



MISSISSIPPI
ARTS COMMISSION

ARTIST ROSTER

2013-2014



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2013-2014 ARTIST ROSTER

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Supporting and Celebrating Mississippi's Creative and Innovative Spirit.

The Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC) is a state agency serving more than two million people through grants and special initiatives that enhance communities, assist artists and arts organizations, promote arts education and celebrate Mississippi's cultural heritage.

Established in 1968 by the state legislature, MAC is the official grants-making and service agency for the arts in Mississippi. Funding for MAC and its programs is provided by the State of Mississippi, the National Endowment for the Arts, and private sources.

All applicants to MAC's programs are considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, physical disability, age, membership in an employee organization or other non-merit factors.

MAC's Artist Roster is a valuable tool in this effort – it provides Mississippi communities with a diverse listing of high quality artists who are available for performances, workshops, and other activities. These activities can be supported through MAC's Minigrant program.



Artists interested in participating in the Roster program must apply to MAC.

Applications go through a thorough review process, including an evaluation by a panel of arts presenters, educators and fellow artists.

These Artists:

- Demonstrate mastery of their artistic discipline and produce high quality work.
- Are able to demonstrate or interpret their artistic discipline to different types of audiences.
- Have a history of successful performances or presentations and can travel to perform at locations throughout the state.

SCHEDULING AN ARTIST

Organizations or schools that are interested in presenting a roster artist must contact the individual or group directly. While MAC staff can provide some advisory assistance to organizations that are planning an event, all agreements between a Roster Artist and a presenting organization are the responsibility of the presenter.

GRANT SUPPORT FOR PRESENTING ROSTER ARTISTS

MAC supports the presentation of roster artists through its Minigrant Program. Non-profit organizations (with IRS 501(c)3 status), schools, and other local government entities can apply for a Minigrant to support up to half of a Roster Artist's total fee (up to \$1,000).

In addition to the artists on MAC's Roster, organizations may also apply for a Minigrant to present an artist who is a member of another directory of professional artists. The directory must have an adjudication process in place that reviews the artistic quality of the applicants. Some examples of eligible listings include the roster programs of other state arts agencies, regional arts organizations, or a professional artist organization like the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi.

The Minigrant program has two annual application deadlines, June 1 and November 1. The full guidelines and application form for the program are available on MAC's website.

For more information on MAC grant programs, please call 601-359-6030, or visit our website at www.arts.ms.gov.

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INTERDISCIPLINARY



Martha Foose

Contact: Howard Stovall
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James Beard Award-winning cookbook author Martha Foose is available for a wide range of events and presentations, including:

- Multimedia presentation on culinary traditions of the South
- Culinary demonstrations - range of offerings is dependent on available kitchen equipment. Simple demonstrations (salads, etc.) can be presented with no equipment needed, while more complex demonstrations may be presented where suitable equipment is available. Can work in conjunction with existing kitchen staff to prepare chosen recipes for large audiences while demonstrating preparation.
- Speech on "Southern Women in the Kitchen"
- Speech recounting experiences as a food stylist for the major motion picture "The Help."





Bridget Archer Performing Arts Company

Mississippi Arts Coalition, Inc.
Post Office Box 3486
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Missbarcher21@aol.com

The Bridget Archer Performing Arts Company uses multiple genres of dance, ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, modern, contemporary, music theatre, African, Bharatanatyam, acrobatics, and improvisation to tell classic and contemporary stories using cutting edge choreography. They have performed in Jackson, throughout the state of Mississippi, out of state, and internationally. Most recently the group performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC and has been invited to perform at the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London.



Johnny Burgess
2840 Robinson Street, Apt 424
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Burgess was born in Jackson, Mississippi where he found his love of dance at the age of 17. He is a member of Montage Theatre of Dance Company where he has studied under

the directory of Tiffany Jefferson for five years. He is well-known for his hard-hitting hip hop moves and explosive tricks and acrobatics. He has worked with artists Compositionz, Recognition, Lou Writer, and has performed as opening act for Trey Songz, Ciara, Day 26, Tpain, Chris Brown, Ginuwine, Lloyd, Robin Thicke, Marques Houston, Lyle Jennings, Fonworth Bentley. Burgess has performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City and at Shanghai Circus in Branson, Missouri. Burgess has performed on BET's 106 & Park and has been crowned wild out Wednesday's champs twice. His choreography has been also recognized in NYC at Blaze the Stage where he won first place. He was recognized by *The Clarion Ledger* as a "phenomenal dancer", was recently rewarded DancePlug.com's SPARK YOUR CAREER WINNER and was acknowledged by America's Best Dance Crew's BeatFreaks.



Front Porch Dance

Contact: Krista Bower,
managing director
910-B Morningside Street
Jackson, MS 39202
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frontporchdance@gmail.com
www.frontporchdance.com

Front Porch Dance, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, is a Mississippi-based dance company comprised of local artists who collaborate to produce innovative choreographic works. Its aim is to foster appreciation of contemporary dance by engaging audiences through approachable dance art.

Front Porch Dance practices an American-born dance form, cultivated and shaped by a merging of formal training and artistic exploration to create a blend of quality, detail, and freedom. Front Porch Dance offers workshops in dance technique, improvisation and composition and is available for performances in theaters, as well as non-traditional performance venues.



Anthony Newmann

3420 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 2
Vicksburg, MS 39180
318/-573-2276

Anthony brings a unique blend of enthusiasm and professionalism to dance with both adults and children. He is available as artist and choreographer for local theater, ballet and dance schools in staging musicals, ballet, jazz, tap, and ensemble pieces - offering workshops and master classes and services in musical theater, ballet, tap and jazz.



Emily Tschiffely

P.O. Box 130
Merigold, MS 38759-0130
www.emilytschiffely.org

Tschiffely is a professional dancer and choreographer who has made teaching a central focus of her work. She combines conservatory dance and drama training with modern creativity, 21st century technology, and sensible health and wellness approaches; promoting dance as a truly participatory art form. She is available for original solo performances as well as workshops, choreographic commissions and teaching residencies in the areas of Performance & Audition Skills, Ballet, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Jazz, Lyrical, Make Your Own Dances, Performance Ensemble, Dance It Out Fitness, Business & Life of Art, Professional Development for Teachers Using Dance, and Dancing In The Schools. With an emphasis on engaging the whole person, her workshops address physical, mental, and emotional concepts in a creative environment that is tailored to the participants. Emily travels around the state and welcomes collaborations and new ideas.

PERFORMANCE & LITERARY ARTS



Ellis Anderson

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www.ellisanderson.com

Anderson grew up in Charlotte, NC, then migrated to New Orleans in pursuit of her artistic muse. She resided in the French Quarter for two decades before moving full-time to the Mississippi Gulf Coast in 1996. A photographer,

musician, designer and civic activist, her primary passion is writing. Her work has been published in *Southern Cultures*, *Salon* and *MSNBC*.

Anderson's writing has garnered several awards, including the Eudora Welty 2010 Book Prize and a Mississippi Arts Commission Fellowship for Literary Excellence (2007) for her first book, *Under Surge, Under Siege, the Odyssey of Bay St. Louis* and *Katrina*. She lives in Bay St. Louis and works full-time as a freelance writer and photographer.

The "crafted kinship" of community is the primary focus of her current work. Anderson's presentations explore why this network is crucial to our quality of life, how it supports the individual, and how to build community in an increasing fragmented society.

Anderson shares her experiences and insights in a variety of public presentations, geared to civic organizations, college students and adult education groups. Both poignant and humorous, her presentations include "The Healing Power of Community," "From Logs to Blogs," and "The Heroes Next Door." She also teaches workshops on personal journaling.



Katrina Byrd

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mhservices@bellsouth.net

Byrd is a storyteller who intertwines her life experiences with her fiction pieces presenting them in a mixture of reading, song and dance. She is a collector of feather boas, hair units

and heels but she is most known for her stories with strong women characters. Byrd is the author of three books, several published short stories, and plays. Several of her three plays have been performed locally. In 2010, she served as the Center Players Playwright-in-Residence. Byrd, a graduate of Millsaps College, uses a unique blend of media art, music and humor to take her listeners on a journey into the dramatic lives of her characters. She leads writing workshops for children and adults and has presented at the Mississippi Children's Museum, Jackson State University and other conferences and events. Byrd is available to perform at schools, libraries, festivals, churches, community groups and special events.



June Caldwell

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jjc_us@yahoo.com

Caldwell combines an energetic storytelling style, humor, and the magical sounds of the hammered dulcimer, folk harp, Native American flute, lap dulcimer, guitar and other instruments to give listeners a total story experience. Storytelling sessions can be tailored to the listeners' needs, and include stories written by Caldwell, Native American

legends and tales, Southern, African and Appalachian Folktales, and stories of Southern women. Stories teach lessons of cooperation, understanding, and peace. Programs are interactive, with audience members joining June onstage to play parts, provide sound effects, and play some of her unusual, handmade instruments, many made from recycled "junk" materials. Programs are available for all ages. Caldwell also speaks Spanish, so bilingual stories and songs are available.



Sarah C. Campbell

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www.sarahccampbell.com



Sarah C. Campbell is an award-winning writer and photo-illustrator whose specialty is nonfiction for children. Campbell's latest book, *Growing Patterns: Fibonacci Numbers in Nature* (Boyd's Mills Press, 2010), was named a

2011 Outstanding Science Trade Book for Students K-12 by the National Science Teachers Association. Her first book, *Wolfsnail: A Backyard Predator* (Boyd's Mills Press) was named a 2009 Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book by the American Library Association and won the Mississippi Library Association's Youth Book Award in 2010. Campbell's work has appeared in a wide range of publications, including *The New York Times* and *Highlights for Children*. Campbell has served as artist in residence at Davis Magnet School and McLeod Elementary School in Jackson, leading book publishing and photography projects with first, second, and third graders. She is available for story visits, short residencies, and teacher workshops.



June Davis Davidson

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Meridian, MS 39301
601/672-2022

Davidson is the author of *Images of Meridian* and the co-author of *Legendary Locals in Meridian*. Her nonfiction short stories have appeared in *Pets Across America, Volume III* and *Gallery of Voices*. Her focus is on writing and preserving regional history.

Davidson's presentations are offered to rural communities, libraries, organizations and schools. Her knowledge is based on her skills as an author of regional history and thirty years of research experience.



