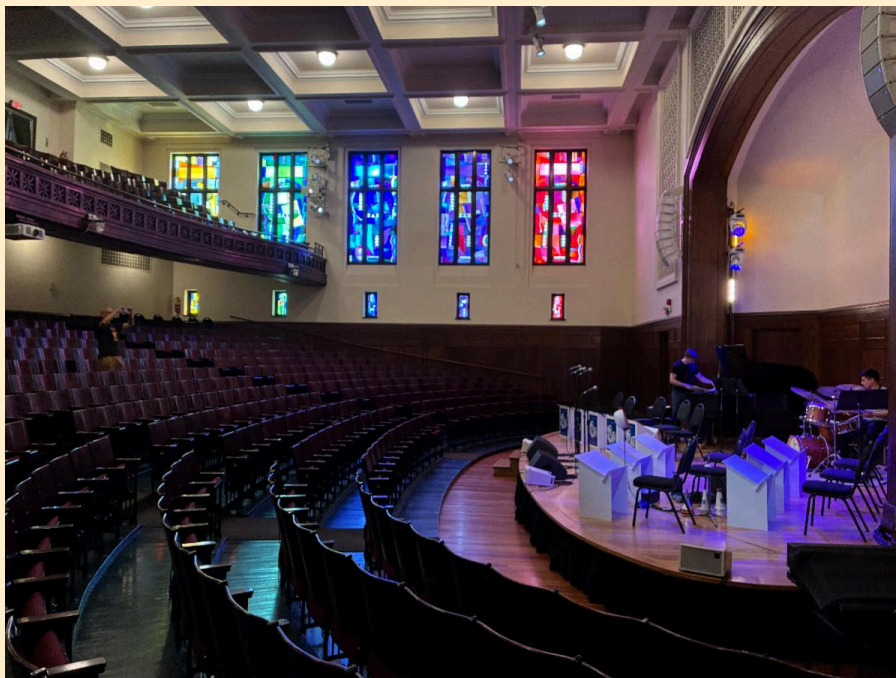
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### The Sheldon Concert Hall (St. Louis, MO)

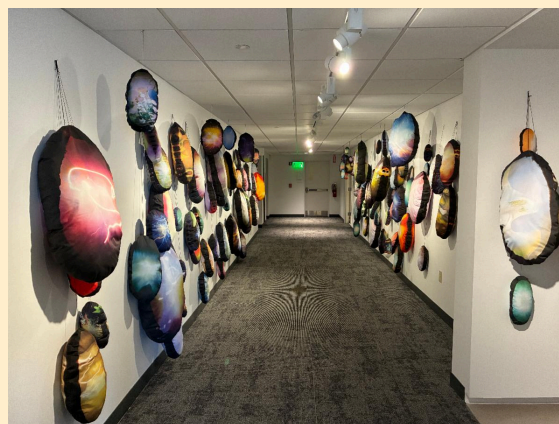
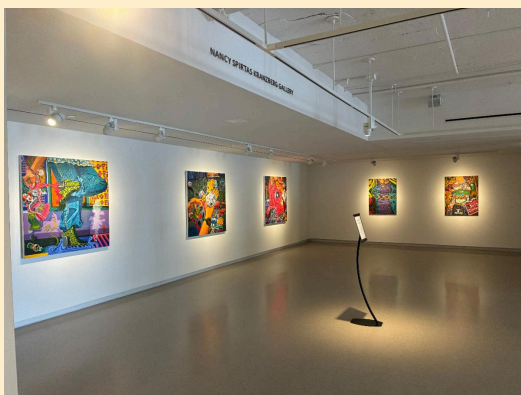


The green room was actually green 💚

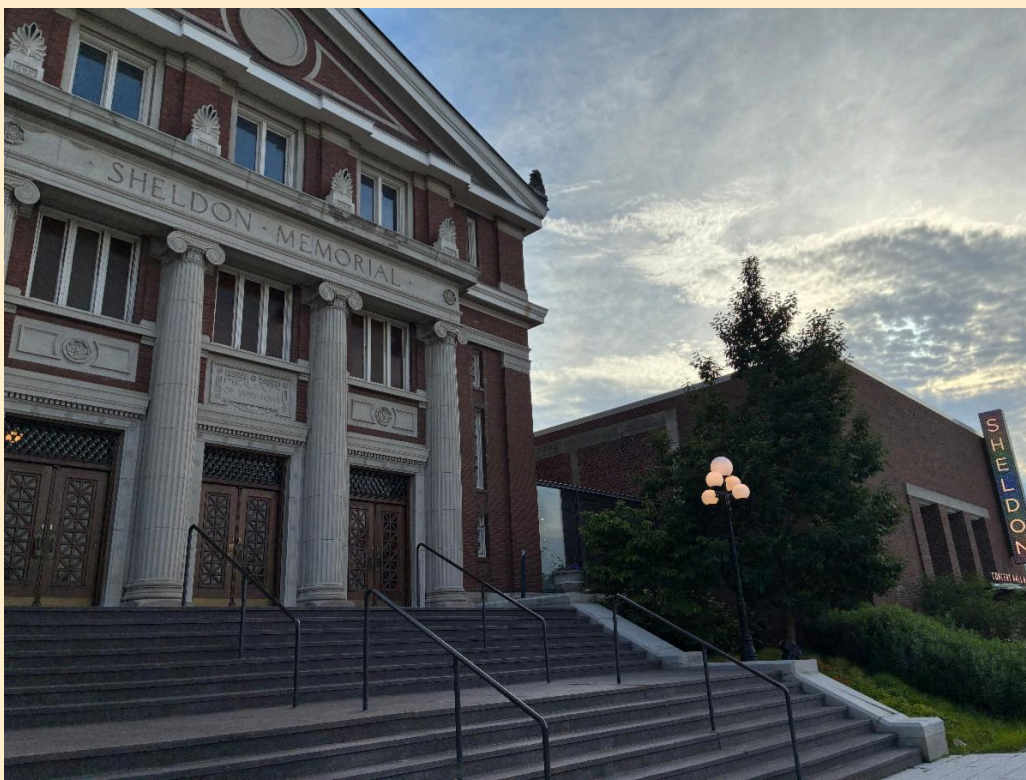




This venue featured beautiful stained glass throughout—what a stunning detail!👁👁👁👁👁



The hallway with the plushie art looked amazing!!

