

Overture

online



Black History Month: Reflections

**Marc Sazer Elected New
Vice President**

**Member Spotlight:
India.Arie**

Overture

online

- Official monthly electronic magazine of the
American Federation of Musicians Local 47 -

ISSN: 2379-1322

Publisher: AFM Local 47
3220 Winona Ave.
Burbank CA 91504
323.462.2161
www.afm47.org

Editor: Danita Ng-Poss
Managing Editor /
Layout / Graphics /
Advertising:
Linda A. Rapka

AFM LOCAL
47

Message From the Editor

Please be aware that until further notice, AFM Local 47 will not be publishing, due to cost-saving measures, a print Overture Magazine. We will continue to publish our monthly digital e-magazine, Overture Online, and will continue email blasts and our Local 47 Beat email newsletter.

Additionally, officer reports will now be published quarterly, rather than monthly.

In order to better serve you, Local 47 is looking at every possible way to cut costs and save on administrative expenses. One simple yet effective step all members can take to help us reduce expenses is to add your current email address to your Directory profile. This allows us to ensure that you receive timely updates from Local 47 in the most cost-effective way possible.

Please update your Directory profile with your current email and notification preferences by filling out the update form at afm47.org/directory or call 323.462.2161. Thank you!

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New Vice President



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India.Arie



AFM Local 47 Diversity Committee

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Live/Prep Wage Scale Updates
for 2022

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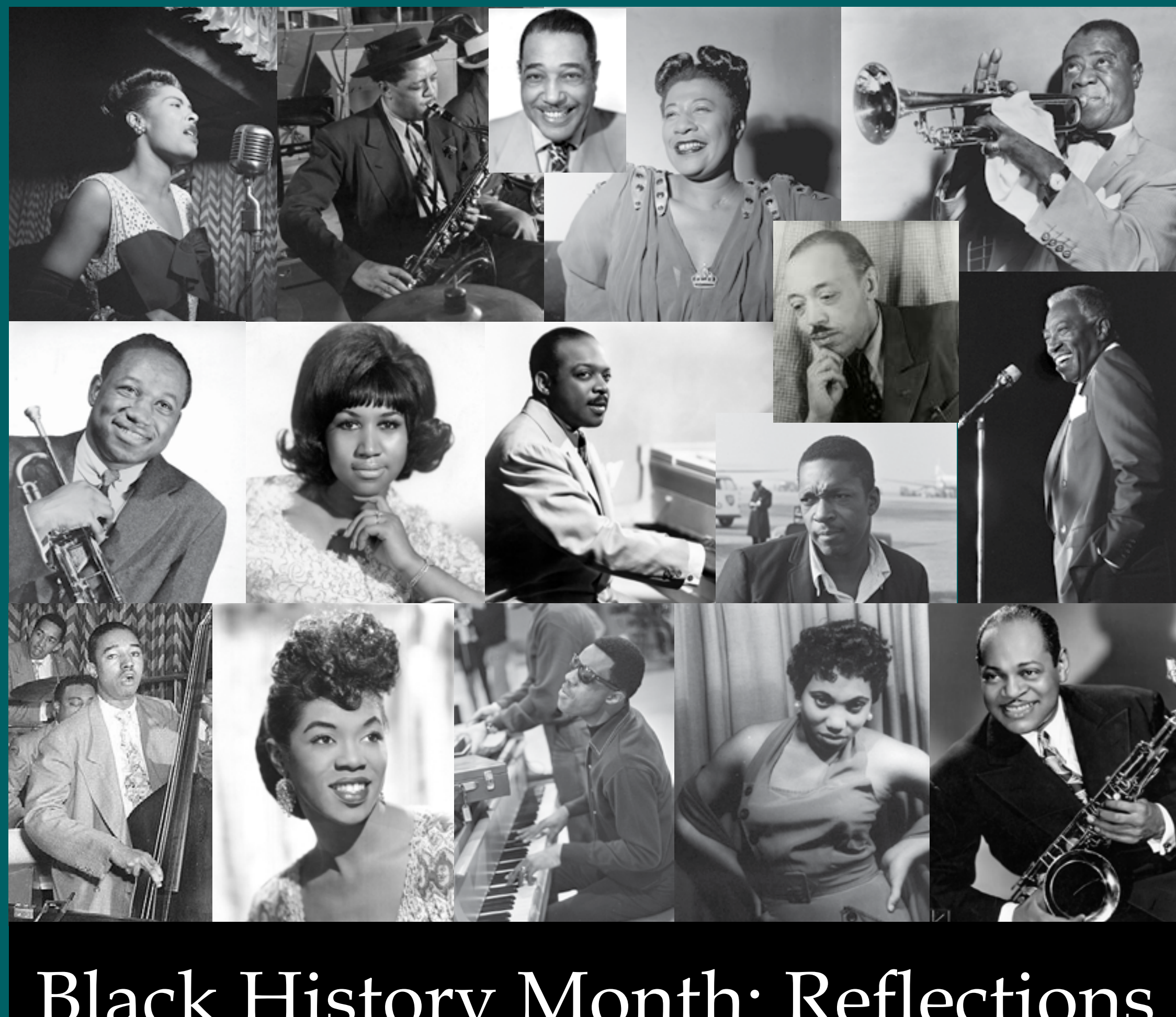
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Black History Month: Reflections

February is the annual celebration of the lives, work, and influence of Black Americans to U.S. history and culture. This Black History Month we celebrate Black musicians whose groundbreaking music helped change the world of music.

Billie Holiday

Billie Holiday is considered one of the best jazz vocalists of all time, Holiday had a thriving career as a jazz singer for many years before she lost her battle with substance abuse. Also known as Lady Day, her autobiography was made into the 1972 film "Lady Sings the Blues." In 2000, Holiday was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. - [Biography.com](https://www.biography.com/music/billie-holiday)



Public Domain, photo by William P. Gottlieb, Feb. 1947

Lester Young

Lester Willis Young, aka "Prez," was a famous jazz saxophonist born in Woodville, Mississippi on August 27, 1909. Young eventually settled in Kansas City in 1933, where he began performing with a number of small time bands. It was here that he met Count Basie, who was a prominent jazz composer and band-leader. Young became a full time member of Basie's orchestra and fit in well with their relaxed style of playing. He temporarily left the band to join Fletcher Henderson's orchestra and then the Andy Kirk band, before rejoining Basie's band. One of his last and most memorable performances was with Billie Holiday, among others, in a televised performance for CBS in 1957. - [FamousAfricanAmericans.org](https://www.famousafricanamericans.org/lester-young)



Public Domain, photo by LIFE Magazine, 1944

Duke Ellington

An originator of big-band jazz, Duke Ellington was an American composer, pianist and bandleader who composed thousands of scores over his 50-year career. A major figure in the history of jazz music, Duke Ellington's career spanned more than half a century, during which time he composed thousands of songs for the stage, screen and contemporary songbook. He created one of the most distinctive ensemble sounds in Western music and continued to play what he called "American Music" until shortly before his death in 1974. - [Biography.com](https://www.biography.com/music/duke-ellington)