Rebecca Moore Jernigan

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Water Valley, MS 38965
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Jernigan is a storyteller who uses her experience as an actress and playwright to bring to life classical and original literature.

She designs performances, residencies and workshops. She has

traveled around the world, sharing her stories and folklore. She entertains and instructs with new and ageless stories, and emphasizes the portance of the oral tradition in all cultures.



Doris Jones

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Drawing from a wide range of classroom, museum, and library experiences, Jones teaches and promotes reading while keeping the audience

engaged with her animated, interactive style. She travels throughout the state to present elementary school residencies, using folktales and original stories as springboards to help teachers meet language arts, social studies, visual arts, and theater objectives.



Laff Co.

Improv Comedy
Bruce Butler/Director
9 CR 2018
Oxford, MS 38655
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jbbutler@dixie-net.com

Laff Co.'s current members: Bruce Butler-Director of Laff Co., coordinator for Southeastern Comedy Arts Festival (SECAF), MC/Host of Standup Comedy, Dillon Courson-Assistant Director of Laff Co. and Improvisational comedian since 2008 as well as standup experience.

Carolyn Free-Improvisational comedienne since 2008 with four years experience with the Oxford Shakespeare Festival, two years formal training in theatre studies with the University of Mississippi as well as some standup experience. Brian Spurlock-Improvisational performer since 2009, currently studying to become a medical researcher.

Joseph Stinchcomb-Improvisational performer since 2010. Jayson Wirth-Assistant Director of Laff Co. and improvisational comedian since 2009, as well as touring as a standup comedian.

Laff Co. is a semi-professional improvisational comedy troupe based in Oxford MS. They offer shows, both long form and short form, tailored to meet the needs of the audience as well as workshops on a wide range of improvisational skills.



Galen Mark LaFrancis

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www.inspiringauthor.com

Audiences have sighed, laughed and cried, sometimes in the same few minutes of the presentation "In Their Boots: Voices Inspired by Soldiers and Their Loved Ones."

Crafted from the poetry collection "In Their Boots: Poems Inspired by Soldier and Their Loved Ones," the program turns poetry into a deeply engaging, personal message from our soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan and their loved ones. LaFrancis is unique among all authors in Mississippi and maybe the nation for converting hundreds of hours of interviews and conversations with soldiers and their loved ones into powerful, inspiring and enlightening poetry. The work and program has been called "...a captivating and profound collection that transcends war and opens a window to the warrior and his and her loved ones" by Lillie Lovette, Literary Evaluator for the Mississippi Humanities Council, which supports this project. Lillie Lovette called LaFrancis' work "a masterpiece." The program includes a book signing, and gifts to all in the audience members.



Philip Levin

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www.gcwriters.org

Levin provides lectures and seminars on writing, including "Organizing your Novel," "The Essence of a Short Story," and "Publishing your Book: Conception, Construction, Production,

Distribution." Winner of several awards, his short stories have been published in various anthologies, his articles in journals and on-line, and his novels have made local bestseller lists. As president and editor of GCWA's magazine, the *Magnolia Quarterly*, he provides editing tips and advises authors on publishing. He's edited *The Afternoon Tales* anthologies, and published photo children's books, including the popular *Ndovu the Elephant* and *Consuto and the Rain God*, the latter available as an audio-book. Known for his wit and powerful language, Philip's lectures have received consistently positive feedback.



Annie B. McKee

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Meridian, MS 39305
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annielcy@aol.com

McKee represents the state's heritage as a storyteller, author, public speaker, humorist, and creator of historic literary performances. She is a teacher for creative writing workshops for children and adults, journaling, time

management, and goal setting sessions for children and adults, performance arts classes for children. Her short plays have staged for several community theaters. She is a presenter of dramatic readings, especially Eudora Welty. McKee is the author of *Historic Photos of Mississippi*, Turner Publishing Company, Nashville. The book of Mississippi history is a source for many of her stories – teaching the history and heritage of the state. Her creative work is all about Mississippi. The importance of Mississippi state pride is closely connected throughout her work.



Benjamin Morris

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benjaminlanmorris.com

Morris is the author of numerous works of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction, including, most recently, *Coronary* (poetry) and *The Bella* (fiction). His work has appeared in a variety of publications in both the United States and Europe, and has received such awards as a literary arts fellowship from the Mississippi Arts

Commission and a residency from A Studio in the Woods in New Orleans. He has had the opportunity to appear at festivals such as the Louisiana Book Festival and the Tennessee Williams Festival, for readings, panel discussions, and everything in between.

As a teaching artist, he does workshops with groups of all ages, backgrounds, and experience levels. He offers workshops, critiques, and master classes for absolute beginners and more experienced writers alike, and particularly enjoys working with students in a variety of educational settings. Using different creative prompts and exercises, he aims to keep these encounters as informal as they are stimulating; part of the pleasure of teaching is that everyone comes away having learned something – not just the students.



New Stage Theatre

Contact: Chris Roebuck
1100 Carlisle Street
Jackson, MS 39202
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education@newstagetheatre.com
www.newstagetheatre.com

New Stage Theatre brings literature to life through its educational tours. Each year the theatre tours a children's tale to elementary schools and a classic book or biographical

story to middle schools and high schools. Many of the theatre's productions are appropriate for the entire community. Each show is formatted for flexible staging and is adaptable to a number of performance spaces. Workshops help students learn to tell stories through improvisation and scripted plays. They can also enhance verbal and non-verbal communication skills, emphasize the collaborative nature of theatre, and provide new avenues to help teachers across the curriculum.



Brenda Pritchett

662/549-4258
www.brendapritchett.com

Pritchett, a professional storyteller for more than 35 years, uses the art of storytelling to inspire, educate, and entertain her audiences. With a mixture of story and song, Pritchett performs at schools, public libraries, festivals, churches, camps, and conferences. Groups

actively become a part of the story through drama and mime, music, and more. Pritchett considers participation a valuable key to learning and believes children can find their voices in storytelling and also in writing their own stories. As a teaching artist, Pritchett can provide puppetry and reader's theater for students to use for learning purposes in the classroom. Schools will find her training workshops for elementary and early childhood teachers very educational and entertaining. All performances and classes are designed to meet the needs of each group.



Puppet Arts Theatre

Contact: Peter Zapletal
1927 Springridge Drive
Jackson, MS 39211
601/956-3414
peter@mspuppetry.com

Puppet Arts Theatre is a professional touring theatre company under the direction of Peter Zapletal, a five-time Emmy Award winning puppeteer. The company makes its own puppets

and travels with flexible staging, sound and lights. They offer a complete theatre experience in any setting, which at times allows children from the audience to perform with the cast on stage.

Puppet Arts Theatre also enhances students' speaking abilities, thinking skills and appreciation of literature & music through creative puppetry workshops in schools.



Richelle Putnam
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601/482-4121
richput@mywebemail.net

Putnam instructs all ages on the craft of writing. She has been an artist-in-residence at schools and for the Girls Scouts of America, facilitated journaling sessions in prison settings with incarcerated women, worked in libraries, community centers, Head Start Programs, and Boys and Girls Clubs. Her original songs have been played on radio stations nationwide.



Michael Richardson
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Gulfport, MS 39507-1306
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zenchops59@yahoo.com

Richardson has developed original shadow puppet performances, using transparent puppets, from fairy tales for children to experimental productions for universities. With more than 2,000 performances

worldwide, Michael is a recognized resource in the field of puppet theatre. He offers performances, residency packages, and teacher training sessions.



Terrence Roberts
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dastoryweaver@gmail.com
www.DaStoryWeaver.com

Roberts is a jali/griot, a storyteller who weaves his stories like the web of his favorite character Anansi the Spider. He is a collector of tales worldwide but is most known for his African and African American folktales. Roberts is known as "Da Story Weaver". In

the language of the Bamanakan people of West Africa, the ancient title "Da" was one who connected his people to their past and escorted them into their future. His performances live up to the title "Da". Roberts takes his listeners back to the village square in West Africa waiting for the Anansi story for the day. A master storyteller who draws both children and adults into his web with his animated and interactive style, "Da Story Weaver" causes both to spontaneously burst out with laughter or jump with surprise at a ghost story. Roberts is available for schools, libraries, festivals, churches, community groups and special events.



Helen Jean Sims
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helensims@live.com

For the last five years, Sims has worked professionally as, "The Old Story Teller" traveling throughout the state of Mississippi, storytelling and reenacting episodes from Mississippi and American History that is centered on Slavery, the Civil War, Sharecropping, Blues, Gospel and the Civil Rights Movement.

Each of her performances are stories based on authentic facts and are rich in the African American Cultural Heritage. In her performances she portrays actual characters with factual sayings, dialect and events as they actually unfolded, which makes for not only an educational but an entertaining experience. Her oral and visual storytelling makes the history that she is conveying realistic to the viewers; it pulls them into another time and place in history. Performances as "The Old Story Teller" have allowed her to educate and bring excitement to not only children but to the adults who know little or nothing about their history or cultural heritage.



John Stark
601/214-7426
starkjohn@sbcglobal.net
www.johnstarkstories.com

From toddlers to seniors, Stark delights a variety of audiences with guitar, harmonica, songs and stories. He draws on formative experiences ranging from childhood hours spent with an African American folk teller to years as a wilderness kayak and mountain

hiking instructor.

A wooden boat and kayak builder, he takes audiences on watery adventures in story and song. With his children's picture book "Read This Book Outside" Stark encourages youth to leave behind smart phones and video screens for a while to experience first hand the adventures and lessons nature provides.



Elliott Street
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ezzstreet@comcast.net

Street has over fifty film and television credits. He returned to Mississippi to spearhead the restoration of the Grand Opera House in Meridian; at that time he joined the theatre faculty at Meridian Community College where he directed seven productions. Six years

ago he founded the Company of Angels Theatre in Meridian. The theatre has produced 15 productions including two original musicals written by him. Elliott has won numerous awards and offers unique programs and workshops in a broad range of stage and screen disciplines

VISUAL ARTS & CRAFTS



Rick Anderson

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As an award winning professional artist, retired arts educator, children's book illustrator, and presenter, Anderson offers many artistic and educational

opportunities for schools, libraries, arts councils, and literary events. He has been invited to hundreds of schools to promote literacy through book illustration, studio art workshops, and arts education conferences. Anderson is also available for keynote presentations. His art can be seen in galleries, and art festivals in Mississippi and throughout the U.S.



