



**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
PENN VALLEY



**FREE TO  
THE PUBLIC**

**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2025  
3-8 P.M.**

**MCC-Penn Valley near the Carter Art Center  
3201 SW Trafficway | Kansas City, MO 64111**

Visit [mcckc.edu/jazzfest](http://mcckc.edu/jazzfest) for more information.

Attendees are welcome to bring lawn chairs, blankets, water bottles or coolers (no alcohol is allowed on campus). Pets, firearms, tobacco and drugs are prohibited. Free parking will be available in the MCC garage on Pennsylvania Avenue between 32nd and 33rd streets.

Local food truck favorites will be on-site for food purchase.

If the weather is inclement, the event will move inside the Campus Center.

Proceeds from this event will help fund scholarships and student enrichment at MCC-Penn Valley.



### **3 p.m. - Chalis O'Neal**



Chalis O'Neal is an artist and musician born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri. O'Neal picked up the trumpet at the age of eleven and began studying music at Paseo Academy of Fine and Performing Arts. Chalis majored in Jazz Studies with a minor in Classical Trumpet under the direction of Jazz legend Bobby Watson at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

O'Neal's main influences range from Wynton Marsalis, Miles Davis, Roy Hargrove, Harold O'Neal to Soul and R&B. His playing style creates a soulful and creative approach to improvisation, bringing a dynamic energy to each performance.

### **4 p.m. - 18th & Vine Jazz Academy Collectives**

Presented by the American Jazz Museum, the Kansas City Jazz Academy offers high-quality jazz education for middle and high school students looking to strengthen their musical skills beyond what is typically available in school music programs.

### **5 p.m. - Kansas City Kansas Community College Advanced Jazz Combo**

Directed by Brett Jackson, the Kansas City Kansas Community College Advanced Jazz Combo includes several of the music program's best instrumental jazz musicians. They have performed all over the Kansas City Metro and received an excellent rating at the 2024 Wichita Jazz Festival.

### **6 p.m. - Will Matthews**



Three-time Grammy-winning guitarist Will Matthews, a Kansas City native, has been the driving guitar force of the legendary Count Basie Orchestra since 1996, carrying on the legacy of Freddie Green. Inspired early on by his grandfather's Delta blues playing, Matthews grew into jazz under the guidance of Kansas City mentors and the great recordings of Wes Montgomery, George Benson, and Kenny Burrell.

His recordings with the Basie Orchestra include multiple Grammy-winning albums (Live at Manchester Guild, Count Plays Duke, Basie Swings the Blues), and his own projects—Solo and Count on Swingin'—showcase his mastery of swing, blues, and soulful groove.

### **7 p.m. - Jaylen Ward Project**



Drummer, composer, producer, and Audio Engineer, has his roots in south KC, growing up in a musical household. Jaylen has been awarded the National Down Beat award for best Jazz trio (2025) and Audio Engineering (2024).