

BIOGRAPHY

Butter and the Genre is a jazz band that blends the best of timeless influences with a fresh, inviting sound. Led by Gregory "Butter" Haubrich, the group is known for their seamless instrumental harmonies and the soulful voice of Calliope Staudt, creating music that captivates everyone from seasoned jazz lovers to those new to the genre. With their debut album, Music Is Life, on the horizon, the band is ready to share their vibrant sound with audiences far and wide.

Formed in December 2023, the band came together through a mix of talent from the University of Central Oklahoma's jazz scene and Oklahoma City's 51st Street Speakeasy. Calliope's stunning performance of "Bye Bye Blackbird" at a jazz jam sealed her place in the group, where her voice seamlessly blends with horns and rhythm section, becoming a defining element of the band's sound.

Drawing inspiration from jazz icons like Miles Davis and Ella Fitzgerald, alongside modern grooves from Earth, Wind & Fire, Butter and the Genre brings an energy that's lively, danceable, and impossible to ignore. Their mission is simple: create a fun, accessible musical experience that resonates with all listeners, no matter their background. What truly sets this band apart is their dynamic teamwork. "We're more than just good players—everyone in the band sings, which adds a whole new layer to our sound," says Butter. With performances at well-known venues like Vast, 51st Street Speakeasy, and the Nigh Center for the Performing Arts, Butter and the Genre is already making waves. Their upcoming album, Music Is Life, engineered by Chris McKinley, captures the energy and emotion of their live performances, bringing their sound to life in a whole new way.

The band's dedication extends beyond the stage. Committed to giving back, they regularly perform at nursing homes and care centers, sharing their love for music with people of all ages. And they're not stopping there. Butter and the Genre has big plans, including expanding their music into films, TV, and advertising. As Butter himself puts it, "We're never static. Every time you hear us, there's something new."

More than just a band, Butter and the Genre is a collective of musicians who believe in the power of music to connect, uplift, and inspire. Whether they're playing an intimate gig or lighting up a festival stage, they bring a joyful, soulful energy that stays with you long after the last note fades. With Music Is Life nearing completion and exciting plans on the horizon, Butter and the Genre is set to leave a lasting mark on the jazz world—and beyond.

SNEAK PEEK: MUSIC IS LIFE



Exclusive Preview

Get a first listen to select tracks from Butter and the Genre's upcoming debut album, Music Is Life.

This pre-release demo offers a taste of the band's musical versatility, highlighting a range of moods and textures—from upbeat and danceable rhythms to smooth, soulful melodies.

Click here to listen to the preview of Music Is Life and experience the sound that's set to make waves in the jazz world.

TRACK S INCLUDE:

- Music Is Life Energetic, upbeat, and soulful
- World Of Joy And Pain Danceable and full of energy
- I Believed In You Smooth, slow-tempo, soulful
- So Cool, So Blue Cool, smooth, and reflective

Love what you hear? Stay tuned for the full album release and live performances near you!

MEET THE GENRE



GREGORY "BUTTER" HAUBRICH

TRUMPET, CORNET, KEYS, VOCALS



NICK TRAN



ALEX CHAPMAN

UPRIGHT BASS, ELECTRIC BASS, VOCALS



CADEN LOVELACE

PIANO AND VOCAL



JERON FISHBURN

TENOR SAX, FLUTE, VOCALS



CALLIOPE STAUDT

VOCALESE

GREGORY "BUTTER" HAUBRICH

TRUMPET, CORNET, KEYS, VOCALS

Growing up on a Minnesota farm, music might not have seemed like the obvious path, but for Butter, it became an essential part of his life early on. He started with piano and cornet at age 8, then added trumpet by 10. With a natural talent for crafting melodies and pairing them with seamless lyrics, Butter has spent decades writing and recording music that feels both organic and intentional.

After a 25-year break focused on marriage, family, and a legal career, Butter's passion for music was reignited when a friend invited him to join a garage band. Then, during a jog with Miles Davis' "All Blues" in his head, he realized, "You can play this music." Since that moment, he has fully committed to jazz.

At 70, Butter returned to college to study jazz theory at the University of Central Oklahoma. Under Dr. Michael Geib's guidance, he learned to write charts and communicate his musical vision. These connections led to the formation of Butter and the Genre, a band that has thrived ever since.