Rachel Ballentine

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Ballentine is a potter who specializes in clay that comes directly from the earth. She hand-builds all of her vessels, and she offers her services to senior citizens, teachers, students and

afterschool programs at all level of experiences. In the school system, her workshops focus on infusing the arts into the curriculum—including math, science, history and language arts. For afterschool programs, senior citizens, summer enrichment programs, she teaches based on the requests of the participants. She offers a choice of natural clay or process clay (produced by a clay company) during the workshop.



Cristen Craven Barnard

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With more than 23 years of experience, Barnard offers a unique blend of painting expertise and public art experience. Her interior and exterior murals are on display in schools, parks, churches, cities, towns and residences across the Mid-South area and her posters are known worldwide. She can

design, collaborate, plan, offer instruction, or paint murals with almost any group or alone she can design award winning posters that inspire civic pride with artistic excellence.



Bodine Pottery

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Patrick and Nancilee Bodine create new designs in pottery and precious metal clay and

teach classes in their Wiggins, Mississippi studio. Classes are also taught by the Bodines in schools, churches, museums, and art centers. They have done presentations in Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Florida and Minnesota. Teachers are provided with professional development classes and workshops that are one hour to one week in length. Patrick is considered an "edutainer" who entertains while pointing out the connections between pottery making to other disciplines like history, geography, geology, chemistry, math, language arts, and physics. Programs include pottery making by hand or on the wheel, tile painting and glazing, silver jewelry making using precious metal clay, kiln building and firing, Raku classes, glaze formulation and testing, and week-long clay and art camps for children and adults of all ability levels.



Conner Burns

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Burns is a studio artist in Natchez, Mississippi. He works with the vessel form as well as large-scale sculptural installations. Images of his work can be seen in books about teapots, pitchers, bowls, tumblers and glazes. He teaches

workshops to professional and amateur clay artists across North America and has received awards from art organizations throughout the state and nation. He has worked with adults, high school students and children. His workshops vary with the needs of the host facility and vary from short presentations and demonstrations (one hour or more) to longer workshops (one day to two weeks). He focuses the content of workshops to relate to the group. The presentation may include demonstration, hands-on, discussion and projection of images – or any combination that is beneficial. He has presented at book clubs, civic organizations, school systems, public studios, museums and universities. Burns' artwork is organic in influence and combines a variety of techniques in their creation. His artwork can be seen at his gallery, in fine galleries and museums across the country, and in private collections throughout the world.



Chung-Fan Chang

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Chang has shared her enthusiasm and passionate creativity with children, students and adults since 2002. As a teaching artist, she has taught numerous classes, workshops and residencies for all ages and levels at organizations such as the Yuan Ling Studio – Taipei, Taiwan, Chastain Art Center – Atlanta, Savannah College of

Art and Design, Georgia Perimeter College and several schools. She is the award recipient of several art based public murals, programs and institutions. She is also an active member of the state and national organization for the arts, such as American Association of Museums, College Art Association, and Public Art Committee of Mississippi. She is currently teaching in the Art Department at Jackson State University. Her works are in numerous mediums, such as watercolor, acrylic, oil, pen and ink, Chinese painting, and calligraphy. Chang is available to develop, coordinate and teach the workshop specific to educators and/or student's needs as well as presenting established classes. Her programs are created to connect with curriculum in schools, but can be adapted for other organizations and communities. Teaching projects may focus on individual participant artworks and his or her artistic growth.



Tony Davenport

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Davenport is a visual artist who has experience as an art instructor in both middle and high schools. He has worked with students of all ages including adults. Davenport's workshops include drawing, oil, & acrylic painting, ceramics, 2D & 3D design, batik and mural design. In addition, the

artist integrates various genres of music in his lessons coupled with activities that teach across the school curriculum such as mathematics, science, history & literature. Through these activities, Davenport seeks to utilize the arts to motivate an appreciation for creativity that transcends time, place, and culture.



Anne Dennis

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As a professional artist, Dennis generously shares concepts and ideas designed to motivate and encourage creativity at any level. Her three-hour seminar is an introduction to painting in watercolor and encourages the recognition of hidden talent. Her three-day workshop explores color, composition, design, painting for fun, or becoming a professional artist. She touches on everything from her own timid beginning to her experience showing and marketing in many of the top national art venues.



Anthony DiFatta

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DiFatta is native of Hattiesburg, Mississippi and currently lives in Jackson with his wife Melissa, son Preston, and their rescue dog, Woody. He grew up around the swamps of Southern Louisiana near New Orleans where he fostered an appreciation for Southern music and culture. After being stationed in Southern California with the U.S. Navy

and 2 tours in McMurdo Station, Antarctica, he returned to Mississippi to study painting and sculpture at the University of Southern Mississippi.

In 2000, he left his job as a graphic designer for MCI WorldCom to pursue painting. He is involved with several non-profit and charity organizations including such programs as HeArts Against Aids, Habitat for Humanity, Mississippi Heritage Trust, ACLU, Cancer League of Jackson and many more. His artwork has been seen internationally on CD covers, posters, books, and as the official art for JubileeJAM, MS Picnic in Central Park, Crossroads Film Fest, The Viking Golf Classic, HeArts Against Aids and many more. He compiled and designed the book, *Images from the Edge*, a collection of artwork and creative writing from the Stubbs Homeless Program, where he taught art for ten years for Mississippi State Hospital.

DiFatta's paintings have been in many solo and group exhibits throughout Mississippi and in New York, Memphis, Santa Clara, CA, and Baton Rouge. He is now teaching painting, drawing, and advanced placement art at Madison Central High School.



Kat Fitzpatrick

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Fitzpatrick's love for beeswax has led her down an unusual path. After a career spent using more traditional media, her style of painting with colored beeswax eventually led to a study of traditional icon writing, backyard beekeeping and teaching workshops around the country. Fitzpatrick reintroduces adults to their creative and playful younger selves. This method can also refresh mid-career artists looking for a new way to connect with image making.



Chuck Gale

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www.chuckgaley.com

Using Common Core Curriculum Standards and his unique experience as a children's book author/illustrator, Gale's goal is to inspire students to become life-long readers with a love of art. His interactive programs keep students engaged and learning by using proven, research-based retention strategies. Chuck is available to work with students and teachers for full day or three to five day residencies throughout the academic year and summer workshops.



Lori Gordon

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Gordon is a mixed media artist and writer. She works in many different forms of media including graphite, acrylic, handmade paper, fabric and polymer clay. Recently, one of her pieces was acquired by the Smithsonian

Institution for their permanent collection. Lori has work in the collections of Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter, Robin Roberts, and Barack and Michelle Obama.



Bessie Johnson

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Bessie is a pine needle basket weaver and a charter member of the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi. With simple supplies and respect for her past, she is now offering another exciting art revival, called burnt matchstick art. Her work is based on traditional coiling and wrapping techniques common to many cultures, but her forms and designs are hers alone.



Salongo Lee

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www.salongosart.com/art/workshops.html

Visual artist, curator and author, Salongo Lee, uses traditional and digital photographic techniques and technologies in the creation of his photographs and mixed media constructions. Salongo is available to teach small and large groups, including students and staff with workshops that are tailored to the needs of the students, staff or the organizational group.



Sheri C. Marshall

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Marshall became enchanted with clay early in life. While in high school she wanted to throw clay on the potter's wheel. Because she lost her right arm in a tragic accident at age three, the ceramics teacher was unsure if she'd be able to throw. With much patience and persistence she mastered the art, skill and control required to make pottery on the wheel. She has spent the last 30 years pursuing her pottery and tile on a part time basis through teaching, workshops and exhibitions of her art. She works in clay, fused/kilncast glass, precious metal clay and fiber.



Laurin McCracken

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After a career as an architect, McCracken discovered his talent for watercolor. His work is highly influenced by the Dutch and Flemish still life painters of the 16th and 17th century. He is a signature member of more than a dozen watercolor societies and his paintings have been included in juried shows around the world, and published in numerous books and magazines. McCracken's paintings exhibit a degree of realism that is not traditionally seen in watercolor. He offers workshops to share his knowledge of realism painting with watercolor.



Lil McKinnon Hicks

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www.LilMcKHJewelry.com

McKinnon-Hicks had a 25-year career as a copywriter before finding a new form of communication as a metalsmith and jewelry designer. Her small group demonstrations and hands-on workshops encompass beading, wirewrapping, silver-smithing and kiln-firing of enamel. She includes educational discussion on natural science concepts, material resources, jewelry-making pointers and professional bench tips in her workshops.



George Miles
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Miles is a visual artist who specializes in photography, collage, mixed media and graphic design. He offers a wide range of arts and cultural workshops. He teaches

classes on drawing, painting, collage, photography, computer graphics, and more. He is a native of Starkville and a resident of Jackson. He graduated from Jackson State University with honors with a B.A. in Graphic Design and a minor in Fine Arts. Miles won several awards for his visual arts. His work has been exhibited in numerous places throughout the United States. Miles enjoys working with individuals from various walks of life. "I try to inspire and have an impact on communities. My work is like a mirror that reflects light toward social change." Miles is a leading pioneer in bridging the gap between art and community.



Harold Wayne Miller

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Miller is a potter and sculptor. He teaches programs that include the history of pottery and sculpting, the types of clay and glazes, as well as modeling forms, glazing effects, and the firing process. His students find

relief from their concerns, create legacies for their families, and enjoy the art of working with clay.



Vicki Lever Niolet

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Niolet has worked in areas such as photography (traditional and digital), clay, book arts, and fibers. Her expertise in

papermaking led to an instructional video, "Practical Papermaking" in 1990. Since then she has taught and demonstrated for schools, organizations, and individual classes of all ages. She is a member of the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi in two separate categories, mixed media and jewelry, and former member of the Board of Directors for the Guild. In addition to her three-dimensional work, she has published two books of photos and commentary about Hurricane Katrina. Working to preserve community and personal records, she has reproduced many large-scale versions of vintage postcards and photographs on paper and canvas. She is available to teach and demonstrate a variety of media with detailed workshops in mixed media jewelry and papermaking to various group sizes. In addition she can work with municipalities to preserve and archive historical documents. She has received two MAC Individual Artist Fellowships (1986 and 2008), The Warhol Foundation Grant (2006) and an Artist Residency at Kala Institute in Berkeley, CA. She currently owns and exhibits at Eclipse Gallery in Old Town Bay St. Louis.



