

AYA Reunions Entertainers

DANCE BANDS & D.J.s

Bales Gitlin Music

Ginny Bales, 38 Notch Hill Road, North Branford, CT 06471
203-488-3278
Email: bgbmusic@aol.com

Type of music: Jazz, Swing, Rock
Era of music: 1940's-current
Number of musicians: 3-8
Yale connection: Bales Gitlin has been the band of choice for the Yale Prom for the past few years and has played at numerous Yale reunions. Jay Gitlin '71 is a Lecturer in History at Yale, and Ginny Bales can act as your agent for hiring everything from strolling musicians to a jazz pianist.

The Bearcats Jazz Band

Joe Hanlon, 13 St. George Place, Sandy Hook, CT 06482
203-426-4185
Email: bcatjoe@prodigy.net
Website: www.thebearcatsjazzband.com

Type of music: Live band playing New Orleans Jazz & Swing
Number of musicians: 7
Average price for a three-hour gig: \$1,200
Yale connection: Played for the Class of 1963's 40th reunion

Calypso Hurricane

Mack Endresen, P.O. Box 2121, Cambridge, MA 02238-2121
617-227-0127
Email: mark@calypsohurricane.com
Website: www.calypsourricane.com

Type of music: Calypso, Raggae, Rock
Era of music: 1940's-current
Number of musicians: 5-6
Yale connection: Has played for several Yale reunions; band members include faculty at the Berklee College of Music and a backup drummer for Harry Belafonte

Clamdiggers Dixie Band

Charles Salerno, 818 Quinnipiac Ave., New Haven, CT 06513
203-467-9275

Type of music: Live band playing Jazz, Swing & Dixieland
Era of music: 1940's-1980's
Number of musicians: 2 to 8
Average price for a three-hour gig with four musicians: \$675
Yale connection: Has played for at least 13 Yale classes at reunions in the last ten years

Cutting Edge Entertainment

Rob Jockel, 69 Trailsend Dr., Canton, CT 06019
888-221-6538
Email: rjockel@cuttingedgeentertain.com
Website: www.cuttingedgeentertain.com

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Type of music: DJ's and live bands playing Rock, Jazz, Swing, Country, Worldbeat, Latin
Era of Music: 1940's-current
Yale connection: Has provided entertainers for the Classes of 1958, 1959 & 1999 and the Yale Prom.

Pat Dorn Orchestra

Pat Dorn, 129 Church St., New Haven, CT 06510
203-865-0360
Email: patdornonofrio@webtv.net

Type of music: Live band playing music from Glenn Miller sound to contemporary music of today
Era of music: 1940's-Current
Number of musicians: 1-17 plus vocalist
Average price for a 3-hour gig: \$1,650-3,600
Yale connection: Every fraternity from 1950 to closing; freshman, junior, senior proms. Many Yale reunions. Only orchestra from Connecticut to play for six Presidential Inaugural Balls in Washington, including President Clinton in '93 and '97 and President Bush in '01. Plus, thanks to former Yale students, every Southern States Debutante Ball, colleges and country clubs, Virginia Beach for eight years.

Eight to the Bar

Cynthia Lyon, P.O. Box 123, Northford, CT 06472
203-484-4749
Email: info@eighttothebar.com
Website: www.eighttothebar.com

Type of music: Live band playing Swing & Motown
Era of music: 1940's-1970's
Number of musicians: 6
Average price for a three-hour gig: \$3,000
Yale connection: Has played for the 1975 & 1977 25th reunions

Howard Fishman Quartet

Howard Fishman, 166 North 7th St. #5, Brooklyn, NY 11211
718-486-0613
Email: hfquartet@gmail.com
Website: www.howardfishman.com

Type of music: Live band playing Rock, Jazz, Swing, Dixieland, New Orleans, Country & Blues
Era of music: 1920's-1950's & current
Number of musicians: 4-7
Average price of a three-hour gig: \$1,500-\$5,000
Yale connection: Has played for the Class of 1951 50th reunion.

