

# Overture

online

First Annual

AFM LOCAL

47

# JAZZ

## FESTIVAL

**“This is triumphant music.”**

*- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., from his address to the 1964 Berlin Jazz Festival*

*Three-day concert series during Jazz Appreciation Month*

April 2

April 16

April 23

1 - 6 p.m.

**Spring Membership Drive:  
Spread the Word!**

**Next General Membership  
Meeting: April 24**

# Overture

online

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American Federation of Musicians Local 47 -

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AFM LOCAL  
**47**

## Message From the Editor

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

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

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

## AFM LOCAL 47 EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEES

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# President Stephanie O'Keefe



“Jazz is the only unhampered, unhindered expression of complete freedom yet produced in this country.” - *Duke Ellington*

Perhaps the biggest and best news this month is the First Annual Local 47 Jazz Festival. The Festival will take place over three Sundays in April, which, in 2001, the Smithsonian officially designated as Jazz Appreciation Month.

Why is this event – and this music – so important?

This music is about freedom, about movement, about creativity, about joy, about pain, and about ultimately setting one's spirit free.

And it is inextricably woven into the history of America.

For far too long, jazz musicians have been marginalized, forced to work for sub standard wages, often without benefits for healthcare and retirement. Yet they are trotted out and treated as icons when cultural historians want to talk about “the true American music.”

This is simply unacceptable – jazz musicians are an essential part of our culture, and we in Los Angeles are incredibly blessed to include in our community many world class practitioners of this great art form.

With this Festival, funded 100% by the Musicians Performance Trust Fund – a trust administered by the American Federation of Musicians whose sole purpose is to provide free concerts to the public – Local 47 acknowledges the untold contributions of jazz musicians to our city and vows to bring greater recognition to them and to their music.

In Solidarity,

Stephanie

## Vice President Marc Sazer



This column will look, at first glance, as if it is only speaking about recording musicians. Please read to the end; this is for and about every one of us.

Every few years there is a round of labor negotiations between the major film/TV studios, represented by the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP), and the “Triguilids” — the Writers Guild (WGA), SAG-AFTRA, and the Directors Guild (DGA). Since 2007, the central theme of all of these negotiations has been the financial impact of streaming content on writers, actors, directors, singers and others.

The WGA is negotiating as I write this column. We don’t yet know where their talks are headed, but we have reached out to offer our support. Writers’ demands are in line with our own; fair compensation and the ability to make a decent living when working for the huge media companies who spend millions and make billions in streaming content. Their messages are all about fairness and sustainability.

The same companies who pay session singers fairly for working on streaming shows deny players and music prep professionals a sustainable income. The inequality is striking when we realize that session singers are recording the same music, for the same composers, for the same projects that will generate the same revenue. Yet singers are paid a fair, industry-standard residual for the streaming use, while we are left out in the cold.

Why are residuals so important to the musicians who work for these giant companies? Here’s one way of looking at it. According to a NY Times study, it takes an annual salary of \$207,500 to qualify for a mortgage on a median home in Los Angeles. If you work primarily on made-for-streaming projects, you would need to play 724 single sessions per year — that’s 2 sessions a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year. As made-for-streaming work (which doesn’t produce meaningful residuals) continues to eclipse traditional TV/film work, AFM musicians are finding it more and more difficult to make a living.

For decades, from the founding of the Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund in 1972 up until the streaming era, musicians working for these companies could work for less money upfront, comfortable in the knowledge that the DVD boom would create secondary markets residuals well in excess of the original session wages — we were attached to the success of the project.

This link has come undone in a direct-to-streaming industry. The lion’s share of secondary markets residuals are going to older generations of musicians who have years of traditional media projects in their accounts, while newer and future players are looking at diminishing returns. We can no longer rely on sugar coating or strategic givebacks to the industry; we have no choice but to make real economic demands, and do what it takes to win those demands. In 2019, we mounted such a campaign. And we won some tremendous improvements; remember the “freely negotiated” race to the bottom? We ended that! You may have seen musicians’ names on the credit crawl of feature films — we won that! Now we have to finish the job.

Think this doesn’t affect you? Our goal is to win an industry-standard “fixed” residual for this work, which would transform our union for musicians of all types. This new residual would be paid through Local 47, creating a work dues revenue stream that would dramatically upgrade the capacity of our union in every way and for every musician.

We will be rolling out a series of education events and actions over the course of the year. When you get an email about one of our events, please join in. Ninety percent of success is simply participating. We are always stronger together!

### Interim Secretary/Treasurer Gail Kruvand



Time flies when you're having fun, right? The month of March sure flew by! It's the busiest month of the year in the Secretary/Treasurer's office. March marks the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter which brings deadlines for both members and our Local.

Membership dues are due! Please visit us at [afm47.org/dues](http://afm47.org/dues), or call us at 323.462.2161 to pay your dues. We don't want anyone to be suspended or expelled because of failure to pay dues in a timely fashion. Our Relief Fund can help those who are experiencing financial hardship. Visit [afm47.org/relief](http://afm47.org/relief), email [relief@afm47.org](mailto:relief@afm47.org) or call 323.993.3159 for more information.

While we're talking dues, please keep up with work dues payments.

An easy way to keep track of your work dues is to sign up for paperless statements and receive an email notification when new statements are posted to your online account. Please visit [afm47.org/paperless](http://afm47.org/paperless) to enroll. For questions about your statement, contact Membership/Work Dues Specialist Amber O'Donnell, by email at [amber.odonnell@afm47.org](mailto:amber.odonnell@afm47.org), or by phone at 323.993.3116. Your timely payments are greatly appreciated. (And the AFM Local 47 Hearing Representative will be in touch if you fall behind!)

One of the most important deadlines for all locals of all unions in the United States is the annual filing of the Form LM-2. It is filed with the Office of Labor-Management Standards (OLMS) and details how a union spent funds in the past year. It is the most detailed report that labor organizations are required to file. Our financial team of bookkeeper Jane Kharajjian, CPA Anthony Torosian and CPA/Auditor Sal Portaro have spent many hours over the past several months compiling data and information required for the filing. After a detailed review by myself and President O'Keefe, the LM-2 was filed three days before the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Whew... See what I mean about having fun?

