



MOJO

MYSTIC ORDER OF THE JAZZ OBSESSED
25th anniversary

JAZZ JAMFEST PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 28, 2026 | 5:30 PM

Cedar Street Social Club Complex
522 Dauphin Street in Mobile, Alabama

www.mojojazz.org

ABOUT MOJO...



For twenty-five years, MOJO has proven that jazz is more than music—it is history, education, culture, community, and inspiration! Through its beloved monthly Jazz Jambalayas, the organization has honored its mission to preserve the legacy of jazz while creating opportunities for exceptional musicians to perform and entertain jazz lovers, while educating and inspiring a new generation of jazzies.



As MOJO celebrates this Silver Anniversary, we acknowledge all who have been part of this amazing jazz journey, including our Founder and Immediate Past President, Kevin Lee, all past and present board leadership, volunteers, and MOJO members. We also acknowledge and thank our community partners, including the management and staff of Club 601 @ The Elks, Central Presbyterian Church and our present home-base, Cedar Street Social Club! Furthermore, we proudly honor the host of remarkable artists who shaped Mobile's musical heritage, while ensuring that the next generation continues to discover, appreciate, and celebrate the enduring spirit of jazz. **Twenty-five years strong, and the music plays on....**





MAIN STAGE SCHEDULE

6 PM

**MARKES
& COMPANY**

7 PM

**THE AYERS
BROS. BAND**

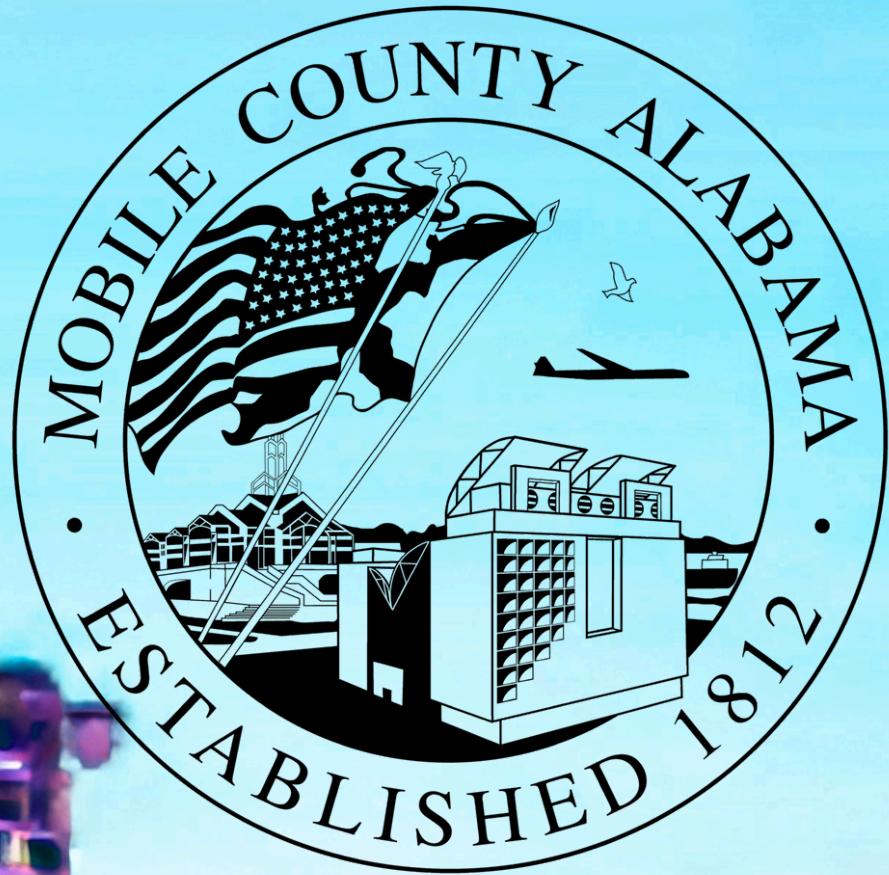
8 PM

**SECOND LINE WITH
EXCELSIOR BAND**

**8:30
PM**

**ROMAN STREET
& FRIENDS**

**THIS EVENT IS
SPONSORED
IN PART BY...**



*Thank
you*

WELCOME!

