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JAZZETTE

KEEP YOUR MOJO WORKIN'...JOIN US ON FOURTH MONDAYS MONTHLY!!

MOJO & CACC CELEBRATE LEGACY AND THE FUTURE OF JAZZ

The Mystic Order of the Jazz Obsessed (MOJO) is thrilled to announce the 2026 Carmen Brown & Catt Sirten Student Scholarship recipients, who are carrying forward the incredible legacies of two local broadcast icons:

- Zane C. Teel – 2026 Carmen Brown Scholarship Winner (Trombone & Guitar)
- Owen Pierson – 2026 Catt Sirten Scholarship Winner (Bass)

This month's exciting Jazz Jambalaya features the Coastal Alabama Community College Big Band, led by MOJO's own Rebecca Barry.

These scholarships also honor two MOJO icons who exemplified the very fundamentals of jazz, having made profound contributions in keeping our MOJO workin'! Carmen Brown and Catt Sirten personified the cultural heartbeat of the Azalea City.

As MOJO Cofounder and past-president, Kevin Lee, has noted: "Starting in the 1980s, Carmen Brown and Catt Sirten were pillars in Mobile's media and cultural temple. Brown's Alabama Broadcasters Hall of Fame profile includes on-air and management positions at WBLX FM, WKRG FM, WKRG TV5, WHIL FM and WDLT FM, where she hosted 'Smooth Jazz Sundays.' Sirten helped form WZEW FM, and his 'Sunday Jazz Brunch' program remained popular for decades. Both earned awards from the Mobile Arts Council and both died within months of each other in 2023."



"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
& MOJO Muse, 1947-2023



**MOJO received 10
NEW MEMBERSHIPS
this month!**



Let's keep the MOJO momentum going...become part of the 25th Anniversary Volunteer Team! Drop us an email at MysticOrderJazzObsessed@gmail.com.

Members Get the Full Score

Want to see the complete 2026 Jazz Jambalaya lineup? Visit mojojazz.org/jambalaya and scroll to the bottom for the full program

Hey MOJO members, don't wait in line while the music is playing. From intermission tonight until the final note of the ACCC Big Band concert, our online ticket window for the May 25th Memorial Day Jazz Jambalaya will open exclusively for members in attendance so plan to snag your seats before the general public!

Save the Dates



Mark your calendars for these headliners:

- **May 25 (Memorial Day):** A special MOJO Member evening. Raoul will have all the details at intermission, and more will be in your next email
- **September 28:** The Big One. Our MOJO 25th Anniversary Event. You definitely don't want to miss this milestone.
- **December 28:** The Grand Finale. We're hosting a special New Year's Party to swing our way into 2027.

Member Perk: Catt's Crib

Remember, **Catt's Crib** is available for member reservations. It's the perfect way to elevate your MOJO experience. Reserve Online at www.MOJOjazz.org.



We Did it!

DID YOU KNOW?

Key Observances:

April is a monumental month for jazz lovers, designated globally as Jazz Appreciation Month (JAM). Established by the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History in 2001, this month-long celebration honors the rich heritage and ongoing evolution of jazz.

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- **Jazz Appreciation Month (JAM):** Celebrated throughout April to encourage people of all ages to study, listen to, and participate in jazz.
- **International Jazz Day (April 30):** The culmination of JAM, organized by UNESCO to highlight jazz's role in uniting people worldwide.
- **New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival:** Often beginning in late April, this iconic "Jazz Fest" celebrates the birthplace of jazz with massive performances and cultural events.
- **Births of Jazz Icons:** Several foundational jazz artists were born in April, including:
 - **Duke Ellington (April 29):** A prolific composer and bandleader who composed over 1,000 arrangements.
 - **Ella Fitzgerald (April 25):** Known as the "First Lady of Song" for her purity of tone and impeccable scat singing.
 - **Billie Holiday (April 7):** Nicknamed "Lady Day," she is revered for her unique vocal delivery and improvisational skills.
 - **Herbie Hancock (April 12):** A legendary keyboardist and composer who helped define post-bop and jazz-fusion.
 - **Charles Mingus (April 22):** A highly influential double bassist and composer known for his complex arrangements.

Ways to Celebrate:

- **Attend Live Shows:** Many venues offer special programming. For instance, monthly MOJO Jazz Jambalayas in Mobile, AL, Pensacola's Monthly Jazz Gumbo and The Jazz Playhouse in New Orleans hosts regular live performances.
- **Explore History:** Visit landmarks like Louis Armstrong Park in New Orleans to learn about jazz origins.
- **Listen & Read:** Dedicated archives, like the Hamilton College Fillius Jazz Archive, provide hundreds of interviews with jazz legends for public listening.