I haven't even mentioned the monthly and quarterly reporting to our AFM, which also comes from the Secretary/Treasurer's office. I must file membership status reports as well as membership numbers for per capita dues owed to the Federation. Here's a big shout out to our data analysts and IT staff for their attention to detail and providing information as requested.

But seriously, the most fun and satisfying part of the day is interacting with you, our Local 47 members. Whether by phone or in person, our conversations are the greatest reminder of why I have enjoyed serving as your Interim Secretary Treasurer since January 19.

The upcoming in-person General Membership Meeting on Monday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Local is an important meeting. It will take place in the newly refurbished first floor Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place, so if you have not yet had a chance to see it, please plan to attend. There is a Bylaw resolution and more to vote on so please add the date to your calendar.

I look forward to seeing you there!

First Annual

AFM LOCAL

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JAZZ  
FESTIVAL

**“This is triumphant music.”**

*- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., from his address to the 1964 Berlin Jazz Festival*

DAY 1: SUNDAY APRIL 2

DAY 2: SUNDAY APRIL 16

DAY 3: SUNDAY APRIL 23

**FREE  
ADMISSION**

AFM Local 47  
3220 Winona Avenue  
Burbank CA 91504

Captain Greg Welch  
Gathering Place

*These performances are generously sponsored by the  
Music Performance Trust Fund and AFM Local 47, and  
supported by CenterStaging and UnionGraphics.*



## First Annual AFM Local 47 Jazz Festival Launches April 2

April is Jazz Appreciation Month, and to celebrate, AFM Local 47 is launching our first-annual Jazz Festival!

Our three-day inaugural concert series takes place over three Sundays in April — 4/2, 4/16 and 4/23 — in our Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place, 3220 Winona Avenue, Burbank CA 91504.

***FREE admission!***

### **DAY 1 LINEUP:**

1pm John Clayton

2pm Brett McDonald Saxophone & Woodwind Quartet

3pm That Chase Thing

4pm Peggy Duquesnel Quintet

5pm The Ron King Big Band

### **DAY 2 LINEUP:**

1pm Saturday Night Bath

2pm Susie Hansen Latin Jazz Band

3pm Bonsera

4pm theBABAorchestra

5pm Angela O’Neill and the Outrageous8

### **DAY 3 LINEUP:**

1pm The David Angel Jazz Ensemble

2pm Los Angeles Mambo All Star Orchestra

3pm John Leftwich Nonet

4pm The David Wheatley Band

5pm The Leslie Baker Quintet

Delicious tacos will be available for purchase each day of the jazz festival.

Anyone entering the AFM Local 47 Capt. Greg Welch Gathering Place and rehearsal rooms must be up to date with their Covid-19 vaccine in accordance with CDC guidelines. Please be prepared to show photo ID and proof of up-to-date vaccination.

These performances are generously sponsored by the [Music Performance Trust Fund](#) and [AFM Local 47](#), and supported by [CenterStaging](#) and [Union Graphics](#).



## William Roper: An Artist of Many Talents

The musical experience of multi-disciplinary artist William Roper ranges from the symphony stage to free-improvisation groups. He has toured Europe, North and South America, and Japan as a soloist and with ensembles. His musicianship is represented on over 60 recordings, including 12 as leader and co-leader. He has played or recorded with numerous artists and ensembles including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Master Chorale, Elton John, Leon Russell, Yusef Lateef, Michiyo Yagi, James Newton, Bobby Bradford, Francis Wong, Horace Tapscott, Anthony Braxton, Douglas Ewart, Daisuke Fuwa, Michael Vlatkovich, Vinny Golia, Wadada Leo Smith, Tim McGraw, Glenn Horiuchi and many others. In addition, he has played on several major motion picture soundtracks.

Roper has received several awards from organizations such as NEA, California Arts Council, City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, Meet the Composer, American Music Center, American Composers Forum, Durfee Foundation, Broady Arts Fund and others. He has been a resident composer at the Djerassi Institute in California and the Oberfaelzer Kuenstlerhaus in Bavaria. He has been an Artist Fellow in Japan of the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission.

As a composer he has fulfilled commissions for the Gloria Newman Dance Theater, Dance L.A., SASSAS, among others. His compositions have been performed in the U.S., Europe and Japan. He creates works that merge music, stage performance, spoken word and the visual arts. These works, whether site-specific, for the concert hall, theater, gallery, digital platforms or recordings, explore histories of place, ethnic and cultural groups, and self-history. They map his movement through these landscapes. In a sense, he is a cartographer.

In addition to his own work he has collaborated with such artists as Jackie Apple, Linda Austin, Bob Carroll, Heidi Duckler, John Fleck, Anna Homler, Scott Kellman, Dan Kwong, Jeff McMahon, Joseph Mitchell, Betty Nash, Gloria Newman, Rudy Perez, Will Salmon, Joseph Santarromana, Eve Stabilepsy and Bernie White.

As a visual artist his media are painting, assemblage, video and performance art. His work has been exhibited in the United States and Europe.

### AFM LOCAL 47 #WhyUnion?



An AFM Local 47 member since 1992, William shares why he is a member of the union: "Why Union? Simple. Wage minimums, contracts, contract enforcement, negotiating clout, and finally back end."

Learn more about William Roper at [roperarts.com](http://roperarts.com).



### AFM LOCAL 47 #WhyUnion?



## #WhyUnion? Share Your Answers!

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

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

Local 47's #WhyUnion? campaign features members from every part of our profession, answering in their own words, this question: "Why Union?"