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SYMONE FRENCH

MOJO is thrilled to have the music of Symone French welcome you at the entry to the 25th Anniversary Jazz JamFest in The Outsider Bar!

Coined Mobile's "Mistress of Soul", Symone French has worked earnestly to establish herself as a vocal powerhouse since beginning her career in 2014. She has participated in nationally televised talent competitions, such as American Idol and NBC's The Voice, performed at the Joshua Tree Music Festival and performed in the Mobile Ballet's adaptation of The Princess & the Frog.

Most recently, French and her band opened for Grammy award-winning artist, Macy Gray, on the Mobile stop of her On How Life Is 25th anniversary tour.



THE V.I.P. EXPERIENCE

Tonight's Jazz JamFest V.I.P. Ticket holders are in for a special treat... the incredible musical-stylings of saxophonist, Jarvis Wright!

Wright became interested in playing various instruments during his youth, and discovered his affinity to the saxophone by fifth grade. Having performed during his high school and college careers, upon graduation he returned to Mobile, AL and started playing with local bands randomly.

Soon Wright developed a name for himself and the doors of opportunity opened for him to perform with acclaimed artists such as Jeff Floyd, Lebrado, Dennis "Finger Roll" Nelson, Kirk Whalum, Kyle Turner, Michael Ward, Althea Renee, Pastor Solomon Bozeman and Jermelle Richardson.

MOJO's truly jazzed for Wright to help us entertain you, inside of the "Carmen's Club" V.I.P. Area, during band breaks throughout the evening.



**JARVIS
WRIGHT**



**V.I.P. IN
"CARMEN'S
CLUB"**

Tonight's **EMCEE**



JOHN NODAR

Early risers can catch John Nodar, meteorologist for WKRG News 5. He's the first one to tell you what you can expect from today's weather. There's a lot behind the person standing in front of that weather map. John has a host of impressive accomplishments, off-screen talents, and experiences. His on-air career has spanned 44 years...the past 41 with WKRG.

For more than ten years, John has taught many aspiring broadcast meteorologists at the University of South Alabama. "And just as importantly," he says, he teaches them "how to get a job. You can be the best meteorologist in the world, but nobody will hire you in this business if you are terrible on television." He's proud that today two of his former students, Caroline Carithers and Grant Skinner, are now weather colleagues at WKRG. The Nodars chose to stay in Mobile to raise their family, and it's worked out very well. They've witnessed this area get better and better. No stranger to MOJO, John has always enjoyed emceeing or just participating in events that make a positive impact, moving Mobile forward. We think that's just grand...you're on, John!

**MEET
THE
LINE
UP...**



MARKES & COMPANY

Tonight's opening band is lead by multi-instrumentalist and bandleader Markes Johnson. Markes & Company delivers an explosive blend of contemporary jazz, funk, and groove-heavy improvs. Renowned for tight arrangements and dynamic soloist interplay, the ensemble has earned a loyal following across regional jazz circuits. Johnson's masterclass approach to rhythm and melody guarantees an opening performance packed with high energy, virtuosic solos, and seamless crowd interaction to ignite the MOJO 25th Anniversary Jazz JamFest Main Stage.

**MEET
THE
LINE
UP...**



THE AYERS BROS. BAND

Featuring Andrew Ayers and friends, the Ayers Bros. Band brings rich musical heritage and deep musical chemistry to the 25th Anniversary stage. Rooted in traditional Southern jazz and blues traditions, the group weaves sophisticated harmonic structures with soulful melodies. Their interactive live performance showcases why they remain a favorite among Gulf Coast jazz enthusiasts, setting a high standard for the evening's main stage celebration.

GRAB YOUR "RALLY RAG" ...



LET'S SECOND LINE

WITH

EXCELSIOR BAND

No Gulf Coast celebration is complete without Mobile's historic Excelsior Band. Formed in 1883, this legendary brass ensemble carries over a century of brass tradition, leading MOJO's 25th Anniversary Second Line Parade between Main Stage sets. Expect vibrant horns, infectious rhythms, and traditional parading that gets the entire crowd moving!

