

FEBRUARY 2024



# NEWSLETTER

ADVANCING JAZZ ALONG THE GULF COAST!



*Jazz Pensacola celebrates Black History Month with stories, performances, and videos celebrating black jazz musicians and performers who made music made history.*

## JAZZ THAT MADE HISTORY: A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

BY DEBORAH LAYMAN

Jazz Pensacola and the West Florida Public Libraries are partnering to present a series of free library concerts by Joe Occhipinti and the JazzAbouts to celebrate the rich African-American roots of jazz during the month of February.

[\(MORE\)](#)

## WHAT'S NEW?

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*Jazz That Made History*

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*Yusef Lateef, An American Jazz Master*

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*A History in Videos*

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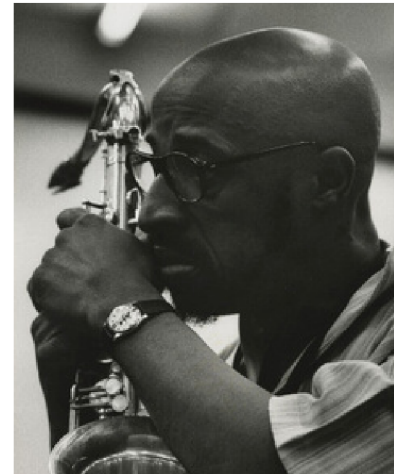
*Calendar of Events*

## YUSEF LATEEF, AN AMERICAN JAZZ MASTER

BY CAROLYN TOKSON

Since it's Black history month, I thought I'd highlight a Black jazz musician whose name is not as well known as so many other American jazz heroes. Yusef Lateef was a multi-talented jazz musician, novelist, businessman, composer and artist. He played the tenor sax and flute principally but also the oboe and bassoon as well as non-western instruments. Dr. Lateef taught at the the University of Massachusetts and several other colleges and is credited with a long period of innovation and experimentation with his inclusion of Eastern sounds and fusion of genres in his recordings and compositions.

When I first joined the jazz society here, I had indeed heard much of the jazz influenced by North African sounds when I had lived in Europe and travelled in Paris or along the Mediterranean. But I did not know Lateef specifically. I was a fan of trumpeter Ibrahim Maalouf, a native of Beirut, and beloved of French jazz fans, whose music is very much influenced by his Middle Eastern roots. My admiration for Lateef came as a result of an elegant event sponsored by Jazz Pensacola at the Pensacola Museum of Art.



[\(MORE\)](#)

## WHAT'S JAZZING

BY CAROLYN TOKSON

*Attendees at January's Jazz in the Quarter were delighted by Danger, Roger Villines' band comprised of Kamara Cambon on keyboards, Jimmy Roebuck on drums, Steve Douglas on bass and Bob Maksymkow on saxophone and Jackson Willis on trombone. Talk about fantastic jazz! We hadn't heard Danger in a long time and it was a special treat to have them perform.*

*February's event should be very entertaining with Nobius. This young group of musicians has made quite a following for themselves with their award winning jazz fusion. You don't want to miss the Jazz Jam at the Odd Colony on the first Monday either.*



[nobiusofficial.com](https://nobiusofficial.com)

*Joe Occhipinti and his JazzAbouts are at the Spring St. branch of the Escambia County Libraries' Jazz by the Book on February 1 and 27, 2024 from 12-2PM. These concerts are free.*

*Seville Quarter is back to Jazz on Tuesday nights again. This time, it's smooth jazz from 7:30 to 11:30 PM in Lili Marlene's. Those who remember Tuesdays jazz with Gino Rosaria and were friends of Ron Shelton were able to hear Ron's brother flautist Chip Shelton from NY with Gino and Chris Snowden at Ron's 90th birthday party at It's Personal by Sheila. Jazz vocalists Crystal Joy Albert, Donna Blackmon and Jo Mayo were among the attendees.*

*You might want to check out Chip's CD Chip Shelton and Peacetime which features several of Chip's own compositions along with classics from Duke Ellington, Joe Henderson, Donny Hathaway and Lenny White.*

<https://chipshelton.com>

(MORE)

## A HISTORY OF BLACK INFLUENCE IN JAZZ!

BY BILLY HOWELL

To further pay tribute to Black History Month and the notable contributions that black musicians and vocalists played in the evolution of jazz music, our esteemed board member and fellow musician William 'Billy' Howell produced a few videos that capture the timeline, essence, and countless contributions that have been made for the love of jazz!

The videos can be found on our Jazz Pensacola YouTube Channel at the link below and are worthy of sharing with your family, friends, and future musicians in your circle of influence.

<https://www.jazzpensacola.com/videos>

There are four videos categorized into the following timeline:



## JAZZ PENSACOLA EVENTS

## FEBRUARY

**2/5** COMMUNITY JAZZ JAM - ODD COLONY BREWERY @ 6:30 PM

**2/19** JAZZ IN THE QTR PRESENTS NOBIUS - SEVILLE QTR @ 6:30 PM

PENSACOLA LIBRARY  
PERFORMANCES**2/6****PENSACOLA LIBRARY**

239 N. Spring St., 850-436-5060  
TUESDAY, Feb. 6, 12:00-2:00 PM

**2/12****BELLVIEW LIBRARY**

6425 Mobile Hwy, 850-471-6360  
MONDAY, Feb. 12, 12:00-2:00 PM

**2/14****MOLINO LIBRARY**

6450A Hwy 95A, 850-435-1760  
WEDNESDAY, Feb. 14, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

**2/15****SOUTHWEST LIBRARY**

12248 Gulf Beach Hwy, 850-453-7780  
THURSDAY, Feb. 15, 1:00-3:00 PM

**2/23****TRYON LIBRARY**

1200 Langley Ave., 850-471-6980  
FRIDAY, Feb. 23, 1:00-3:00 PM

**2/24****🎵 SPECIAL EVENT FOR KIDS! 🎵****PENSACOLA LIBRARY**

239 N. Spring St., 850-436-5060  
SATURDAY, Feb. 24, 1:30-2:30 PM

**2/27****PENSACOLA LIBRARY**

239 N. Spring St., 850-436-5060  
TUESDAY, Feb. 27, 12:00-2:00 PM