



Hall of Fame Inductee

Name: FRANK PEROWSKY

Instrument: Saxophone

Year Inducted: 2009

As a teenager in Des Moines, Frank Perowsky's mother would take him to hear the big bands at the various ballrooms around town and on Center Street. Those experiences fueled Frank's interest in jazz, and with tenor saxophone in hand he soon began playing with Don Hoy, Ralph Zarnow and other local dance bands while attending Roosevelt High School. Upon graduating from high school, Perowsky attended Julliard School of Music which led to a 50-plus year in the music industry that included working with Jimmy Dorsey, Fred Waring, Woody Herman and other jazz and swing bands, leading his own combos and big bands, and accompanied singers like Peggy Lee, Mel Torme, Liza Minnelli and Nancy Wilson.

Several years ago he recorded an album, "Bop On Pop" for his record label, JazzKey, that featured his son, drummer Ben Perowsky. Although he moved away from Des Moines in the 1950s, he has kept up with the Des Moines scene, befriending players young and old on his frequent visits to his hometown.