Bill Pevey
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Pevey is a blacksmith/metalworker who has been pursuing this passion since the fall of 2000 when he became a member of the Mississippi Forge

Council. In 2006 he was accepted into the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi and since that time he has conducted classes, workshops and demonstrations at numerous venues throughout the state. Classes at the Mississippi Craft Center are two day events that take the student from learning how to properly build and tend a fire to the nuances of heat treating and tempering a tool made of high carbon steel. Along the way, several items are made by each attendee using the same methods that have been in use for hundreds of years. Pevey is available for demonstrations for school groups, festivals or events.



H.C. Porter

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www.hcporter.com

Porter is an award-winning artist, whose original mixed media works of art incorporate photography, printmaking and painting and capture the spirit of the people and

places around Mississippi. For the past 25 years, Porter has traveled and exhibited her work in nearly every major city in the United States and has collectors that span the globe. Her most recent body of work, called Backyards & Beyond, was a series of 81 portrait paintings and audio recordings, documenting the Mississippi Gulf Coast the first year after Hurricane Katrina. That series won her the distinction of Visual Arts recipient for the 2009 Mississippi Institute for Arts & Letters. Porter is currently working on a series that will highlight — through her paintings and collected oral histories — 29 living blues legends from across Mississippi. Blues @ Home will become a nationally traveling exhibition that will showcase Mississippi's blues heritage. Porter, a Jackson native, lives and creates her works of art above her signature H.C. Porter Gallery in downtown Vicksburg.



Rosalind Roy

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Rosalind works in multiple mediums, including clay sculpture, paper collage and computer illustration. She offers programs for school groups that are focused on polymer clay sculpting or paper collage art. Her clay

workshop can be used to help reinforce curriculum concepts in different subject areas, including science, geography, and history. The paper collage workshop focuses on color and design.



Dayton Scoggins

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Scoggins is a world champion chainsaw sculptor. Children of all ages love to watch him turn a wood log into a wonderful piece of art using a chainsaw. His sculptures are found in private and public collections in every state and many countries. Dayton is a featured artist in many schools "Arts Week" programs. Scoggins would be a great addition to any event as his work will mesmerize those in attendance.



Kenny Scoggins

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Scoggins is a chainsaw artist who has been carving since he was a young teen. He now makes his living as a craftsman; turning wood into beautiful works of art. He mostly carves animals such as bears, deer, and horses. He travels extensively to

show others how he creates his beautiful work.



Pat Walker

662/873-4003

Walker is a representational painter of portraits, still-lives & landscapes. Her masterful manipulation of light and dark, evocative of Rembrandt's use of chiaroscuro, is the defining component of her style. By means of it she aims "to create mystery and emotion." These two elements are the real subjects of her work.

Her classic representations of fruit, jug, table & cloth are windows opening to domestic worlds. The views evoke tales of life in imagined homes and times. Her representation of the human face is a view to the inner world of the subject's personality; the unarticulated life-quest, heroic, tragic, wise, at-risk, on the cusp of accepting inevitable challenges and the resigned contentment of latter years. Her faces cannot be forgotten. They linger teasing from the viewer's mind the story that explains; or searching for a name that has the power to keep safe what the viewer experienced.



Robin Whitfield

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Whitfield is a painter, teacher, and naturalist. She offers a variety of workshops, classroom projects, and master classes, including "The Art of Seeing", "Earth Stories", "The Art of Ecology" and "Learning About Nature Through Art".



Bill Wilson

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Wilson is a portrait painter, but his experience is broad and extensive – from portraits and gallery work, to illustration and movie storyboarding. In a smooth easy-going style, a whole new world opens up to his students. The one comment he hears consistently from his students is "this is the first time I really understood how to make the paint do what I want it to do."



Lyle Wynn

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Wynn has been a practicing blacksmith for 15 years, but the art of metal working is in his blood. He is a third generation blacksmith. A member of the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi, he is available for classes, demonstrations and workshops with school groups, church groups and other community organizations.



Bill Abel

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Abel is a Delta blues guitar player and singer. He often plays traditional country blues on cigar-box guitars, and he makes these instruments using driftwood from the Mississippi River. He also plays

acoustic and electric guitars solo, with a full band, or a one-man blues band. His most recent release is "Bill Abel, One-Man-Band."



Dexter Allen

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Allen started out playing guitar at the church where his father was pastor. He performed with blues legend Bobby Rush around the world. His unique style landed him the 2008 Jackson Music Award for Male

Vocalist. He also lends his time and talents to blues workshops in area schools. He is known as one of the best 21st century Mississippi blues performers.



Little Joe Ayers

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Ayers, son of sharecroppers in Marshall County, grew up doing whatever it took to get by, and steadily absorbed the indigenous sounds of the North Mississippi Hill Country. As a teen he learned from

Junior Kimbrough, and in 1968 he became the bass player for Kimbrough's Soul Blues Boys. He continued to play the festival/juke/house party circuit with Kimbrough until his death in 1998. Long recognized as a significant talent in his own right, Ayers resisted playing publicly on a regular basis for the next 10 years. But during that time, he perfected an acoustic version of the Hill Country Blues that combines the drone and rhythm, while simultaneously stamping every song with his own personality. His first release "Backatcha" won critical acclaim, and has led to increased appearances on the regional circuit.



Adrian Baron-Robbins

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Born into a family of artists, musicians and craftsmen, and raised and educated in London, England, Baron-Robbins has been a resident of Oxford, MS for over 25 years. By his 10th birthday, he had built and taught

himself to play a one-string slide guitar, followed by the recorder and harmonica. In his teens, he became aware of New Orleans jazz and started playing jazz on the recorder, followed by the clarinet, banjo and piano. As a radio listener to the more offbeat side of the BBC, he heard folk songs by Frank Crummit, Burl Ives, Elton Hayes, and music from around the world, and listened to Music Hall (vaudeville) songs from the late 19th and early 20th centuries sung by his grandmother, which she learned from her father, a music hall performer. He was a pioneer of the skiffle movement, a mixture of Blues and Country music, and later played clarinet, tenor saxophone, banjo, acoustic guitar and piano in bands and groups in England, Zambia, St. Lucia and Miami. For the last 25 years, he has played in and around Oxford, MS and has a repertoire that includes blues, jazz, folk, country, Celtic, Caribbean and rock, played on guitar, harmonica, penny whistle and piano. He is available to play in concerts, clubs, private parties, functions, schools, festivals and specializes in farmers markets and "dead air" performances between other acts.



Virgil Brawley

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Brawley has been playing over 40 years. He appeared in the TV movie "The Last of the Mississippi Jukes" filmed at the famous Subway Lounge and also wrote three songs for the movie "Oh, Mr. Faulkner Do You Write?" A plaster bust of his face is on permanent display at Delta State University along with many

other noted blues men in a series entitled "Cast in Blues" by Sharon McConnell. After releasing three cd's with his band, The Juvenators, in the last decade, he recorded a solo album, "Bottle Tree" in 2009. He is featured on vocals, slide, dobro and guitar. He can add one guitar or a full band to meet the needs of your festival or event.



Breaking Grass

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www.breakinggrass.com

Breaking Grass is an acoustic band from Mississippi who has made a name for themselves by using age-old instruments to create an exciting new sound. Breaking Grass is not quite traditional bluegrass, hence

the name, but still steeped in the timeless genre they grew up listening too. This five piece group of multi-talented musicians came together with one goal in mind, to make music that all ages could enjoy. Whatever your taste in music, you're bound to be a fan of Breaking Grass.



Eden Brent

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www.yellowdogrecords.com/eden
www.piedmonttalent.com

Award-winning pianist and vocalist Eden Brent blends her signature blues and boogie-woogie with subtleties of jazz, soul, gospel and pop. An

accomplished soloist and bandleader, her unshakeable talent and carefree demeanor have taken her across country and around the world to perform at festivals, concerts, theaters and clubs. A natural entertainer, she also offers boogie piano master classes and workshops, and presents Blues in the Schools programs for nearly every age and proficiency level. Recognized with numerous awards and nominations, Brent is a three-time Blues Music Award winner, a MS Arts Commission Folk Arts Fellowship recipient, and she received the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Popular Music Composition Award for her acclaimed album *Ain't Got No Troubles*. She has appeared in various national publications including *USA Today*, *Garden & Gun* and *Blues Revue* and has been featured on national broadcasts like *NPR Weekend Edition*, *American Routes* and *House of Blues Radio Hour*. Following the 2012 release of *The Brent Sisters Party Dress*, a collaboration with her two singer-songwriter sisters, Brent continues to tour and will release her fourth solo album in Fall 2013. Fee and technical requirements are flexible and determined by the type of appearance.



Kenny Brown

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With his own Kenny Brown Band, he has applied the powerful cry-and-moan singing style of the hills and those relentless, droning guitars to his own distinctive sound, earning him *Musician* magazine's praise as "simply

the best white slide player you might ever hear." Brown's unique musical talent is highlighted in his appearance in the Paramount Vantage film "Black Snake Moan" based on the life of R.L. Burnside, starring Hollywood famed Samuel L. Jackson. Brown's CD, *Meet Ya In The Bottom*, released in 2008 has enjoyed remarkable sales as reviews revealed, "If Keith Richards were born in Mississippi it would sound like this." Kenny's most recent CD, "Can't Stay Long", reviews sum up the latest CD, "Kenny has become increasingly recognized as an international force in his own right since R.L. Burnside's death in 2005, his abilities have never been a secret to those of us living in North Mississippi."



Pat Brown

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Singer Pat Brown has performed throughout the United States and Europe. A native of Meridian, Brown came into prominence with her mid '90s hit song, "Miss Equal Opportunity." She has performed with blues greats like Willie Clayton, Johnny Taylor, and Bobby Rush.

Her most recent CD, "For Your Information Only", was released on VTapna Records in 2007.



Ricky Burkhead

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www.youtube.com/user/rbsoulful

Burkhead has a performance background in many musical styles and instruments. His musical training began at age 12 and has been a life-long process. His performing experience is extensive and covers musical styles including African, Caribbean, Latin American, R & B, Urban, and various world music styles. He can perform a variety of programs including Caribbean culture which is a lecture/performance/ history of the steel drum; West African culture that covers the history/ performance of the Djembe and Kalimba; or a solo percussion recital featuring marimba, vibraphone, drumset and a variety of orchestral and ethnic percussion instruments. His workshop/master class/lectures are informative and audience friendly. Students and teachers are encouraged to participate in African, Caribbean and American songs, music and dance. Burkhead formed the first steel drum band in the state of Mississippi while teaching at Mississippi Valley State University in 1986. All instruments and sound equipment are provided for each performance. He dresses in costumes that are typical of each country or region he lectures about.