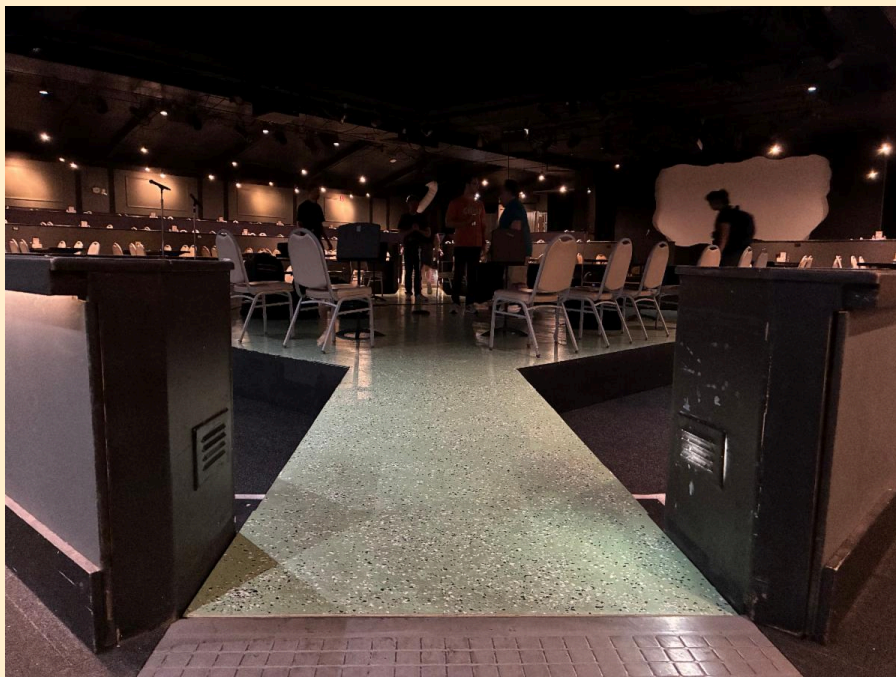


The building looked stunning in the evening light. ✨ ✨ ✨

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### Derby Dinner Playhouse (Clarksville, IN)

This venue features a very unique stage setting...



The audience encircles the stage in a wide, wraparound seating layout, creating an intimate, in-the-round feeling where every seat feels close to the action.





The band members actually face each other.





Our “friendly” trombone section was even friendlier than usual that day. 🥇🥇



Great to see former band member Harvey Turner, who visited and caught up with us after the show!

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**Southern Theatre (Columbus, OH)**





Spectacular lighting at this venue. ✨ ✨ ✨



A String of Pearls with 6 saxes!!



Former GMO drummer Greg Parnell in conversation with current drummer Nick Diaz...



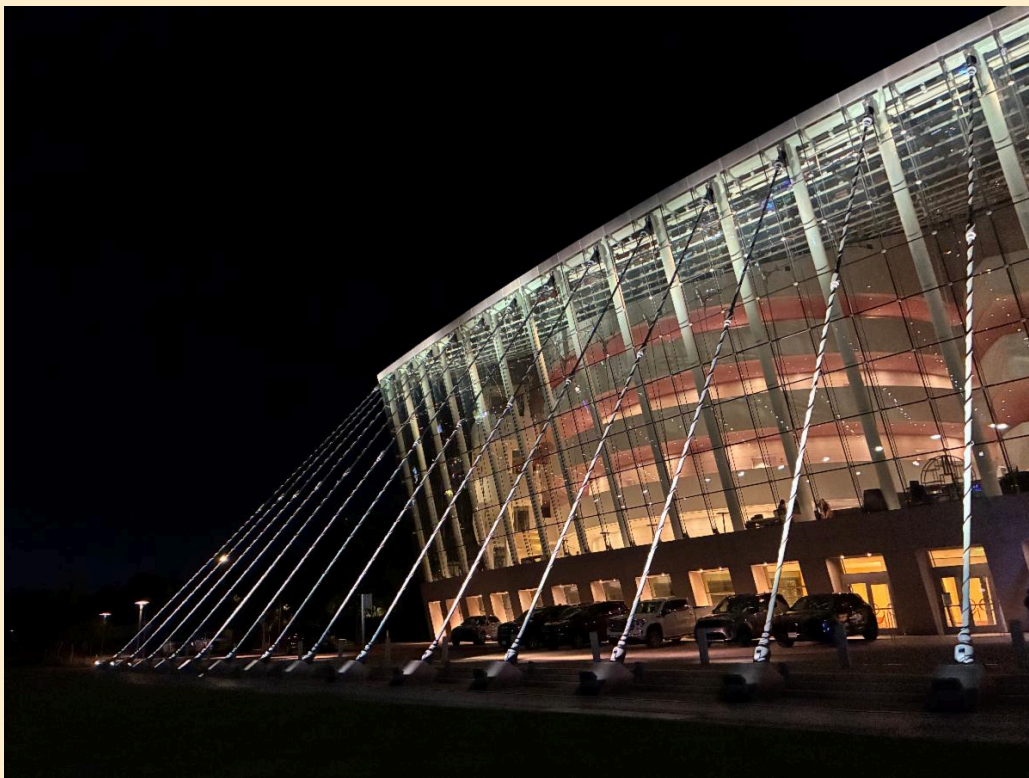
The calm right before it all comes alive...

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## Kauffman Center (Kansas City, MO)

Not only is this venue beautiful outside...





It is just as beautiful inside, especially with such a warm and welcoming audience. 😭

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After the show, some members went out with a local musician friend and enjoyed some great music at the Black Dolphin. Kansas City's rich big band history made it an extra special night—what a great time!

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## Heading to the Birthplace...

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**Annual 51st Glenn Miller Festival at (Clarinda High School, IA)**





Our CEO, Charles DeStefano, is ready for an exciting weekend of great music!



Greg Parnell presented the music of Glenn Miller's first band from 1937.



Panel Discussion with former/current members and leaders...



