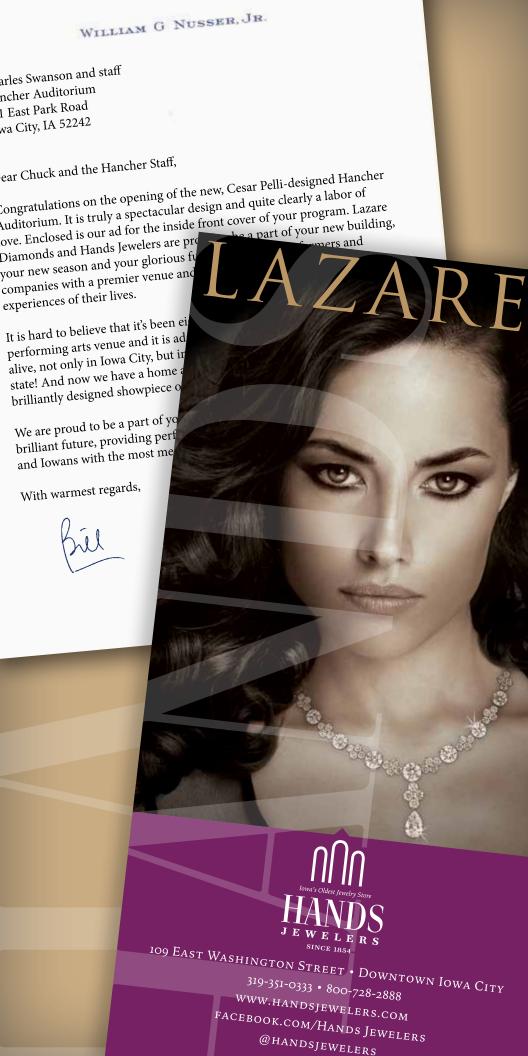




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Pave Sanger drums

Dave Miller bass and vocals

Eddie Rivers steel and sax

Katie Shore fiddle and vocals

Connor Forsyth piano and vocals

Jay Reynolds sax and clarinet

Dennis Ludiker fiddle and mandolin

Program will be announced from the stage



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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Ray Benson founded Asleep at the Wheel in Paw Paw, West Virginia 46 years ago. Now based in Austin, the band holds 10 Grammy awards, 20 studio albums and 20 singles on the Billboard country charts. The Grammy Awardwinning Still The King: Celebrating the Music of Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys is the band's most recent release (2015) and marks their third full-length Bob Wills tribute album. Featuring 22 acclaimed collaborations, the all-star line up includes legends such as Willie Nelson, Merle Haggard, and George Strait and newcomers like The Avett Brothers, Amos Lee, Old Crow Medicine Show, and many other fine talents.

RAY BENSON

At a towering 6'7", the Philadelphiaborn Ray Benson is considered a giant in the industry. However, it's his contributions to music history, not his height, that have made him a dominant figure on the music scene since 1970. Ray Benson is the frontman and founder of the world-renowned Western swing band Asleep at the Wheel. For over 45 years, Ray has been the driving force behind "The Wheel"



Photo: Lisa Pollard

and has overseen the release of more than 25 albums, been on countless tours, and has won ten GRAMMY™ Awards.

In October 2015, Benson released his lively memoir, Comin' Right at Ya: How a Jewish Yankee Hippie Went Country, or, the Often Outrageous History of Asleep at the Wheel. And just as Western Swing extends far and wide, so do Ray's honors and accomplishments, which include: 2011 Texan of the Year; 2011 Texas Medal of the Arts Award for Multimedia; Lifetime Achievement Award from the Americana Music Association; the TEC Les Paul Award; and, in 2004, the official Texas State Musician. As a producer, Ray has worked with such artists as Willie Nelson, Aaron Neville, Carolyn Wonderland, Aaron Watson, and Suzy Bogguss. Additionally, Benson is the founder and former member of the Rhythm and Blues Foundation, an organization that supports aging R&B artists from the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s that have reaped little financial benefit from their music. He is also an active advocate and board member for the Health Alliance for Austin Musicians (HAAM). A South by Southwest tradition, Ray's annual birthday bash benefits HAAM and features all-star lineups including George Strait, Willie Nelson, The Avett Brothers, Jimmy Vaughan, and many more.

As if being on the road for over a hundred dates a year isn't enough, Ray hosts the new, bi-weekly segment "Austin Outer Limits" on Sirius XM's Willie's Roadhouse, featuring hand-picked Western Swing and Texas Honky Tonk from his personal collection. Since 2010, Benson has hosted the highly successful Texas Music Scene television series. The show broadcasts weekly in more than 60 U.S. television markets, showcasing live performances by today's talent in the Texas and Red Dirt music circuit.