Duwayne Burnside

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The son of R.L. Burnside, Duwayne was born into the North Mississippi hill country blues. He was raised around legends like Junior Kimbrough and Kenny Brown. He was also tuned into the music of his generation pulsing out of the blues and R&B scene in Memphis, and spent years apprenticing to legends like Little Freddie King, BB King and others. After recording and touring hill country drenched blues rock with the North Mississippi Allstars,

Duwayne has spent the last several years fronting his own band and honing his unique combination of North Mississippi hill country blues, Memphis rhythm, and hard edged guitar.



Garry Burnside

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662/801-7272

Burnside, son of legendary RL Burnside, was born into the North Mississippi hill country blues, with the sounds of the music reverberating throughout his youth. Like many of his siblings and cousins, he was raised playing drums, guitar, and whatever other instruments were available, joining in the droning rhythms and endless jams of his family and friends at area house parties and juke joints. By age 13, he was playing bass and

rhythm weekly with Junior Kimbrough at his juke joint, and touring with him as well. He also frequently sat in with his father, his older brother Duwayne, and Kenny Brown. Garry has recorded with his cousin Cedric as the Burnside Exploration, as well as with several other hill country musicians. He's performances try to take the hill country tradition into the realm of a harder edged rock and roll sound. He covers many blues standards, including the hill country songs he grew up with, but always adds his own electric edge, taking it in a slightly different direction than his contemporaries.



CATEGORY 5 Wind Quintet

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CATEGORY 5 is a wind quintet comprised of faculty members at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Founded in 2005, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, this dynamic group of young musicians committed themselves to the cultural revitalization of the Gulf South, not only by staging high quality chamber music performances but also by offering numerous educational and service projects in local schools.

CATEGORY 5 seeks always to present a diverse and exciting program, often performing commissioned works and other new music alongside works from the standard wind quintet repertoire. In the past three years, the group has commissioned works by Bill Douglas, Jere Hutcheson and Phillip Schroeder and they have premiered works by Paolo Dantas and Michael Young.

CATEGORY 5 maintains an active performance schedule in the U.S. and abroad, touring Brazil in 2008 and performing a four-state tour of the Southern US in 2009, and a tour through Tennessee in 2010. Presently, the quintet is seeking opportunities to commission works and record new quintets.



Grady Champion

www.gradychampion.com
www.facebook.com/gradychampion
twitter.com/gradychampion
www.youtube.com/user/gradychampion

Champion, "The Mississippi Bluesman," was raised on a small farm outside of Canton, MS and was the youngest of his father's 28 children. It seems that his life has, in many ways, prepared him to be an outstanding blues man. He is currently playing around 180 shows a year as a blues

entertainer. Grady's career hit the fast track when he won the 2010 International Blues Challenge. Since then he has released a best-selling album, been nominated for numerous awards, and has traveled the world singing his unique style of blues. Some acclamations that he has receive includes a 2012 Blues Music Award Nomination for Soul Blues Album of the Year, a 2012 Blues Music Award Nomination for song of the year for the song "Thank You for Giving Me the Blues," "Make that Monkey Jump" was awarded the 2012 Blues Critic Award for Best Down Home Blues Song. Champion is continuing to keep the blues alive in Mississippi and worldwide.



Viola Dacus and Carol Joy Sparkman

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Mezzo-soprano Viola Dacus and pianist Carol Joy

Sparkman offer art song recitals and master classes. One of the duo's most enthusiastically received programs is the song cycle, "Reflections in the Mirror of Childhood", which was composed for Dacus by award winning Mississippi composer James Sclater. The cycle, for which Sclater wrote both text and music, is based on Dacus's recollections of growing up in rural Yazoo County, MS. The songs range from tender reflections on a cemetery visit to a romping trip to a country store. They leave audiences laughing, crying, and eager to talk about their own reflections of growing up in the South. In addition to recitals, Viola performs opera, oratorio, and concert repertoire. She is on the faculty of Mississippi College in Clinton. Carol Joy is also an active performer and on the faculty of Mississippi College.



Ken Davies

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Davies is a lifelong composer, performer, conductor and teacher. His award-winning compositions range from song to electronic soundscape and he has become a

familiar face at many new music festivals across the USA. His concert work has received yearly ASCAP awards since 2004. His Three Pieces for bass trombone and piano was the 2009 national prize winning composition at the Eastern Trombone Workshop Competition sponsored by the U.S. Army Band in Washington D.C. He was twice awarded Performing Artist Fellowship in Composition and is the 2013 Mississippi Music Teachers' Association commissioned composer. He is available for commissions creating works for musical ensembles, filmmakers, dance groups and others seeking to bring new works to their audiences.

He also offers workshops and master-classes in songwriting, musicians' copyright matters, and music technology.



Eric Deaton

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Deaton is a blues guitarist, singer and songwriter, specializing in the North Mississippi hill country style. He apprenticed under blues legends R.L. Burnside and Junior Kimbrough. Constantly touring, Eric plays original

music, as well as traditional hill country blues songs and down home standards. Eric's musical repertoire offers many options to presenters, including solo performances, performances with his band, The Eric Deaton Trio, or as part of a full band.



Sherman Lee Dillon & The Dillonaire

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The Dillonaire are a family band out of Jackson, Mississippi. Dad, Sherman Lee; son, Andrew John and daughter, Anna Lee provide the

voices and musical accompaniment served up with an unforgettable helping of down-home honest energy. From the worn pages of an old shape-note hymnal to brand-new tunes penned in the style of A.P. Carter and Hazel Dickens, the trip will make you laugh, sing, cry and dance. Sherman Lee is a slide guitar and banjo player, and has worked as a consultant to the filming of "O Brother, Where Art Thou?", represented Mississippi in several blues competitions, toured Germany playing country & western guitar and harmonica with George Sandifer and The Mississippi Band. His harmonica workshops are among the most eagerly attended at folk festivals. Andrew John has a rich baritone voice, a deft touch with the fiddle, and a capacity to write songs that sound decades older than his 21 years. He's also a lot of fun to watch on stage. Anna Lee, 25, plays rhythm guitar with authority, but it's her voice that reaches out and grabs you. A soulful ballad, a tender love song, or an angry take on a woman persecuted and scorned... all find their optimal expression in her singing. Together they offer a memorable show that will echo in your ears and stay in your heart for years to come.



Vergia Towner Dishmon

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Singer, arranger and composer, Dishmon often referred to as "The Songbird" is blessed with the gift of song. Her performances have taken her all over the United States and even to Europe where she toured for three weeks to standing room only crowds. She has performed

feature roles in several musical theater presentations. A former teacher of English and Speech Communication, she delights in entertaining and instructing audiences with the origin, history and interpretation of the much loved hymns of the church. She has recorded three CDs. Her latest offering, via the recording arena is a collection of hymns and revered gospel selections. In 2005, she was a part of "The Gospel of Colonus" a nationally acclaimed production and in 2006 starred in "Crowns" a musical play produced by New Stage Theater, a professional acting company. She is a part of the drama group, "Daughters of Margaret", named after the poet/professor, Dr. Margaret Walker Alexander who dedicates itself to the positive portrayal of African Americans and women. Whether in a theater or on stage, large or small church, her voice has blessed people wherever she has appeared.



King Edward

6811 Old Canton Rd. #3404
Ridgeland, MS 39157
www.sonicbids.com/KingEdward
www.hitttheroadent.com
Contact: Peggy Brown 601-613-7377

King Edward is an authentic Mississippi blues musician with Louisiana and Chicago roots who can play R&B and jazz as well. King has played with legends such as McKinley Mitchell, Muddy Waters,

Howlin' Wolf, Buddy Guy, Junior Wells and Sam Myers. He was a regular guitarist at the famous Subway Lounge in Jackson, MS and was featured in "The Last of the Mississippi Jukes." King recorded his first album with the historic Ace Record Company in Jackson. He has played festivals and venues across Mississippi, the Southeast and Midwest and twice at The Chicago Blues Festival. King Edward leads his own band (The King Edward Band) or duo act, and can perform as an acoustic act. He has participated in Blues in the Schools programs, as well as blues symposiums, teaching students and adults about the blues and Mississippi's music heritage. King has been honored on three blues markers on the State of Mississippi Blues Trail; The Subway Lounge, The Queen of Hearts, and the Ace Records marker. He received a Peavey Award for his contribution to Mississippi music. He is a member of the Central Mississippi Blues Society and the International Blues Foundation.



Jackie Edwards-Henry

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Jackie is a Professor of Piano at Mississippi State University, where she has been a faculty member since 1991. She is a soloist or collaborative musician on piano or harpsichord. Dr. Edwards serves as a master

class clinician for pianists of all ages and ability levels, to teach demonstration group piano classes, give workshops, or to perform lecture-recitals.



Bill Ellison & Temperance Babcock

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Bill and Temperance build their distinctive sound on the classic combination of fiddle and guitar. Their

vocal duets cover the musical spectrum from Bill Monroe to the Everly Brothers and Old Crow Medicine Show. Ellison's weekly radio show on Mississippi Public Broadcasting has won a Governor's Arts Award. Babcock is a much in demand violin instructor and has performed with the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, Mac McAnally and Cassandra Wilson.



Emerald Accent Irish Music

Contact: Clark Lowery
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Emeraldaccent.com

Emerald Accent Irish Music was founded by Clark Lowery in Laurel,

MS, for the enhancement of the Celtic cultures through music in South Mississippi. Emerald Accent includes members Clark Lowery (vocals, guitar, banjo), and Steve Payne (low and high whistles, harmonica), Gail Fox (fiddle), Brian Kraiser (bodhran). With backgrounds in Irish, bluegrass, blues and classical, the band brings freshness to the genre while priding itself in the Irish traditional style. The band loves working as a celi band while also producing slow, soothing jigs and waltzes. They play for dances, concerts, pubs and receptions. Emerald Accent is a well-rounded band for those who enjoy Irish music.