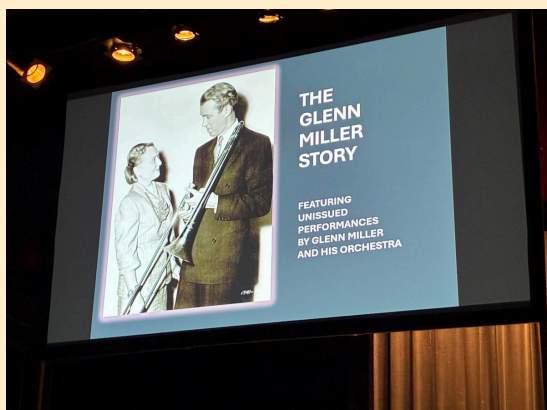


For the first time in the festival's history, the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, led by trombonist Jeff Bush, delivered a special performance.





I think every festival attendee would agree that the highlight of the festival was the **Battle of the Big Bands!** The program included popular selections from each orchestra and ended with the big band classic “Sing, Sing, Sing,” with Greg and Nick going neck and neck in a drum solo battle... and the winner was the audience!







We were also honored to have Mr. Aoki from the Glenn Miller Birthplace Society Japan Branch in attendance!



It's always great to have fans interacting with and asking questions to the GMO members :)



Needless to say, we had an amazing time at the festival. See you next year!!!

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### **Tour bus etiquette** 🚌

Life on the tour bus:

The aisle seat is called the “Front Porch,” and the window seat is called the “Bedroom.”

Front Porch means you’re up for chatting. Bedroom means you’re catching some sleep—aka “don’t talk to me.”





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### **Wilder Park Pavillion (Allison, IA)**

After the big party in Clarinda, we performed in a very calming outside space...



What a great view while  
warming up 😊



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Finding a cute little coffee stand is always a good sign of a great time ☕





We always love being in HyVee territory!!

### Coralville PAC (Coralville IA)







There's no way to avoid the donut shop when it's right inside the venue... Look at Aidan's face 🍩🍩🍩



### Band Alumni Spotlight

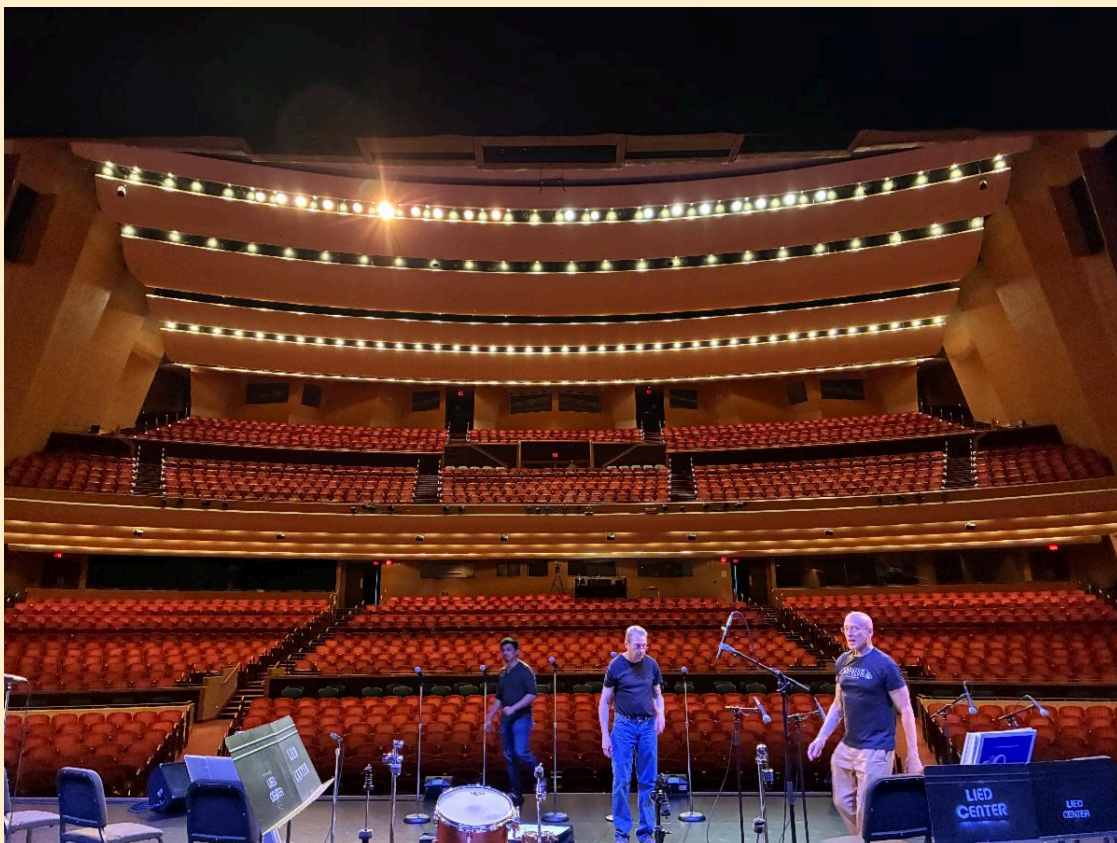
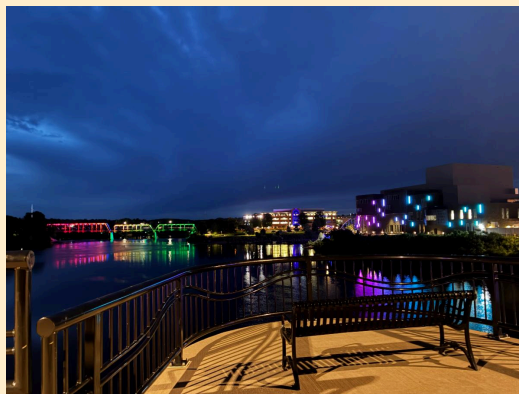
Because the band has a very long history, we sometimes get alumni sitting in with us, sharing stories from back in the day and offering advice. Joe Young has been a great big-brother figure to us, bringing incredible energy and positivity. It's safe to say he's one of the true spirits of the band! WE LOVE YOU JOE!!!!

## Reaching up to the North

### Pablo Center (Eau Claire, WI)

Such a beautiful large concert hall!!



