

# Rising jazz star visits PSU

By Meghan Micciolo  
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Some people like traditional jazz: For everyone else, the Center for Performing Arts has a new option.

Contemporary jazz will come to State College with the performance of the Taylor Eigsti Trio and Becca Stevens in the annual Center for Performing Arts 2010 Jazz Presentation.

"We like to have a blend of new artists that are young and upcoming and also more established artists," said John Mark Rafacz, editorial manager for the Center for Performing Arts. "Taylor Eigsti, who just turned 26, is definitely the most famous of his generation and is perfect for the presentation."

Eigsti's contemporary jazz is a blend of traditional, pop and rock music, Rafacz said. He revamped music from popular singer/songwriters, like Imogen Heap and Feist, Rafacz said.

## If you go

**What:** Taylor Eigsti Trio with Becca Stevens' Jazz performance

**When:** 7:30 p.m. Oct. 12

**Where:** Schwab Auditorium

**Details:** Tickets cost \$28 for an adult, \$15 for a University Park student and \$21 for a person 18 and younger

"My main goal, as a performer, is to bring people closer to my generation into improvise music," Eigsti said.

Jazz performances are different 100 percent of the time, with musicians interacting differently each show, Eigsti said.

"I want to change people's ideas about jazz," Eigsti said.

"I got into jazz because you can make things up 99 percent of the time."

Eigsti said he wants to show people who don't like traditional jazz a different version.

"My iPod has music from my generation," Eigsti said. "To play their music, it feels like I'm bridging the gap from what I listen to and what I play."

Christopher Brown, who is a part of Eigsti's generation, said he really enjoys jazz music.

"There are so many different types of jazz. Anyone can find something they enjoy," Brown (graduate-music performance) said. "You can listen to it when you're angry, sad or happy because it comes in so many forms."

Brown, who plans on attending the performance, said he likes all types of music but jazz sticks with him.

"Jazz is a way of expressing yourself that's better than words," Brown said.

Sofia DeLousia (senior-music education) also said music can be



Courtesy of tayjazz.com

Taylor Eigsti will perform at the Schwab Auditorium Tuesday night with Becca Stevens as part of Center of Performing Arts 2010 Jazz Presentation.

enjoyed by kids and adults alike.

"I do pre-student teaching with elementary students and we did a movement activity with jazz music

and the kids were really into it," DeLousia said.

"They moved well to the rhythm and beat."

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