

Blue Moon Big Band Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: What is the Blue Moon Club and how do I become a member?

A1: The Blue Moon Club offers discounts on CD purchases and other benefits. Plus, you can get a free CD just by joining. [Go to the Club page](#) for more information.

Q2: How many members are in Blue Moon Big Band?

A2: The standard line-up comprises 13 horns, a three-piece rhythm section, a featured (female) vocalist, and the band leader. We can also add a second (male) vocalist if requested.

Q3: How will I know if Blue Moon can physically fit into our venue?

A3: You may be surprised how comfortably a swing orchestra can fit onto seemingly small stages and performance sites. If you're familiar with places such as the Peabody Library in Baltimore, the Country Club of York (PA), or the Washington Golf & Country Club in Arlington, VA, we've played there and the setting works great! If you're still concerned with our physical set-up, contact Rob Leonard at the email address below and he will arrange to meet with you at the proposed site and go over the set-up with you before you make a decision!
bandleader@bluemoonbigband.com

Q4: How far will the band travel for an event?

A4: To date, we have played in Maryland, Washington D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New York. But, that doesn't mean we won't travel farther. Contact us and find out! Some of the more noteworthy venues at which we have performed include:

- Annapolis Marriott Waterfront (Annapolis, MD)
- Antrim Inn (Taneytown, MD)
- Arlington Country Club (Arlington, VA)
- Baltimore Convention Center (Baltimore, MD)
- Baltimore Garrett Museum (Baltimore, MD)
- Baltimore Hilton (Baltimore, MD)
- Baltimore Museum of Industry (Baltimore, MD)
- Baltimore Waterfront Marriott (Baltimore, MD)
- Bavarian Inn (Shepherdstown, WV)
- Blue Ridge Country Club (Harrisburg, PA)
- Boordy Vineyards (Glen Arm, MD)
- B&O Railroad Museum (Baltimore, MD)
- Carroll Country Farm Museum (Westminster, MD)
- Carroll County Arts Council (Westminster, MD)
- Celebrations at the Bay (Pasadena, MD)
- Ceresville Mansion (Frederick, MD)
- Chevy Chase Country Club (Chevy Chase, MD)
- Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington, D.C.)
- Country Club of York (York, PA)
- DuPont Country Club (Wilmington, DE)
- Eichelberger Performing Arts Center (Hanover, PA)
- Evergreen Carriage House (Baltimore, MD)
- Felicita Resort (Harrisburg, PA)
- Gettysburg Hotel (Gettysburg, PA)
- Gray Rock Mansion (Baltimore, MD)
- Hagerstown Community College (Hagerstown, MD)
- Harbor Court Grand Ballroom (Baltimore, MD)
- Hillendale Country Club (Baltimore, MD)
- Hotel Monaco (Washington, D.C.)
- Inner Harbor Renaissance Hotel (Baltimore, MD)
- Kent Manor Inn (Easton, MD)
- Loew's Annapolis (Annapolis, MD)
- Marriott Pier 5 Hotel (Baltimore, MD)
- Maryland Club (Baltimore, MD)

- Merriweather Post Pavilion (Columbia, MD)
- Meyerhoff Theater at the Baltimore Museum of Art (Baltimore, MD)
- Morningside Inn (Libertytown, MD)
- Mt. Vernon Inn (Alexandria, VA)
- National Aquarium (Baltimore, MD)
- National Public Radio (Little Rock, AR)
- Naylor Wine Cellars (Stewartstown, PA)
- Nissley Vineyards (Bainbridge, PA)
- Oasis Winery (Hume, VA)
- Oella Lions Club (Ellicott City, MD)
- Old Ebbits Grill (Washington, D.C.)
- Old South Country Club (Lothian, MD)
- Oregon Ridge (Hunt Valley, MD)
- Oxon Hill Manor (Oxon Hill, MD)
- Parkville American Legion (Parkville, MD)
- Pimlico Race Track (Baltimore, MD)
- Potomac Boat Club (Washington, D.C.)
- Radisson Lord Baltimore Grand Ballroom (Baltimore, MD)
- Ritz Carlton (Tysons Corner, VA)
- Rockfield Manor (Bel Air, MD)
- Rolling Road Country Club (Catonsville, MD)
- Rolling Rock Country Club (Ligonier, PA)
- Ronald Reagan International Trade Center (Washington, D.C.)
- Salisbury State University (Salisbury, MD)
- Sheraton Barcel Hotel (Annapolis, MD)
- Sheraton Inner Harbor (Baltimore, MD)
- St. Johns College of Annapolis (Annapolis, MD)
- Strong Mansion (Sugarloaf Mountain, MD)
- Swing 46 Jazz & Supper Club (New York, NY)
- Ten Oaks Ballroom (Clarksville, MD)
- The Arbor Ballroom (Washington, D.C.)
- The Belvedere (Baltimore, MD)
- The Cloisters (Baltimore, MD)
- The Engineers Club (Baltimore, MD)
- The Gramercy Mansion (Greenspring Valley, MD)
- The Pikesville Hilton (Pikesville, MD)
- The Union Club (New York, NY)
- Visionary Arts Museum (Baltimore, MD)
- Washington County Fine Arts Museum (Hagerstown, MD)
- Washington Golf & Country Club (Arlington, VA)
- WMAR Studios (Baltimore, MD)