Jerry D. Fair

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www.myspace.com/jerryfairblues

Fair is an authentic delta bluesman with over 40 years of experience. He derived his talents from a musical lineage that

includes local gospel guitarist, James Fair and the legendary blues icon, B. B. King; his father and cousin respectively. He has performed with notable blues artists like Keb-Mo, the late David Durham and Honey Boy Edwards, the late blues guitarist Dave Thompson. He was featured in two documentaries, "Poverty in the Mississippi Delta" in 2008 and "Along the Mississippi" in 2009. He was also featured in July 2001 edition of the *Oxford American Journal* article titled "State of the Blues in the Delta". His photo was featured on the back cover of the 17th Annual Pocono Blues Festival program booklet and appeared in 2010 *Mississippi Official Tour Guide Magazine*. His band has been house-band at the BB King Museum since opening, where he has flourished as an orator, instructor, and live entertainer. He is seasoned and ready for higher musical and personal accomplishments. He is truly a gifted "bluesologist or bluesician".



HanaLena

www.hanalena.com

HanaLena is an acoustical band with an innovative sound of blended genres that includes country, bluegrass, and blues. The two girls, Hannah and Caroline Melby, are at center stage for this act producing the pleasing sounds of sister harmony while accompanying themselves on

fiddle and mandolin and keeping a firm grasp on their Mississippi roots. In 2008, they earned national recognition by winning the Grand Prize and title of "The Best New Act in Country Music" at the Colgate Country Showdown in Nashville, TN.



Jim & Martha Hession

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hessionsession@bellsouth.net

Jim and Martha Hession, after a long career performing in West Coast jazz clubs, Beverly Hills hotels and Disneyland, relocated to the Mississippi Gulf

Coast in 2003. Within a few weeks Jim had joined clarinetist Jack Maheu's "Fire in the Pet Shop Jazz Band," played on the Steamboat Natchez and was featured in Jimmy Maxwell's Orchestra for the 2004 Mardi Gras Balls. At this time Jim and Martha entered into a performing relationship with the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, where they began a continuing series of themed educational shows on early jazz. The Hessions have been able to draw on their years of experience in jazz historical research to produce shows that are innovative, informative and entertaining. In 2006, the Hessions join forces with reed virtuoso Ryan Burrage and his Rhythmakers, winning the Battle of the Bands for 2007 and 2008. Whether performing as a jazz duo, headlining the American Jazz Quintet, TV appearances, producing stage shows, historical lectures, or all request programs, Jim and Martha Hession bring a level of talent and versatility not often found on the music scene.



Homemade Jamz Blues Band

1182 Indian Trail
Tupelo, MS 38804-1521
662/397-5971
662/269-3189

With their homemade muffler guitars, flashing lights and smoke spitting out from tailpipes, they are sure to bring you the hottest smoking show ever. They perform the

blues with the confidence of knowing their Mississippi history, firsthand, redirecting love, hard times, betrayal and strife into their music. They "connect" with ancestral sounds...it is hardwired within them. They know the blues...it comes naturally from their souls. Their debut album "Pay Me No Mind" earned them the title of being the youngest blues band to be nominated for a Blues Music Award, 2009, and winners of a Jus' Blues Music Award, Band of the Year, 2010. They competed at the International Blues Challenge, 2007, and won 2nd Place over 93 adult experienced blues bands. Their performance is personal, energetic, and original, and it's sure to bring you back to a true Mississippi juke joint. Homemade Jamz pulls their sound from various blues sources (Delta blues, Chicago blues, MS hill country blues) in addition to their own music style. They provide a vital service to Blues in School programs as well as performing live all over the world.



Impromptu Piano Quartet

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sanchezth@comcast.net

The Impromptu Piano Quartet was formed in 2006 by outstanding musicians in the Hattiesburg area. As the only piano quartet in Mississippi, IPO has presented more than 15 concerts over the years. They also perform regularly at university campuses across the state.



Jerry L. Jenkins

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Jenkins is a performance artist of West African djembe drum ensemble, which involves the use of the traditional instruments, rhythms, and stories of the Malinke people of West Africa. During his career as a djembe player he exposes and entertains children and adults to West African drumming.



Scott Albert Johnson

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www.scottalbertjohnson.com

Albert Johnson is an award-winning singer, songwriter, and harmonica player based in Jackson, Mississippi. He has performed or recorded with such legendary artists as Marty Stuart, Dorothy Moore, James Burton, Jerry Jemmott, Johnny Vidacovich and many more. He was named "Best Musician" in the Jackson Free Press readers' poll in 2009 and 2010, and his 2007 debut album, *Umbrella Man*, received excellent reviews worldwide. He was also recently named one of the "Hot 100 Harmonica Players" by the Harmonica Company, a U.K.-based retailer and website. He offers performances (duo to full band), clinics, workshops and more.



Lisa Lambert & the Pine Ridge Boys

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scott@lisalambertmusic.com
lisa@lisalambertmusic.com
www.LisaLambertMusic.com

Lisa Lambert and The Pine Ridge Boys perform a version of string-band "roots" music they call hillbilly blues. Members include: Lisa Lambert (guitar/fiddle), Scott Nunley (harmonica/bass), Bryan Sparks (mandolin), Nolan Wells (dobro), and Lynn Grissom (banjo/guitar). The band puts a new twist on bluegrass, old-time, country, blues, and gospel classics. Soulful gospel and country numbers will bring a tear to the eye; foot-stomping bluegrass and old-time tunes will have your toes tapping; and good-natured band antics are sure to make you smile! You never know what you'll hear next, but you're guaranteed a good time! The five-piece band has performed throughout the Southeastern U.S. and has a dedicated fan base. Band members enjoy sharing their love of roots music with school children when the opportunity arises. They offer a one-hour educational program suitable for grades K-12. The program includes a concert, a lesson on the history of roots music and the traditional instruments used, and a hands-on session with some of the instruments.



Lane Chapel Quintet

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The Lane Chapel C.M.E. male quintet was first organized in the fall of 1976 at the Lane Chapel Christian Episcopal Church

located in Tupelo, MS. Charles Richardson organized the Quintet after his years as a member of Rust College a cappella choir, Rust College male quintet, sextet and mixed ensemble. The group's style of music is gospel a cappella. They have performed in churches around the country. They have also made appearances at the Oxford Folk Festival, St. Jude Radiothon, Mississippi Press Association, 1984 World's Fair in New Orleans, national Television on the Bobby Jones Gospel Hour. They were the opening act for BeBe and CeCe Winans, The Williams Brothers and the Mississippi Mass Choir. In addition, they have performed for a host of civic organizations such as the Regional Rehabilitation Radio-Telethon and the Mississippi Main Street Association. Recently the group was in a documentary record for an internationally acclaimed classical music vocalist, Helmut Lotti. He invited the group to take part in a 35-stop European tour.



Legacy Irish Music

P.O. Box 4772
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Legacy has drawn the enthusiastic attention of Celtic (Irish traditional) music fans across the South and Southwest. Their skill is undeniable; their

arrangements complex and challenging; and their performances are tight and energetic. To enhance understanding of their music, band members inform the audience about their instruments, including tin whistle, bodhrán, fiddle, wooden flute, and others.



Shawn Leopard & John Paul

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Among the delights of music is a wonderful series of pieces for two harpsichords. Johann Sebastian Bach and his talented sons composed the centerpieces of this

repertoire, which includes works from 17th- and 18th-century France, England, and Italy. Add some new creative arrangements of popular and familiar tunes by Haydn and Joplin—among others—and you have a concert which is as entertaining as it is classic. Leopard and Paul travel with two harpsichords which produce and sound both rich and clear, doing equal justice to a Baroque allegro or a Joplin rag. This duo has produced four recordings of Classical Baroque, 20th-century, and popular Spanish works.



Walt Littleton

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www.panmanmusic.com

Spice up your next event with the cool, island sounds of Walt "The Pan Man" Littleton and The Lost Shakers of Salt.

Walt "The Pan Man" Littleton and The Lost Shakers of Salt are East Mississippi's first "trop rock" and steel drum band. If you are looking for something to really set that tropical island mood, look no further. They have something for every occasion and budget. Performances range from light instrumental background music to upbeat songs that you can sing along and dance to and are always the perfect volume for your event. Shows consist of Walt on steel drum and vocals while accompanied by high-quality, sequenced backing tracks for that full band sound. Depending on your event and budget, consider adding the rest of the band, The Lost Shakers of Salt, and make it a real party. Joining Walt in The Lost Shakers of Salt are South Mississippi blues artist, Wes Lee, on guitar and vocals, and Stan Geiger on percussion. Music includes calypso and soca classics, rock, pop, reggae, blues, country, and of course, lots of Jimmy Buffett favorites.



Sarah Mabary

Sarah Mabary & Victoria Johnson

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Mezzo-soprano Sarah Mabary and pianist Victoria Johnson offer art song recitals, lecture recitals, workshops and master classes.

The duo's most popular recital, Songs of Mississippi, showcases the music of talented Mississippi composers whose songs and song

cycles may be unfamiliar to many listeners; both a standard art song recital and a lecture recital are available. The program promotes outstanding Mississippi musicians while entertaining and educating audiences. Unexpected Songs explores the ironic and funny side of art song. From careers to dreams, nights to songs, and death to love, this narrated recital offers both traditional and unfamiliar repertoire presented with a twist of humor. Sarah is a freelance opera, oratorio, concert and recital singer and voice teacher. Vickie is on the piano faculty at Jones County Junior College.



The Magnolia Drive Band

Contact: Don Robinson
601/297-1281
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www.magnoliadrive.com

Magnolia Drive Band performs hard-driving, contemporary, traditional sound with tasteful instrumentals, smooth blending vocals and all the energy that

you can stand. Magnolia Drive is available to perform at concert venues, festivals, meetings, churches and schools. These guys possess the desire and ability necessary to perform and record high-quality, hard-driving bluegrass. Pair that with their over 100 years of combined experience and professionalism both on and off stage and you have a group that will certainly turn heads in the bluegrass music world. Fees are negotiable.



Elaine Maisel

Bassoon and Contrabassoon
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Maisel is a bassoonist and contrabassoonist, playing professionally with orchestras throughout Mississippi. She is the Carnegie Hall Link Up Coordinator for the Mississippi Arts Commission. As part of the Link Up program, she is available

to play and teach recorder in school settings, or as a part of historical Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque ensemble. Elaine is available to give presentations, performances and workshops that incorporate double reeds, recorder, and interdisciplinary connections through music. She is also a certified t'ai chi chih instructor, teaching movement to musicians and non-musicians to improve coordination, stage presence, mental focus, and improved performance.