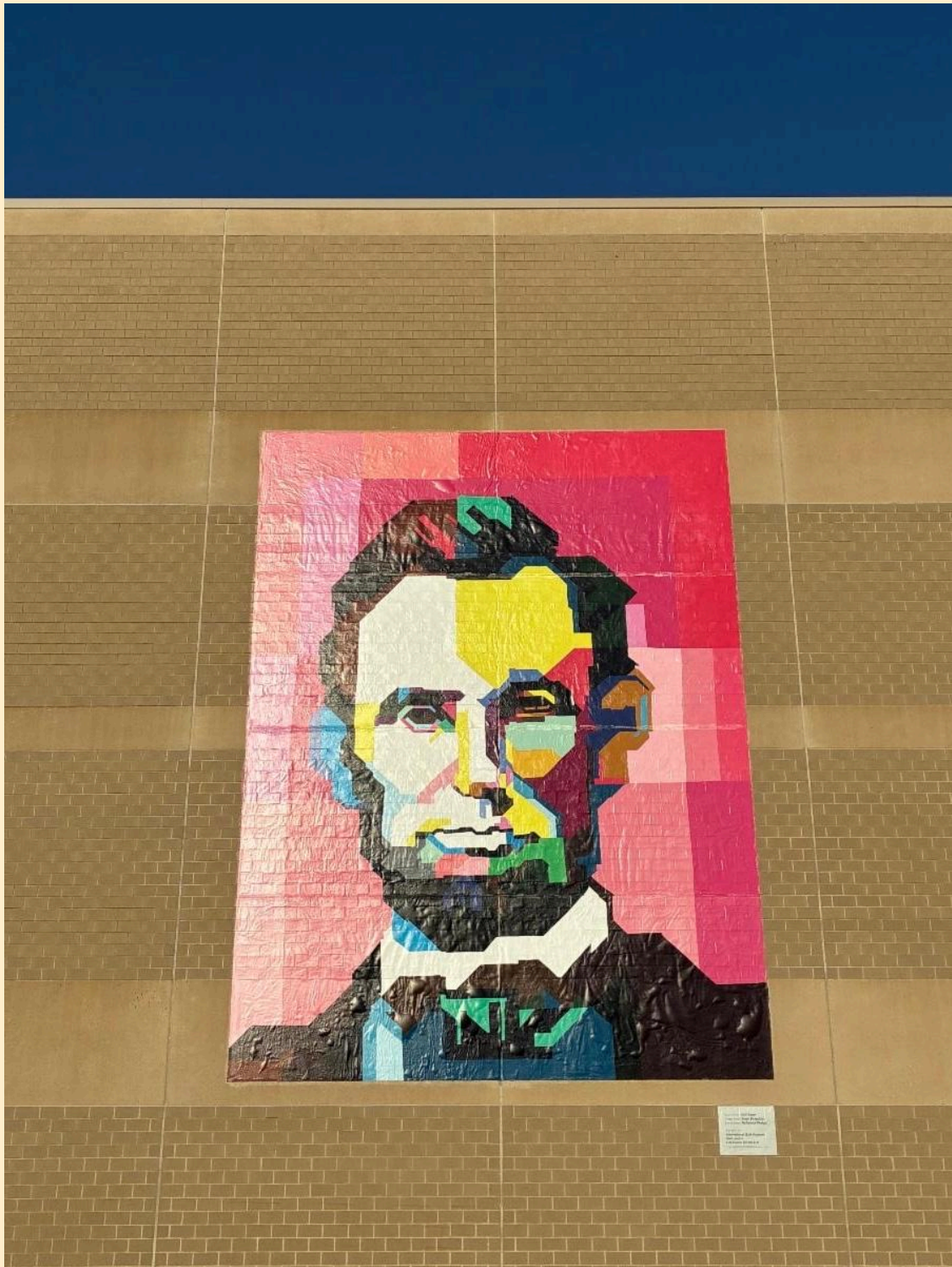


Another alum of the band, Jerod Kaszynski, sitting in :) We've got friends to catch up with everywhere! He was pretty excited to find the stickers he used to put on his music box when he was in the band.

## Lied Center (Lincoln, NE)



HUGE picture of Lincoln right on the side of the venue.







At the meet and Greet  
after the show!!