Q5: Do you play music other than Swing?

A5: We are a 1940s style Big Band. We prefer to play swing music all night long, but we often receive requests for special songs (particularly at wedding receptions and similar events) that are not of the genre. If you have a special request for a song that is not in our library, we will either attempt to find an arrangement suitable to a big band or we will make an effort to write the song ourselves! Either way, we want you to be completely satisfied.

Q6: What are your other groups all about?

A6: [Li'l Bit of Blue](#) is a jazz, blues, and swing ensemble, comprising any combination of a 2-4 piece rhythm section, optional horns, and vocals. Li'l Bit of Blue can perform for an entire event or as a set-up group for the full orchestra. Our partner groups include Big Band Caliente (full-sized Latin-infused swing orchestra) and Blue Caliente (the smaller version of Big Band Caliente).

Q7: Where can I see the band perform?

A7: Many of our engagements are for private affairs and corporate events. However, we try to keep as many "open to the public" performances on the schedule as possible. Keep tuned in to the site to [see us swing!](#)

Q8: Can I buy recordings of Blue Moon Big Band?

A8: Yes! We have six recordings available from Blue Moon Big Band and one solo album from vocalist Teresa Leonard. Our 2008 release, "*Blue Moon Big Band Caught in the Act: 10th Anniversary Celebration Live at Naylor Wine Cellars*," includes more than 2 and a half hours of entertainment and captures the excitement of the band in a live performance setting. Our 2007 release, "*The Polar Bear's Pajamas*," has been reviewed by radio stations around the country as our finest recording. The 2003 release, "*Baby, it's Cold Outside: A Swingin' Christmas Collection from Blue Moon Big Band and Friends*," boasts 31 big band, jazz, and blues tracks on two CDs or cassettes. The 2001 recording in the Blue Moon collection is "*Nice Work if You Can Get It*," which packs in 20 swing, big band, jazz, and blues titles. Included are songs from the libraries of Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Glen Gray and the Cosa Loma Orchestra, Hoagy Carmichael, Peggy Lee, Bobby Darin, and others. Our 1999 CD, "*Swingin' Live!*" includes both '40s and '90s swing and big band music, including cuts from artists such as Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, Natalie Cole, Brian Setzer, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, the Cherry Poppin' Daddies, and more! Our 1998 studio release, "*Things Ain't What They Used to Be*," contains 16 songs and an hour's worth of music. Teresa's 2004 solo release, "*The Child in Me*," comprises 18 songs including light jazz, standards, and lullabies.

Q9: How much does it cost to hire Blue Moon Big Band or Li'l Bit of Blue?

A9: It really depends upon how far we have to travel and how many hours you want us to play at your event. Keep in mind, though, that the music Blue Moon plays was written for a big band, not for an 8- or 9-piece ensemble. Don't be fooled by "half-sized" bands claiming to play big band music. It's important to understand that if you want real swing music, the full orchestra is the way to go. But, if you're looking for jazz, blues, and light swing, the Li'l Bit of Blue trio or quintet will work perfectly for your event. Regardless of what you're looking for, always ask for a recording or (better yet) to see a band *BEFORE* you hire them.

Q10: What does it cost to be on Blue Moon's mailing list?