ONGRATULATIONS TO THE TEAM THAT BRINGS HANCHER AUDITORIUM-

THE ARCHITECTS, Bui DERS, ACOUSTICIANS. L'GHTING DESIGNERS, STAFF. AUDIENCES & PERFORMER WHO HAVE (REATED AND WILL CREATE ARTINTHE MASTERPIECE THAT IS HANCHER WE, TOO, BELIEVE IN TEAMWORK AND TOGETHER WORK (REATIVELY TO ENHANCE THE ART OF REAL ESTATE, BUILD RELATIONSHIPS, PRODUCE GREAT REJULTS WE STRIVE FOR FAVORABLE REVIEWS BUT ITIS HANCHER THAT EXCITES THE WORLD.



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46 YEARS OF JAZZ WITH A COWBOY HAT

- 1951 Bandleader **Ray Benson** born in Philadelphia, PA. (March 16)
- 1970 Band forms in Paw Paw, WV. Play first "big show" opening for Alice Cooper and Hot Tuna.
- 1971 Band moves to California at the invitation of Commander Cody and His Lost Planet Airmen.

Van Morrison helps the band to get first record deal by mentioning them in an interview in *Rolling Stone* magazine – "There's some relatively unknown group around that I really dig. Asleep at the Wheel plays great country music. They're really good musicians."

1973 Debut album, Comin' Right At Yα, released by United Artists (includes single "Take Me Back to Tulsa").

At invitation of **Willie Nelson** and **Doug Sahm**, band moves to Austin, Texas.

- 1974 "Choo Choo Ch'Boogie" from their second album, Asleep αt the Wheel, is their first chart single.
- The release of Texαs Gold on Capitol Records elevates the band to one of the most popular country acts of the decade, with "The Letter That Johnny Walker Read" becoming a top-ten country hit.

Band stars on the premier episode of **Austin City Limits** television show (and has performed 11 times since then).

1977 Voted "Best Country & Western Band" by Rolling Stone.

The Wheel awarded **"Touring Band of the Year"** by Academy of Country Music.

Band tours Europe with Emmylou Harris.

1978 Their sixth nomination turns out to be their **first GRAMMY™ win** for the country instrumental "One O'Clock Jump." The Wheel will go on to earn nine more GRAMMYS™ to date.

Band appears in the film *Roadie* with **Meatloaf**, **Blondie**, and **Art Carney**.

- 1979 Their first live album, Served Live, is recorded at the Austin Opera House.
- 1987 The album 10 scores big with the GRAMMY™-winning single "String of Pars."
- 1989 Against the advice of most music insiders, Ray establishes Bismeaux Studio and Bismeaux Records where he'll go on to produce projects for Willie Nelson, Pam Tillis, Carolyn Wonderland, Aaron Watson, James Hand, Suzy Bogguss, Don Walser, Dale Watson, and many others.
- 1991 Ray directs the music and co-stars in the film *Wild Texαs Wind* with **Dolly Parton** and **Gary Busey**.
- 1992 Band featured on Route 66 Tour (66th Anniversary of Route 66).
- 1993 Tribute to the Music of Bob Wills for Liberty Records, including guest artists Garth Brooks, George Strait, and Vince Gill amongst many others, is an instant hit, earning two GRAMMYS™ and a live performance on the Country Music Awards telecast with Lyle Lovett.
- 1997 Old Silver Eagle tour bus retired with over 3 million miles.
- 1999 Ride With Bob CD is released by Dreamworks and includes guest performances by the Dixie Chicks, Dwight Yoakam, Willie Nelson, Squirrel Nut Zippers, Manhattan Transfer, and others. The ensuing long-form documentary The Making of Ride with Bob earns a regional Emmy Award. The album wins two GRAMMY™ Awards.