Public Domain, circa 1940s

Ella Fitzgerald

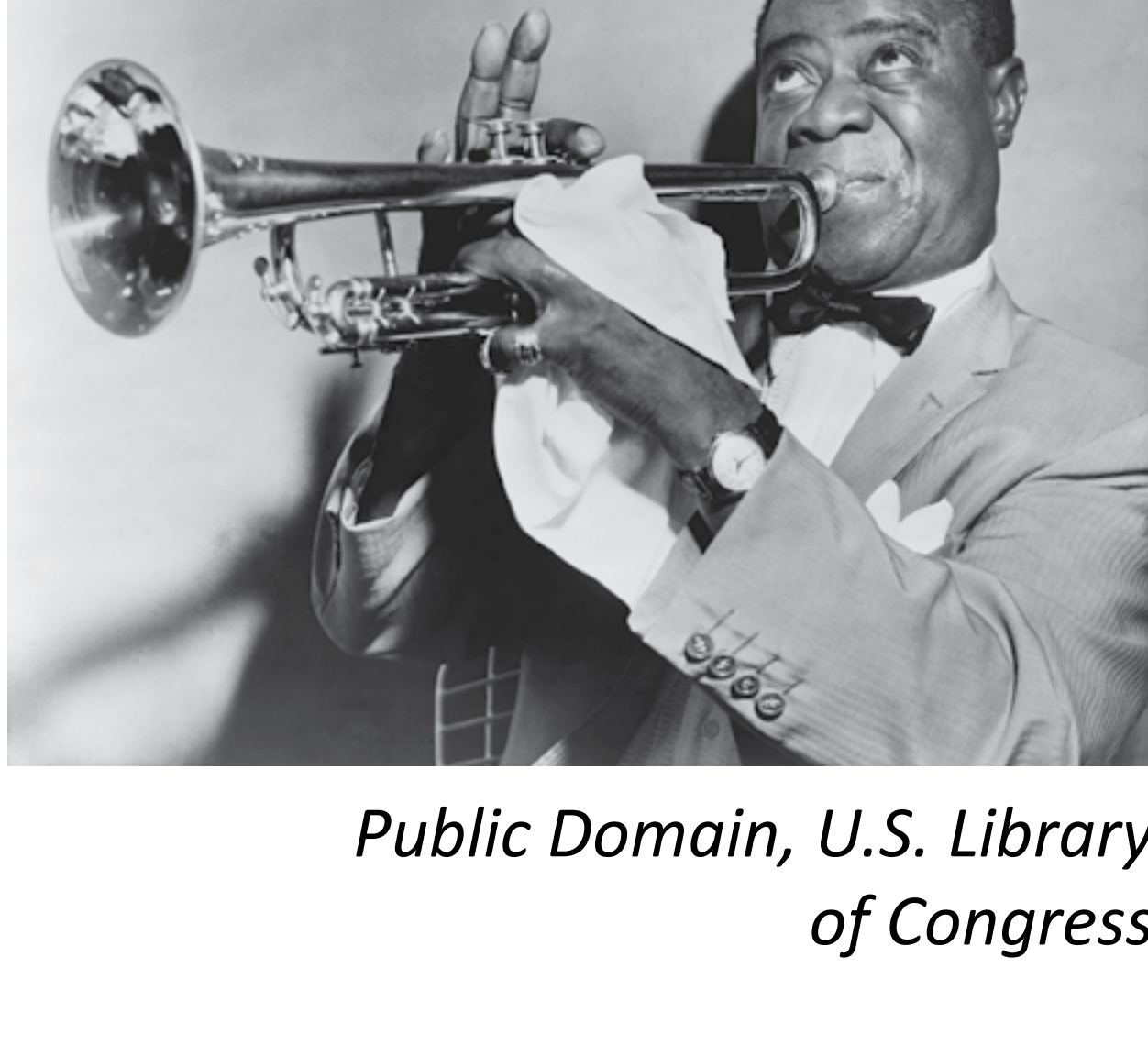
Ella Fitzgerald, known as the "First Lady of Song" and "Lady Ella," was an immensely popular American jazz and song vocalist who interpreted much of the Great American Songbook. She turned to singing after a troubled childhood and debuted at the Apollo Theater in 1934. Discovered in an amateur contest, she went on to become the top female jazz singer for decades. In 1958, Fitzgerald made history as the first African American woman to win a Grammy Award. Due in no small part to her vocal quality, with lucid intonation and a broad range, the singer would go on to win 13 Grammys in total and sell more than 40 million albums. Her multi-volume "songbooks" on Verve Records are among America's recording treasures. - [Biography.com](https://www.biography.com/music/ella-fitzgerald)



Public Domain, photo by William P. Gottlieb

Louis Armstrong

Louis Armstrong, nicknamed "Satchmo," "Pops" and, later, "Ambassador Satch," was a native of New Orleans, Louisiana. An all-star virtuoso, he came to prominence in the 1920s, influencing countless musicians with both his daring trumpet style and unique vocals. Armstrong's charismatic stage presence impressed not only the jazz world but all of popular music. He recorded several songs throughout his career, including he is known for songs like "Star Dust," "La Vie En Rose" and "What a Wonderful World." One of the most important figures in 20th century music, Armstrong's innovations as a trumpeter and vocalist are widely recognized today, and will continue to be for decades to come. - [Biography.com](https://www.biography.com/music/louis-armstrong)



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Black History Month: Reflections

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Clifford Brown

Clifford Brown was one of the 20th century's greatest trumpet players. He represented the highest level of instrumental excellence and influenced a generation of jazz musicians. Dizzy Gillespie called him "the next major voice in the line of trumpeters."

As impressive and historically important as his musical accomplishments were, his personal impact on those who knew him is also quite extraordinary.

His profound work ethic, personal integrity, kind-hearted nature, and commitment to excellence deeply affected his friends and fellow musicians. In the early morning hours of June 27, 1956, while driving to Chicago for an engagement at The Blue Note, Brown and another quintet member, pianist Richie Powell, and Powell's wife Nancy, were killed in an auto accident on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Clifford Brown was 25 years old. - [PhiladelphiaMusicAlliance.org](https://philadelphiamusicalliance.org)



Public Domain by The News

Journal, 1956

Aretha Franklin

Multiple Grammy winner and "Queen of Soul" Aretha Franklin was known for such hits as "Respect," "Freeway of Love" and "I Say a Little Prayer." A gifted singer and pianist, Franklin toured with her father's traveling revival show and later visited New York, where she signed with Columbia Records. Franklin went

on to release several popular singles, many of which are now considered classics. In 1987 she became the first female artist to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and in 2008 she won her 18th Grammy Award, making her one of the most honored artists in Grammy history. - [Biography.com](https://www.biography.com)



Public Domain, by Atlantic Records/

Billboard, 1968

Count Basie

One of jazz music's all-time greats, bandleader-pianist Count Basie was a primary shaper of the big-band sound that characterized mid-20th century popular music. Basie played vaudeville before eventually forming his own big band and helping to define the era of swing with hits like "One O'Clock Jump" and "Blue Skies."

In 1958, Basie became the first African American male recipient of a Grammy Award. One of jazz music's all-time greats, he won many other Grammys throughout his career and worked with a plethora of artists, including Joe Williams and Ella Fitzgerald. Basie suffered from health issues in his later years, and died from cancer in Hollywood, Florida, on April 26, 1984. He left the world an almost unparalleled legacy of musical greatness, having recorded or been affiliated with dozens upon dozens of albums during his lifetime. - [Biography.com](https://www.biography.com)



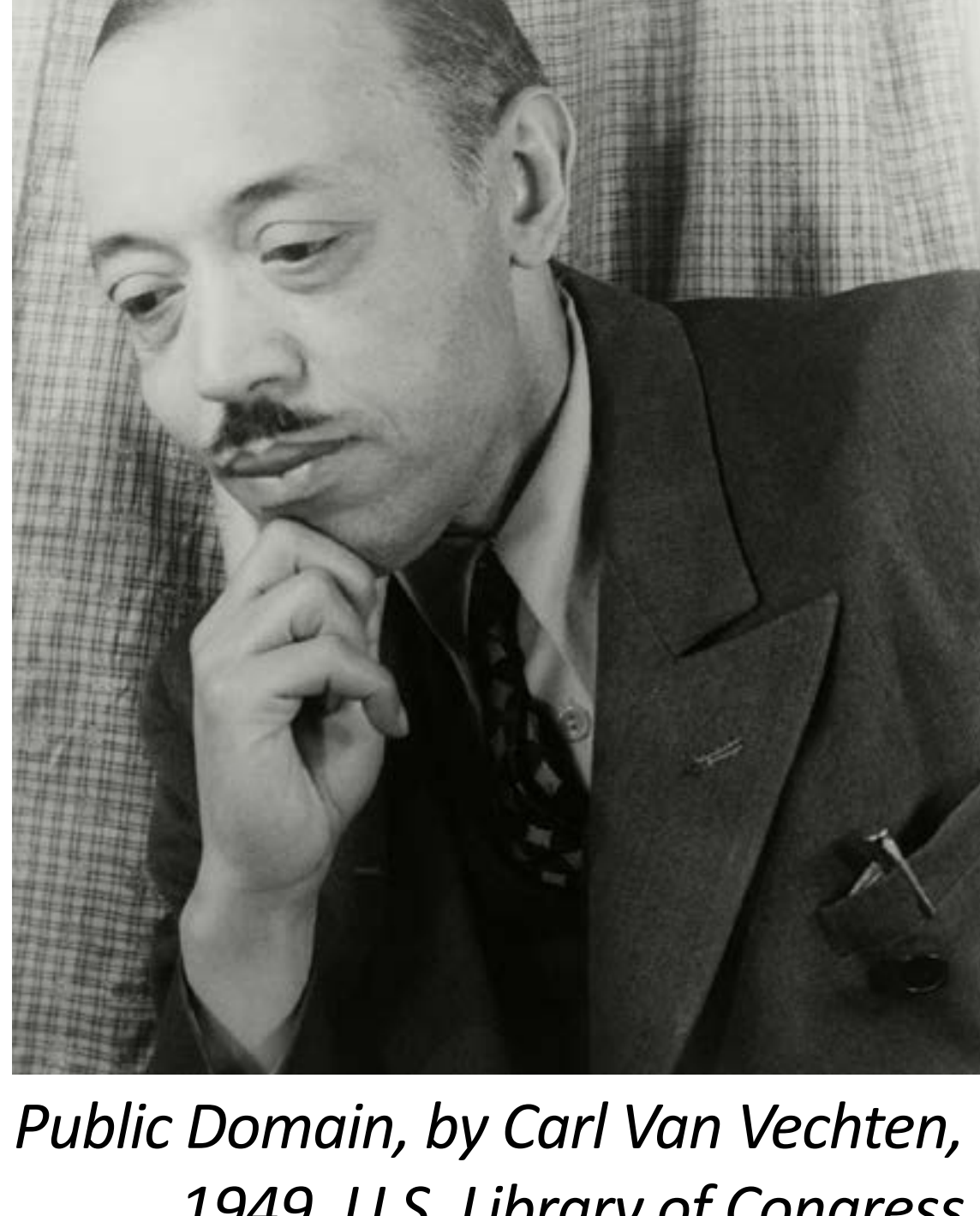
Public Domain, photo by

James J. Kriegsman, 1955

William Grant Still

William Grant Still, born May 11, 1895, Woodville, Mississippi, was an American composer and conductor and the first African American to conduct a professional symphony orchestra in the United States. Still's concern with the position of African Americans in U.S. society is reflected in many of his works, notably the "Afro-American Symphony" (1931); the ballets

"Sahdji" (1930), set in Africa and composed after extensive study of African music, and "Lenox Avenue" (1937); and the operas "The Troubled Island" (1938; produced 1949), with a libretto by Langston Hughes, and "Highway No. 1, U.S.A." (produced 1963 and 1977). During this time, Still also made history when he conducted (1936) the Los Angeles Philharmonic. In 1939 he married, settling in Los Angeles. Still's compositions from the mid-1930s show the jazz band as a major influence on his eclectic musical style. He made considerable use of material in the African American style—though rarely borrowing actual melodies—and preferred simple, commercial harmonies and orchestration, the use of which, however, was characterized by the highest professionalism and seriousness of purpose. Still died December 3, 1978, in Los Angeles, California. - [Brittanica.com](https://www.britannica.com)



Public Domain, by Carl Van Vechten,

1949, U.S. Library of Congress

John Coltrane

John Coltrane was an acclaimed American saxophonist, bandleader and composer, becoming an iconic figure of jazz in the 20th century with albums like "Giant Steps," "My Favorite Things" and "A Love Supreme."