[Share your answer here!](#)



# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Monday  
April 24  
7:30pm

Capt. Greg  
Welch  
Gathering  
Place  
3220 Winona  
Ave. Burbank  
CA 91504

View Agenda / RSVP:  
[afm47.org/gmm](http://afm47.org/gmm)

Open to  
members in  
good standing

## On the Agenda (subject to change):

- Presentation of 50-Year Pins
- Special Election to Fill Vacancy for Secretary/Treasurer
- Special Election to Fill Two Vacancies on the Hearing Board
- Special Election to Fill Two Vacancies on the Election Board
- Voting on Resolution to Amend the Bylaws (Life Membership Eligibility)
  - Officer Reports
  - Old and New Business

*Open to all AFM Local 47 members in good standing*

A special election to fill a vacancy for Secretary/Treasurer, currently held temporarily by Gail Kruvand as appointed by the Executive Board, will take place at our April 24 General Membership Meeting, as will special elections to fill two vacancies on the Hearing Board, and two vacancies on the Election Board. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. Should more than one candidate be nominated, balloting will take place during the meeting. All nominees must be Regular and Life members in good standing. For the Secretary/Treasurer and Hearing Board positions, only those who have been in good standing for a full year prior to the date of the special election are eligible to be nominated. If you have questions about the special elections please contact Election Board Chair David Wheatley at [freshwater@prodigy.net](mailto:freshwater@prodigy.net).

Members will also vote on a Resolution to amend the bylaws regarding eligibility requirements for Life Membership. The full text of the Resolution may be accessed by logging in to your member account [here](#) (once logged in, click the "Docs" tab); hard copies of the Resolution will be available at the meeting. All Regular Members and Life Members may vote; Inactive Life Members are ineligible to vote per Article IV §11. Inactive Life Members wishing to vote may do so by changing their membership to Life Member status by 4:30 p.m. the business day prior to the day voting takes place.

Please visit [afm47.org/gmm](http://afm47.org/gmm) to review our Covid Protocols/Vaccination Policy, Membership Meeting Confidentiality Policy, Dual Capacity Policy, and to RSVP. (RSVP encouraged, but not required.)

## Events



### **Next General Membership Meeting**

Monday, April 24, 7:30 p.m.

AFM Local 47 Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place  
3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504

### **Inaugural Local 47 Jazz Festival**

Sunday, April 2, 1-6 p.m.

Sunday, April 16, 1-6 p.m.

Sunday, April 23, 1-6 p.m.

AFM Local 47 Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place  
3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504

### **Holiday Office Closure**

Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day

### *Ongoing Events:*

#### **Executive Board Meetings**

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. (online via Zoom)

Members welcome as observers

#### **New Member Orientation**

Third Thursdays, 10 a.m. (online via Google Meet)

Required of all new members.

[afm47.org/orientation](http://afm47.org/orientation)

*View our full calender of events*

*@ [afm47.org/calendar](http://afm47.org/calendar)*



## Spring Membership Drive *Spread the Word!*

As a professional musician, you know that your real strength comes from working collectively with other musicians. Help spread the word about the benefits of union membership during our Spring Membership Drive!

If you know someone who should be in the union, now is the perfect time to join. From April 1 through June 30, new and returning members pay ZERO initiation fees — a \$140 discount!

Learn more at [afm47.org/join](https://afm47.org/join).

### ***Be a Union Advocate!***

- Print out our flyer to distribute at your local school or music-networking group
- Share our [afm47.org/join](https://afm47.org/join) link on social media
- Talk to your non-member colleagues about the many benefits of union membership
- Add your answer to our [#WhyUnion? campaign](#) to let everyone know why you value your union membership!

# IS YOUR BENEFICIARY CARD CURRENT?



Visit:  
[afm47.org/beneficiary](http://afm47.org/beneficiary)

Your beneficiary card designates the recipient of the Local 47 \$1,000 death benefit. If you need to change your beneficiary, update beneficiary information, or if you just can't remember who you have listed, please visit [afm47.org/beneficiary](http://afm47.org/beneficiary).

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

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

Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund –

(818) 755-7777

Sound Recording Special Payments Fund:

(212) 310-9100

AFM & SAG-AFTRA Intellectual Property Rights

Fund: 818-255-7985

*Please note: This benefit is not payable to a beneficiary if the member was suspended, expelled or had resigned at time of passing.*

## 2023 Wage Scale Book Now Available



The AFM Local 47 Live Performance/ Music Prep for Live Performance Wage Scales have been updated for 2023. Print books are now available.

Please email [live2@afm47.org](mailto:live2@afm47.org) to request a complimentary copy (one per member). A digital copy of the book is also posted in the [members-only section](#) of our website (login required).

## HELP ELIMINATE LATE PAYMENTS



The AFM and Local 47 want to make certain that musicians are being **paid on time**.

Please scan the code above or visit [bit.ly/session47](http://bit.ly/session47) when you receive a session call and let us know – anonymously – when it is to occur. Once we have that information – something not always provided to the Union – we can “start the clock” and track payments to musicians, assessing late penalties when appropriate.

If you have any questions, please contact Electronic Media Division Administrator Rebecca Gurnee at [emd@afm47.org](mailto:emd@afm47.org) or 323.993.3143.

## Members-Only Documents Online

Members may log in to the [members section at afm47.org](#) and navigate to the "Docs" page to view members-only documents including Executive Board minutes, CBAs, Local 47 Wage Scales, Bylaws, Suspended/Expelled member lists, and more.



## Go Paperless!

Sign up to receive work dues statements online @ [afm47.org/paperless](http://afm47.org/paperless)

## Claim Your Money!

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

323.993.3146, [bookkeeping@afm47.org](mailto:bookkeeping@afm47.org)



# Fair Share For Musicians Campaign Update

*Mark your calendars!!*

**Sunday, April 2 @ 6pm PST/9pm EST**

Come help us prepare to officially launch [Fair Share for Musicians](#)! Get informed about our fight to win streaming residuals and to learn how you can participate so we can win a strong film/TV contract. We can't do this without you!

A Zoom link and detailed agenda will be sent before the meeting.

**Hope to see you there!**

- FS4M Steering Committee

*Open to all AFM members in good standing.*

To be added to the FS4M email list, please email [info@fairshareformusicians.org](mailto:info@fairshareformusicians.org)

Learn more about the campaign at [fairshareformusicians.org](http://fairshareformusicians.org)

## On the Town



All photos by/courtesy of Gayle Levant

**Sharing an Oscar moment...** Pictured above left: Music director Rickey Minor and lead arranger Chris Walden. Above right: Contractor Kimberlee Wertz and harpist Gayle Levant.