George made a new friend on the way to Boulder 🐘



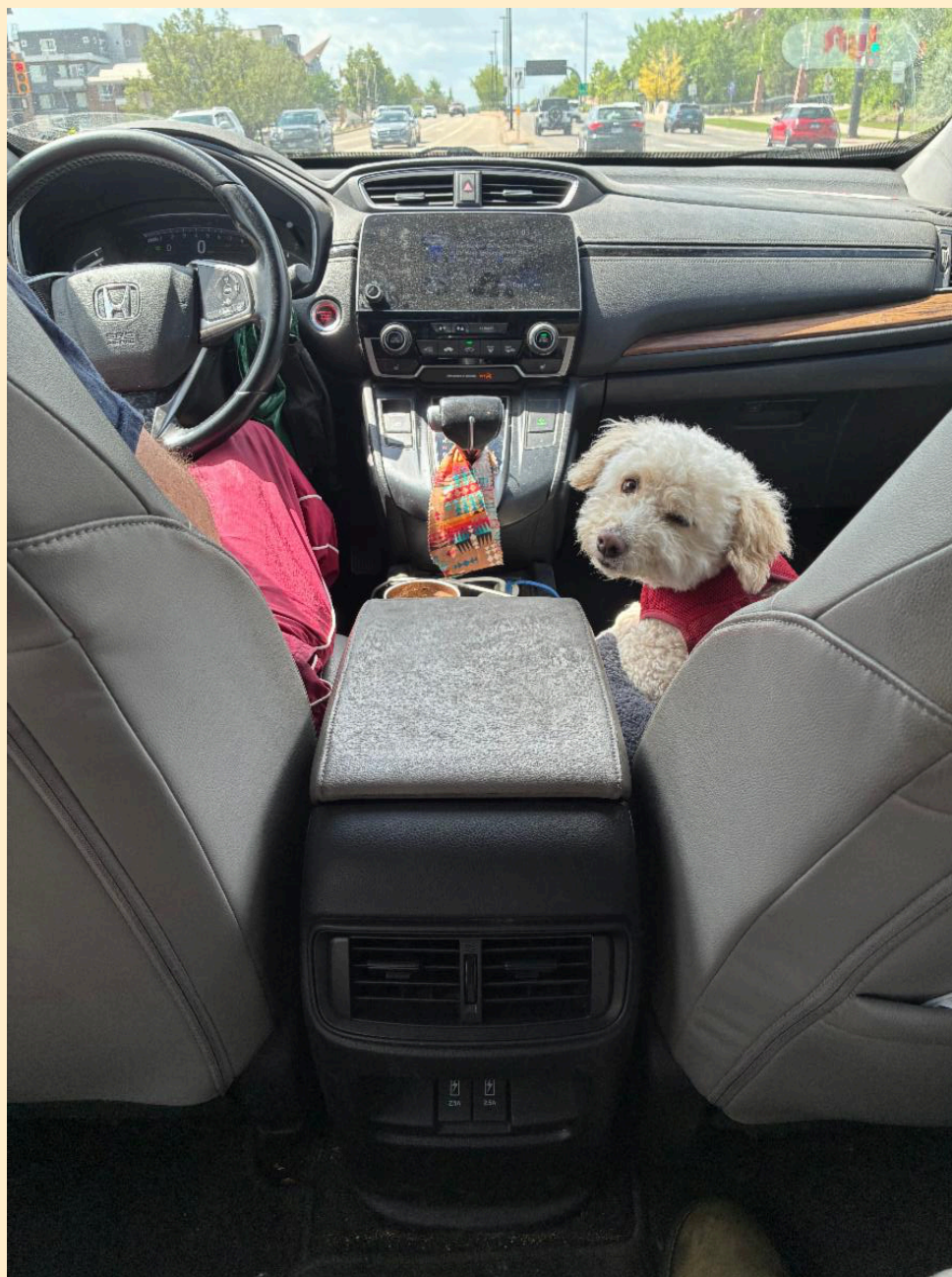


Nice view of a family lunch...

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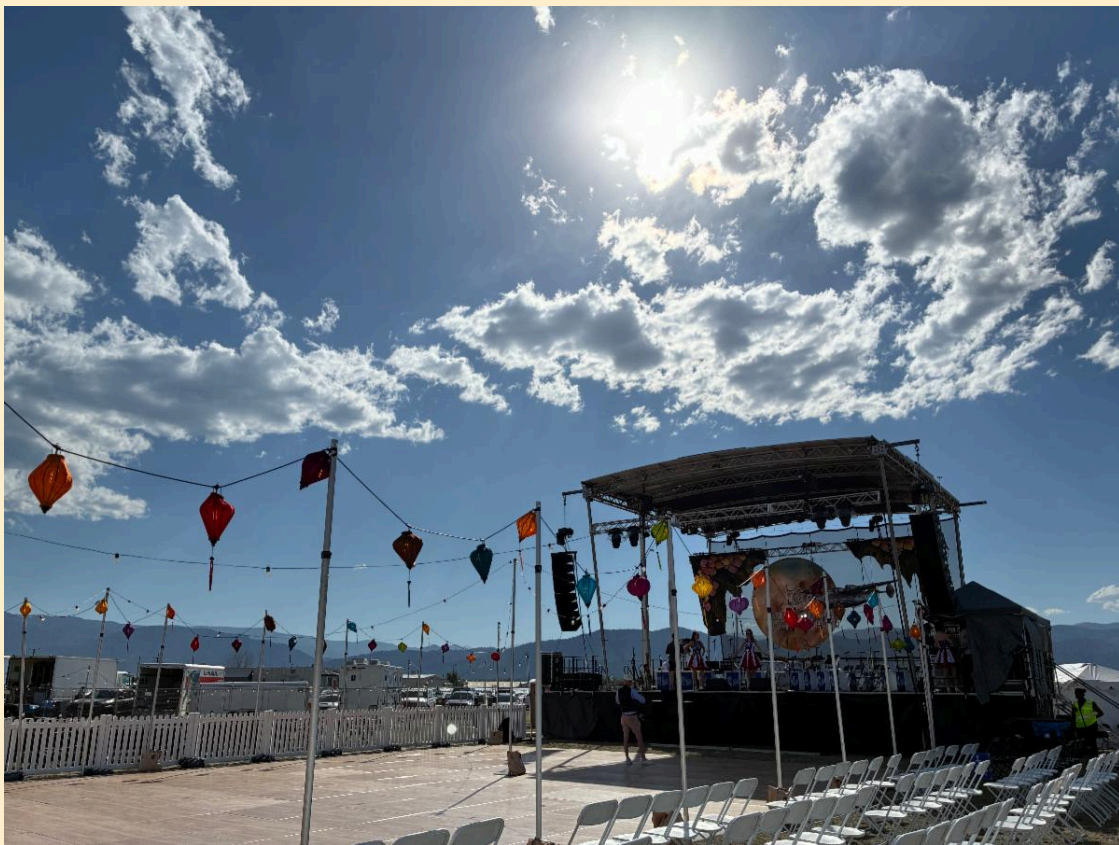
**1940's Ball (Boulder, CO)**