During the 1940s and

'50s, Coltrane developed his craft as a saxophonist and composer, working with famed musicians/bandleaders Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington and Miles Davis. Coltrane turned the jazz world on its head with technically marvelous, innovative playing that was thrillingly dense and fluid in its understanding of the genre; his virtuosity and vision could be heard on the now revered albums Giant Steps, My Favorite Things and A Love Supreme, among others. He died from liver cancer at 40 years old on July 17, 1967, in Huntington, Long Island, New York. - [Biography.com](https://www.biography.com)



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Hugo van Gelderen, 1963

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Black History Month: Reflections

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Joe Williams

Joe Williams, born Joseph Goreed on December 12, 1918, was an American singer known for his mastery of jazz, blues, and ballads and for his association with Count Basie in the 1950s.

In 1937 he joined clarinetist Jimmie Noone's band, which was broadcast nationally. Subsequently Williams worked

with the big bands of Coleman Hawkins, Lionel Hampton, Andy Kirk, and Red Saunders; he made his recording debut in 1950. Williams's breakthrough came when he joined the Count Basie Orchestra in 1954. His recording of "Every Day I Have the Blues" with Basie in 1955 made him famous and was a factor in the Basie band's comeback. Staying with Basie until 1961, Williams also had hits with "Alright, Okay, You Win," "Going to Chicago," and "The Comeback." The rich timbre of Williams's baritone voice, his smooth delivery, his wit, and his style were widely appreciated by critics, audiences, and other performers. He died March 29, 1999, in Las Vegas, Nevada. - [Brittanica.com](#)



Photo by Brian McMillen, 1986

(CC BY-SA 4.0)

Ray Brown

Ray Brown was an American string bassist and one of the greatest of all jazz virtuosos. Brown first made his mark at age 19 when he went to New York City to join Dizzy Gillespie's band at a time when the modern jazz revolution, spearheaded by saxophonist Charlie Parker, was just getting under way. Brown began reaching wider audiences in the late 1940s when he started

working with singer Ella Fitzgerald (the couple married in 1947 and divorced in 1952), and from 1951 to 1966 he was a member of the Oscar Peterson Trio, considered by many to be the finest small group in jazz history. Beginning in 1952 he was a frequent performer on Norman Granz's popular Jazz at the Philharmonic concert tours. Brown's playing was characterized by magnificent tonal resonance, extremely subtle grasp of harmony, and astonishing technique. After leaving Peterson's trio in 1966, Brown settled in California, where he became a freelance and studio musician. He played on more than 2,000 recordings and worked with such musicians as Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, and Frank Sinatra. Brown continued to perform until his death in 2002. - [Britannica.com](#)



Photo by McOleo, circa 1947 (CC0)

Sarah Vaughan

Sarah Vaughan, also known as "Sassy" and "the Divine One," was an American jazz vocalist and pianist known for her rich voice, with an unusually wide range, and for the inventiveness and virtuosity of her improvisations. After winning an amateur contest at Harlem's famed Apollo Theater in 1942, she was hired as a singer and second pianist by the

Earl Hines Orchestra. A year later she joined the singer Billy Eckstine's band, where she met Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker. By the mid-1940s Vaughan began singing with John Kirby and appearing on television variety shows. During the 1950s her audience grew as she toured both the United States and Europe, and she signed with Mercury Record Corporation and EmArcy, Mercury's jazz label, in 1953 to sing both pop and jazz. She also appeared in three movies in that period—"Jazz Festival" (1956), "Disc Jockey" (1951), and "Basin Street Revue" (1956). A contralto with a range of three octaves, she came to be regarded as one of the greatest of all jazz singers. Among her best-known songs were "It's Magic," "Make Yourself Comfortable," "Broken-Hearted Melody," "Misty," and "Send in the Clowns." Vaughan died in 1990, the same year in which she was inducted into the Jazz Hall of Fame. - [Brittanica.com](#)



Public Domain, photo by

James Kriegsmann, 1955

Black History Month: Reflections

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Marvin Gaye

Marvin Gaye was a soul singer-songwriter with Motown in the 1960s and 1970s. He produced his own records and often addressed controversial themes. He sang in his father's church and in the Moonglows before signing with Motown. Throughout the 1960s, Gaye would show his immense range, churning out solo dance hits and romantic duets with hit-makers like Diana Ross and Mary Wells. For three high-flying years, Gaye and Tammi Terrell wowed the country with their soaring duet performances of songs like "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" and "If I Could Build My Whole World Around You." Gaye's later records developed his production style and yielded several hits, including "Let's Get It On," "Sexual Healing" and "I Heard it Through the Grapevine." In 1970, inspired by escalating violence and political unrest over the Vietnam War, Gaye wrote the landmark song "What's Going On." Gaye was killed in 1984 during a domestic dispute with his father.

[- Biography.com](#)



Public Domain, photo by Jim Britt, 1973

Leontyne Price

Soprano Leontyne Price is widely regarded as the first African American to gain international acclaim as a professional opera singer. Renowned for her early stage and television work, Price made her opera stage debut at the San Francisco Opera in 1957, and her debut at New York City's Metropolitan Opera House in 1961. One of the first African



Public Domain, photo by Carl Van Vechten, 1953, U.S. Library of Congress

American singers to earn international acclaim in the field, Price became known for her roles in "Il Trovatore," "Antony and Cleopatra" and "Aida," before retiring from the opera in 1985. Price continued to perform recitals for the next dozen years before retiring from the stage. She briefly came out of retirement in October 2001, to sing at a concert honoring victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Price has established an impressive legacy, achieving stardom as a woman of color during a time of segregation in America and in a profession where limited opportunities existed for someone with her background.

[- Biography.com](#)

Coleman Hawkins

Coleman Hawkins, in full Coleman Randolph Hawkins, born November 21, 1904, was an American jazz musician whose improvisational mastery of the tenor saxophone, which had previously been viewed as little more than a novelty, helped establish it as one of the most popular instruments in jazz. Hawkins was one of the first jazz horn players with a full understanding of intricate chord progressions, and he influenced many of the great saxophonists of the swing era (notably Ben Webster and Chu Berry) as well as such leading figures of modern jazz as Sonny Rollins and John Coltrane. From the 1940s on he led small groups, recording frequently and playing widely in the United States and Europe with Jazz at the Philharmonic and other tours. He willingly embraced the changes that occurred in jazz over the years, playing with Dizzy Gillespie and Max Roach in what were apparently the earliest bebop recordings (1944). In time he also became an outstanding blues improviser, with harsh low notes that revealed a new ferocity in his art. Despite alcoholism and ill health, he continued playing until shortly before his death in 1969. [- Britannica.com](#)



Public Domain, Billboard ad, 1945

Black History Month: Reflections

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Langston Hughes

Public Domain by Carl Van Vechten, 1936



Maya Angelou

by York College ISLGP, 2013 (CC-BY-2.0)



Amanda Gorman

by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 2021 (CC-BY-2.0)

The Power of Words

Music and poetry carry a timeless relationship with one another. Poetry is about rhythm, flow, expression, feelings, deeper meanings. Instrumental music shows as much expression, while it certainly flows and emits emotions with the main difference being the absence of words. There's a mode of repetition, whether in the form of words or musical notes, to create a pattern, to act as a reminder, to make it unforgettable, to draw emphasis. It's hardly surprising that music and poetry have been combined for centuries and will likely do so for eternity. In recognition of this boundless connection, we reflect on the important words of Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, and Amanda Gorman.

Dreams

by Langston Hughes

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

by Maya Angelou

The free bird leaps
on the back of the win
and floats downstream
till the current ends
and dips his wings
in the orange sun rays
and dares to claim the sky.

But a bird that stalks
down his narrow cage
can seldom see through
his bars of rage
his wings are clipped and
his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings
with fearful trill
of the things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill for the caged bird
sings of freedom

The free bird thinks of another breeze
and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees
and the fat worms waiting on a dawn-bright lawn
and he names the sky his own.

But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams
his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing

The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom.