A HISTORY OF ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL

- 2000 Stadium tours with **Bob Dylan** & **George Strait** begin (2000–2001).
- 2002 Ray hosts the CMT special *Stars Over Texas* in Austin, going toe-to- toe with **Dolly Parton** and **Vince Gill**.
- 2003 Ray releases his first solo record, Beyond Time, while at the same time managing to make two records with the band (Live at Billy Bob's Texas and Asleep at the Wheel Remembers the Alamo).
- 2004 Ray is named the official 2004 Texas State Musician.
 - Asleep at the Wheel launches its Pops program in performances with Austin and Dallas symphonies.
- 2005 A Ride with Bob: The Bob Wills Musical, co-written by Ray Benson and starring Ray and members of Asleep at the Wheel, debuts in Austin to coincide with Wills' 100th birthday. Through the year, further performances in four cities sell out and garner critical acclaim.
 - Band chosen for opening performance at inaugural Austin City Limits Festival and carry on the tradition annually.
- 2006 "A Ride with Bob" sells out the Kennedy Center, with **President and Mrs. George W. Bush** in attendance.
- 2007 Band releases Reinventing the Wheel, their first feature CD in several years.
 - Band hits the road for "Last of the Breed" Tour, featuring **Willie Nelson**, **Merle Haggard**, and **Ray Price**. Performance filmed for broadcast on PBS.
 - Ray serves as a judge on the ABC's Six Degrees of Martina McBride.
- 2008 Ray Benson awarded the TEC Les Paul Award honoring individuals or institutions that have set the highest standards of excellence in the creative application of recording technology.
 - Ray joins **Carrie Underwood** and **Rascal Flatts** for a musical tribute to Bob Wills on the 50th Annual GRAMMY $^{\text{\tiny{M}}}$ Awards telecast on CBS.
 - Then Presidential candidate **Barack Obama** joins Ray Benson on stage for a performance of "Boogie Back to Texas" at an Austin Fundraiser.
- 2009 Willie Nelson and Asleep at the Wheel release *Willie & The Wheel* and earn a GRAMMY[™] nomination for Best Americana Album the first time this category has ever appeared.
 - Americana Music Association honors Asleep at the Wheel with **Lifetime Achievement Award**.
- 2010 Band releases *It's* α Good Day with original Texas Playboy **Leon Rausch**.
- 2011 Ray Benson receives the Texas Medal of the Arts.
 - Ray Benson named Texan of the Year.
- 2015 Band makes their 11th appearance on Austin City Limits.
 - Band releases Still the King: Celebrating the Music of Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys, featuring 22 acclaimed collaborations.
 - Band is inducted into the **Austin City Limits Hall of Fame**, alongside Loretta Lynn, Guy Clark, Flaco Jiménez, and Townes Van Zandt.
- 2016 Still the King: Celebrating the Music of Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys wins the **GRAMMY™ for "Best Recording Package"** at the 58th annual awards ceremony.

"SPARKLING, FRESH AND LIVELY."

- Los Angeles Times





TUESDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 3, 7:30 PM SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2 PM & 7:30 PM SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1 PM

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Retty Woodman (American, 1930–), Pillow Pitcher, 1989, Porcelain, 22 x 20 t/2 x 18 in Gift of Joan E. Mannheimer, 1991-223, Cliefty Woodman

OCTOBER 8-DECEMBER 11, 2016
Black Box Theater, Iowa Memorial Union

Funding for this exhibition was provided by the Gerald Eskin Ceramics Art Initiative









October 2, 5-6Puppet State Theatre of Scotland, *The Man Who Planted Trees*





October 20
Step Afrika!, The Migration: Reflections of Jacob Lawrence





November 11 Chucho Valdés and Joe Lovano Quintet





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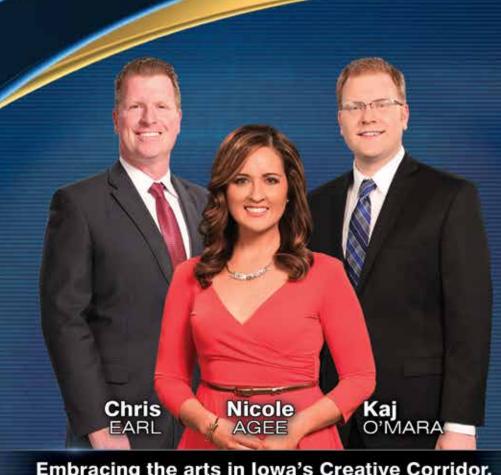
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Proceeds of all Showcase sales are used to support Hancher's educational programs.

The Showcase opens one hour prior to a performance's starting time and remains open through and after the performance.

The Showcase is also open on Wednesdays, from 10 am to 1 pm, and on Thursdays, from 4:30 to 7:30 pm, while the Stanley Café is open to the public for Thursday Nights at Hancher.

HOURS:

- One hour before performances, at intermission, and after performances
- Wednesdays 10 am-1 pm
- Thursdays 4:30–7:30 pm



HANCHER SHOWCASE







HANCHER AUDITORIUM UPCOMING EVENTS



1/20 The Cleveland Orchestra

1/27 Kyle Abraham/Abraham.In.Motion

1/31-2/5 The Sound of Music

2/8-9 Soil, conceived by Michael Sakamoto

2/11 The Ying Quartet with Billy Childs

2/16 Tanya Tagaq

in concert with Nanook of the North

2/25-26 MAMMA MIA!

3/3-4 Circus Oz



TICKETS

Order online hancher.uiowa.edu Call (319) 335-1160 or 800-HANCHER Accessibility Services (319) 335-1158 \$10 FOR MOST STUDENT TICKETS

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of lowa sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact Hancher in advance at (319) 335-1158.





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