## Behind the Scenes at the 95<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards

AFM Local 47 musicians once played a featured role in Hollywood's biggest night at the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards. Rehearsals and pre-records were held at Evergreen Studios in Burbank in preparation for the Oscars awards ceremony that took place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood on March 12, 2023.

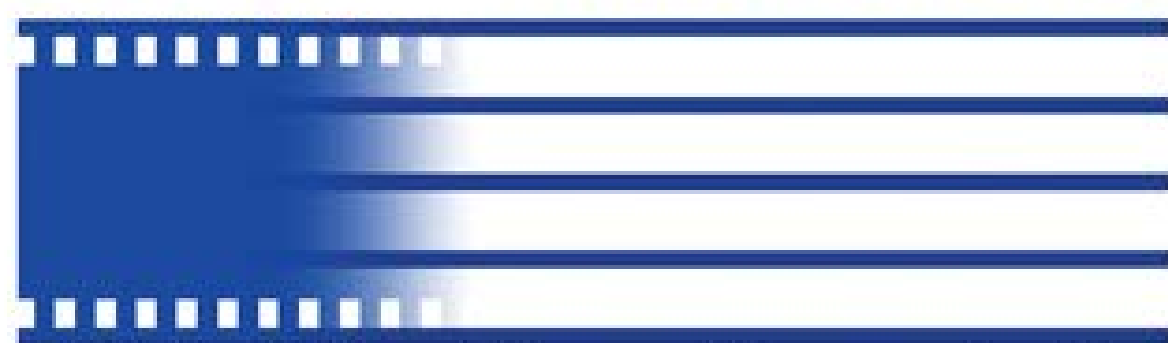
Many thanks to harpist Gayle Levant for sharing these exclusive behind-the-scenes photos!



**"Yo Cip!"** — At the pre-records at Evergreen Studios, alto/tenor saxophonist Dan Higgins stands next to a memorial poster made by recording engineer Tommy Vicari in honor of legendary oboist Gene "Cip" Cipriano, who died last November. "If Cip had lived, and had been able to perform, this would have been his 60<sup>th</sup> Oscars," said harpist Gayle Levant. A chair was set up in the woodwinds section to "have Cip with us in a very special way."

Click [here](#) to view the orchestra roster, and view more photos from the rehearsals and pre-records on our 47 Blog [here](#).

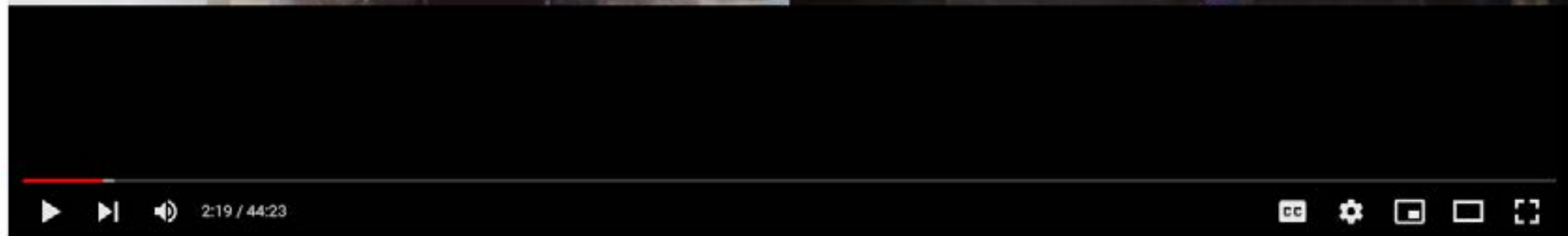
# FILM MUSICIANS SECONDARY MARKETS FUND



A 501(c)(6) not-for-profit organization

## 'What is New Media?' Podcast

Many musicians don't know enough about "new media" and musicians' income. [In the video below](#), learn all about it from Kim Roberts Hedgpeth, the executive director of the Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund.



Let's Talk Podcast: Episode # 16 with Kim Roberts Hedgpeth to discuss What Is New Media?



Click the screenshot above for the full-length podcast (44:24), or view the highlights video (4:05) [here](#).



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

## Your Health Care & Pension Benefits at a Glance

### HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

#### PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS LOCAL 47 AND EMPLOYERS HEALTH & WELFARE FUND

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

#### Eligibility

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

#### Coverage

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

#### Contact

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

Website: [pacfed-musicians.com](http://pacfed-musicians.com)

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#### ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY FLEX PLAN

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

#### Eligibility

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

#### Coverage

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

#### Contact

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

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#### SELF-PAY HEALTH CARE

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





# BENEFITS CORNER

AFM LOCAL  
**47**

## PENSION

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

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

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

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

#### **Contact**

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

Website: [afm-epf.org](http://afm-epf.org)



Press Release

United For Economic  
Justice: Community  
Broadcasters Stand With  
Music Creators in Support of  
American Music Fairness Act

## Community Broadcasters Stand With Music Creators in Support of American Music Fairness Act

*A message from the musicFIRST Coalition*

The musicFIRST coalition – the voice for fairness and equity for music creators – applauds community broadcasters for speaking out in support of the American Music Fairness Act (AMFA) that would achieve economic justice for creators and a reasonable and certain framework for broadcasters to play music on AM/FM radio stations.

As the National Association of Broadcasters prepares to descend on Capitol Hill this week for their annual “fly-in” event, six organizations that represent and/or advocate for community broadcasters are sending a message that the AMFA is good for small, community-focused stations. In their letter to Congress, the Alliance for Community Media, Common Frequency, Media Alliance, the National Federation of Community Broadcasters (NFCB), Prometheus Radio Project, and REC Networks — which collectively represent a broad coalition of community broadcasters, including community radio stations, college radio stations, and Low Power FM stations, across the nation — called on lawmakers to pass the bipartisan, bicameral bill.

A copy of the letter can be found [here](#).

“NFCB has been advocating and fighting for community radio stations for nearly 50 years. AMFA provides a way for community stations to continue supporting artists while also easing the financial burden on community broadcaster,” said Lisa Kettle, Program Director of NFCB. “Affordability is not just about cost – it’s about equity and accessibility. Easing the financial burden for small stations is essential. NFCB is proud to join musicFIRST and the many community partners in support of AMFA.”

