



Synthesis

BYU



The Group

Synthesis combines swing, blues, jazz, Latin, and fusion styles into a dynamic, unforgettable musical experience. Comprised of some of Brigham Young University's most talented and versatile musicians, Synthesis features performers who also contribute as composers and arrangers. With a traditional big band lineup including saxophones, trombones, trumpets, and a full rhythm section of drums, bass, guitar, and piano, BYU Synthesis continues to captivate audiences globally with their vibrant and polished sound.

Honors

- In 2024, the group toured in Western Europe, where they performed in festivals, as well as participated in clinics with local high school musicians.
- In 2022, jazz legend Wynton Marsalis personally invited the group to perform at the prestigious Jack Rudin Jazz Championship, where they earned accolades for Best Trombone Section, Best Trumpet Section, and multiple Outstanding Soloist awards across the ensemble.
- In 2016, the group toured in the Baltic States, covering Estonia, Latvia Lithuania, Sweden and Finland. On tour, the group made history at the Saulkrasti Jazz Festival by playing multiple encores.

Since 1971

38

TOURS



365+

PERFORMANCES



22

COUNTRIES VISITED



193K+

AUDIENCE MEMBERS



50+

OUTREACHES



The Show

BYU Synthesis sweeps its audiences away into a world of Latin, blues, funk, and contemporary fusion, all blended to create a vibrant, crowd-pleasing spectacle. The program is fast-paced and engaging, often featuring original arrangements and student compositions that highlight the ensemble's creativity and depth. From seasoned jazz enthusiasts to newcomers, families, students, and community members, Synthesis has a tune for everyone. Each show is packed with musical variety, visual energy, and spotlight moments for individual soloists. The brilliance of the full ensemble's show is sure to keep attendees of all ages toe-tapping and humming along.

Recent Tours

- Argentina
- Netherlands, Germany, and Belgium
- Florida, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Cuba



Outreach Efforts

Synthesis builds bridges through workshops, school visits, community concerts, and international outreach. Its efforts include musicians conferences and campus events as well as performances at festivals, high school art departments.

As BYU's premier big band, Synthesis is equipped to:

- Teach jazz performance in schools, churches, and community centers
- Perform in festivals and competitions
- Participate in service-focused performances and outreach
- Collaborate with choirs, youth groups, and performing arts programs
- Present full or adapted shows for various audiences and venues

The BYU Synthesis jazz band performed always in an outstanding and very professional way... All performances terminated with requests for an encore... We will always keep a sweet memory of these days that we spent together.

Giuseppe Pasta
National Director of Public Affairs,
Italy



19.8K+

VIEWS



4.5K+

LISTENERS



300+

SUBSCRIBERS



Director Benjamin Nichols

- Doctor of Musical Arts Degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)
- Former Assistant Professor of Saxophone at the University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Frequent requests to play in wide array of genres
- Performer and recording artist with contemporaries such as Ben Wendel, Wycliffe Gordon, Jon Faddis, Jeff Coffin, Jeff Coffin, and others

Recent Releases

- "Orin"
- "Downtime: Live on Tour in the Baltic States and Scandinavia" (Album)
- "Flying High" (Album)



**Scan to stay
in touch with
BYU Synthesis!**

Artist Manager

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