Kazu was winked at by this very cute dog of an uber driver in Boulder 🐕🐕🐕

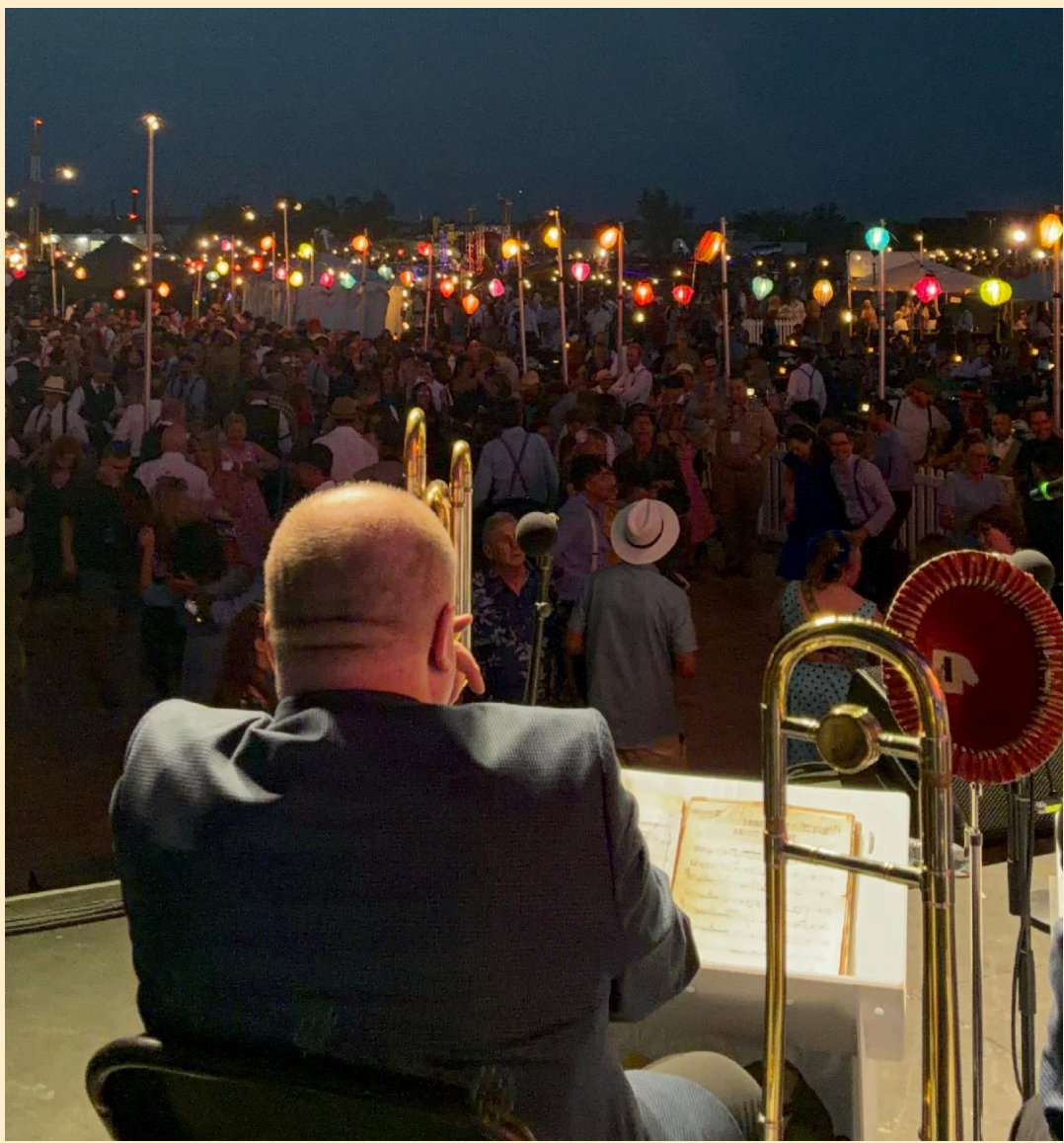




It doesn't look too bad at all for some dancing, does it?:)



Cool stage backdrop with the moon in the background 🌕



People dancing and beautiful lights!!





The audience was screaming and throwing their hands in the air as Nick tore into a huge solo on "Sing, Sing, Sing." And then it happened...



The storm announced "You all look like you're having so much fun dancing! Mind if I join the party?" 🌀🌀🌀

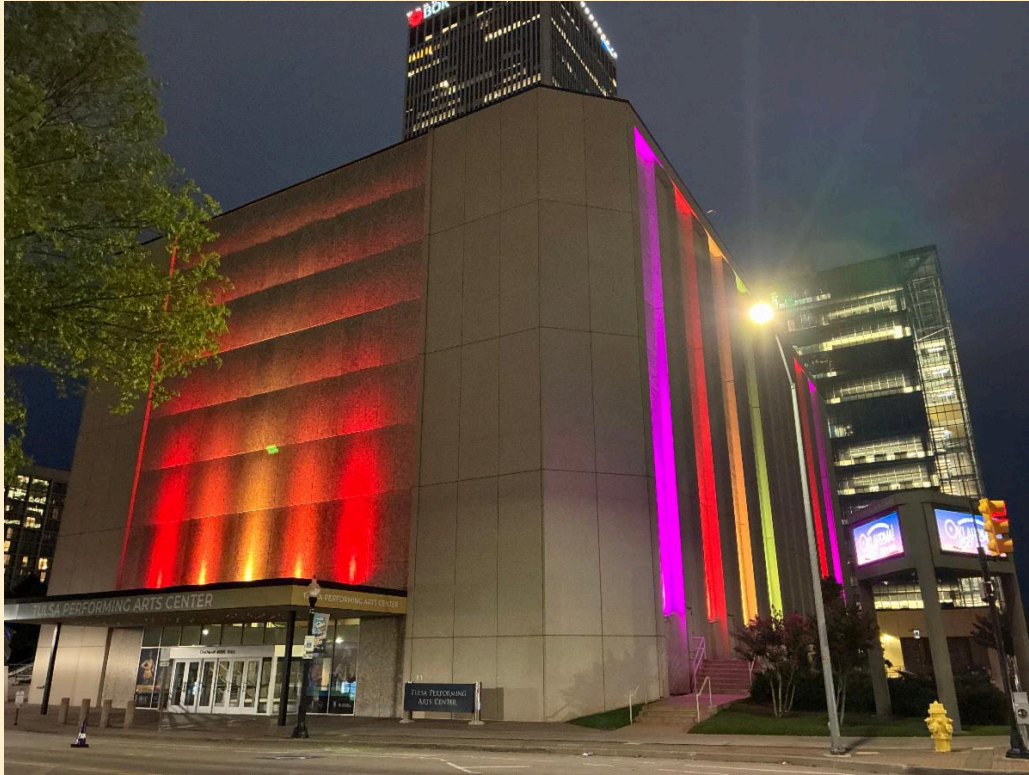
Maybe Nick's drumming was so powerful that it even attracted the storm! 🥁🥁



Fortunately, after a short delay, the event continued and the crowd danced the night away!