The legislation would grant music artists performance royalties for AM/FM radio plays, while also providing small broadcasters with the certainty and affordability they need to thrive.

A fact sheet about the bill’s provisions is available to download [here](#).

### **About musicFIRST**

musicFIRST works to ensure music creators get fair pay for their work on all platforms and wherever and however it is played. We rally the people and organizations who make and love music to end the broken status quo that allows AM/FM to use any song ever recorded without paying its performers a dime. And to stand up for fair pay on digital radio — and whatever comes next.

# Final Notes



## In Memoriam

### **Timm Boatman**

Life Member. Percussion  
7/28/1947 – 1/11/2023  
Member since: 2/26/1969

### **Dennis Budimir**

Life Member. Guitar  
6/20/1938 – 1/9/2023  
Member since: 9/6/1955

### **Arnold Frank**

Life Member. Drum Set  
9/28/1929 – 11/23/2022  
Member since: 6/12/1959

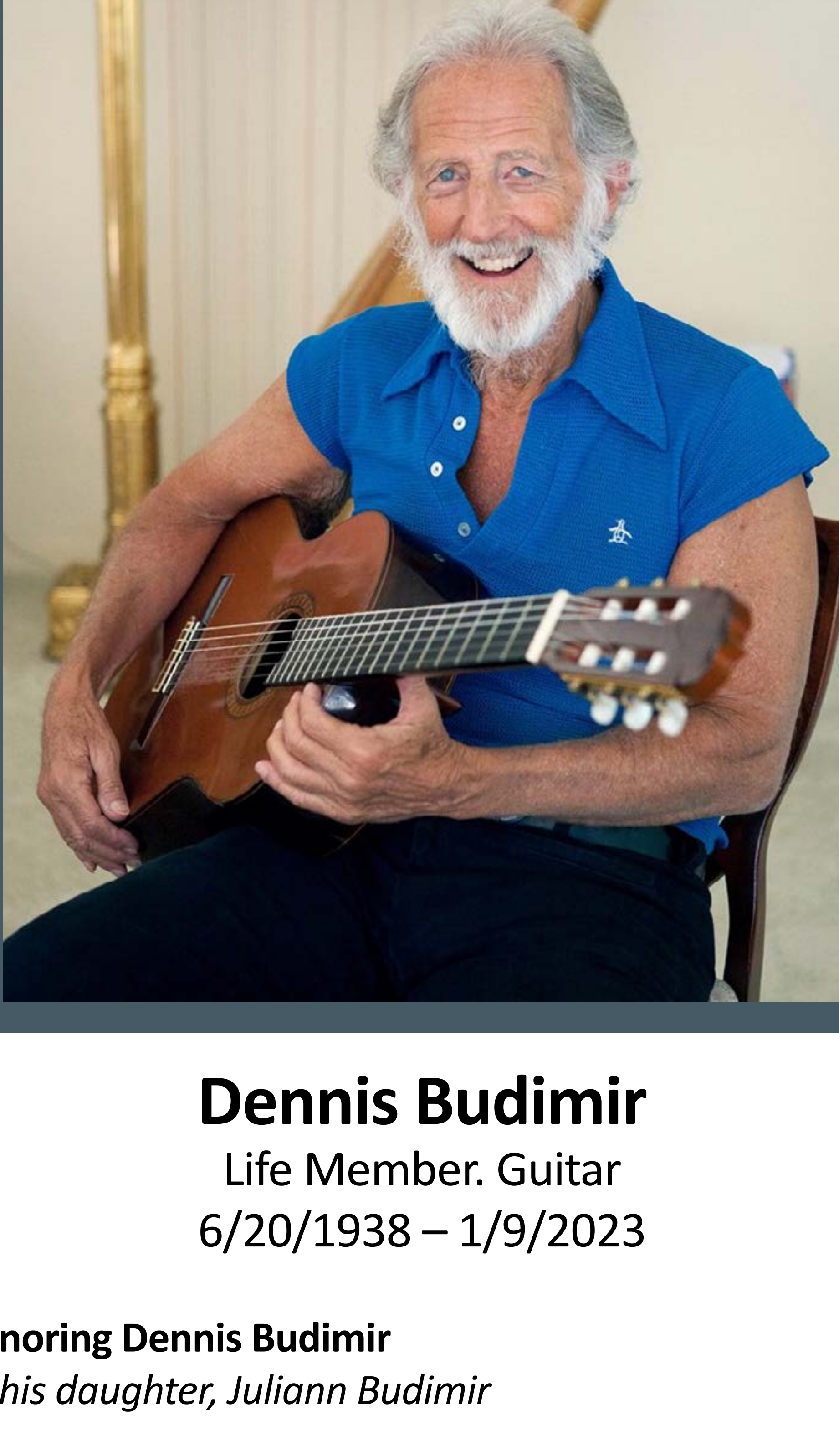
### **Gregg Gottlieb**

Life Member. Cello  
12/10/1954  
Member since: 11/19/2022

Send your Final Notes remembrances using our online submission form at: [afm47.org/overture](https://afm47.org/overture)

or you may send to:  
[overture@afm47.org](mailto:overture@afm47.org)  
Local 47 Overture Online  
3220 Winona Ave.  
Burbank CA 91504

## Final Notes



### Dennis Budimir

Life Member. Guitar  
6/20/1938 – 1/9/2023

#### Honoring Dennis Budimir

by his daughter, Juliann Budimir

It is hard to give voice to the loss,  
To give words to the ache that forever echoes  
in my heart since