THE HEADLINERS

MOJO

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**ROMAN
STREET**

**ALVIN
KING**

**GINO
ROSARIA**

ROMAN STREET & FRIENDS!

ROMAN STREET

Brothers Noah and Josh Thompson put their guitars together to form Roman Street. Since their college years, this brotherly jam session has developed into a Billboard/iTunes charting band who many have dubbed 'the next generation' of Jazz Fusion. Roman Street, named for an old roman street in the Alps, is an internationally trained instrumental band, specializing in improvisational fusion of Classical, Gypsy and Contemporary Jazz, Latin, and Nuevo Flamenco. A departure from the over-produced music that is out there today, they keep it simple—the beautifully organic sound of acoustic instruments played by talented people who love what they are doing. Whether performing as a guitar duo, or with a backing band, Roman Street astounds with music that appeals to fans of many genres.

GINO ROSARIA

Pianist and composer, Gino Rosaria, brings Billboard chart-topping contemporary jazz mastery to the MOJO main stage. Known for smooth keyboard stylings, Latin jazz grooves, and melodic sophistication, Rosaria has headlined festivals across the country. His performance delivers emotional depth, lightning-fast keystrokes, and memorable hook lines that capture the true spirit of contemporary jazz.

ALVIN KING

A powerhouse in live performance, Alvin King rounds out the headlining roster with soulful expression and unmatched command of his instrument. King's dynamic stage presence and deep roots in traditional and modern jazz fusion ensure a climax set that reflects the very best of MOJO's 25-year history of live excellence.

THE VISIONARY

**KEVIN
LEE**



Founded on September 10, 2001, by Kevin Lee, MOJO began with his visionary plan to bring jazz fans together. At MOJO's inception, jazz recordings comprised 4% of national music sales. Lee extrapolated that if 4% of Mobilians were jazz fans, that would be 4,000—enough to enliven the local jazz scene. Organizers discovered that there weren't enough locals willing to frequent a jazz club as a day-to-day business, such as Snug Harbor in New Orleans. However, they found that if jazz fans concentrated their efforts into one night a month (i.e., a "MOJO Jazz Jambalaya" on 4th Mondays), it would be enough to support a pop-up club. At the very first meeting, Lee banged a large spoon on a metal bowl and proclaimed, "Hi, I'm Kevin, and I'm a jazzaholic," to which the crowd of 30-40 jazz enthusiasts responded in unison, "Hi Kevin"!!

Today, MOJO is a thriving 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has amassed an enthusiastic, dedicated audience of monthly concert attendees, and is currently 200 members strong and growing. The MOJO Board of Directors is deeply honored to celebrate Kevin Lee's extraordinary vision, and appreciates his ongoing mentorship and support... together we keep MOJO workin'!!

CHEERS TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS!



GULF COAST ETHNIC & HERITAGE



E.J. Wright of Get It Wright Photography

Cammie's Old Dutch Ice Cream Shoppe

Cyndy Lewis & Yvette Chestang PRomotions

**TOGETHER
WE KEEP OUR
MOJO WORKIN'!!**



THANK YOU

GRAND
PATRON

CINDY
Bechtel



THANK YOU

**GRAND
PATRON**

**DEED
Bechtel**

**THANK YOU
GROOVE
SPONSORS**

**MICHAEL
Smith
&**

**KAREN
Carr Smith**

A background image showing a person's hands playing a piano. A microphone is positioned above the keyboard. The text is overlaid on this image.