Amanda Gorman, the nation's first-ever youth poet laureate, read a powerful poem during the inauguration of President Joe Biden on January 20, 2021. You may read, and listen to her deliver it live from the Capitol, [here](#).



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Marc Sazer Elected New Local 47 Vice President

At the Jan. 24, 2022 Local 47 General Membership Meeting, a Special Election to fill the vacancy for Vice President took place, following the resignation of Rick Baptist in November 2021. The results of voting are as follows:

Marc Sazer: 51 (Winner)

Kirstin Fife: 38

Bonnie Janofsky: 22

As per the Local 47 bylaws, Sazer assumed office immediately upon the completion of the ballot count announcement and certification by the Election Board during the meeting. Sazer succeeds Bonnie Janofsky, who was appointed by the Executive Board on Nov. 26, 2021 to serve as interim vice president until the Special Election. Rick Baptist had served as vice president since January 2015.

Sazer, a native Angeleno, has enjoyed a long career as a violinist both in the recording studios of Hollywood and in Southern California concert halls. He was a scholarship student at Stanford University, where he studied with David Abel. He studied violin with Charles Libove, and chamber music with Raphael Druian, Oscar Shumsky, Berl Senofsky, Karen Tuttle and others, and is a graduate of the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore.

He has performed for innumerable film, television, recording and other media projects, from TV shows like “Animaniacs” and “Pinky & the Brain” to the “Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.” and “Empire,” films from “My Big Fat Greek Wedding” to “Star Wars Episode IX,” to sound recordings for Shirley Horn, Frank Sinatra, Randy Newman and more. He is currently on leave of absence from his role as a longtime tenured member of the first violin section of the Pasadena Symphony.

Marc has consistently dedicated himself to volunteering on behalf of his colleagues and future union musicians. He has spoken at and participated in numerous American Federation of Musicians (AFM) Conventions and other AFM functions include presentations at the Western Conference of Locals, the International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians (ICSOM), the Regional Orchestra Players Association (ROPA), Theatre Musicians Association (TMA) and Organization of Canadian Symphony Musicians (OCSM). He has been an officer of the Recording Musicians Association (RMA), and a member of the TMA and the ROPA. He has participated in multiple contract negotiations, contract campaigns, internal organizing efforts, labor research and legislative campaigns on behalf of musicians. In the context of those efforts, he has participated in AFL-CIO trainings, mentoring offered by research staff at the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE) and is a participant in a regular labor training series offered by the AFL-CIO. For many years, he has represented Local 47 and the AFM in working on issues with SAG-AFTRA, IATSE and other adjacent unions, the County and State Federations of Labor and elected officials on the local, state and federal level.

The Vice President’s office at Local 47 is responsible for multiple crucial areas of service to our members and our mission. Marc is honored to be able to serve our members.



#AFM47 Member Spotlight: India.Arie

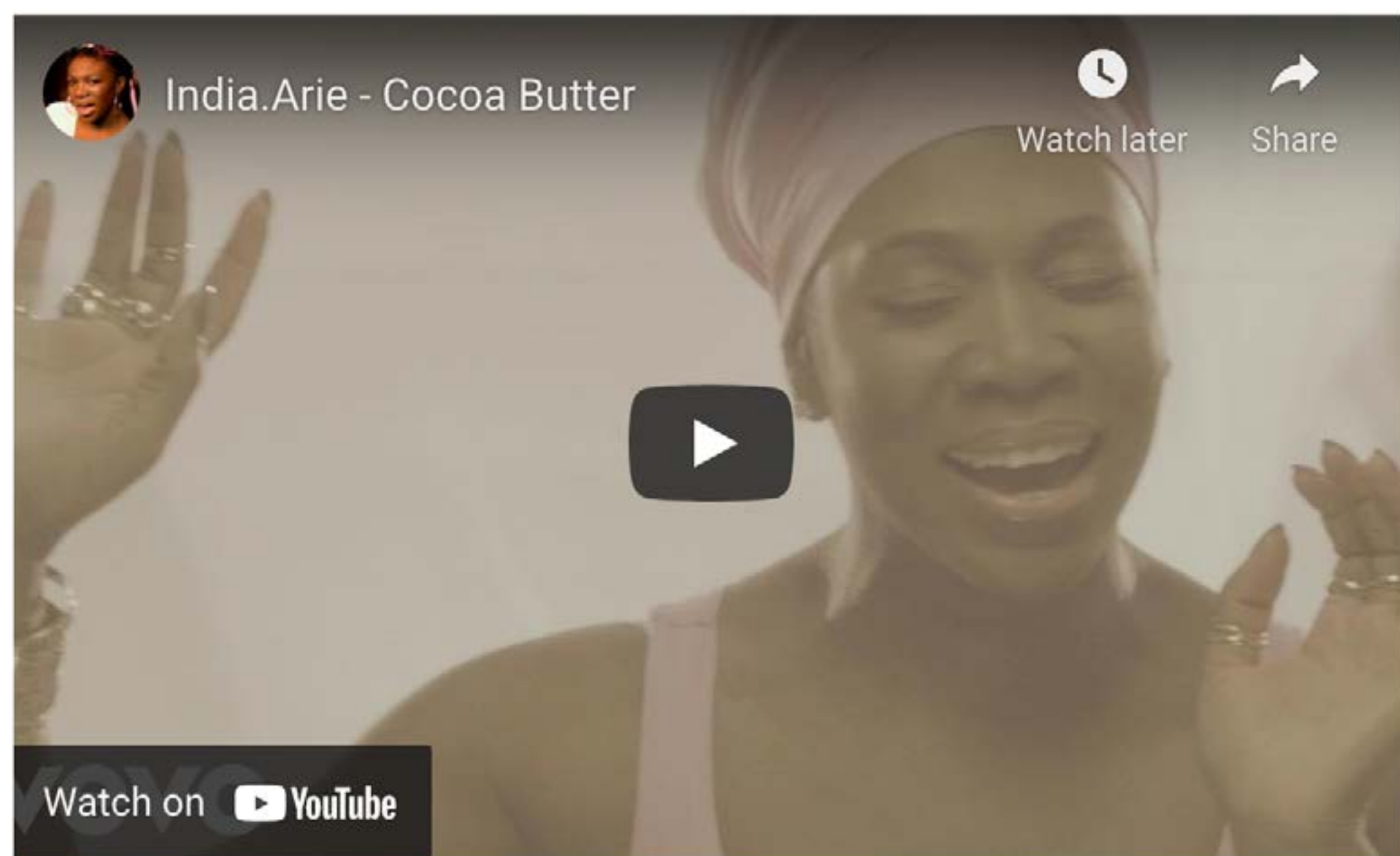
India.Arie Simpson is among a small class of post-millennial R&B artists more likely to recall the likes of Roberta Flack and Bill Withers than almost any given artist played by urban contemporary radio stations.

An AFM Local 47 member since 2003, she was born in Denver to parents from Memphis and Detroit. Her musical skills were encouraged by both parents in her younger years; her mother is a former singer (she was signed to Motown as a teenager and opened for Stevie Wonder and Al Green) and is now her stylist. India.Arie had taken up a succession of musical instruments throughout her schooling in Denver, but her interest in the guitar while attending the Savannah College of Art and Design led to a personal revelation about songwriting and performing.

“When I started tapping into my own sensitivity, I started to understand people better,” she says. “It was a direct result of writing songs.”

To date, India.Arie has sold over 10 million records worldwide, and won four Grammy Awards from her 21 nominations, including Best R&B Album.

Watch the music video for “Cocoa Butter” off of the 2013 album *SongVersation*, recorded AFM here in Los Angeles:



Member Spotlight



AFM LOCAL 47 #WhyUnion?



So often, people ask why they should join the Union, why a project should be placed under a Union contract, or even why, once joining, they should remain a Union member.

We're asking the members of Local 47 who, year in and year out, renew their membership, bring projects to the Local to be placed under contract, and perhaps encourage their friends and colleagues to join or remain in the Local, to answer.

Our #WhyUnion? campaign features members from every part of our profession, answering in their own words, this question: “Why Union?” Read what AFM Local 47 members have answered so far at WhyUnion.org.

What's your answer?

Submit your **#WhyUnion?** photo and answer [here](http://WhyUnion.org).

General Membership Meeting

Monday, April 25, 7:30pm



Open to members
in good standing

SAVE THE DATE!

Next General Membership Meeting: April 25, 2022

LOCATION: TBA

On the Agenda (subject to change):

- Presentation of 50-Year Pins
- Elections for Election Board and Salary Review Board
- Officer Reports
- Old and New Business

Open to all AFM Local 47 members in good standing.
50 members constitutes a quorum for a General Meeting. Please review our meeting policies [here](#).



Next General Membership Meeting

Monday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.

Open to all members in good standing

More info @ afm47.org/gmm

Executive Board Meetings

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Members welcome as observers

New Member Orientation

Third Thursdays, 10 a.m.