My beloved Pop, Dennis Budimir, passed away

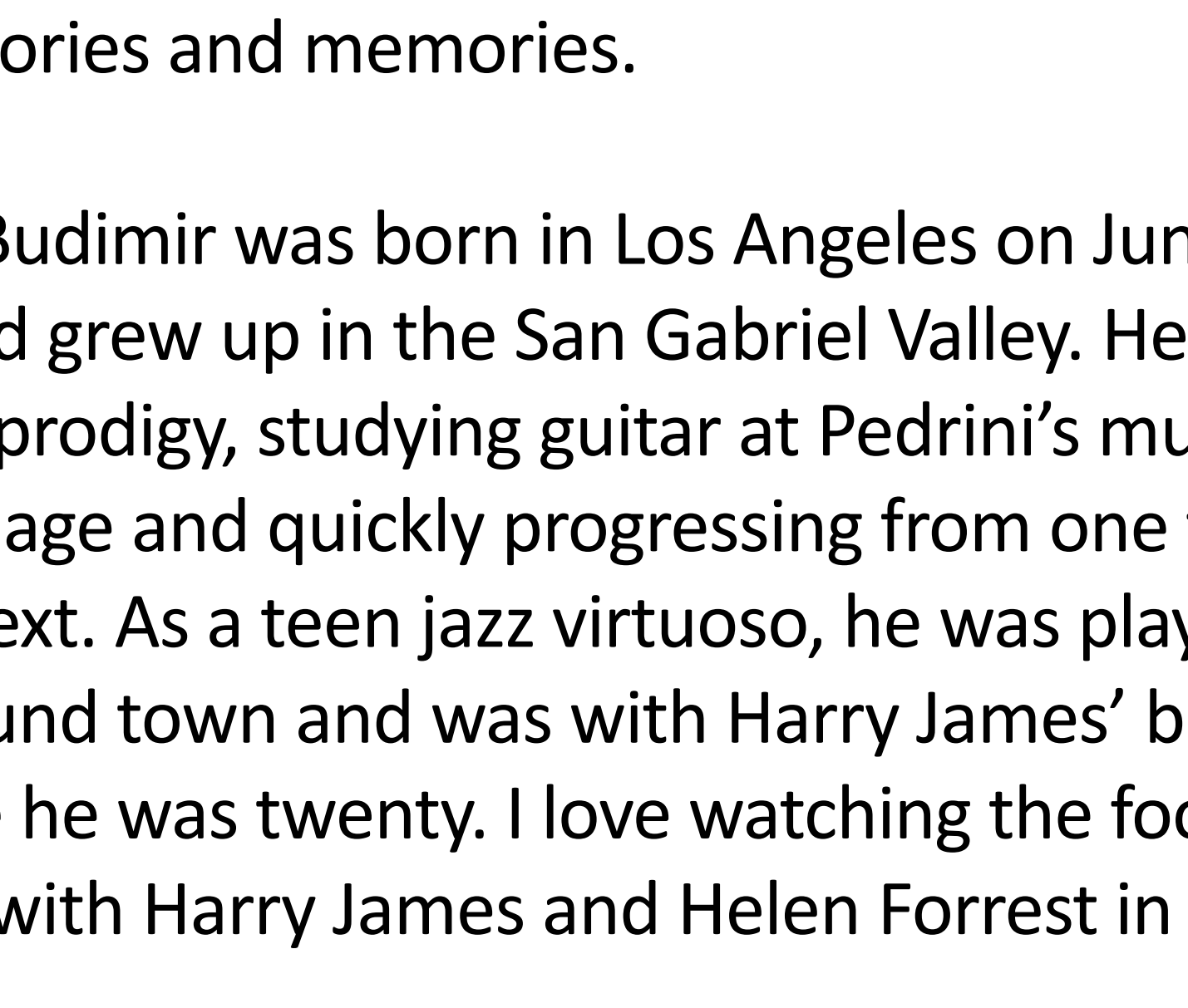
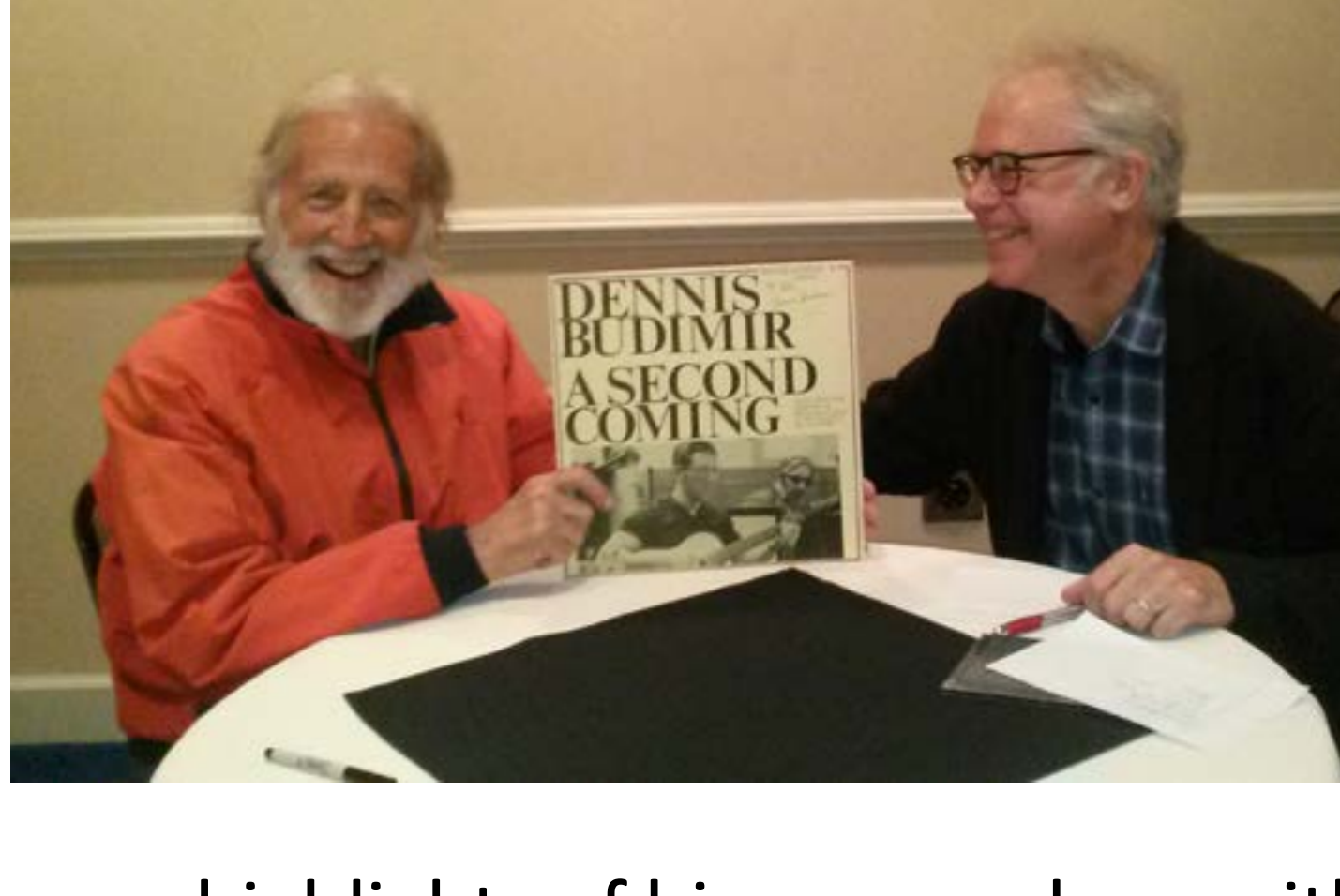
in our arms,

