



**MOJO**

MYSTIC ORDER OF THE JAZZ OBSESSED  
25th anniversary

# Jazz Jambalaya

PRESENTS...

MOBILE

*Second Line*

SOCIETY

★ ★

EST. 2014

**MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026**

**CARMEN'S CLUB**  
(@CEDARSTREET  
SOCIAL CLUB)  
522 DAUPHIN STREET  
DOWNTOWN MOBILE, AL





## **ABOUT THE PERFORMERS...**

**Mobile Second Line Society, founded in 2014 for the sole purpose of hosting a Second Line down Dauphin Street on Joe Cain Day, was never intended to be the band they are today. The band includes: Matthew Taylor - trumpet/founder/leader; Jake Riosti - Trumpet; Chad Davidson - Trumpet; Dean Naritoku - Trombone; Bill Sparkman - Trombone; Evan Bernard - Trombone, Peter Histing - Tenor Sax; Christopher Spies - Baritone Sax; Sydney Cumbest - Sousaphone; JP Gresham - Bass Drum; and Justin Skinner - Drummer. Over the course of the last 10 years they have evolved as a staple during Mobile's Mardi Gras season! Influenced heavily by the sound of NOLA bands such as Rebirth Brassband and Hot 8 Brassband, they enthusiastically perform a mix of traditional 2nd line tunes and more contemporary brass funk. Get ready to raise your umbrella and wave your rally rag!**

*Laissez les bon temps rouler!*

# DID YOU KNOW...



- Mobile's 1703 Mardi Gras celebration was the first in America and remains an important part of Alabama's Gulf Coast culture. Mardi Gras was first observed when Mobile was a French colony, a century before the founding of Alabama.
- There are 21 local organizations who own at least some of their floats.
- There are different types of floats, such as permanent floats (krewe, emblem), and themed floats, which change at the discretion of the parading organization.
- Born in 1847, John “Gus” Hines is revered as the “Granddaddy” of early float design.
- In 2024 Port City Floats became Mobile’s first Black-owned public float barn (1700 Midway Ave.), where you can design, build, rent and store floats (and hold events).
- In 1925 there were 7 Mardi Gras parades during Mobile’s carnival season. In 2026 there will be 45 parades...let the good times roll!!

# CONGRATS ARE IN ORDER.



The Mobile Arts Council (MAC), in partnership with the City of Mobile and the Alabama State Council on the Arts, is proud to announce the appointment of Alex Lofton, known throughout the community as “Huggy Bear da Poet,” as Mobile’s 2026–2027 Poet Laureate. The Poet Laureate program celebrates the power of poetry to uplift, connect, and inspire the people of Mobile. As an ambassador for the literary arts, the Poet Laureate will use the written and spoken word to deepen community engagement, promote creative expression, and celebrate the cultural vibrancy of our city. Alex Lofton’s lifelong connection to Mobile is woven through generations. Raised between the heart of Mobile, the neighborhoods of Prichard, and the red-clay hills of Citronelle. Lofton refined his voice and passion for the arts at John L. Leflore Magnet High School, where he developed the integrity, purpose, and creative drive that have shaped his career.



Be sure to stop by Cammie’s Old Dutch for king cakes and moon pie inspired ice cream treats to celebrate Mobile’s Mardi Gras season!!



For more than 20 years, Lofton has authored, performed, educated, and advocated through the art of poetry. He has also hosted the crowd-pleasing “Evening of Spoken Word” during the Gulf Coast Ethnic & Heritage Jazz Festivals for the past 10+ years. Congrats to “Huggy Bear da Poet” on an honor well deserved!



# C'MON BACK NEXT MONTH!

Join us February 23rd as...



Get tickets and info at [mojojazz.org](http://mojojazz.org)!



Slow down, 'cause where you're going is gonna be there when you get there. And nothing happens until you get there, baby...Str8 ahead!

Carmen Brown, Legendary Broadcaster  
and MOJO Muse. 1947-2023



**Cheers to your years...**

**Jenny Arras David Ayers D. Reed Bechtel  
Gail Bramer Jean Broach Chris Bullock  
Joe Camp David Carroll Susanne Carney  
Trixie Daniel Douglas Franzen  
Martha Fuller Joan Hoffman  
Yhoshua Hunter Kevin Lee Cindy Lewis  
Judy Michel Joe Plastaras  
Julia Ridgely Michael Smith  
Tessa Winfrey  
and everyone celebrating  
birthdays during Carnival Season!**

## **JAZZ LEGENDS BORN IN FEBRUARY...**

**Saxophonist, Stan Getz - 2nd  
Pianist/Composer, Eubie Blake - 7th  
Tenor Saxophonist, Wardell Gray - 13th  
Clarinetist, Buddy DeFranco - 17th  
Pianist/Vocalist, Nina Simone - 21st**



# 2026 MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Please Print:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBERSHIP     | <input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL | <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY (2) \$60 |

MEMBER #1 \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAY MONTH/DAY \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER #2 \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAY MONTH/DAY \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail completed form to:**

MOJO Membership P.O. Box 748 Mobile, AL 36601-0748

MOJO is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization  
Member of the Mobile Arts Council and Alabama State Council on the Arts

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**FOR MOJO's USE**

Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership #(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_ Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Keep your MOJO workin'!**  
**mojojazz.org**

# **KEEP YOUR MOJO WORKIN'!**

- **Join our network of Jazz Lovers and receive discounts on admission and at select local vendors.**
- **Like MOJO's Facebook and Instagram pages.**
- **Share MOJO postings to help broaden awareness and participation.**
- **Gift a membership to a friend or colleague...they'll be jazzed about it!**
- **Become a "MOJO Jazz Angel" by sponsoring the band...we'll help you plan an awesome evening for you and your special guests!**
- **Support our community partners, such as Mobile Arts Council, Excelsior Band Preservation, Inc., The Jazz Studio, Gulf Coast Ethnic & Heritage Jazz Festival, NspireU On-Air, and the USA J.A.W.S Festival.**
- **Purchase an instrument for a promising music student...they are the future of jazz!**
- **Contact us with your suggestions for performers, future programs and activities at [MysticOrderJazzObsessed@gmail.com](mailto:MysticOrderJazzObsessed@gmail.com).**
- **Visit our website to stay up to date.**

**Visit [mojojazz.org](http://mojojazz.org) today!**