



Bill Frazier . Manager
Lighted Parking . Security

251.432.8979 | Lodge
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Available for your special
events

TIP THE TEAM!

- JAZZ JAMBAYALA**
\$8 Members | \$12 Guests
\$10 Student | Military w/ID
Door Prize Tickets | \$1
- 23 May 2016
Diana Krall: The Canadian Contralto
Karolyna Vee & Friends
Catt Sirten | Narrator
Cyndy Lewis | Developer
- 27 June 2016
Jazz Interpretations of the Music of Lennon & McCarthy
The Guffman Trio & Friends
Peter Kerr . Developer | Narrator
- 25 July 2016
Summertime Blues
Cat Rhodes & the Truth
Nancy Hanna | Developer
- MARK YOUR CALENDAR
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 29 August 2016 | 26 September 2016 |
| | <i>15th Anniversary Jam</i> |
| 24 October 2016 | 28 November 2016 |
| | 19 December 2016 |

MEMBERSHIP

January 1 – December 31 | \$3 online processing fee

JOIN ONLINE | MOJOJAZZ.ORG

Individual \$30 | Family \$40 | Student/Active Military \$25 | Partners \$100+
MOJO Polo Shirts | Long/Short | Special Order

PRESENT CURRENT MOJO MEMBERSHIP CARD FOR DISCOUNTS!

A & M Peanut Shop

209 Dauphin Street . Mobile, AL
251.438.9374

Import Medic, Inc.

1085 Airport Terminal Road . Mobile, AL
251.639.6800 | By appointment

Cammie's Old Dutch Ice Cream Shoppe

2511 Old Shell Road . Mobile, AL
251.471.1719

PARTNERS

IMAGERY MARKETING | MOBILE SYMPHONY | ROMAN STREET
Special Thanks: Camellia Trophy Shop

MYSTIC ORDER OF THE JAZZ OBSESSED

PO Box 748 . Mobile, AL . 36601-0748 . USA . 501(c)(3)



Jazzalea Award honoring Lawrence Specker Journalist



VIBRATION CONFIGURATION

Corky Hughes . JoJo Morris . John Milham . Larry Carter

Monday . 25 April 2016

Gulf City Lodge . 601 State Street
Mobile, AL . USA



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Specker and Sgt. Slaughter
Mike Kitrell . AL.com . Photo

The kids were so excited, when it came time for kindergarten graduation. There was an alphabet poem, and everybody was getting a letter. Everybody had their hands in the air, competing for the next one. This kid wanted "L," for his first name, but some other kid beat him to it. If he'd been a little sharper back in 1976, he'd have waited for "S," for his last name, but he kept his hand up and got "N." And so at graduation, he recited the poem: "N is for news truck/ with papers piled high/ that tell stories of kings/ and saucers that fly."

Of course he went on to become a newspaperman.

Lawrence Specker grew up in northwest Alabama. But he had relatives in Mobile, and most years his grandparents would go visit them and bring back a box of Mardi Gras throws. Mystics of Time stuff. Father Time. Dragons. Doubloons that rang like no other coin. Based on the available evidence, Mobile seemed like a pretty exotic place.

Of course he went on to Mobile.

He discovered music piecemeal, which is a pretty good way to discover it. Ennio Morricone movie music, unlike anything else on the family turntable. Late-night DJs on a tube radio turned down low, playing crazy story-songs like Brownsville Station's "The Martian Boogie," Hoyt Axton's "Della & the Dealer," Johnny Cash's "One Piece at a Time." Charlie Daniels country, Casey Kasem pop, then hard rock, then classical and blues, then jazz. There's a pattern there. If you like strong stuff and weird stuff and free stuff, eventually you're going to find jazz, which can be stronger and weirder and freer than just about anything.

Lawrence got a job at the Mobile Press-Register in 1994 and in 2001 fell into a situation so fortuitous that even Forrest Gump would be jealous: He got to be the paper's entertainment reporter. The rest is history. The first draft of history, anyway. The job consisted in large part of discovering how rich Mobile was, musically, and encouraging people to just listen for themselves and share the wealth.

It has been a learning experience. It has been fun. It has been humbling. It has been uplifting, because it has been a chance to talk to hundreds of creative people excited about what they're doing.

If that kindergarten poem holds true, eventually there'll be a flying saucer ride. But until then we've got music, and music will do.

Lawrence Specker
Mobile, AL
2016

Since the very beginning of the organization, Lawrence Specker has walked along with the Mystic Order of the Jazz Obsessed and greatly aided in the group's successes. He has reported on meetings and organizational hallmarks, chronicled MOJO's steps toward cultural relevance and helped spread word of its accomplishments and offerings.



It's fair to say without Specker's reporting and participation, MOJO would have never achieved a fraction of its status or durability. In doing so, Specker has furthered the perpetuation and propagation of jazz in Mobile's cultural firmament. It's for this reason we honor his invaluable and irreplaceable efforts in the most permanent and esteemed courses at our disposal.

Kevin Lee
Founder . President



Journalist Lawrence Specker has been a pioneer as to opening the doors to all jazz and musical events in Mobile and on the Gulf Coast without prejudice.

Creola G. Ruffin, Esquire
Founder . President

I have always relied on Lawrence Specker to keep me informed about the arts - particularly the music scene - in the area. If he writes about a person or an event or a product or includes them in Bay Weekend, I know I need to pay attention. And he's not only knowledgeable; he communicates his enthusiasm for his subject and inspires his readers' enthusiasm, too.



Charlie Smoke
Former Executive Director



There was a cadre of community supporters that helped nurture the nascent Arts Alive and allow it to grow and prosper for a dozen years. Two of the strongest voices - from the beginning - belonged, first to Thomas Harrison, and then Lawrence Specker. And thank God, Lawrence picked up the banner! He has truly become the "Lorax, who speaks for music on the Coast". From the simplest of events to the most major of productions, Lawrence can be relied upon for a quality preview, an honest critique and a strong endorsement where warranted. His long track record of honest advocacy has boosted countless musical careers and given all of us the opportunity to experience truly memorable performances - enriching our lives and confirming the unique heartbeat and soul that is the Alabama Gulf Coast.

David Calametti
Arts Instigator

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Julie Day
Brenda Howard
Peter Kerr

Weezie Larson
Elliott Lauderdale
Joe Occhipinti

Richard Rothenberg
Bob Spielmann
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