

Client Comments over the years to current

Some Direct Email Comments:

DJ Garland Nelson Wedding: December 30

“Hi Garland,

Thank you so much for all your hard work and effort in making Tommy and Sariah's reception such a success! It was so fun and enjoyed by all!! Having someone at the helm to guide is key, and you were the person. Music, in my opinion, is what makes these type of events come alive or not - and I'll just say all were engaged that night - if not up on the dance floor, they enjoyed watching those that were. Thank you for making it a night for all to kick back and have some fun !!! On a personal level I'll share that one of the things I was most looking forward to was DANCING at the reception-- and that was DELIVERED through your music!!!! I thank you for that!!

Best,
Denise” – Mother of the Groom

Soul Session Wedding: October 16

“Dear Garland,

Thank you so much for being a part of our wedding day! We loved getting to work with you to finally bring the party to life. From the ceremony to cocktail hour and the reception and late night Dj'ing, you absolutely killed it. The special shoutouts for our parents help with my dad's speech and just your attention to detail meant so much to us. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We appreciate your help with creating unforgettable moments that will last a lifetime.

With love, Tori & Jason

Soul Session Wedding: October 2

“Garland,

I don't have enough words for you! You are an extraordinary human being and deliver joy everywhere you go. I had so many people call me after the wedding to say they couldn't stop singing and smiling...that's all YOU! Well, maybe some Papa Tony as well. He is a local celebrity now and can always say, " Yea, I sang on stage with Garland." THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Blessed to know you:)

Love,
Barb

Mother of the Bride (To God be the Glory)

“Dear Garland,

What else can we say expect a giant THANK YOU for everything that you have done for us and our wedding. You are a true professional, and your experience and poise, both as an organizer and as a musician, gave us tremendous confidence and an air of comfort during our celebration. Everyone (seriously) raved about you and your band's performance. We had so much fun singing and dancing with you on stage; we just felt like the luckiest people in the world that night, and we have you to thank for it! You are a truly kind and humble individual, and we were honored to share your presence on our wedding day. We hope you are staying safe and healthy, and we look forward to catching you around town next time in Saratoga. Happy Holiday!

Peace & Love, Will Nicole (Couple)

Soul Session Wedding: October 1

Hey Garland!
Hope you are doing well.

Craig and I wanted to reach out to express our gratitude and thanks for everything leading up to/on the day of our wedding. Having a band at our wedding was something we were set on from the very beginning of the planning process and once we connected with you, we knew that you would be able to bring our vision to life! It was such a fun time working closely together over the past few months (and really for like two (!!)) years) and we are still on cloud 9 from the entire day.

You personally went above and beyond to ensure that everything we discussed became a reality. From the ceremony, to cocktail hour, and the reception, everything was incredible. We laughed, we cried, we danced, we rapped (LOL) and enjoyed every single minute of the night - you and the amazing Soul Session Band were a very big part of that!

We also wanted to thank you so much for the drop box photo and video - so cool! And I have to say, I still have friends and family reaching out about the wedding saying how amazing the band was - you truly put the night over the top.

We look forward to our paths crossing again in the future!

All the best,
Alyssa and Craig”

Soul Session Wedding: September 26

“Dear Garland,

We can't thank you enough for being a part our wedding day! We are so appreciative of all that you did in preparing us for the big day and then day of. You truly went above and beyond with the videos, the ceremony, and reception, incorporating my dad within the band and then playing the following day at brunch. Thank you, thank you, thank you! This will truly be a day and weekend we will remember and celebrate and we owe so much of that to you. We look forward to the many celebrations we have to come together!!

Love, Jess & Michael”

Soul Session Wedding: September 16

“G –

Thank you so much for all of the time you spent with us to help prepare for our special day. You are a true professional, and a pleasure to plan a party with. By now, I'm sure we “blew up” the wedding and everyone had an absolute blast.

Appreciate everything, Dave & Megan”

The Knot Comment:

***Kyle & Julianna* 5.0 Stars**

“We were married last weekend in NYC. Let me be clear on this. Apart from marrying my wife, the single greatest decision I've made in the past 2 years was having G and Soul Session involved in our wedding. I say “involved in our wedding” rather than “play our wedding” because G did more than just perform on the day of. He lifted our spirits throughout the process. He treated us like family. He helped us through issues with the venue and the photographers and a bunch of other headaches. He customized EVERYTHING about the wedding. Most of all, G and Soul Session absolutely TORE THE HOUSE DOWN, RE-BUILT IT, THEN TORE IT DOWN AGAIN. It was an absolute blessing to work with his band. Soul Session played my sister's wedding 10 years ago and at the time it was the best wedding performance I had ever seen. 10 years later, somehow, they topped it. I know what you're thinking... I'm biased, right? No. I've had dozens of friends and family members exclaim the same sentiment with utter joy. “WHO WAS THAT GUY? WHERE DID YOU FIND HIM?” Thank you Garland. Thank you Soul Session. You've changed our lives.”