Funkestra

Thomas Carruthers, 7 Vera Dr., Bethel, CT 06801
800-272-4078
Email: twcarruthers@cs.com
Website: www.funkestra.com

Type of music: Reggae, African, Marriachi, Latin, Steel Band, Vibes
Era of music: 1940's-current
Number of musicians: 8-9
Average price of a three-hour gig: \$4,200-4,600

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Yale connection: Has played for the Class of 1982's 20th reunion

The Galvanized Jazz Band

Fred Vigorito, 20 Ledgeview Lane, Guilford, CT 06437

203-453-5916

Email: vigorjazz@aol.com

Website: www.galvanizedjazz.com

Type or music: Live band playing Jazz, Swing & Dixieland

Era of music: 1930's-1940's

Number of musicians: 7

Average price for a three-hour gig: \$2,000

Yale connection: Started in the mid-1960's at Yale, this band includes Art Hovey '64 and Joel Schiavone '59 and has played at several Yale reunions.

CD available

John Hartman

17 Hamre Lane, Branford, CT 06405

203-481-2378

Type of music: Jazz trio, easy listening and danceable tunes, d.j. from an age-appropriate collection of CDs during breaks

Number of musicians: 3

Average price for a four-hour gig: \$1,000

The Joe Holmes Swing Band

Joe Holmes, 7 Tommy's Lane, Norwalk, CT 06850

203-838-8744

Email: joeswing@optonline.net

Type of music: Live band playing Rock, Jazz, Swing & Dixieland

Era of music: 1930's-1960's

Number of musicians: 4 to 8

Average price for a four-hour gig: \$1,400-\$2,500

Yale connection: Joe Holmes '62 has led his band at many Yale reunions.

CD available

Hot Roc Productions Entertainment Co., LLC

Bobby Fantarella, 10 Research Dr., Woodbridge, CT 06525

203-389-3538

Email: info@hotroc.com

Website: www.hotroc.com

Type of music: DJ's and live bands playing Rock, Jazz, Swing, Classical, R&B & Hip Hop

Era of music: 1940's-Current

Yale connection: Has provided entertainment for many Yale reunions and parties

Ivan Hubbard Orchestra

Ivan Hubbard, 46 Spice Hill Dr., Wallingford, CT 06492-4333

203-265-0238

Email: ivanhubbard@msn.com

Type of music: Live band playing Jazz, Swing & Dixieland

Era of music: 1940's-1960's

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Number of musicians: 5-8
Average price for a three-hour gig: \$1,275
Yale Connection: Has played for the Classes of 1942, 1943 and 1945W.

Arthur Lipner/Tropical Music Productions

AMASS Entertainment
917-612-1427
Email: agents@amassentertainment.com
Website: www.arthurlipner.com

Type of music: Steel band or vibes/marimba playing calypso and reggae
Number of musicians: 2-10
Average price for a three-hour gig: \$250-\$300 per musician
Yale connection: Has played several reunions in the last decade

The David Lopato Group

David Lopato, 474 Greenwich St., New York, NY 10013
212-925-8534
Email: david@davidlopato.com
Website: www.davidlopato.com

Type of music: Live band playing Jazz
Era of music: 1940's-Current
Number of musicians: 1-5
Average price for a three-hour gig: \$1,200
Yale Connection: David Lopato '75 and Kent McLagan '79 have played for the Class of 1975's 20th and 25th reunions, as well as the Class of 1976's 25th reunion.

Kit McClure Band

Kit McClure '75, 240 W. 98th St., 6E, New York, NY 10025
212-864-6759
Email: kmccb@earthlink.net
Website: www.redhotrecords.com

Type of music: Soul, Motown, Latin
Era of music: 1940's-current
Number of musicians: 3-16
Average price for a three-hour gig: \$2,500 for a quintet
Yale connection: Saxophonist Kit McClure, the leader of this all-female band, graduated from Yale in 1975.

