

# NEWSLETTER



**JAZZ**  
PENSACOLA

Advancing jazz music along the Gulf coast.



Happy Mardi Gras!

Did you know that Pensacola began celebrating Mardi Gras in 1874, making it one of the oldest Mardi Gras celebrations in the United States. We have a rich history of parades, balls, and festivities that continue to this day, contributing to Pensacola's vibrant cultural heritage and the various styles of jazz music that come with it!

Enjoy this festive time of year,

*Rhonda*

## WHAT'S NEW?

- 02** Wynton Marsalis - 20 Years
- 03** Notable Jazz Birthdays
- 04** Live Music Sunset Cruise
- 05** Event Calendar

## Wynton Marsalis on Making 20 Years of Jazz at the Lincoln Center's Rose Hall

CBS News Correspondent, Gayle King, 2/27/2025

Some of you may have already had the pleasure of listening to this recent interview with Mr. Wynton Marsalis and CBS news correspondent Gayle King. It was such a delightful and inspiring interview that I thought I'd share.

Grab a cup of coffee, click [and enjoy!](#)



### Five Facts About Wynton Marsalis:

- Early Life and Education:** Wynton Marsalis was born on October 18, 1961, in New Orleans, Louisiana, into a highly musical family. His father, Ellis Marsalis, was a renowned jazz pianist, and his brothers Branford, Delfeayo, and Jason are also accomplished musicians. Wynton studied at The Juilliard School in New York City.
- Jazz and Classical Accomplishments:** Marsalis is a highly skilled trumpeter in both jazz and classical music. He is the first and only musician to win Grammy Awards in both genres in the same year, achieving this feat in 1983 and 1984.
- Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center:** Marsalis is the managing and artistic director of Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City, where he also leads the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. His work with the organization has been pivotal in promoting jazz education and preservation.
- Pulitzer Prize Winner:** In 1997, Marsalis became the first jazz musician to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music for his oratorio *Blood on the Fields*, which explores themes of slavery and freedom in America.
- Advocate for Music Education:** Marsalis is an avid advocate for music education and has authored books, given lectures, and developed programs aimed at teaching young people about jazz and its cultural significance.

# Notable Jazz Musician March Birthdays

Ralph Towner	3/01/40
Larry Carlton	3/02/48
Sergio Salvatore	3/03/81
Ralph Alessi	3/06/63
Dick Hyman	3/08/27
George Coleman	3/08/35
Billy Childs	3/08/57
Jeanette Harris	3/09/79
Justin Kauflin	3/10/86
Bobby McFerrin	3/11/50
Bill Anschell	3/12/59
Terrence Blanchard	3/13/62
Mark Murphy	3/14/32
Jessica Williams	3/17/48
Bill Frisell	3/18/51
Joe Locke	3/18/59
Eliane Elias	3/19/60
George Benson	3/22/43
Jan Lundgren	3/22/66
Stefan Harris	3/23/73
Carol Kaye	3/24/35
Renee Rosnes	3/24/62
Paul McCandless	3/24/47
Makoto Ozone	3/25/61
Lew Tabackin	3/26/40
Victor Bailey	3/27/60
Paul Jackson	3/28/47
Ruby Tanglewood	3/29/78
John d'Erth	3/30/50
Herb Alpert	3/31/35



Get on Board  
and support  
Jazz Pensacola!

# SUNSET CRUISE

LIVE MUSIC SERIES

Featuring the fun and  
funky sounds of  
'Total Connection'

May 1st  
6:00 - 8:00 PM



PROCEEDS  
BENEFIT



**JAZZ  
PENSACOLA**

PROMOTING  
JAZZ MUSIC ALONG  
THE GULF COAST

 \$75

EVERY 1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH  
experience the ultimate sunset cruise,  
where breathtaking views meet live music  
performances by talented local artists.  
Departing from Downtown Pensacola.

 LIVE  
MUSIC

 SUNSET  
VIEWS

 CASH  
BAR

 APPETIZERS

 VALIDATED  
PARKING

TICKETS & INFORMATION AT [JAZZPENSACOLA.COM](http://JAZZPENSACOLA.COM)

   @PENSACOLAFERRY

Pensacola Bay  
cityferry 



Limited number of tickets @ [jazzpensacola.com](http://jazzpensacola.com)

# JAZZ PENSACOLA

## MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**MARCH 3 JAZZ PENSACOLA JAZZ JAM,**  
**6:30 PM Odd Colony Brewing, 260 N. Palafox, Pensacola**  
 Inviting all musicians and vocalists to perform live jazz with the Jazz Pensacola Fabulous House Band.

\*Open to the public with a full bar and food truck available.

**MARCH 4 TWO LIVE JAZZ PERFORMANCES**  
**2 – 3:00 PM Summer Vista, 3450 Wimbledon Drive**  
 Featuring the JazzAbouts, hosted by Joe Occhipinti.

**4 - 5:00 PM The Blake, 428 Airport Blvd.**  
 Featuring the JazzAbouts, hosted by Joe Occhipinti.

**MARCH 5 Rx: Just What the Doctor Ordered**  
**1:30 - Ascension Sacred Heart, 5153 N. 9th Avenue, Pensacola**  
**3:30 PM Live jazz performances aimed at uplifting patients, staff, and visitors.**

\*Free event made possible through a partnership with Escambia County Medical Society Foundation.

**March 7 Live Swing Music and Dancing @ The Way You Move**  
**918 Winton Ave, Pensacola**

**6 - 8:00 PM** Dance lessons

**8 -10:00 PM** Live Music

**10:00 PM** More Dancing



- Featuring live music by local Jazz Hall of Fame member Joe Occhipinti and the Jazzabouts. Swing and Foxtrot lessons provided by Seaside Swing-Outs and The Way You Move. **No partner required.**

# JAZZ PENSACOLA

## MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**MARCH 13 PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE (PSC)**  
**9:30 PM WIND & JAZZ ENSEMBLES SPRING CONCERT**  
 Ashmore Auditorium, Pensacola State College  
 (Doors Open at 7:00 PM)

This free event showcases performances by the Pensacola State College Wind and Jazz Ensembles.

**MARCH 17 JAZZ IN THE QUARTER ??????**  
**6:30 PM** Phineas Phogg's in Seville Quarter  
**8:30 PM**

Hosted by Jazz Pensacola every quarter, this Jazz event focuses on the music of specific artists, including informational content about their work.

**Tickets are \$12 for Jazz Pensacola members and their guests, and \$15 for non-members.**

**MARCH 22 STUDENT JAZZ COMPETITION FINALS**  
**7:00 PM –** UWF center for Fine & Performing Arts, **Building 82**  
**9:00 PM**

Finalists from the Student Jazz Competition perform. **This free community event** is made possible through a partnership with the Studer Foundation, **ald;lajafpioei**

**NOTE: JazzFest 2025, originally scheduled for April 5-6, 2025, has been canceled due to funding issues but is expected to return in 2026 with increased community support.**