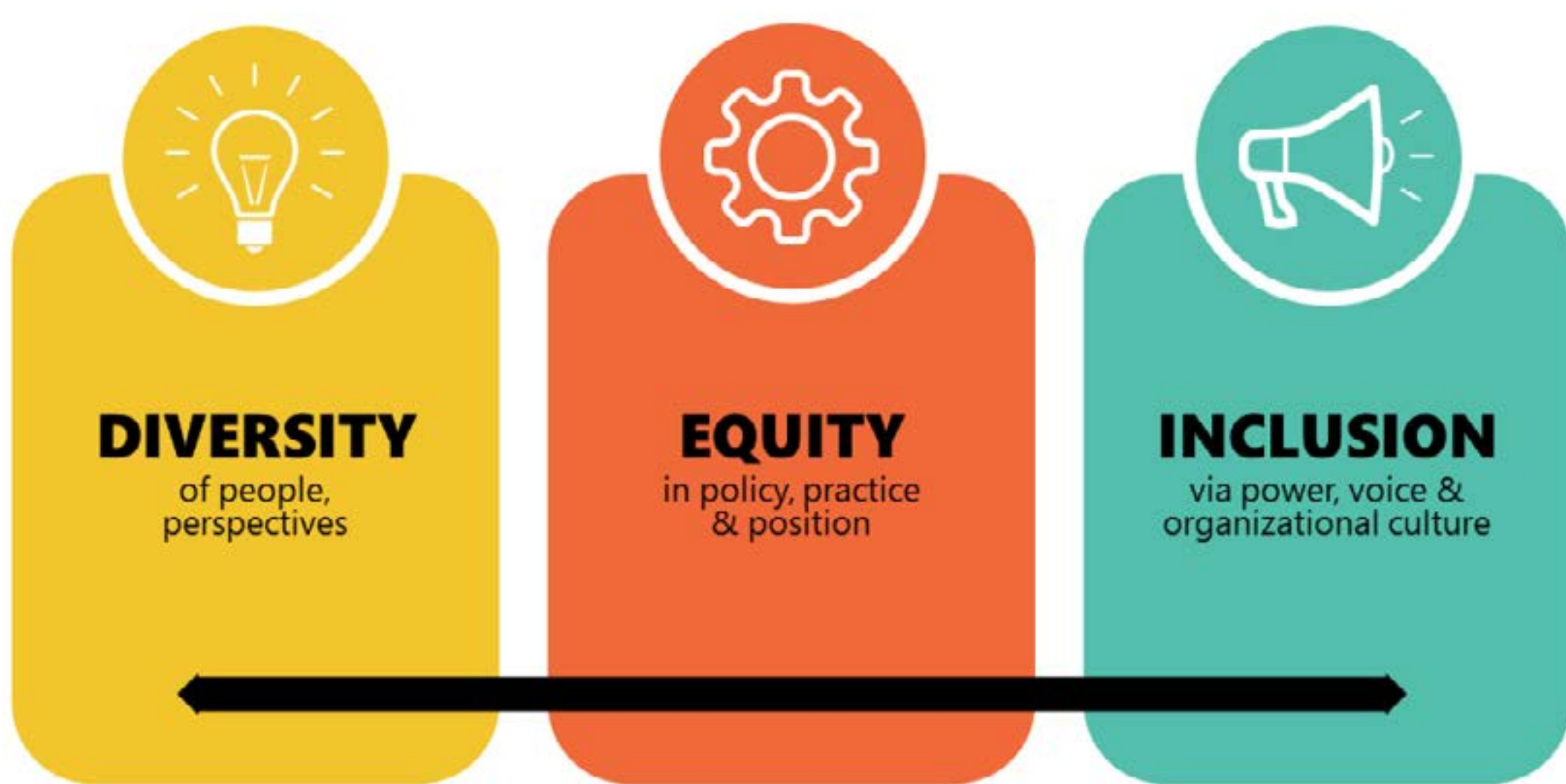
Required of all new members.

For details please visit afm47.org/orientation

Office Closures

Monday, February 21 - Presidents' Day

Please Note: While our offices remain closed due to Covid, meetings are currently held via Zoom unless otherwise noted. View our full calendar @ afm47.org/calendar



AFM Local 47 Diversity Committee

AFM Local 47 acknowledges the importance of every musician's identity being understood, respected and valued.

The Local has a compelling interest in making sure that people from all backgrounds perceive that access to the world of music performance is possible for ALL talented musicians and composers.

Our mission is to reflect our diversity, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, social class, physical ability or attributes, religious or ethnical values system, national origin, and political beliefs.

We welcome your input, your ideas, and your thoughts about these very important topics.

diversity@afm47.org

As we reach the end of the first year of our Local 47 Diversity Committee, the Executive Board would like to thank the outgoing Committee Chair, President Emeritus, John Acosta, for helping to spearhead and establish this very important body.

Additionally, I will be stepping down as a member of the committee, as I feel strongly that, at this juncture, the committee should be composed solely of working musicians here in Los Angeles.

I have great confidence in the collective leadership contained in the committee's membership:

Susan Chatman
John Clayton
Songa Lee
Marisa McLeod
Francisco Torres
Cecilia Tsan
Karl Vincent

In Solidarity,
Stephanie O'Keefe, President
AFM Local 47



Live/Prep Wage Scale Updates for 2022

The AFM Local 47 Live Performance/Music Prep for Live Performance Wage Scales have been updated for 2022. A digital copy of the book is now available in the [members-only section of our website](#) (login required). Print copies of the book will be available soon; please contact the Live Performance Department for more information.



**Pay by March 31 to avoid
late fees & suspension!**

afm47.org/dues | 323.993.3116





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Make sure your contact info is up-to-date with our Directory Department to ensure timely delivery of dues statements and important news updates.

**afm47.org/directory
323.462.2161**

AFM LOCAL **47**

Musicians' Club of Los Angeles 2020 Audit Report

As announced last month, the 2020 financial report for the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles is available in the [members-only section of our website](#), or upon request from the Secretary's Office: 323.993.3162, webmaster@afm47.org

Claim Your Money!

[The musicians listed here](#) have not responded to notices of checks in escrow at Local 47. If your name is listed or you know the whereabouts of these musicians or their beneficiaries, please contact our Finance Department:

323.993.3146, bookkeeping@afm47.org

Update Your Beneficiary Card

Your beneficiary card designates the recipient of the Local 47 \$1,000 death benefit. If you need to change your beneficiary, update beneficiary information, or if you just can't remember who you have listed, please contact our Benefits Department for a new card:

(323) 993-3159 | benefits@afm47.org

If you have any change of beneficiary or contact info updates, be sure to also to report them to:

AFM Pension Fund (AFM-EPF) – (800) 833-8065

Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund –
(818) 755-7777

Sound Recording Special Payments Fund:
(212) 310-9100

AFM & SAG-AFTRA Intellectual Property Rights
Fund: 818-255-7985

Please note: The Local 47 Death Benefit is not payable to a beneficiary if the member was suspended, expelled or had resigned at the time of passing.

Coronavirus COVID-19

Resources for Musicians

afm47.org/covid19

Find information about the Local 47 Relief Fund and other grants available for musicians, unemployment/ PUA news, community services, and more.

afm47.org/covid19

Membership Updates

Members may log in to the [members section at afm47.org](#) and navigate to the "Members-Only Scales and Documents" page to view Member Updates including Suspended/Expelled member lists, Hearing Representative reports to the Executive Board, and more.



This monthly column is your one-stop-shop for information about all the benefits provided by your union membership. Got a question? [Ask us](#) to have the answer featured here.

Your Health Care & Pension Benefits at a Glance

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS LOCAL 47 AND EMPLOYERS HEALTH & WELFARE FUND

The Professional Musicians Local 47 and Employers Health & Welfare Fund is administered by PacFed Benefit Administrators. AFM Local 47 negotiates benefits on behalf of our members. The Health & Welfare Trust provides medical, dental, vision, chiropractic, acupuncture, prescription drugs and life insurance to musicians who qualify for benefits based upon contributions received on their behalf in accordance with Local 47 and AFM contracts and collective bargaining agreements.

Eligibility

Eligibility for enrollment in the Health & Welfare Fund is based upon contributions the Fund receives on musicians' behalf from Participating Employers. A Participating Employer, or an Employers' Payroll Designee, has entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with the Union which calls for contributions to come to the Health & Welfare Fund. All contributions must come from a Participating Employer; musicians may not "self-pay" into the Health & Welfare Fund.

Coverage

A musician may qualify at one of three levels: Level A (\$1,500+ contribution), Level B (\$1,200-\$1,499 contribution), and Level C (\$700-\$1,199 contribution). Currently the Health & Welfare Fund has contracted with the following benefit providers: Blue Shield, Kaiser Permanente, Landmark Healthplan, Delta Dental, MES Vision underwritten by Gerber Life, and the Prudential Insurance Company of America ("Prudential Life"). To review the Summary Plan Description (SPD), please click [here](#). Any questions regarding a participant or dependent's eligibility and coverage should be directed to the Health & Welfare Fund.

Contact

The Health & Welfare Fund staff can help you with enrollment, coverage and HMO claims. The Health & Welfare Member Services department is available Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-800-753-0222 or by email at musicians@pacfed.com.

Website: pacfed-musicians.com

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY FLEX PLAN

The Entertainment industry Flex Plan is an employee benefit plan which combines both Employer Contributions and Employee Contributions to fund benefits including medical, dental, vision, disability, group term life insurance, and dependent care assistance for union members working in Motion Picture and Television. The Flex Plan was established in 1985 to provide Health and related benefits for "Daily-Hire" Union employees working under Collective Bargaining Agreements in the Entertainment Industry.

