

## 41st Annual Community JazzFest is a WRAP!

- 2 days of live music
- 22 bands
- Numerous Sponsors
- Countless Volunteers
- Supportive VIP's
- In-Kind Donors
- Food & Drink Vendors
- Numerous Creative Artisans, and a lot of fun!



# NEWSLETTER

ADVANCING JAZZ ALONG THE GULF COAST!



*Thank You  
Pensacola!*

### MESSAGE FROM JAZZ PENSACOLA PRESIDENT, DERRICK FISHBACK

BY DERRICK FISHBACK

“What is music to you? What would you be without music? Music is everything. Nature is music (cicadas in the tropical night). The sea is music, the wind is music. The rain drumming on the roof and the storm raging

### WHAT'S NEW?

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**President's message,  
cont'd.**

*in the sky are music. Music is the oldest entity. The scope of music is immense and infinite. It is the 'Esperanto' of the world."* Duke Ellington

What an amazing month of April! Springtime in Pensacola kicked off with JazzFest which serves as a catalyst for a number of events that bring the community together!

Pensacola JazzFest sets the tone with amazing talent and music from all over the region for all to enjoy. I am very proud of our Jazz Pensacola family! We worked hard to bring in talent from as far as New Orleans and Miami to our free community event and we couldn't do it without the support of our Volunteers, Donors and Sponsors. Truly, a great success for all!

Now we continue with the course of improving Jazz Heritage here in Pensacola. We will plan for additional performances by our very own Jazz Pensacola Orchestra, which had an excellent debut during the festival! Looking forward to another performance at a gala event in the fall. More to come on this one.

Don't forget, we have our highly rated and loved Jazz Pensacola High Notes podcast, as well as our amazing video series on the history of Women in Jazz this month! Thank you JC and Billy for these amazing, creative gifts!



**President's message,  
cont'd.**

I was told something during Jazz Fest that I think only you, our family can help with. I cannot do it alone.

Jazz Fest is not our culminating event, no! We continue to try to expand our community involvement. We are in discussions to try to establish Jazz Master classes for students in the summer and revive our Gallery Night participation.

To this end we cannot accomplish any of this without your continued support from donors and sponsors. We have added new corporate sponsors but are always interested in those who feel that Jazz touches them, and want to add more to their place in American music history. So, feel free to contribute.



We are looking to pursue expanded grant opportunities for education and performances. I am seeking volunteers to help write the next level of grants and follow through with our fundraising committee. So please contact me and sign up if interested.

Jazz family, I want more. You want more. Together we can make the dream happen. Together we can make history!

Derrick Fishback  
President

## 2024 STUDENT JAZZ COMPETITION UPDATE

BY ROGER VILLINES

Jazz Pensacola conducted the Fourteenth Annual, 2024 Student Jazz Competition on Saturday, March 23, in the Ashmore Auditorium on the campus of Pensacola State College. Part of Jazz Pensacola's mission is to encourage and assist emerging jazz musicians during their student years. The jazz community, including musicians and educators, feels that by welcoming students and giving them an opportunity to showcase and develop their talents, we are helping to create the jazz musicians of the future.

Finalists were chosen from the submitted applications, each including recorded



performances of two tunes demonstrating their jazz skills. Judges for the event were professional musicians Steve Gilmore, Bob Maksymkow and Bobby van Deusen. Also, the students were accompanied by professional musicians Mary Chavez, Steve Douglas and Jimmy Roebuck.



**Following are placements and awards. They are all winners:**

**High School Instrumental Division:**

**First Place: Christy Malaise** - Pace High School - \$400

**Second Place: Emily Jumonville** - Pace High School - \$200

**Third Place: Elaina Rowell** - Pace High School - \$100

**Jazz Vocal Division:**

**First Place: Mikael Patriarca** - University of West Florida - \$500

**Second Place: Aitana Moore** - Niceville High School - \$300

**Third Place: Katherine Nielson** - Niceville High School - \$150

**Fourth Place: Brooke Ryan** - University of West Florida - \$150

**College Instrumental Division:**

**First Place: David Lyon** - University of West Florida - \$500

**Second Place: Nehemiah Trotman** - University of West Florida - \$300

**Third Place: Alyssa-James Gray** - University of West Florida - \$150



**Thanks to our Student  
Competition Sponsors and  
Jazz Education Team  
Supporters (JETS):**



- Arts, Culture and Entertainment (ACE)
- Florida Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture
- Schmidt's Music
- Studer Foundation

**Individual Sponsors:**

- Dr. Michelle Brandhorst
- Steve Douglas
- Derrick Fishback
- Nancy Griffin
- Carolyn Tokson
- Bobby Van Deusen
- Roger and Kat Villines
- Ellen Vinson

**The UWF Jazz Combo  
and UWF Jazz Ensemble:  
Tuesday, April 23, 2024,  
7:30 PM**

Join the UWF Combo and UWF Jazz Ensemble for an evening of small and large ensemble instrumental and vocal jazz at the University of West Florida. The Combo will present works by Billy Taylor, Rodgers & Hart, Herbie Hancock, Hirokuzo Ando, George Searing and more. The Jazz Ensemble will present the music of Maynard Ferguson, Eubie Blake, Duke Ellington, Radiohead, Benny Carter and more. The combo and jazz ensemble are under the direction of Dr. Joseph T. Spaniola. The performance takes place at the UWF Center of Fine and Performing Arts, Mainstage Theatre on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, 7:30 PM. The concert is free and open to the public.

## JAZZ PENSACOLA EVENTS **APRIL 2024**

**4/15 JAZZ IN THE QUARTER - 1 NIGHT, 3 COLLEGE JAZZ ENSEMBLES**  
PHINEAS PHOGG'S IN SEVILLE QTR @ 6:30 PM

**4/22 NEW JAZZ UNDERGROUND**  
THE HANDLEBAR, DOWNTOWN PENSACOLA @ 7:00 PM

**4/23 UWF JAZZ COMBO & ENSEMBLE, UWF CENTER OF FINE AND**  
PERFORMING ARTS @ 7:30 PM

**4/23 JAZZ BY THE BOOKS\* - PENSACOLA SPRING STREET**  
LIBRARY @ 12:00 - 2:00 PM

BRING YOUR LUNCH AND ENJOY A PERFORMANCE THAT HAS DELIGHTED AUDIENCES AROUND THE WORLD WITH HIS SHOWMANSHIP AND EXCEPTIONAL MUSICAL TALENT, PENSACOLA'S OWN BOBBY VAN DEUSEN.

**\*FREE COMMUNITY EVENT MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN WEST FLORIDA PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND JAZZ PENSACOLA.**

**5/01 RX: JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED**  
ASCENSION SACRED HEART HOSPITAL  
5151 N. 9TH AVENUE @ 2:00 - 4:00 PM