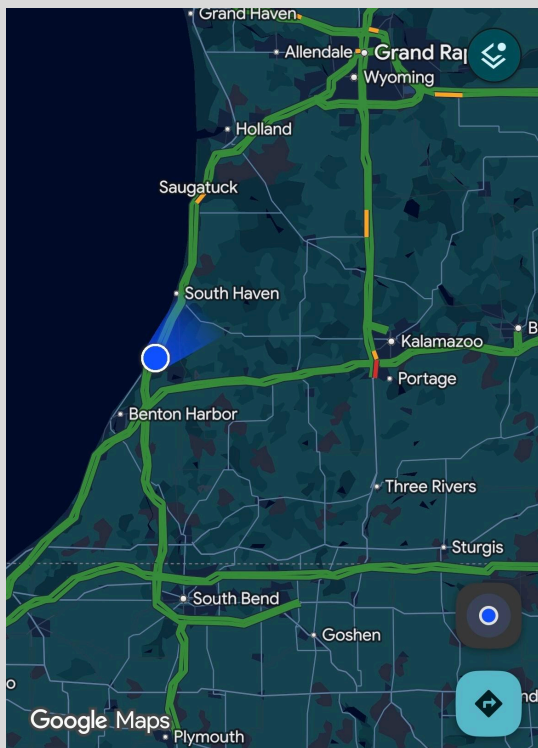
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## Tulsa PAC (Tulsa, OK)





Gigantic art above the elevator



Somewhere between Boulder and Manistee, we rolled by Kalamazoo. You can't see that name without thinking of Glenn Miller's classic "I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo!"

**Ramsdell Regional Center for the Arts (Manistee, MI)**



The ceiling with angels 😊





The newest crew—Mustache Brothers & Hannah— waiting to welcome you at the merchandise booth! Stop by and say hello!

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## Fisher Center (Nashville,TN)



The last venue for the month!!



Yes, those are real pillars inside the concert hall!!



The dark part of the ceiling, dotted with LED lights, creates the magical illusion of gazing through a window at a sky full of stars.



And check out who stopped by our concert tonight! Some of our longtime fans will definitely recognize the legendary singer Julia Rich! 🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌  
Earlier on this tour, the panel discussion at the Glenn Miller Festival in Clarinda, Iowa, featured wonderful stories about Julia and her remarkable career. In addition to being a celebrated vocalist, she also served as the orchestra's road manager.  
That makes this photo extra special—it brings together three generations of Glenn Miller Orchestra road managers: Julia Rich, Ashley, and Mitch!





Tonight was Ethan's final performance with us. Thank you for sharing your talent and being part of this journey. Wishing you nothing but success and happiness in your next adventure, Ethan! We'll miss you!

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## The Journey Continues...

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And with that, this chapter comes to a close... During a Q&A panel at the Glenn Miller Festival, someone asked how we handle the changes in personnel over the years. The truth is, it's always difficult to say goodbye to valued members.

But every musician who has been part of this orchestra leaves something behind—a tradition, a friendship, a standard of excellence—that is passed on to the next generation. The Glenn Miller Orchestra carries a remarkable legacy, built by those who came before us. While the faces on stage may change, the music, the spirit, and the commitment to preserving Glenn Miller's timeless sound continue to live on. The band is always evolving, welcoming new musicians while honoring the legacy that has inspired audiences for generations.

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Follow the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** on **Instagram** to receive fun, short, entertaining, bits of information directly on your phone instantly. Download the Instagram app today and follow us at: <https://www.instagram.com/theglennmillerorchestra>



***THE MILLER SOUND LIVES FOREVER!***

Visit our Website

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## Upcoming Glenn Miller Orchestra Shows

7/12/26 Robert Z Hawkins Amphitheater - Reno, NV  
7/19/26 Vilar Pac - Beaver Creek, CO



7/24/26 Sharonville Convention Center - Cincinnati, OH  
7/26/26 Bradley Symphony Center - Milwaukee, WI  
7/28/26 Paramount Center for the Arts - St Cloud, MN  
7/29/26 Weber Center - Lyche Theater - La Crosse, WI  
7/30/26 Union Theater - Shannon Hall - Madison, WI  
7/31/26 Wentz Concert Hall - Naperville, IL

8/01/26 Wentz Concert Hall - Naperville, IL  
8/02/26 North Shore Center - Skokie, IL  
8/05/26 Cheboygan Opera House - Cheboygan, MI  
8/06/26 The Pine Performance Ct - Curtis, MI  
8/09/26 Lexington Village Theatre - Lexington, MI  
8/13/26 Elkton Music Hall - Elkton, MD  
8/14/26 Turf Valley Resort - Ellicott City, MD  
8/15/26 The Ridgefield Playhouse - Ridgefield, CT  
8/16/26 Stadium Theatre PAC - Woonsocket, RI  
8/17/26 Academy of Music - North Hampton, MA  
8/18/26 Spire Center - Plymouth, MA  
8/20/26 Dreamland Film & Performing Arts Theatre - Nantucket, MA  
8/21/26 Madison Theatre - Molloy University - Rockville Center, NY  
8/22/26 SoulJoel's at Sunnybrook - Pottstown, PA  
8/23/26 The Levoy Theatre - Millville, NJ  
8/24/26 Tim McLoone's Supper Club - Asbury Park, NJ

Visit our Tour Schedule

## *Now available - Authentic Arrangements from the* **Glenn Miller Orchestra Library**

A new publication of "On The Trail," arranged by the legendary clarinetist Buddy DeFranco for the Glenn Miller Orchestra in 1972, is now released to the public for the first time. This lively arrangement showcases DeFranco's unique mix of swing and modern jazz, adding new energy to Ferde Grofé's classic Grand Canyon Suite movement. Fans of big band music and jazz history alike can now experience the intricate harmonies and dynamic orchestrations that defined the Glenn Miller Orchestra's post-war sound under DeFranco's artistic direction. This long-awaited release offers a rare glimpse into a remarkable era of American jazz innovation.