A10: Absolutely nothing! Just complete the mailing list form on our web site and we'll sign you up today – no dues, no expense. We only want to see you in our audience some day soon!

Q11: Does Blue Moon have any apparel for sale with their cool logo on it?

A11: We have custom-made windshirts and baseball jerseys, and can also arrange to have our logo embroidered on just about any other clothing item (polos, denims, workout apparel, shorts, T's) as well as many types of fabrics such as scarves, tablecloths, towels, and more! Some items can be ordered through our order stuff page right from the web site. Otherwise, just drop an email to <mailto:bandleader@bluemoonbigband.com> to let us know what you're looking for, and in what sizes! Or, call us at 410.756.2473 301.639.0770 and we'll get you set up with Blue Moon gear right away.

Q12: Has the band appeared in any movies or on any television / radio programs?

A12: The band was selected to appear in the feature film, *My One and Only*, starring Renee Zellweger, Kevin Bacon, and Chris Noth, which is scheduled to premier in 2009. Filming took place during the summer of 2008. With regard to television and radio, we have been privileged to appear on several of each over the years. In all, over 60 radio stations across the U.S. have played the music of Blue Moon Big Band.

Radio programs have included:

● National Public Radio's "Swingin' Down the Lane" – a 1-hour feature broadcast dedicated solely to the music of Blue Moon Big Band – aired during the week of May 13, 2002 on over 40 stations across the U.S., including: WRWA-Dothan / WHIL-Mobile / WTSU-Troy (Alabama); KBRW-Barrow / KHNS-Haines / KMXT-Kodiak / KUHB-St. Paul Island / KSTK-Wrangell (Alaska); KASU-Jonesboro / KUAR-Little Rock (Arkansas); KUAZ-Tucson / KAWC-Yuma (Arizona); KAAT-Oakhurst (California); WUGA-Athens / WWGC-Carrollton (Georgia); KRIC-Rexburg (Idaho); WQUB-Quincy (Illinois); KDTH-Dubuque (Iowa); KANZ-Garden City / KZNA-Hill City (Kansas); WUKY-Lexington (Kentucky); KEDM-Monroe (Louisiana); KMSK-Austin / KMSU-Mankato / KOAL-Winona (Minnesota); WZRU-Roanoke Rapids (North Carolina); KSJE-Farmington / KMTH-Maljamar / KENW-Portales (New Mexico) / WHPC-Garden City (New York); WMCO-New Concord (Ohio); KCCU-Altus, Ardmore, & Lawton / KGOU-Norman / KROU-Oklahoma City (Oklahoma); KMUN-Astoria (Oregon); WETS-Johnson City (Tennessee); KACU-Abilene / KAMU-College Station / KBMH-Harlingen / KNCT-Killeen / KHID-McAllen / KOCV-Odessa / KTXK-TeXarkana (Texas); WVLS-Monterey (Virginia); KLSU-LaCrosse (Wisconsin)

Additional radio stations that have played our music include:

- WBNR "Big Band Breakfast" (Beacon, NY)
- KEDM "Mostly Big Bands" (Monroe, LA)
- KAAM (Irving, TX)

- WYPR "In the Mood" (Baltimore, MD)
- WWLG "Legends Radio" (Baltimore, MD)
- WTHU "The Sounds of Jazz" (Thurmont, MD)

Feature Film and Television performances have included:

- *My One and Only* – 2009 feature film – (Baltimore, MD)
- The Wake Up Baltimore Show – in 1998 and 1999 – (Baltimore, MD)
- The Rodrick's for Breakfast Show (Baltimore, MD), where we served as the house band for a live 1940s style Christmas special filmed at the Baltimore Museum of Art.

Q13: Who's the most famous performer Blue Moon has ever worked with?

A13: In the summer of 2008, Blue Moon Big Band was selected to appear in the feature film, *My One and Only*, starring Renee Zellweger, [Kevin Bacon](#), and Chris Noth. We had the opportunity to work very closely with Kevin Bacon in particular during filming for the 2009 release, as he played the part of the band's leader. A close second is from our December 1998 appearance on the Baltimore-based *Rodricks for Breakfast* show, where jazz legend Cyrus Chestnut unexpectedly sat in on *The Way You Look Tonight* and it was magic! And to top things off, the great Ethel Ennis appeared on the same show.



"The entertainment should be a reflection of your good taste... why not shoot for the moon?"

