

FAIRFIELD ARTS COUNCIL ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

2008 ARTIST OF THE YEAR

BRIAN Q. TORFF

JAZZ BASSIST

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 25, 2008
AT 7:30PM

FAIRFIELD THEATRE COMPANY
70 SANFORD STREET

FAC will also be celebrating for the first time a
PATRON OF THE YEAR: BOB SCINTO,
a Shelton-based developer, for his sustained
support and love of the arts.

GUESTS WILL ENJOY ELEGANT FOOD AND
DRINK SERVED AFTER THE MUSICAL PROGRAM
Ticket prices are \$75. \$150 with VIP reception.
Purchase tickets through the Fairfield Theatre
Company box office at 70 Sanford St., by calling
259-1036, or visiting www.fairfieldtheatre.org.

**A PRIVATE RECEPTION FOR PREMIUM TICKET HOLDERS AND
SPONSORS WILL BE HELD IN THE FAIRFIELD ARTS COUNCIL
GALLERY PRIOR TO THE EVENING'S MUSICAL PERFORMANCE.*

THE AWARD

THE ARTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD IS PRESENTED TO AN ARTIST IN
THE VISUAL, PERFORMING OR LITERARY ARTS WHO HAS MADE
A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO HIS OR HER FIELD AND HAS
DEMONSTRATED ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.
TWENTY-EIGHT OTHER ARTISTS HAVE BEEN HONORED SINCE 1976.

BRIAN Q. TORFF is a renowned bassist and composer, and is currently Music Program Director at Fairfield University. He is a featured bass soloist, leading his own trio, and is the musical director for the Django Reinhardt New York Festival, which has appeared at Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center and Birdland in New York City. Torff has performed at Carnegie Hall for Fiddle Fest where he appeared with Mark O'Connor, Dave Grusin, Regina Carter, Yo Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman and Pinchus Zukerman. He performs in jazz festivals around the U.S., and has served as co-chair of the music advisory board for the National Endowment for the Arts.

Brian Torff's professional career began in 1974 when bassist Milt Hinton offered him the opportunity of touring with Cleo Laine. During the late 70's, Torff recorded and performed with pianists Mary Lou Williams and Marian McPartland, and toured Australia, New Zealand, and Hong Kong with the jazz violin virtuoso, Stephane Grappelli. He played in pianist Erroll Garner's last group and worked in the big bands of Oliver Nelson, and the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Orchestra.

In 1979, Brian Torff joined in a duo with pianist George Shearing. In the course of their 3 1/2 year collaboration, they toured throughout the U.S., Europe, Brazil, and South Africa and were featured on the NBC Tonight Show, Merv Griffin, and their own PBS special from the Café Carlyle in New York City. They received worldwide acclaim, and were invited to perform at the White House in 1982 for President Reagan. Their third album won a Grammy for vocalist Mel Tormé.

Brian Torff is a noted composer who has contributed works for records with George Shearing, Larry Coryell, Union Trio, and his own recordings- Life in East Bumblepuck, Hitchhiker of Karoo, Manhattan Hoe-Down, and Workin' On a Bassline. He has written scores that have been performed by the Boston Pops, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the Pittsburgh Symphony, and has appeared as conductor, composer, and clinician for numerous high school and college jazz festivals. He is a published writer on music and musicians, composes for big band, founded and directs the Summer Jazz Workshop at Fairfield University. Torff is listed in the Groves Dictionary of Jazz and has been featured in the New York Times, Chicago Tribune, Downbeat Magazine, Jazz Times, and many other music publications.

Brian Torff lived in Paris in early 2008, where he wrote his book, "In Love With Voices: A Jazz Memoir." Torff is currently featuring his bass playing and new compositions in a trio and quartet setting.



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2008 ARTIST OF THE YEAR EVENT

BRIAN Q. TORFF

JAZZ BASSIST

AND PATRON OF THE YEAR, BOB SCINTO

OCTOBER 25, 2008, 8 P.M.

AT THE FAIRFIELD THEATRE COMPANY

SPONSOR BENEFITS	DOUBLE BASS \$5000+	SAXAPHONE \$4999-3000	GIUITAR \$2999-2000	PIANO \$1999-1000	DRUMS \$999-250	TRIANGLE \$250
Acknowledgement on invitation and in all printed material	•					
Invitation to private pre-event reception	•	•	•	•	•	
Program listing	•	•	•	•	•	•
Complimentary tickets	10	8	6	4	\$500+ (2) <\$500 (1)	0
Reception	•	•	•	•	•	•

The Fairfield Arts Council is a not-for-profit organization pursuant to Section 501©3 of the Internal Revenue Department. Federal Tax number: 06-1454327. Donations are tax-deductible.

Please fill out and return the form below. Complimentary tickets will be held at the door. Invitation to pre-reception will follow. If you have any questions, please call Billie Jean Sullivan, FAC Executive Director at (203) 319-1419 or send an e-mail to info@fairfieldartscouncil.org

Please make checks payable to Fairfield Arts Council.
Mail to: Fairfield Arts Council • 70 Sanford St. • Fairfield, CT 06824

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

____ I have enclosed a sponsorship contribution of _____

How would you like your name listed in the program? Please print clearly.

____ I do not wish to be listed in the program as a sponsor.

Will you be using your complimentary tickets? ____ Yes or ____ No