Nik & The Nice Guys

Carolyn Schultz, 74 North Goodman St., Rochester, NY 14607-1154
585-244-0331
Email: nikniceguy@aol.com
Website: www.nikentertainment.com

Type of music: Rock; also serves as agent for various other bands
Yale Connection: Has played for the Classes of 1963, 1964 & 1968
CD available

Quintessence

John Mills, 31 Jan Rd., Bristol, CT 06010
860-589-3114

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Email: jbmills19@snet.net

Type of music: Jazz, Swing, Dixieland

Era of music: 1940's-1960's

Number of musicians: 5-6

Average price for a three-hour gig: \$1,050-\$1,250

Yale connection: Has played for the Class of 1960's 40th reunion

Carlton J. Smith & Friends

Carlton J. Smith, Tru-Beat Productions

718-381-9878, 212-662-8694

Email: trueppich@aol.com

Website: www.trubeatpro.com

Type of music: R&B

Number of musicians: 10

Average price for 3½ -hour gig: \$4,500

Yale connection: Played for Class of 1980's 25th reunion

SOLO ACTS & OTHER

Antique Amusements

Tony DeLucia

203-288-3797

Type of music: Juke box rental – 50's style machine with 100+ songs for preset play or selection by classmates

Cost to rent for evening: Approximately \$400

Bob Allison

One Central Place, Newburyport, MA 01950

987-462-0776

Type of music: Jazz pianist; standards

Yale connection: Class of '67

CD available

Allen Forte & Martha Bennett Oneppo

203-288-8888

Email: allen.forte@yale.edu

Type of music: Pianist and vocalist; standards

Yale connection: Allen Forte is Battell Professor Emeritus in the Music Department

Glorian Duo

Wendy Kerner Lucas, 176 Logan Road, New Canaan, CT 06840

203-966-7616

Email: WKLHarp@optonline.net

Type of music: Harp and flute duo

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Hot Roc Productions Entertainment Co., LLC

Bobby Fantarella, 10 Research Dr., Woodbridge, CT 06525
203-389-3538
Email: info@hotroc.com
Website: www.hotroc.com

Type of music: Solo jazz musicians
Era of music: 1940's-Current
Yale connection: Has provided entertainment for many Yale reunions and parties

Lancraft Fife & Drum Corps

P.O. Box 28, 62 Clark Ave., North Haven, CT 06473-0028
Website: www.lancraftfd.com

Litchfield Hills Pipe Band

Jeffrey Miller, 544 Carmel Hill Rd. N., Bethlehem, CT 06751
203-266-6391
Email: jeffreymiller01@charter.net

Type of music: Bagpipes and drum group
Number of musicians: 8-12 pipers, 3-6 drummers
Average price for a three-hour gig: \$800-\$1,200

Andy Rubenoff

Andy Rubenoff '83 DRA, 89 Howe St., New Haven, CT 06511
203-562-0001

Type of music: Piano, especially "sing-along;" also performs with cabaret singer, Amber Edwards '82

The Varsity Singers

Christopher Gentile '00, 61 W. 108th St., New York, NY 10025
646-281-6520
Email: varsitysingers@hotmail.com

Type of music: All-male a capella vocal ensemble
Number of singers: 5
Yale Connection: Former Whiffenpoofs who have performed at various Yale Club functions and at a recent gala for the New Haven Symphony
CD available

Yale School of Music

The Yale School of Music maintains a "gig list" of current students who are willing to play for hire – they include everything from jazz pianists to bassoonists to string quartets. Please see your AYA staff member for an up-to-date list. Good communication with the musician(s) on ambience and the type of music expected is advisable. Most would be willing to audition.

Yale Singing Groups

Although most students have left campus by the times reunions occur, from time to time there is a group able to sing because it is staying in town before going on tour. Please speak to your AYA staff member about availability.

Last updated jlj Sep '06