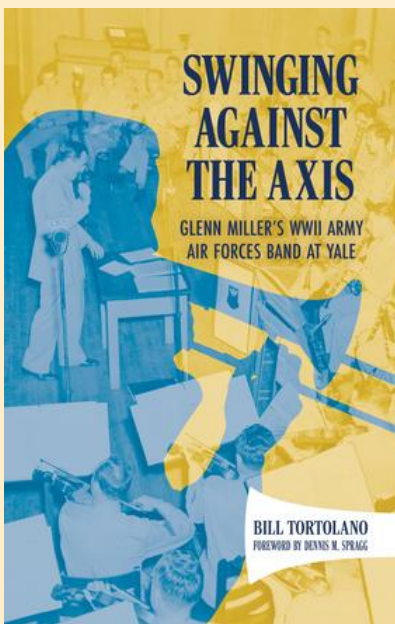
- "On The Trail" - arranged by Buddy DeFranco - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)

Also available for purchase on [eJazzLines.com](http://eJazzLines.com), these are not transcriptions—they're the original, authentic arrangements straight from the Glenn Miller Orchestra library. Carefully preserved and newly published, these charts capture the unmistakable sound of America's most iconic big band. Featured titles include:

- "Strike Up the Band" – arranged by Bill Finegan - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)
- "I Know That You Know" – arranged by Bill Finegan - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)
- "Peg O' My Heart" – arranged by Deane Kincaide - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)
- "'S Wonderful" – arranged by Deane Kincaide - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)

Perfect for advanced ensembles and Miller enthusiasts, these classic swing-era gems are now available for the first time in officially licensed editions.

## **Interesting Reading For Fans of Glenn Miller**



### **Swinging Against The Axis**

**Glenn Miller's WWII Army Air Force Band at Yale**

**by noted Glenn Miller historian Bill Tortolano**

The unlikely story of how the American big band conductor raised morale and fought Nazis during World War II

### **Description**

Glenn Miller was already famous when he enlisted in the Army Air Forces. Glenn Miller and His Orchestra was one of the most popular and successful bands of the big band era. While the bands of the Dorsey brothers, Benny Goodman, and Artie Shaw were identified by their leaders' instrument, Miller focused on orchestration.

In 1942, Miller volunteered for the US military. During World War II, Generals "Hap" Arnold and Barton K. Yount sought ways to wage influence instead of war. They commissioned musicians, actors, and artists such as Samuel Barber, Ronald Reagan, and Ogden Pleissner to help raise morale at home, on the front lines, and behind enemy lines, where new music and even jazz were prohibited by the Third Reich. Miller, considered the father of the modern US military bands, worked to hone his sound. It was at Yale that he added strings, French horn, and extra percussion to his musical palette, assembling the finest group of musicians in the military. His distinctive sound was the result of years of serious study in harmony, form, and orchestration.

*Swinging Against the Axis: Glenn Miller's WWII Army Air Forces Band at Yale* explores not only Miller's compositional style, but also his managerial and organizational innovations that would change the way military bands do business today. Equally intriguing is the setting in which Miller, Yale's president, the OSS, and a few Air Force generals transformed a sleepy, isolationist college into a center for the clandestine services, including the band's "secret" psychological warfare recordings.

To purchase the book, please visit University Press of Mississippi:

<https://www.upress.state.ms.us/Books/S/Swinging-Against-the-Axis>.

## *The One and Only* **Tommy Dorsey Orchestra**





Follow the **TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA** on its website:

<https://www.tommydorseyorchestra.net/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/people/The-Tommy-Dorsey-Orchestra/100051215442353/>

### UPCOMING TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

07/02/26 Clayton Opera House - Clayton, NY  
 07/14/26 Maguire Center for Lifelong Learning - Tallahassee, FL  
 07/16/26 Lawrenceburg Crockett Theatre - Lawrenceburg, TN  
 09/24/26 Central DeWitt Performing Arts Center - Dewitt, IA  
 09/25/26 Coralville Center for the Performing Arts - Coralville, IA  
 09/26/26 Gobbler Theater - Johnson Creek, WI  
 10/01/26 The Flying Monkey - Plymouth, NH  
 10/15/26 Numerica Performing Arts Center - Wenatchee, WA  
 10/17/26 Craterian Theater - Medford, OR  
 10/18/26 Elsinore Theatre - Salem, OR  
 11/10/26 Blue Gate PAC - Battle of the Big Bands w/GMO - Shippshewana, IN  
 11/11/26 Michigan Theater - Ann Arbor, MI  
 12/04/26 Paramount Theater - Burlington, NC  
 12/09/26 Valentine Theatre - Toledo, OH  
 12/10/26 Stambaugh Auditorium - Youngstown, OH  
 12/11/26 Peoples Bank Theatre - Marietta, OH  
 12/13/26 Lexington Village Theatre - Lexington, MI  
 12/18/26 The Ware Center - Millersville University - Lancaster, PA  
 12/19/26 First Congregational Church of Madison - Madison, CT  
 12/20/26 Waterville Opera House - Waterville, ME  
 12/22/26 Davies Symphony Hall - San Francisco, CA  
  
 03/21/27 SCF Neel Performing Arts Center - Bradenton, FL  
 04/02/27 Gold Canyon United Methodist Church - Gold Canyon, AZ  
 04/22/27 Simmons Center - Duncan, OK  
 04/24/27 Lewis Auditorium - St. Augustine, FL  
 07/17/27 Carr Amphitheater - West Hingham, MA  
 08/05/27 Ohio Star Theater - Sugarcreek, OH

View full tour schedule: [SCHEDULE](#)

# Jukebox Saturday Night



Follow **JUKEBOX SATURDAY NIGHT** on its website: <https://www.jbsaturdaynight.com/>  
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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/jbsaturdaynight/>

### UPCOMING JUKEBOX SATURDAY NIGHT PERFORMANCES

09/26/26 Goddard Center - Ardmore, OK

10/16/26 The Historic Bama Theatre - Tuscaloosa, AL

12/20/26 Grunin Center - Toms River, NJ

02/04/27 Armstrong Auditorium - Edmond, OK

03/13/27 Banyon Bowl at Pinecrest Gardens - Pinecrest, FL

03/20/27 Jewett Auditorium - Caldwell, ID

View full tour schedule: [SCHEDULE](#)



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