Randy Mapes

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Mapes, a saxophonist and woodwind specialist, has a performance background on all five major woodwind instruments

(saxophone, oboe, clarinet, flute and bassoon). His repertoire contains works from both the "classical" and "popular" idioms. He can perform a wide variety of programs including; a solo saxophone recital, perform as soloist with a band or orchestra, or a demonstration recital featuring all five major woodwind instruments.

He offers master classes and workshops for all levels of woodwind students. Master classes and workshops can cover subjects such as pedagogical techniques, literature, equipment, and performance techniques on one or more members of the woodwind family.

One of his performance goals is to promote music education and music appreciation for the general public. Another is to provide the audience an opportunity to learn about the history, literature and workings of woodwind instruments.



Derrick Martin
d1971mar@yahoo.com

Martin, a very talented drummer/percussionist, producer and songwriter, has been performing internationally for the past 20 years. He has worked in studios from Los Angeles to New York. He has been a member of the Little Richard Band for 16 years. His workshop focuses on the drum set and its history in American music. Martin offers a very informative and energetic program. He also uses his workshops to express and draw parallels between success at a

professional level and success in the classroom with English, mathematics, attitude, pride and good social skills. His aspiration is that the students will draw inspiration from his experiences and truly develop a broader appreciation for all types of music and performance.



James "Jimbo" Mathus
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www.jimbomathus.com

The late Memphis producer Jim Dickinson once called Jimbo Mathus "the singing voice of Huck Finn." Outside the South, Mathus is likely known as the ringleader of the hyper-ragtime outfit Squirrel Nut Zippers. In his native Mississippi and throughout the South, however, Mathus is the prolific songwriter of born-in-the-bone Southern music, the torchbearer for

deep South mythology and culture. As a performer, Mathus contributed vocals on the North Mississippi Allstars' 2006 Grammy-nominated Electric Blues Watermelon. He recently reteamed with buddy Luther Dickinson and Alvin Youngblood Hart to create the South Memphis String Band, whose first release, Home Sweet Home, was nominated for a Blues Music Award (formerly known as the Handy Awards.) Mathus is a rising-star powerhouse, creating music that feeds the soul. His latest band, The Tri-State Coalition, features solid talent cut from the same Delta cloth as Mathus himself. The band was recently signed by Memphis International records and released their first CD, "Confederate Buddha", in May 2011. In early 2013, Mathus and Tri-State released their second album, "White Buffalo".



Lannie Spann McBride
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McBride is a vocal recording artist, published composer, and teacher with a heart for children. She provides solo lecture recital programs, sing-along assemblies, choir workshop clinics, and supplemental musical experiences for children and adults. Her presentations teach, enrich, practice, and inform.



Nellie McInnis
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McInnis is a professional bass player. She has opened shows and performed with dozens of national acts. Nellie presents a workshop to youth and preschoolers entitled "Catch Them While They're Young." She has workshops for gifted and physically challenged students, has been awarded by the National Committee Arts with the Handicapped, and received numerous national awards, certificates and recognitions.



Valerie McKnight
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The electrifying and explosive vocals of Valerie "Val" McKnight (aka: "Vivacious V") began in early childhood, where she was a frequent performer at musical events around Mississippi. She continues to transform her gifts with extraordinary drive and passion. She is well-known for her riveting and soulful performance. Ms. McKnight released "Two is Company," in February 2011. She has been the opening act for blues artists such as Bobby Rush, Denise LaSalle and OB Buchana. She is available for private parties, festivals and events



Mississippi Chamber Circle

Contact information:
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601/266-4718

Formed in 2006 by the string faculty of the School of Music at The University of Southern Mississippi, the Mississippi Chamber Circle (MCC) is a group devoted to the performance of string chamber music and the development of string education. Each year, the MCC presents several concerts in Hattiesburg and

throughout the Southeast. The group collaborates with artists from music schools and symphonies in the area, as well as with selected Southern Miss string students. The MCC is interested in reaching out to local communities through educational concerts and performances on university campuses.



Mississippi Symphony Orchestra

P.O. Box 2052
Jackson, MS 39225
601/960-1565
www.msorchestra.com

The Mississippi Symphony Orchestra performs for thousands

each year. Presenters may choose the Brass Quintet, Woodwind Quintet, String Quartet, Chamber Orchestra, Pops Orchestra or full Orchestra. Programs can be designed from a large repertoire of classical and contemporary music, and popular Broadway tunes.



Rev. Ronald Myers

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Minister, physician and jazz musician, Rev. Ronald V. Myers, Sr. works to keep Mississippi's jazz legacy alive in the Mississippi Delta. He serves as the Artistic Director for the

Mississippi Jazz and Heritage Program, working to organize a number of festivals and performance that focus on Mississippi's contributions to jazz.



John Paul

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Traveling with magnificent instruments from the studio of Anden Houben, John Paul performs 18th-century keyboard literature on the harpsichord and Lautenwerk. Focusing on the works of Bach,

Rameau, Couperin, and Scarlatti, Paul's programming also includes an assortment of popular classics by composers ranging from Mozart to Joplin. With his virtuoso technique and witty commentary, Paul engages his audience with short stories about the harpsichord, its music and composers. He was one of the recipients of the Governor's Arts Award in 2002. School residencies in combination with community concerts are his proven speciality.



Bill "Howl-n-Madd" Perry

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Perry writes and performs original music, producing CDs which are played throughout the world. He performs in clubs, festivals, and for private parties. He performs with his full band and also as a solo acoustic performer. He also does blues education workshops, having worked with B.B. King at his workshop at Mississippi Valley State

University. He was cast in scenes with Cuba Gooding, Jr. in the movie *Way of War*. He has been hired as a musician and actor for a segment of the top-rated television series, *Gene Simmons Family Jewels*. Perry has been playing his music for over 40 years. He has played in festivals and in clubs all over the country, and internationally with his band. He is accustomed to performing for a small group or in front of thousands.



Mickey Rogers

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Mississippi Delta Blues, Inc.
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www.mississippideltabluesinfo.com

Rogers' mentor and guitar teacher was Hubert Sumlin and his first trip out of the country was with Sumlin and Howlin Wolf in

1964. It was during this trip to the United Kingdom where Rogers met the Rolling Stones and performed with them on stage. Not only has he been honored with a stone on the Musician Walk of Fame in Greenville, MS, but he received the Sonny Boy Nelson Award from MACE, which produces the oldest festival in the state, Mississippi Delta Blues and Heritage Festival. He played in the Tyrone Davis band for 16 years, and spent many years performing with Bobby Rush. He toured internationally with the Temptations and was Willie Foster's band leader. Rogers performs at festivals, clubs, private parties and social events.



Bobby Rush

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www.bobbyrush.net

At a time when most of his contemporaries are resting on their laurels, Bobby Rush, a 50-year veteran of the

stage, remains one of the most exciting and creative artists in the R&B/blues arena. Rush's live shows are without parallel, replete with costume changes and comedic sketches acted out with the assistance of his lovely female dancers. In addressing a broad range of matters of the heart, Rush adopts various onstage persona, delivering all with a knowing wink that assures the audience that he's in on the joke. Bobby Rush—it's pronounced as one three-syllable name—calls his music "folk funk," an apt description for a blend that's both decidedly modern and deeply rooted in tradition. Over the decades he has consistently updated his music by incorporating new styles—Chicago blues, soul, funk, reggae, and hip-hop—into a fresh mix. At the same time, his original compositions often stem from the well of folk wisdom, as exemplified by songs like "What's Good For the Goose is Good for the Gander Too." In 2013, Rush received the Governor's Arts Award for Life Time Achievement.



Theresa Sanchez

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Sanchez pursues a career as a piano soloist and collaborative musician. She has presented recitals worldwide and has been a soloist with the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, the Mississippi Wind Symphony, The University of Southern Mississippi Symphony Orchestra and The Wind Ensemble. She is featured on the SouthArts online registry, Southern Artistry and has performed on radio stations nationwide.



Alphonso Sanders

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Sanders is a music educator, multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, and recording artist. He performs in various jazz and blues idioms as a solo artist and in

various ensembles. He has performed in many places throughout the United States and abroad including many recognized festivals such as the Netherland North Sea Jazz Festival; Montreux Switzerland Jazz Festival; Lucerne Switzerland Blues Festival; Mobile Jazz Festival; Ontario Canada Southside Shuffle Festival; and many of the Delta Blues Festivals. His performance climates consist of concert halls, festivals, clubs, restaurants, and private parties. As a music educator he adjudicates and teaches in clinics, workshops, and master-classes for all levels of musicianship. His primary instruments are saxophone, trumpet, flute, and harmonica. He has performed with such artist as Bill "Howl-N-Madd" Perry, Mulgrew Miller, Rhonda Richmond, Cassandra Wilson, Paula West, Debra Brown, Bobby Rush, David Lee Durham, The Four Tops, and David "Honey Boy" Edwards among others. As a Fulbright Scholars, he studied abroad in China exploring Chinese music and visual arts. He is a recipient of a 2010 MAC Folk Arts Fellowship; the 2011 Mississippi Humanities Award and is published in *Big City Rhythm & Blues* magazine 2011 (UK); the book *Musicians Up and the Delta*; and *Down In The Woods* a documentary of the legendary bluesman Willie King. He was commissioned in 2011 by the Annenberg Foundation to write a theme song for the documentary "Detroit". He is also an award winner in the 2009 and 2010 International Blues Challenge. His most recent recording projects are "Mississippi Influences" and "Twice As Nice".



Rosangela Yazbec Sebba

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Sebba is a native of Brazil where she frequently performed in recitals and won many first prizes in national competitions. Dr. Sebba has presented recitals and lectures in Brazil, Mexico, Costa Rica, Portugal, Spain, England, and in the United States she has presented at the College of Music Society regional and international conferences. She is the founder and

coordinator of the Brazilian Music Festival at Mississippi State University. Her biography is featured in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in Emerging Leaders* and *Who's Who in Education*. She has accompanied master classes and recitals of renowned artists: Simon Estes, Wynton Marsalis, Emerson String Quartet, Joseph Robinson, Csaba Erdelyi, and Leontyne Price. Currently she is Professor of Music at Mississippi State University where she teaches applied piano, theory and ear training as well as serving as the founder and coordinator of the Piano Pre-College Program.

Her CD "Eight Sonatinas and the Sonata for Piano Solo by M. Camargo Guarneri" was released in June 2010 in Brazil and the US and it has been featured many times at WWFM, on the classical piano program "The Piano Matters."