Eligibility

The Flex Plan covers each person who is employed by an Employer who has entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with a Local Union providing for Employer Contributions to the Flex Plan. If you are unsure if a specific employer participates in the Flex Plan, contact the Flex Plan. For a complete summary of benefits and information on Employer contributions and Employee contributions, view the Flex Plan Summary Plan Description (SPD).

Coverage

The Plan offers a flexible "cafeteria style" benefit option list in which you design your individual plan according to your needs. If you elect coverage from the Flex Plan Providers, the Flex Plan will make monthly premium payments on your behalf to the carrier(s) you select (provided your account balance is sufficient to pay all of the premiums). Please refer to the Flex Plan Summary of Benefits for descriptions and monthly costs of the coverages offered. If you do not have sufficient funds in your account to pay your premiums, the Flex Plan allows you to "self-pay" the necessary premiums for a period of 12 months.

Contact

Call the Flex Plan Member Services Department at 888.353.9401 (Monday through Friday) between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (PT). You may also contact the Flex Plan electronically here. Website: flexplan.com

SELF-PAY HEALTH CARE

If a musician does not qualify for coverage under the Health & Welfare Fund or the Flex Plan, Covered California offers individuals and small businesses residing in California to purchase private health insurance coverage at federally subsidized rates. For information about coverage outside of California, visit healthcare.gov. AFM Local 47 members may also contact Mark Cormany of French Cormany Insurance Services at 949.975.1155.



BENEFITS CORNER

**AFM LOCAL
47**

PENSION

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS & EMPLOYERS' PENSION FUND (AFM-EPF)

One of the most important benefits your job provides you with is the ability to receive pension benefits when you retire. Even though you can collect Social Security at retirement, your retirement years will be more financially secure if you also receive pension benefits. The American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund (AFM-EPF) is a defined benefit multi-employer pension plan for members of the American Federation of Musicians.

Under a collective bargaining agreement with the AFM and its Local unions, or other written agreement acceptable to the Board of Trustees, your employer has agreed to make contributions to a pension fund to provide pension benefits to you and other employees working as musicians. The Pension Fund is operated by the AFM-EPF Board of Trustees, which consists of an equal number of Federation Trustees and Employer Trustees.

You should keep in mind that you are not guaranteed a pension just because a pension fund has been established to which your employer contributes. The Pension Fund has rules about how you begin to participate, how can you earn a right to your pension, how much you might receive and when you can start getting payments, what happens to your pension if you die before or after retirement, and many other issues. For more information, please contact the Pension Fund office.

Contact

If you have any questions about your pension, contact the AFM-EPF Office at 800.833.8065.

Website: afm-epf.org

**TELL CONGRESS TO
RESTORE TAX FAIRNESS
FOR ARTS WORKERS!**

SIGN THE PETITION AND SEND A LETTER TO
YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TODAY

AFL-CIO



Support #FairPay for All Music Creators!

A Message From AFM International President Ray Hair

As you may know, musicians and vocalists do not receive a single cent when their recordings are broadcast on AM/FM radio stations. Incredibly, the United States is the only industrialized nation besides North Korea and Iran that has no law requiring a broadcast performance royalty for sound recordings to be paid to artists, musicians, and singers.

The American Music Fairness Act, HR 4130, now pending in the U.S. Congress, is designed to remedy that and provide royalty payments to artists, session musicians, and vocalists when their recordings are broadcast over AM and FM radio.

The House Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on "Respecting Artists with the American Music Fairness Act," on Wednesday, February 2 at 7 a.m. PST (10 a.m. EST), via Zoom. [Click here to watch.](#)

Local 257 (Nashville, TN) President Dave Pomeroy has been selected as a panelist for the Judiciary Committee Hearing. He will present testimony in support of musicians and singers whose recordings are heard on AM and FM radio, and will strongly advocate for payment of fair royalties for their work.

This is a critical piece of legislation for all professional musicians and I cannot over-emphasize its importance to every member of our union. I encourage you to tune in on Wednesday at 7 a.m. PST (10 a.m. EST), and [click here to contact your representative](#) today to encourage them to attend the House Judiciary Committee hearing and support the American Music Fairness Act, HR 4130.



In Memoriam

Shirley (Dusti) Dryer

Life Member. Drum Set

10/22/1926 - 1/5/2022

Survived by family

William Gustetto

Life Member. Drum Set

9/9/1937 - 11/14/2021

Survived by spouse

Gloria Hieger

Life Member. Piano

2/15/1926 - 1/5/2022

Survived by family

Roger Larocque

Life Member. Drum Set

2/8/1953 - 10/21/2021

Survived by spouse & siblings

Lionel (Billy) Moore

Life Member. Drum Set

2/18/1934 - 11/16/2021

Survived by spouse

Send your Final Notes remembrances using our online submission form at: afm47.org/overture

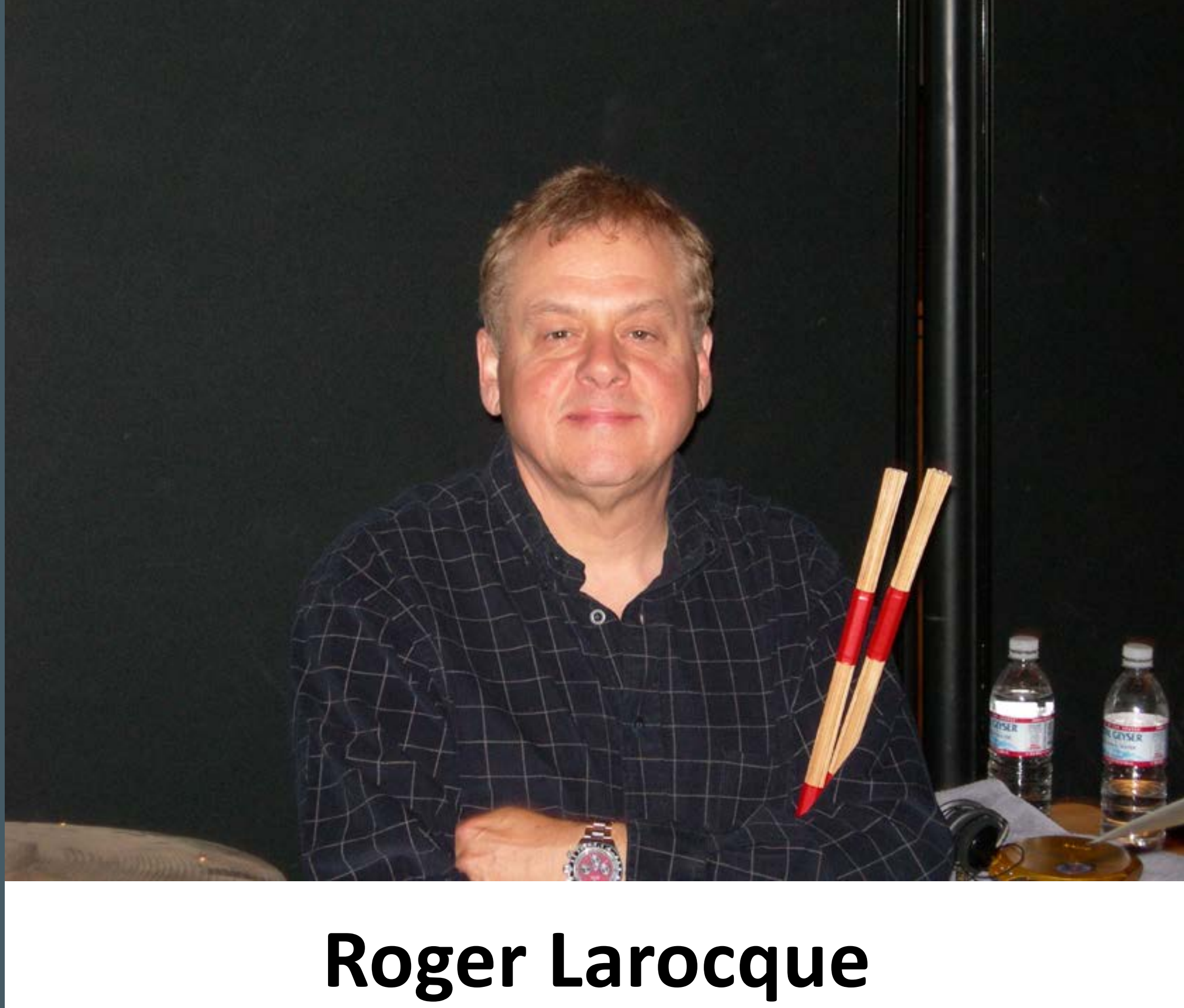
or you may send to:

overture@afm47.org

Local 47 Overture Online

3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504



Roger Larocque

Life Member. Drum Set

2/8/1953 – 10/31/2021

by Peter Andrews

Roger Larocque, drummer, percussionist, composer, arranger, engineer and producer extraordinaire, passed away on October 31, 2021 of complications resulting from a long battle with diabetes.

He was born on February 8, 1953 in Kilmar, Quebec, Canada. He received a BA in Music and Percussion from McGill University, Canada with subsequent back and forth visits to New York where his performing and studies continued. During this time, he performed on the French Canadian Grammys for the CBC and with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra for Les Grands Ballets Canadiens.