My Mom and I at his side.

Dennis Budimir, beloved husband, father, and legendary jazz and studio guitarist, passed away on January 9, 2023. He was an incredible father to me and a loving, devoted husband to my mom. We are blessed by his eternal love. It is incredibly difficult to write about his passing and to put into words our monumental loss.

Dennis Budimir's musical biography is truly extensive; we are grateful to those who have documented his outstanding career and have given insight into his tremendous artistry.

With Dennis Budimir's limitless talent, he would go on to play live or on sessions with countless headliners and the biggest names of the twentieth century, including: Joni Mitchell, Barbra Streisand, Frank Sinatra, Quincy Jones, Dizzy Gillespie, Bud Shank, Eric Dolphy, John Lennon, Frank Zappa, Brian Wilson, Henry Mancini, Bill Conti, Randy Newman, and Ravi Shankar, just to name a few.



Following are highlights of his career along with some of our stories and memories.

Dennis Budimir was born in Los Angeles on June 20, 1938 and grew up in the San Gabriel Valley. He was a musical prodigy, studying guitar at Pedrini's music from an early age and quickly progressing from one teacher to the next. As a teen jazz virtuoso, he was playing live gigs around town and was with Harry James' band by the time he was twenty. I love watching the footage of my dad with Harry James and Helen Forrest in 1958.

In the 1960s, he toured with Peggy Lee, Julie London, and Chico Hamilton. He would lament how he was drafted by the U.S. Army while with Peggy Lee in Monte Carlo and had to leave the tour. He would soon return to Europe, stationed near Munich, Germany, and make as many side trips as he could during his leaves. Decades later, I was thrilled that composer, Bobby Troup, called my dad to compliment him on his guitar solo in Natalie Cole's cover of his hit song "Route 66."

They got to talking about their tour to Tokyo with Bobby's wife, Julie London, and soon we were invited to their home.

It was always a rare treat to go with my dad to work. He had stopped touring by the time he met my mom as he wanted to focus on session and studio work. One memorable day, I was sitting next to him as he accompanied Linda Ronstadt on "Straighten Up and Fly Right" on her wonderful 1986 album, "For Sentimental Reasons." Not only was it for Nelson Riddle, but we had Ray Brown on bass!

One of his countless movie sessions was "The Two Jakes" (music by Van Dyke Parks), and my dad invited me to join him. I remember walking down the long hall at Ocean Way and turning into the booth. I had my French novel in hand as I had just come from UCLA. There, in the doorway, a thick hand reached for my book and said in his signature, unforgettable voice, "Whatcha reading?" It was "Jake," himself, Jack Nicholson.