Though rooted in jazz, Butter's sound draws from a wide range of genres like funk, country, blues, and pop. His music, influenced by legends like Miles Davis, John Coltrane, and Frank Sinatra, is accessible even to non-jazz listeners, resonating with diverse audiences.

One of Butter's most unforgettable performances was in 1975 in Madras, India, with the Anglo-Indian band "The Avengers." As they played Herbie Hancock's "Chameleon," a crowd of 3,000 gathered around the stage, mesmerized by the new sound.

Butter is dedicated to bringing people together through music. Whether on a small or big stage, his performances are joyful, soulful, and always heartfelt. His philosophy? "Music is life, that's what I know. I'm takin' it with me wherever I go."

Now fully immersed in his music career, Butter continues to push creative boundaries, blending decades of experience with the fresh energy of his band, delivering performances that resonate deeply with audiences everywhere.



CALLIOPE STAUDT

VOCALESE

Calliope Staudt is the soulful voice behind Butter and the Genre. With a background in Vocal Performance from the University of Central Oklahoma, she's no stranger to exploring different styles of music. From opera and musicals to jazz festivals and private gigs, her versatility shines through every performance.

For Calliope, jazz is a creative playground. "Vocal jazz is like the Wild West for me! Anything goes as long as it fits the music." This openness fuels performances that are both emotionally rich and technically skilled.

Inspired by Ella Fitzgerald, Astrud Gilberto, and Natalie Cole, she treats her voice like a wind instrument, aiming to blend seamlessly with the band's horns and saxophones. This unique approach makes her a vital part of the band's signature sound.

Calliope is a dedicated music educator, performing for children with Painted Sky Opera and teaching at School of Rock. Whether she's on stage, in the classroom, or writing her own music, her goal is always to create meaningful connections. "For me, music is about bringing people together—it's the glue that bonds us," she says.

When she's not performing or teaching, Calliope enjoys spending time with family, cooking, or staying active at the gym.

For her, creating community through music is at the heart of being a true musician. Her performances, whether of "Harlem Nocturne" or "World of Joy and Pain," are rich in emotion and storytelling—what she strives for every time she sings.

Driven by the joy of creation and the endless potential for growth, Calliope connects deeply with both her audience and fans. "Music is a lifelong pursuit—you're never truly finished," she says.

With a voice as versatile as it is powerful, Calliope continues to push boundaries and explore new musical landscapes. And with Butter and the Genre, she's found the perfect place to do just that.



ALEX CHAPMAN

UPRIGHT BASS, ELECTRIC BASS, VOCALS

Alex Chapman, bassist for Butter and the Genre, is a versatile musician whose passion for music has shaped his journey. He began with piano lessons and performing in a youth "song and dance" group but quickly found his true calling in the electric bass and guitar—both of which he taught himself. Music has always been a joyful outlet for Alex, and as he grew older, jazz became his focus, drawn by its complexity, improvisation, and rich history. This passion led him to study jazz at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) under Dr. Michael Geib.

With experience in jazz, gospel, rock, and classical, Alex has developed a versatile style that adapts to various genres. His technical expertise and ability to thrive in diverse musical settings have shaped his unique sound. Influenced by bass legends like Jaco Pastorius and jazz icons like Freddie Hubbard and Chet Baker, Alex moves seamlessly between musical environments. Whether performing with elite jazz ensembles or collaborating in choral, opera, symphony, or theater productions, his playing is rooted in skill and a love for music.

A highlight of Alex's career was performing in the Broadway production of Footloose. Shifting to a rock style challenged him to adapt quickly, demonstrating his ability to handle any genre with ease. This versatility sets him apart, allowing him to thrive in any musical setting and emphasizing the importance of adaptability.

As an original member of Butter & The Genre, Alex plays a key role in the band's rhythm section, which he calls "the engine that pulls the train." The recording sessions for their debut album are among Alex's most memorable experiences. Watching each band member contribute their unique talents was a powerful reminder of their creativity and commitment, deepening his appreciation for their shared musical journey.

Outside of Butter & The Genre, Alex regularly performs in Oklahoma City with his jazz group, The Alex Chapman Sextet. Whether playing jazz at venues like the 51st Street Speakeasy or gospel in local churches, Alex sees music as more than a career—it's a lifelong journey. Driven by creativity and the joy of playing, he sums it up: "Musicians play to live, and live to play."

