

## **Musical Artists Who Have Performed at Midway Gardens/Ballroom**

### **1920s**

Unknown-No documents reveal any artists. If Paul's Pier Pavilion was an early name for Midway, then they had their own band known as Paul Pier Pirates.

### **1930s**

An advertisement from 1925 shows a Billy Adair and two great orchestras.

Lucius Millinder's Cotton Club Orchestra, Mgr. Smitty and his Orchestra,

Howard Smith Orchestra, and Tony Pastor.

### **1940s**

Ken Nowlan, Mickey Isely, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Tony Pastor, Les Elgart,

Pee Wee Hunt, Clyde "Stumpy" Brown, Butch Stone, Harry James, Bill Harris,

Sam Donahue, Susan Maro, Tiny Hill, Clyde McCoy, Gene Krupa and Les Brown.

### **1950s**

Tex Beneke, Don Adams, Sauter-Finnegan Orchestra, Gene Victor, Chuck Granger, Boyd

Bennett and His Rockets, The Cavaliers, Johnnie Scat Davis, The Commanders, Mickey Isely,

Jim Lounsbury, Billy May Orchestra, Eddy Howard and Orchestra, The Diamonds, Buddy

Pressner, Richard Maltby, Stan Kenton, Pat De Mure, Frank Yankovic, Li'l Wally, Ray

McKinley, Glenn Miller Band, Ralph Marterie, Ina Ray Hutton's All Girl Band, Buddy

Morrow, "Chubby Jackson," Woody Herman, Jerry Fifer Band, "The Statesmen,"

Chuck Foster, Renold Young, Pee Wee King, Little Ella Long, Neal Burris, Del Wood,

Porter Wagoner Trio and Band, The Diplomats, Jimmy Palmer, Bob Smith, Gene Krupa

Johnny Bomba, and Coleen Dufour.

## **1960s**

Bobby Rydell, the Everly Brothers, the Beach Boys, the Buckingham, the Kingsmen, Blue Angels, Val-Tino-Wayne Orchestra, Michael Leonard Duo, The Aristocrats, Curley Mottinger, Little Peggy March, Joey Day and the Nitetymes, Les Elgart, the Omens, Mike Caldwell, Nancy Little, John Tataran, Tommy Trayne, Hal Morris Orchestra, The Al Belletto Sextet, The Playboys, Eagles Brothers Band, Warner Brothers Combo, "The Fabulous Nitecaps," Russ Carlyle, Stan Kenton, The Green Bair Boys, Billy Saier, Bob Carey, Joan Meyer, The Troubadors 3, Dmitri and Daniel, Lanny Mack, Dick Sterling Quartet, Wee Three Trio, Bob Edwards, Gidget and the Nu Horizons, T.J. Combo, "The Corsairs," Johnny and the Hurricanes, Renee and the Del Mars, and Dynamic Trio.

## **1970s**

Jim Ed Brown, Nat Stuckey, Peggy Little, Tommy Overstreet, Dave Dudley, Johnny Paycheck, Barbara Mandrell, Mel Tillis, Conway Twitty, Waylon Jennings, Del Reeves and the Good Time Charlies, Al and Diane Trio, Jimmy Charlton Country Review, Dottie West, "The Stonemans," Little Jimmy Dickens, Ray Pillow, Hank Thompson, Jack Greene, George Morgan, Bob Luman, Slim Whitman, Jack Cotton and the Southern Connection, Tommy Cash, Doyle Holly, and Faron Young.

## **1980s**

Rory Gallagher, Centerfold, Survivor, Steppenwolf, Iron Butterfly, The Guess Who, Fayrewether, The Kind, Rare Earth, Foghat, SGT. Roxx, Monarch, the Gruesomes, Grand Funk Railroad, Clearlight, Billy Pilgrim Band, Passage, Archer, Bittersweet, Pawnz, (Local NW Indiana band) Runner, Gimmix, Arion and Street Level.

**\*Note:** These are the artists that are confirmed by sources that they were at Midway Gardens/  
Ballroom. One source does not give years that some artists were here so they were put in the  
time when they were most popular and most likely to have performed. Unfortunately,  
other artists listed that are claimed by others to have performed at Midway cannot be  
confirmed because documentation to support them is lacking.

## References

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Band Chirps.

n.d. Les Brown. <https://bandchirps.com/band/les-brown/>

*Cash Box*.

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Dance at Paul's Pier Pavilion [Advertisement].

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Dance Sat. Night March 18 at the Midway Ballroom [Advertisement].

1961 *Hammond Times*. (17 March): 39.

Dance Tonite with Lucius Millinder and His Cotton Club Orchestra [Advertisement].

1931 *Lake County Times*. (6 June): 8.

"Dancing on the Lake" Midway Gardens Dance Pavilion [Advertisement].

1940 *Hammond Times*. (18 July): 52.

Dancing Over the Water [Advertisement].

1952 *Hammond Times*. (13 June): 26.

Decca Records Great New Dance Orchestra [Advertisement].

1955 *Hammond Times*. (26 June): 40.

Dick Sterling Quartet-Midway Ballroom [Advertisement].

1963 *Hammond Times*. (25 October): 36.

Discogs.

n.d. Les Elgart. <https://www.discogs.com/artist/1058636-Les-Elgart>

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1956 *Hammond Times*. (22 July): 35.

Grand Opening Midway Ballroom [Advertisement].

1952 *Hammond Times*. (29 May): 10.

The Hal Morris Agency [Advertisement].

1961 *Hammond Times*. (30 June): 48.

The Hal Morris Entertainment Agency Presents Your Calumet Area Entertainment Guide [Advertisement].

1961 *Hammond Times*. (24 March): 38.

The Hal Morris Entertainment Agency Presents Your Calumet Area Entertainment Guide [Advertisement].

1961 *Hammond Times*. (29 September): 36.

In Person! "America's Polka King" Frank Yankovic and his Orchestra [Advertisement].

1955 *Hammond Times*. (18 August): 41.

Jimmy Palmer and His Hi-Fi Recording [Advertisement].

1956 *Hammond Times*. (29 July): 34.

Johnnie Scat Davis [Advertisement].

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n.d. *Region Rock Memories*. <http://regionrockmemories.com/html>

Midway Ballroom [Advertisement].

1955 *Hammond Times*. (17 July): 36.

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Midway Ballroom [Advertisement].

1966 *Hammond Times*. (1 July): 13.

Midway Ballroom [Advertisement].

1966 *Hammond Times*. (5 August): 33.

Midway Ballroom [Advertisement].

1968 *Hammond Times*. (23 August): 27.

Midway Ballroom Brings You. . . by Request Richard Maltby [Advertisement].

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Midway Ballroom-Cedar Lake-Curley Mottinger [Advertisement].

1961 *Hammond Times*. (28 July): 38.

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Midway Ballroom Coming Sat., Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> [Advertisement].

1963    *Hammond Times*. (8 August): 33.

Midway Ballroom Lounge [Advertisement].

1963    *Hammond Times*. (29 November): 59.

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Midway Ballroom Presents Entertainment Nitely in the Lounge [Advertisement].

1963    *Hammond Times*. (16 August): 34.

Midway Ballroom Presents the Beach Boys [Advertisement].

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Tonight and Saturday Don Adams Orch. [Advertisement].

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Tonite Woody Herman [Advertisement].

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