In 1983 he moved to Hollywood where he eventually taught and studied at the prestigious Dick Grove School of Music achieving diplomas in drums/percussion, songwriting and synthesizers. Upon establishing a solid work situation, he began the long process of earning his U.S. citizenship which became official in 2003 and remained one of his most treasured accomplishments. It was at Grove that he also met the love of his life, Denise, resulting in a marriage that lovingly endured for 25 years until his death.



He worked and performed with a multitude of artists from all genres which included Celine Dion, Quincy Jones, Tata Vega, Frankie Valli, Sergio Mendez, Barry Manilow, Billy Gibbons, Leslie Caron, Bruce Hornsby, Dizzy Gillespie, Al Kasha, Joel Hirschhorn, Pablo Cruz, Gene Kelly, Eartha Kitt, Big Mama Thornton, Luther Vandross, Marilyn McCoo, George Benson, Randy Jackson and Tony Powers; just to name a few. His past TV credits include “The Tonight Show” (Johnny Carson, Jay Leno), “The Dolly Parton Show,” “The Smothers Brothers Show,” “Battle of the Bands” (Dick Clark Productions), “Dance Fever” (Merv Griffin), “Baywatch” and a wealth of popular series and variety shows.



More recently and over the past 20 years, I had the privilege and pleasure of working with him daily, performing and recording our songs and compositions for the two number-one primetime CBS dramas, “JAG” and “NCIS.” Added to this list was our work for Warner/Telepictures, composing over 100 pieces of music to fill out their music library for all genres of television. His mastery of Pro Tools and his advanced computer literacy made for a technically hassle-free work environment. His rhythmic sensitivities and harmonic knowledge of genres from all the countries of the world were extraordinary with the ability to perform the most complicated of orchestral passages to the simplest forms of music.



Along with his devotion to his wife, Denise, and their three Labrador retrievers was his love of fishing. He was a master fly and freshwater fisherman acquiring several pro tournament awards including “Fisherman of the Year” from the Castaic Bass Club. With Denise, he formed Peregrine 250, a company that manufactured boating products which have become staples for boaters and fishermen all over the United States. He supported many charities giving special attention to the Wounded Warrior Project.



His contributions to the world of music and fishing will remain an eternal memory to those who collaborated with him and enjoyed the fruits of his generosity, work, friendship, humor and love.

Rest in peace my dear, dear friend.

He is survived by his wife, Denise in California; sisters, Louise and Andree; and brothers, Eddy and Gilbert, of Canada.



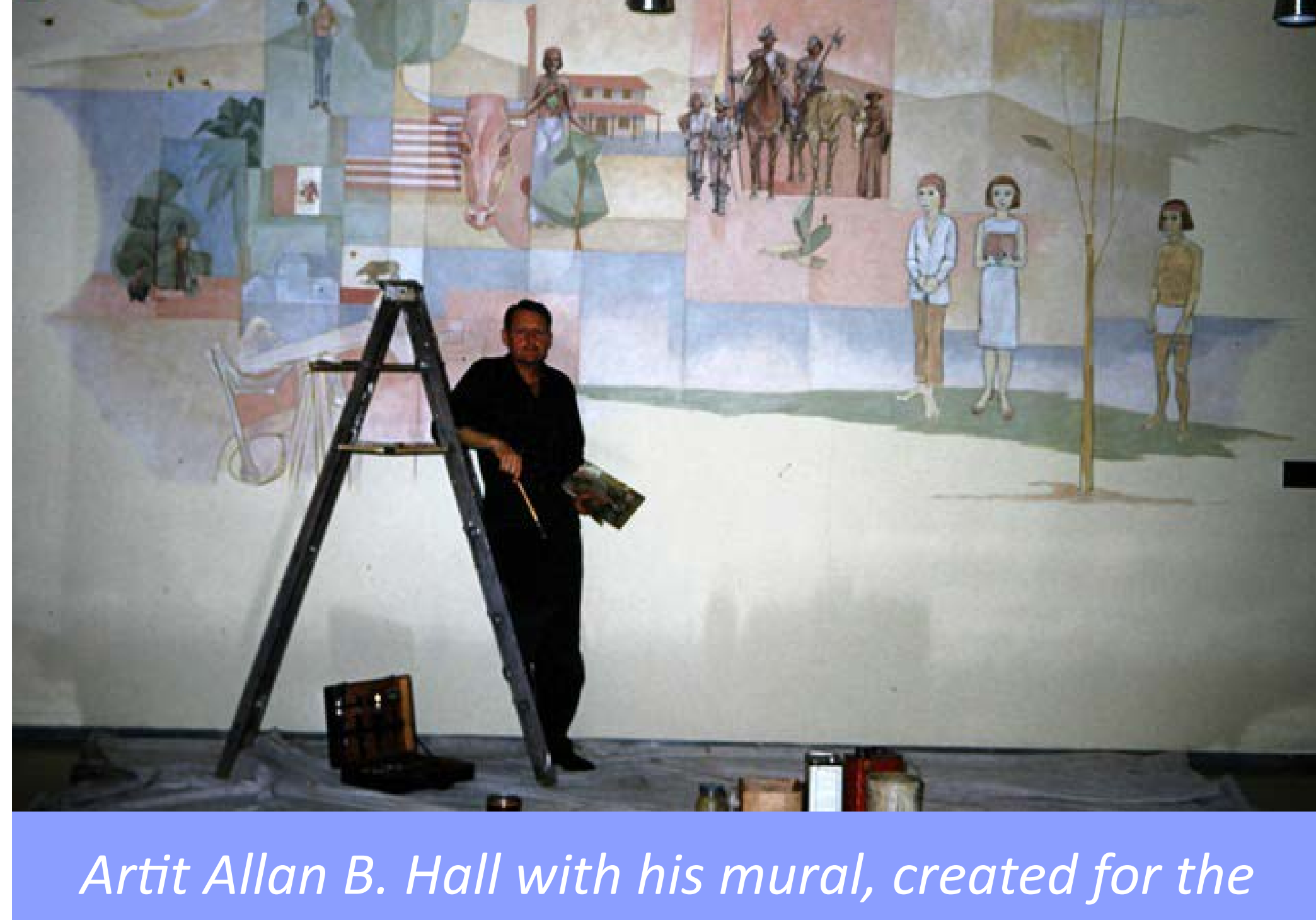
Photos courtesy of Dean C. Hall

This important mural in Orange County awaits professional restoration to find its new permanent home.

Local 47 Member Aims to Save Important Work of Art in Orange County

Local 47 Life Member Dean C. Hall, is reaching out to membership to help save a major work of art in Orange County. Dean was raised in Yorba Linda and is the son of prominent artist Allan B. Hall.

In 1960, Dean's father was commissioned to paint a memorial mural for the Yorba Linda Public Library. It is a large work measuring 10 by 20 feet. It illustrates a history spanning from the Portola Expedition well into the mid-twentieth century. The mural was successfully moved from the library which was recently demolished. The mural was created in honor of 9-year-old Robin Paul, who in 1958 was killed in an automobile-bicycle accident. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Paul, requested that memorial gifts be given to the new library, and it was decided that the gift should be used for a mural in the new building. Much of Mr. Hall's time was donated after the memorial fund was exhausted by expense of paint, canvas and time used.



Artist Allan B. Hall with his mural, created for the now-demolished Yorba Linda Public Library in 1960.

In the scene is a group of Spanish conquistadores, two of whom are on horseback, one representing Portola, head of the expedition. Another is on foot walking with a common soldier, representing Jose Antonio Yorba, who was a soldier escort on the expedition. The friar represents Fr. Junipero Serra, who travelled with the group looking for sites on which to establish missions. The various industries of the town are pictured such as grape growing, citrus and avocado, and oil well drilling.

The mural has been removed from its original location, and is in temporary storage while waiting to be professionally restored and relocated to its new home. The Caduceus Medical Group has graciously offered to provide a location for the mural so it can remain in Yorba Linda. Caduceus was recognized by the YLAFA Business for the Arts award, for their involvement in supporting community arts.

Now on display in Yorba Linda at the Caduceus Medical Group, it has weathered the years well but now needs funding for full restoration. Its detailed story can be viewed at www.allanbhall.org and welcome donations can be sent via gofundme.com/f/save-the-mural.

According to Dean, "Once viewed it becomes obvious the piece represents a rich history important to all of Southern California."

A coalition has been formed made up of organizations and individuals including the Yorba Linda Arts Alliance Foundation, the Yorba Linda Historical Society, the Yorba Linda Preservation Foundation, the Yorba Linda Public Library, and Dean Hall. This team is dedicated to preserving and protecting this historic art piece, and is asking for your help to raise the necessary funding for the professional restoration process. The project will take up to a year to complete. Ultimately, it will be restored and displayed as not only a local artistic treasure honoring a family's generosity, but also an historical account relating to all of Orange County.

A facsimile of the mural, along with additional artwork is on display at the Yorba Linda Art Gallery. The artwork is for sale, and proceeds will be applied toward the restoration. The Gallery is also currently showcasing the Inaugural Juried Art Exhibit, open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

One-hundred percent of the funds raised through the [GoFundMe campaign](https://gofundme.com/f/save-the-mural) will go towards the restoration of this mural, and your donation, in any amount, is greatly appreciated. The goal is to protect this historical art piece for future generations to appreciate and enjoy.