**THANK YOU
GROOVE
SPONSORS**

**DAVID
Ayers
CERTEX
USA**

**TRIXIE
Daniel**

**THANK YOU
FRIENDS OF MOJO
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

Kathy Ethteredge

Carlos Ramos

Mobile Bay Reporting

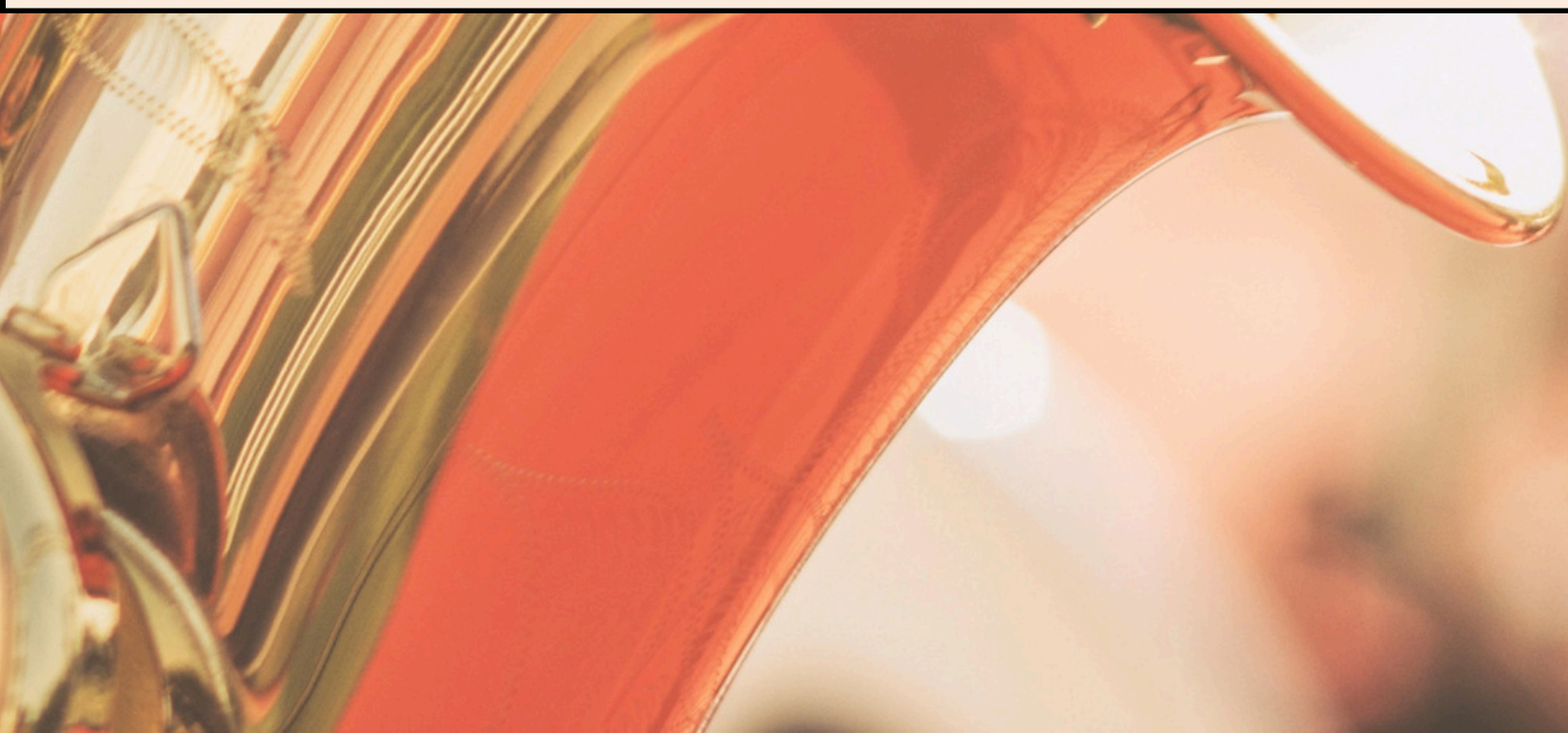
Nancy Hanna

Betty Lee





THANK YOU
GROOVE
SPONSOR



Happy Anniversary

~~~~~MOJO~~~~~

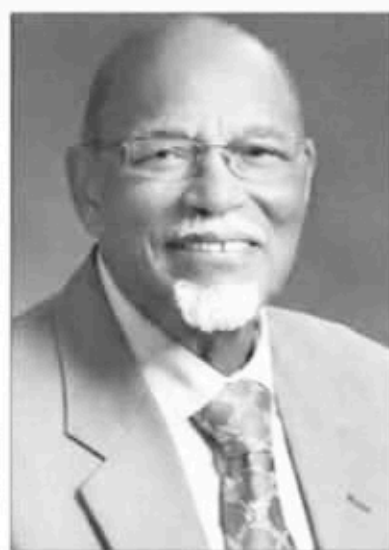


*Founders of the
Prestwick Preservation
Park*

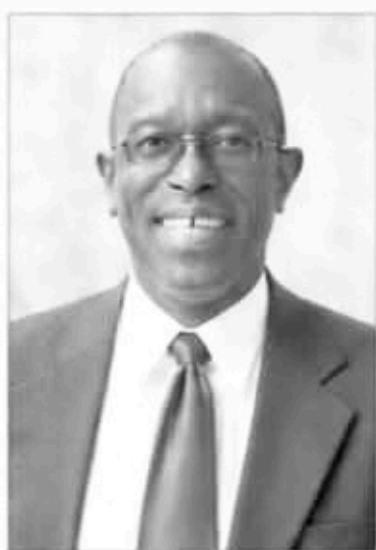


~~~ Good Vibes ~~~  
From the Prestwick  
Preservation Society

### Board Members



Rev. Richmond Chaney



Prof. Alvin Williams



Dr. Joannee P. Barnes



Mrs. Kathy Etheredge



Ms. Micki Savage

*~~~~~* The Prestwick Preservation Society is dedicated to *~~~~~*  
preserving the history, heritage, and culture of Washington County.

We create awareness of local history through media,  
Historical programs and documenting our historic building.



P.O Box 64,  
Leroy, AL 36548



Follow us on  
Facebook!



(251)-769-4001



[www.prestwickps.org](http://www.prestwickps.org)  
[Mizznews@gmail.com](mailto:Mizznews@gmail.com)





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# THANK YOU GROOVE SPONSOR



**"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**



# THANK YOU VENDOR'S ROW

**Mina Patel/Andy Vaughan**  
**CREED**

**Creola Ruffin**  
**MOBILE MUSIC LEGENDS**

**Kevin Lee**  
**AUTHOR/JOURNALIST**

**Yannicke Lee**  
**ARTIST**

**Arthur Mack**  
**AUTHOR**

**Charlotte Stutts**  
**KING'S DEDICATION JEWELRY**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
MOJO MEMBERS!**