- Married October 23, 2021

***Neil & Lauren* 5.0 Stars**

“Let me first start out by saying something. My wife and I are music nuts, and we met at a Phish show years back. We decided early on in the wedding planning process that music had to be the most important aspect to our big day/weekend. We went back and forth trying to decide who we wanted, when my wife came across Garland Nelson and his merry band of pranksters, Soul Session. I was very impressed with the videos I watched, as the band sounded tight and together, funky and loose, all at the same time. We reached out to Garland ... and it was the absolute best wedding decision we made. Throughout the process, Garland met with us a few times in Saratoga and had several hours' long phone conferences with us, where he explained how we could have the most kick-ass wedding ever. We took all his advice. Not only did he gain a huge understanding of what our musical preferences are, but he took so much time getting to know us each individually, and how we function as a couple. That right there was the

key for us. Initially, I wanted a bunch of Phish and Grateful Dead throughout the night, but Garland laid it out for me with no BS: doing a show that way would likely alienate a lot of the attendees. Garland was a major support to us throughout the process, which anyone who's gotten married can attest to being very stressful. He developed backup plans in case what we chose was not working with the audience, and gave us so many great song ideas. Going into the wedding, we did not know the order of songs aside from the opening dances, which played into our personality as a couple. We like improvisational rock music where we do not know what is coming next. Well, Garland and Soul Session delivered on a level I cannot accurately put into words. During the cake cutting, the band burst into "Tweezer Reprise" by Phish without telling us beforehand, and that turned into another dance with just my wife and I on the floor (their guitarist is a big Phish fan, and I have to shout him out here. He absolutely NAILED everything, and had me in tears once with one of his solos). The band got the entire venue up and rocking with a stellar rendition of "Shakedown Street" by the Grateful Dead, with people who are not Deadheads dancing their faces off. Garland then went into the Phish ballad, "Waste," a song we considered for our first dance, making my wife and I jump up and onto the dancefloor for yet another special moment we will forever remember. By the time our wedding was done, just about all of our guests came up to us and told us how that was the best band they've ever seen at a wedding. Many more commented on how it was the most fun wedding they have ever attended, and all of them nodded to Garland and Soul Session as big parts of the reason why. It has been nearly a month since our wedding and Garland still texts me to ask how we are doing and that's not something he has to do. He does it because he genuinely cares about the people he performs for, and he made us feel a part of his huge extended family. If you are on the fence about Soul Session, jump off right now and dial Garland's number. It will be the best wedding decision you ever make."

- Married October 3, 2021

Nicole 5.0 Stars

"G was an absolute blessing to work with through our entire planning process and we are so lucky to have found him and Soul Session to jam out with during our wedding. His voice is a gift from above that rings in our ears as we think of our wedding day. From the processional songs, to the reception, he not only set the tone for our wedding celebration, but he felt like family throughout the process. G gave us so much more than unforgettable ceremonial music and a fun reception! He gave us professional opinion and creatively guided us through planning out the music and vibe for our wedding day. He facilitated unforgettable memories through the sound of his music. He was always open to hearing our ideas and was so flexible working with our family to make our ceremony, cocktail hour, and reception truly a dream come true. His words of wisdom the months and days leading up to our wedding, will never be forgotten. Thank you, G, and all of Soul Session, for sharing your musical talents with us and for setting the vibe that we dreamed of for the best day of our lives!! Can't thank you enough, family!

- Married August 28, 2021

Caroline 5.0 Stars

"MORE THAN JUST A BAND. Garland and his Soul Session family absolutely KILLED IT at my wedding! I can't describe to you the energy that they put out there into the crowd. They get your guests UP to celebrate! Incredibly professional, so easy to work and so much fun. They tailor every single moment of your wedding to you and how you want it sound/feel/vibe. They set the scene for your whole night and take it up into another universe. I am serious. I cannot recommend this group enough. KILLED IT!

- Married September 3, 2021

Part II – from client via email:

Garland and the Soul Session Family,

Words CANNOT express to you how amazing you made my wedding. SERIOUSLY. I could not have pictured it any better! It brought tears to my eyes how everyone was together and having a good time, and they may have been there to see Joe and I get married but they were also there to have a good time and YOU made that happen! You bring joy to every soul that you come in contact with, and it was an absolute pleasure to watch your magic unfold and bring our families together. It was amazing working with you and Joe and I just can't thank you enough.

LOVE,
Caroline and Joe

WeddingWire Comment:

Mary T. Said.....
5.0 Stars

"Saratoga June 2021 Wedding

Garland Nelson and Soul Session helped make my daughter's wedding magnificent. Garland handled the ceremony music as well as the music for the reception. He spent time getting to know my daughter and son-in-law prior to the event and offered great advice to all of us. Wedding guests are still raving about the music and how much fun they had at the event. We had many guests from the midwest and Garland helped us show them what a great community we have in Saratoga Springs. Garland and Soul Session are exceptional"

- Married on 06/19/2021

Soul Session Wedding: August 14