To read more about the history of the mural, please visit the artist's website, allanbhall.org.



Got a Story to Tell?

Let us know! Overture welcomes submissions from our members. Share about your latest union recording, performance or event by sending us your story (and photos!) using our online submission form at afm47.org/overture.

Letters



We want to hear from you!

Send in your Letters to the Editor:

overture@afm47.org

3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504

*Please keep within a maximum of 400 words.
For full submission guidelines, please [click here](#).*

Membership Dues Policy

Membership Dues Fees

Regular Member

Annual Dues: \$210

Semi-Annual Dues: \$110

Life Member

Annual Dues: \$110

Inactive Life Member

Annual Dues: \$90

Make checks or money orders payable to:

AFM Local 47,
3220 Winona Ave.
Burbank CA 91504

You may also make payments with VISA, MasterCard, Discover, AmEx by phone at 323.993.3116 or at afm47.org/dues

Dues Schedule

Annual and Semi-Annual Membership Dues for Regular, Life and Inactive Life Members are due **Jan. 1** of each year. Payment must be received by **March 31** (three-month grace period) to avoid suspension. If not paid by this date, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed. **Payment must be paid by June 30 to avoid expulsion.**

Likewise, Semi-Annual Membership Dues for Regular Members are due **July 1** and must be received by **Sept. 30** (three-month grace period) to avoid suspension. If not paid by this date, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed. **Payment must be paid by Dec. 31 to avoid expulsion.**

Please note: Inactive Life Members do not have all of the same rights as privileges as Regular and Life Members, such as the right to vote in Local elections. Please review the AFM Local 47 Bylaws for complete information.

Work Dues Notices

At its Dec. 9, 2014 meeting, the Local 47 Executive Board passed the following motion:

“As a matter of policy, Local 47 will no longer mail checks to members or non-members whose delinquent work dues liability is in excess of \$1,000. When the Local receives a payroll check for anyone who has such a delinquency, the member or non-member shall be contacted by the Secretary/Treasurer’s office. Checks within 14 days of expiration will be deposited in the Escrow Fund.”

If you fall into that category, you will receive a postcard informing you that your check is in the office. You can call the Secretary/Treasurer’s office at (323) 993-3159 to discuss your work dues delinquency and to make arrangements to pick up your check.

Notice From the Executive Board: Work Dues Delinquency and Suspension

1) Local 47 members whose work dues delinquency exceeds \$500 shall be suspended; and

2) Non-Local 47 members whose work dues delinquency exceeds \$500 shall be referred to the IEB as provided in the AFM Bylaws.

In order to reinstate membership, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed (*currently waived due to COVID waiver*).

Resignation Policy

In order to resign in good standing, you must email, mail or fax your written request to Local 47 before your membership is suspended. Though dues are due Jan. 1 and July 1, current grace periods extend to March 31 and Sept. 30, respectively; suspensions are posted April 1 and Oct. 1. (*The reinstatement fee of \$75 is currently waived due to COVID waiver.*)

In addition to membership dues, all other financial obligations, Local and International, must be paid prior to resignation. Your letter of resignation will be presented at the following Executive Board meeting and a written response will be mailed to you. Don’t wait! If you wait, you will be required to pay another half year’s dues and/or clearance fee.

AFM Local 47 Refund/Return Policy

Unless otherwise specified, Membership and Work dues payments made to AFM Local 47 are not refundable. Merchandise or other items purchased directly from AFM Local 47 may be returned within fourteen days of purchase upon return of the item(s) in the condition in which you received said item(s). To request a refund and return content, please contact AFM Local 47, Attn: Vice President's Office, 323.993.3172, merchandise@afm47.org, 3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504, to receive instructions on returning your product(s).

HELP A MUSICIAN IN NEED

Be an anonymous donor to the Local 47 Musicians Relief Fund. Send contributions to the Secretary's office or call (323) 993-3159 for more information.

Multiple-Card AFM Member Rebate

Did you know? If you hold membership in three or more Locals throughout a full calendar year, you are entitled to a rebate from the AFM.

Under the rebate program, membership in a base of two Locals must be established in order for a member to qualify for a rebate. The International Secretary/Treasurer's office has determined that a musician's membership in his or her "Home Local" and the subsequent Local of longest tenure shall be designated as the two base Locals. The Secretary/Treasurer's office will then rebate the appropriate per capita dues for membership in the third Local and any other Local(s) beyond three to which a member belonged for the entire previous calendar year.

To petition for a Multiple-Card Member Rebate, members should fill out the form and return it to the Secretary/Treasurer's office together with copies of all their paid-up membership cards, receipts of canceled checks for annual dues from all Locals, or a letter from each Local stating that the petitioner was a member in good standing of the Locals for the full year prior. Rebates will be issued after Jan. 1.

Members may download the rebate form from the international AFM website [here](http://afm.org) (afm.org login required; locate the rebate form under "Miscellaneous" in the Document Library).

Notice to All Persons Entering or Utilizing the Property of the Musicians' Club* of Los Angeles:

The premises of the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles are reserved for the exclusive use by the officers, employees, and Full, Youth, Life or Inactive Life Members in good standing of AFM Local 47 and the American Federation of Musicians. All other persons must receive written permission from the office of Local 47's president to enter or utilize these premises. Local 47 reserves the right to remove and to cite for trespass any party found on these premises who does not fulfill the above conditions of occupancy. (Note: This notice is not applicable to those making deliveries to AFM Local 47, or customers of and those making deliveries to tenants of the Local 47 headquarters.)

** The Musicians' Club of Los Angeles, Inc., is a California Non-Profit Corporation incorporated in 1926. It owns all land and improvements where AFM Local 47 conducts its business. The Corporation rents space to other tenants, mainly industry related. All members of AFM Local 47 are also members of the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles.*

Do Not Work For...

The list published at afm47.org/donotworkfor.html contains the names of employers with whom Local 47 currently has disputes.



If you have any questions about this list please contact

the President's Office: 323.993.3181

Notice of Strike Sanctions

On June 24, 2015, strike sanctions were approved by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor against:

**Cinema Scoring
CMG Music Recording
Peter Rotter Music Services**

If and when any of the aforementioned parties calls a non-union engagement, other labor unions have agreed to stand in solidarity with Local 47 and not cross our line.

If you are being pressured to participate in non-union work or take financial-core status and quit the union, know that it is illegal for employers or employers' representatives to coerce, pressure or otherwise influence any employee to take fi-core status under the National Labor Relations Act. Should this happen to you, call 323.993.3181.

Your Union will take action — with legal counsel if necessary — on your behalf to ensure your rights as a union worker are protected.

LOS ANGELES
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES:

Principal Viola Principal Flute

April 26–27, 2022

Application Due:
March 15, 2022

May 13–14, 2022

Application Due:
April 1, 2022

No audition deposit required. LACO is an equal opportunity employer. The orchestra welcomes and encourages candidates from diverse & underrepresented backgrounds.

APPLY ONLINE:

laco.org/auditions



MUSIC DIRECTOR JAIME MARTÍN

Auditions

SAN BERNARDINO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Notice of Auditions

San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra
Anthony Parnter, Music Director

The San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra announces
vacancies for the following positions:

Concertmaster

Audition Date: Monday February 28, 2022

The San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra is
a per service orchestra.

Highly qualified and experienced candidates should
post or E-mail a cover letter and one page resume to:

San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra
Attn: Noah Gladstone, personnel manager
PO Box 109, San Bernardino, CA 92402
Email: sbso.auditions@gmail.com

Applications must be received by February 14, 2022.
Audition repertoire and audition appointment details
will be distributed to candidates after receipt and
approval of the application.

Auditions



Announces auditions for the following positions:

Assistant Principal Cello (Chair 2)
Section Cello (Chairs 3, 8, 9 and 10)

Audition dates for all seats:

Wednesday, April 27 & 28, 2022

The preliminary round starts Wednesday,
April 27, 2022

The schedule of subsequent rounds immediately following preliminaries will be determined at auditions. Auditions will be held at the Long Beach Terrace Theater at 300 Ocean Blvd, Long Beach, CA

Submit a one-page resumé in Word or PDF format to:

auds@longbeachsymphony.org

Please specify Cello Auditions in the subject line.

Resumés must be received by Friday, April 15, 2022
A refundable \$50 deposit is required by check or money order.

Deposits must be postmarked by Friday,
April 22, 2022

Additional details emailed upon receipt of resumé.

No phone calls please. Repertoire information
will not be given over the phone.

Long Beach Symphony performs six Classical, five POPS and one set of Educational Concerts per season.

2021-2022 Base Scale: Rehearsal \$148/Performance \$186
Assistant Principal: 125% of Scale - Principal: 150% of Scale

*The winning candidate(s) will be required to show
proof of U.S. citizenship or eligibility to work.*

Advertise

ADVERTISE

WITH AFM LOCAL 47!

Overture Online App

—Released monthly—

The Local 47 Beat

—Emailed biweekly—

»»»————> RESERVE TODAY <————«««

View rates, specs & publication schedules
@ afm47.org/advertise

CONTACT: advertising@afm47.org

*For information on posting auditions, please visit
afm47.org/auditions.html*