**Annie Gillen**

**Devereaux Bemis**

**Ellen Broach**

**Hans Rufer**

**Kalla Etheredge**

**Myra Evans**

**Nella MacRae**

**Dr Raoul Richardson**

**Sue Heatter**





**KEEP YOUR**

**MOJO WORKIN'!**

**JOIN TODAY AT  
MOJOJAZZ.ORG**





**MO' JAZZ FOR YOU  
@ "CARMEN'S CLUB"!**

**OCT.  
26TH**

**ASTRAL PROJECT**

**NOV.  
23RD**

**ALVIN KING & THE  
FIFTH K'NECTION  
JAZZ BAND**

**DEC.  
28TH**

**A MOJO PRE-NEW  
YEAR'S SOIREE'**

**JOIN US 4<sup>TH</sup> MONDAYS  
MONTHLY @ 6PM  
(Cedar Street Social Club,  
522 Dauphin Street  
Mobile, AL)**

**GET TICKETS AT [MOJOJAZZ.ORG](http://MOJOJAZZ.ORG)**



# **BOARD MEMBERS**

## **KEEP MOJO WORKIN'!**

**Dr. Raoul Richardson**  
**PRESIDENT**

**Yvette Chestang**  
**VICE PRES./ PUBLICITY DIR.**

**Tim Coffman**  
**TREASURER**

**Janice Cunningham**  
**SECRETARY**

**Terry Mannion**  
**MEMBERSHIP DIR.**

**David Ayers**  
**WEBMASTER**

**D. Reed Bechtel**  
**TALENT**

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**Gail Bramer**

**Trixie Daniel**

**Kathy Etheredge**

**Hosea London**

**Rebecca Barry**

**Arnie Hudson**

**Kalla Etheredge**



**Let's**

**CELEBRATE JAZZ**

**ALL YEAR...**

**JOIN US**

**4<sup>TH</sup> MONDAYS MONTHLY**

**@ Cedar Street Social Club!**