CADEN LOVELACE

PIANIST

Caden Lovelace brings a unique blend of passion, creativity, and musical versatility to Butter and the Genre. Raised on Bach harp concertos from the age of two, his musical journey began in choir at age 9, followed by classical piano lessons at age 10. Driven by a desire to master his craft, he's been evolving ever since, adding layers of jazz, pop, and even Latin influences to his playing style. Caden's love for jazz is inspired by the rich sounds of Miles Davis, Ella Fitzgerald, and John Coltrane, combined with the modern grooves of Earth, Wind & Fire. As he describes it, Butter and the Genre's music is "adult pop jazz"—an approach that keeps the music both accessible and danceable. Caden also loves adding his own 'spunky' ideas and arrangements to the band, often transforming familiar standards into something fresh, with influences from hip-hop to Latin jazz, and he's always ready to surprise the audience.

An avid composer and arranger, Caden works on music beyond Butter and the Genre, collaborating with his R&B group MaiGUY, and constantly experimenting with new sounds. His openness to blending styles and embracing the unexpected brings an energetic twist to the band's performances. For him, it's about giving each tune new life, whether it's switching up a rhythm or adding a unique beat, which he believes grabs listeners' attention and keeps things interesting. Beyond the stage, Caden is passionate about giving back. Inspired by workshops like those led by jazz saxophonist Patrick Bartley, he hopes to help the next generation of musicians find their voice. He participates in community performances with the band and believes that sharing music in spaces like nursing homes is one of the most meaningful ways to connect with audiences.

Despite the occasional burnout after intense performances, Caden's love for music is unwavering. His philosophy? "Keep learning new music and styles so you can always be ready for the next call." Whether playing a solo set at JRB Art at The Elms gallery or collaborating with the Butter and the Genre rhythm section, Caden's dedication and playful approach have made him an irreplaceable part of the band's signature sound. His favorite moments on stage? Bringing songs like "Coimbatore" to life, where a mix of Latin and swing feels never fails to make him—and the audience—smile. With his sights set on seeing Butter and the Genre expand to new venues, record more albums, and reach cross-generational fans, Caden is excited about the journey ahead. His vision is clear: to keep the music vibrant, relatable, and a little bit surprising, for both the band and everyone who hears them.

NICK TRAN

DRUMS

Nick Tran's journey into music is as natural as it is inspiring. Growing up surrounded by music of all kinds, Nick explored his creative side early, playing guitar, singing in choirs, and even dabbling in musical theatre. But it wasn't until college that he found his true rhythm—literally—when he picked up the drumsticks during a jam session. That moment sparked a passion that has defined his path ever since.

From an early fascination with blues legends like Howlin' Wolf and Robert Johnson to a growing love for jazz in high school, Nick's musical influences run deep. Inspired by the improvisational spirit of jazz greats like Wes Montgomery, Miles Davis, and Charles Mingus, he began exploring the genre with curiosity and intention. A friendship with a talented saxophonist introduced him to artists like John Coltrane and Charlie Parker, while Art Blakey's iconic grooves and solos shaped his drumming style and approach to rhythm.

As the drummer for Butter and the Genre, Nick's role is clear: lay down a solid rhythm and bring the band's sound to life. His focus on feel and musicality makes him an essential part of the group's dynamic performances. One of his favorite experiences was performing at the Juneteenth Festival, a moment that underscored the band's ability to connect with their community through music. Nick's talents extend beyond Butter and the Genre. He plays with an indie rock band called Only Child, performs in a student jazz quartet at the University of Oklahoma, and works as a sideman in the Oklahoma City music scene. These projects showcase his versatility and commitment to collaborating with diverse artists.

Driven by the motto "Eyes up, ears open," Nick approaches music with openness and dedication. Whether he's practicing, performing, or connecting with fans who are curious about his craft, he's always striving to grow and create meaningful musical moments. Outside of music, Nick enjoys spending time with friends and family and expanding his musical horizons through listening and experimentation.

Nick Tran's drumming is the pulse that brings Butter and the Genre together. With a focus on creating good music with good people, his journey is a testament to passion, collaboration, and the power of rhythm.



JAZZ BAND



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