“Big” Joe Shelton

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Big Joe is a blues singer, songwriter, harmonica, and guitar player from Columbus. He was a 2012 Blues Music Award Nominee. He has toured the world, and is a performer/ lecturer. He

performs solo or with a full band at festivals and events.



William Alan Sibley

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Alan Sibley is a talented singer and bluegrass musician. He plays mandolin, guitar, banjo, fiddle and bass. His band, Alan Sibley and the Magnolia Ramblers, perform bluegrass and bluegrass gospel at festivals, concerts, churches, schools and many other places.



Jarekus Singleton

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www.hittheroadent.com
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601/613-7377

Singleton, at age 28, has gained the title “The New Face of Blues” with his soulful, blazing guitar licks and strong voice. His songwriting is original and his lyrics deal with today’s life issues. He features a

wide variety of styles from gospel-flavored, funky blues to slow blues to R&B-flavored blues. He bridges the gap between old blues and young fans, keeping the genre alive and current. He has been labeled a “star on the rise” by *Blues & Rhythm* magazine in England. He was chosen 2012 Blues Artist of the Year by the Jackson Music Awards and 2013 Best Local Blues Artist by the *Jackson Free Press*. He leads his own band, The Jarekus Singleton Band, which has become a popular Mississippi band, playing in clubs, venues and at festivals around the Southeast as well as up and down the East Coast. He performs as a solo or duo act or as leader of his four-piece band. Jarekus has led music workshops with students including workshop performances for autistic students. He is available to perform for school groups, small groups, corporate events, festivals, parties, receptions or clubs. He is a member of the Central Mississippi Blues Society and the International Blues Foundation.



The Trustys of Davo Crossing

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601/876-5606
thetrustys@bellsouth.net

Performing together since 1997, this awarded duo consists of the husband and wife team of Danny and Linda Trusty. A guitar player for 58 years, Danny also plays mandolin, claw-hammer banjo, fiddle, and several other instruments. Linda plays up-right bass and guitar. Both sing lead and harmony vocals and often switch parts on many of their songs. They have been honored by The

Magnolia State Bluegrass Association, Danny as “Guitar Player of the Year” for 2009, 2010, 2012, and 2013 and Linda as “Female Vocalist of the Year” for 2010. They play acoustically in the styles of old-time, blues, bluegrass, gospel, country, and have released four CDs. The Trustys create their own musical arrangements and have a unique style that is popular and well received at banquets, corporate gatherings, bluegrass festivals, fairs, churches, and other venues in The Southeastern United States.



Tricia Walker

P.O. Box 552
Cleveland, MS 38732
662/846-5270
662/931-3799
info@bigfrontporch.com

Walker is a singer and songwriter whose songs are steeped in the passion, pain and grace of the American South. Born and raised in Mississippi, Walker has become one of the clearest voices of her own time

and place. Her music has been recorded by Faith Hill, Patty Loveless and Alison Krauss, whose performance of Tricia’s “Looking in the Eyes of Love” earned a Grammy. Tricia’s one-woman show, “The Heart of Dixie,” is a multimedia presentation of original songs and stories that offers the personal reflections of a white Southerner growing up in small-town (Fayette) Mississippi in the 1960s during the Civil Rights Movement. A recording artist herself, Tricia’s songs thoughtfully capture the songwriter’s view of the South with well-placed lyrics and music reflecting her folk, R&B and storytelling influences. She also offers acoustic performances and songwriting workshops. Walker offers an entertaining slice of her places and times, delivered with a beautiful voice, strong musicianship and the ease of a veteran entertainer.



The Larry Wallace Band

PO. Box 714
Starkville, MS 39760
662/323-9264
banjosound@aol.com

The Larry Wallace Band, from Starkville, MS, has been busy traveling and performing for fans of traditional bluegrass music in Mississippi and all across the country. The group plays bluegrass music in the traditional style, with a rock-solid presentation of heart-felt singing and tasteful instrumentation, along with a very high-energy stage show.



Bobby Whalen

PO Box 2139
Indianola, MS 38751
662/378-6159
662/635-3387

Born in Indianola, MS in 1944, Whalen literally grew up with the famed Club Ebony at his back door. His first musical instrument was the drums, piecing together a drum kit from oil cans and other found objects. He later joined the Gentry High School band and soon went out on his own, leading the Teen Kings, a local rock and blues band. Known mostly today for his work on bass and guitar, Bobby Whalen is a multi-instrumentalist who is also widely recognized for his work as a painter and muralist. Bobby Whalen

and the Ladies Choice band have performed throughout the region, sharing the stage with the likes of B.B. King, Son Thomas, Sam Myers and the Staple Singers. Bobby is available to perform as a solo artist, as well as with a full band. He plays at museums, festivals, private parties, business functions and clubs.



Terry "Big T" Williams

Contact: Bobbie Collins
662/910-7934
wtterrybigtwilliams@gmail.com

Born in Farrell, MS just outside Clarksdale, Terry "Big T" Williams has been playing the blues for over two decades. Early on, he tutored with local blues guitar legend Johnnie Billington who taught him the basics and Big T learned the rest on the road with blues bands like the Jelly

Roll Kings, Welsey Jefferson Band, Little Jeno's All-Stars and the Stone Gas Band. Through the years he has also sat in with or backed musicians like Albert King, Bobby "Blue" Bland, CeDell Davis, Robert Belfour, Big George Brock, Nora Jean Bruso and Jimbo Mathus. His biggest influence is probably Clarksdale's "Big Jack" Johnson, who Big T played with for several years in the Delta and on tour. His recorded legacy includes sessions with blues legends Big Jack Johnson and Lonnie Pitchford as well as albums under his own name, including "Meet me in the Cotton Field" (2007) which was featured on XM Satellite Radio's Bluesville. He has played at the Chicago Blues Festival, St. Louis' Big Muddy Blues Festival, Helena's King Biscuit Blues Festival and Clarksdale's Juke Joint Festival. When not playing, Big T spends his time teaching students in the art of Delta blues guitar.



Vaughn F. Wilson

PO. Box 351
Petal, MS 39465
601/545-1886 or 601-408-2011
Vfwilson1@bellsouth.net
www.unkehokum.com

Performing as Unkle Hokum, Wilson introduces children to songs that have been a part of the American tapestry for generations. An Unkle Hokum school appearance also includes a reading of one of the popular Unkle Hokum books written by Wilson with PowerPoint illustrations of the book and a discussion of the illustration process.



John Wooton
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 Hattiesburg, MS 39404-6326
 601/549-3775
 johnwooton@me.com
 www.johnwooton.com

Wooton is currently the Director of Percussion Studies at the University of Southern Mississippi where he teaches applied percussion, directs the graduate percussion program and directs SoMiSPO (Southern Miss Steel Pan Orchestra) and the Percussion Ensemble as well as writing for and assisting with the Southern Miss Drum Line. He fronts his band, KAISO!, and performs at some of the most prestigious jazz clubs in New Orleans and throughout the

Southeast U.S. Between the years 1981 and 1990, Dr. Wooton won five Percussive Arts Society Marching Percussion National titles, won the P.A.S. individual snare drumming national title, and had a long association with the Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps from Rockford, Illinois for which he performed and later instructed and composed for the organization. He has served on the Percussive Arts Society Marching Percussion Committee since 1989.



Yall's Blues Band

Contact: Tom Reeves
 3503 Kings Highway
 Jackson, MS 39216
 601/291-0333
 yallsbluesband@aol.com

Yall's Blues Band is a Mississippi-based band specializing in acoustic hill country blues music. The band is comprised of three

musicians: Nathan Bankston on vocals, Kenneth Johnson on acoustic and steel guitar, and Casey Parsons on mandolin. The result is an eclectic style of vintage blues music. The band's goal is to maintain the integrity of the music they perform. The band often shares knowledge about the cultural and historical context of the music. Rare songs by Charlie Patton, Memphis Minnie, Mississippi Sheiks and many other early blues artists are a few of the band's influences. They often include old spirituals, rag style and jug band music.



Louis Arzo
"Gearshifter"
Youngblood

P.O. Box 209
 Crystal Springs, MS 39059
 601/647-0187
 lygearshifter34@gmail.com

"Gearshifter" learned to play the guitar from his great aunt and his grandfather. Louis is fluent in modern blues and is unique in the blues field by playing contemporary soul/blues hits on acoustic guitar. He has been playing in bands as both a vocalist and guitarist since his teens and several years ago he began performing as a solo acoustic act.



RESOURCES

The Mississippi Visual Arts Directory is a regularly updated visual arts resource for the state of Mississippi. Included on this website are visual artists, craftspeople, galleries, museums, cultural centers and arts education facilities. The Mississippi Arts Commission created the site and provides a free listing as a courtesy to Mississippi-based artists and arts organizations. To find out more, visit www.visualarts.ms.gov.

As we move into the 21st century, the power to imagine and create new ideas is becoming a major economic driver. The Mississippi Arts Commission and the Mississippi Development Authority came together in an innovative partnership to show the value of Mississippi's cultural heritage and what it means to the state's economy. To find out details about the creative economy in Mississippi, visit mscreativeeconomy.com.

Mississippi is home to a wide range of traditional art forms and distinct community events. The music, crafts, and other traditions help the state's resident to pass on their beliefs to younger generations and reinforce their community's shared identity. The Mississippi Folklife Directory website is part of the Mississippi Arts Commission's ongoing effort to increase awareness of the state's traditional arts and culture. To find out more, visit www.arts.ms.gov/folklife.

STAY CONNECTED To The Mississippi Arts Commission Through Social Media!

Facebook: www.facebook.com

Mississippi Arts Commission and Whole Schools Initiative

Twitter: www.twitter.com/msarts

YouTube: www.youtube.com/themsartscomm

Vimeo: www.vimeo.com/user4059083

The Mississippi Arts Commission's Whole Schools Initiative, the state's first comprehensive arts education program, stresses that every child deserves to be taught in and through the arts, thus nurturing the imagination and creatively impacting life-long learning. The program uses the arts as a vehicle for promoting high-quality instruction and learning for students in all disciplines. To find out more about this innovative program, visit www.mswholeschools.org.

Being ArtsReady means preparedness, readiness and business continuity for you and your organization in the event of an emergency. It means backing up critical documents, communication and evacuation plans, and protecting your organization's assets. The Mississippi Arts Commission is proud to partner with SouthArts to encourage our arts community to engage in disaster planning by using the available resources on www.artsready.org.



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