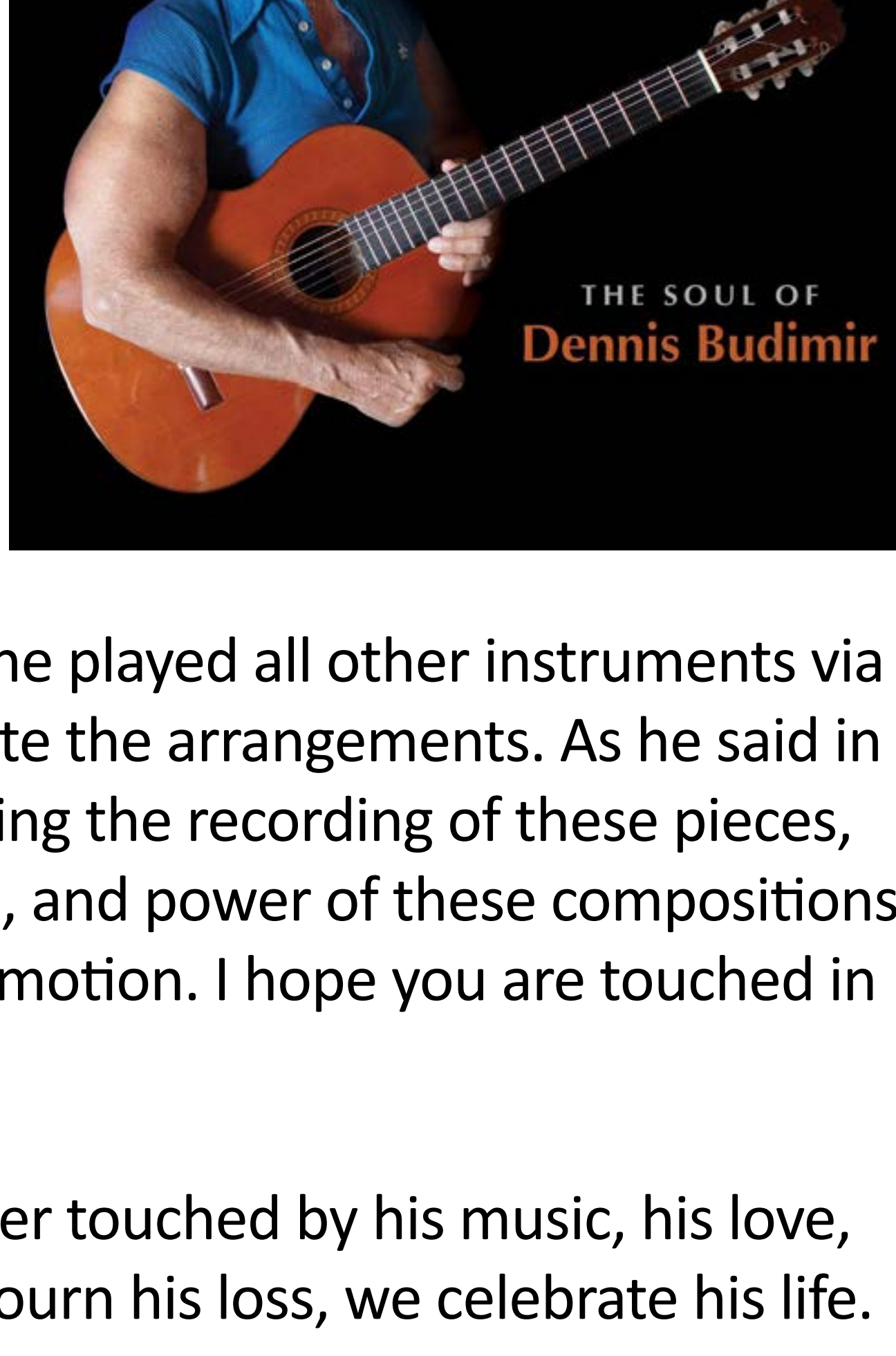


Dennis Budimir truly appreciated great music, and he was thrilled to play a fantastic score. One of his all-time favorite sessions was for Bill Conti on "Blood In Blood Out." My dad was incredibly proud of his artistry and was thankful to Bill for all the years working together, beginning with "Rocky" and the legendary franchise.

It was a joy to see how guitarist, Bill Frisell lit up when he met my dad in 2016. Bill had been a fan for a long time and brought together a host of legends, including the wonderful Bob Bain. A year later, Frisell brought Dennis Budimir and Bob Bain together for a "musical conversation" immortalized by Fretboard Journal at California Vintage Guitar. My mom and I were incredibly lucky to be there as the three legends played guitar and reminisced.

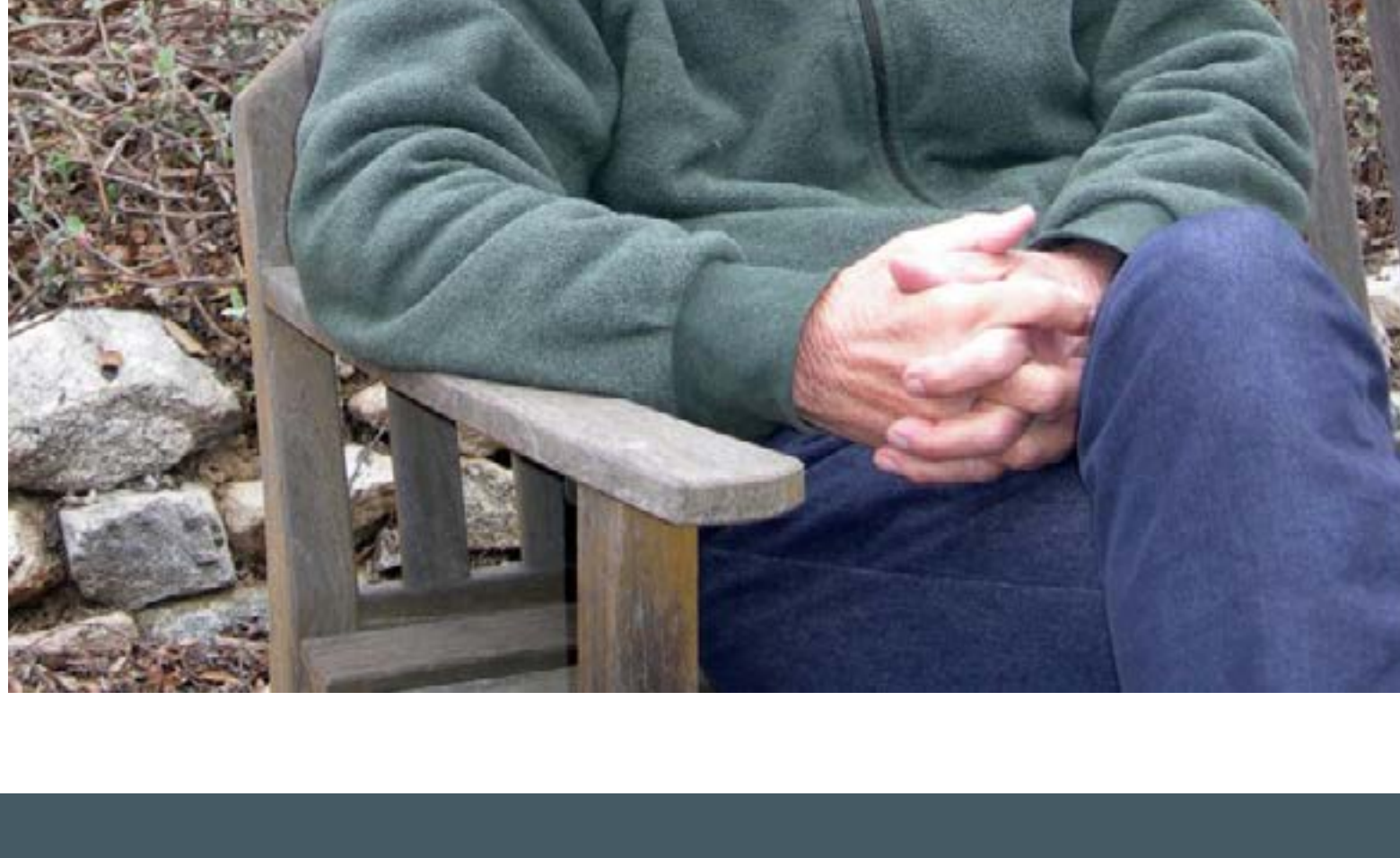
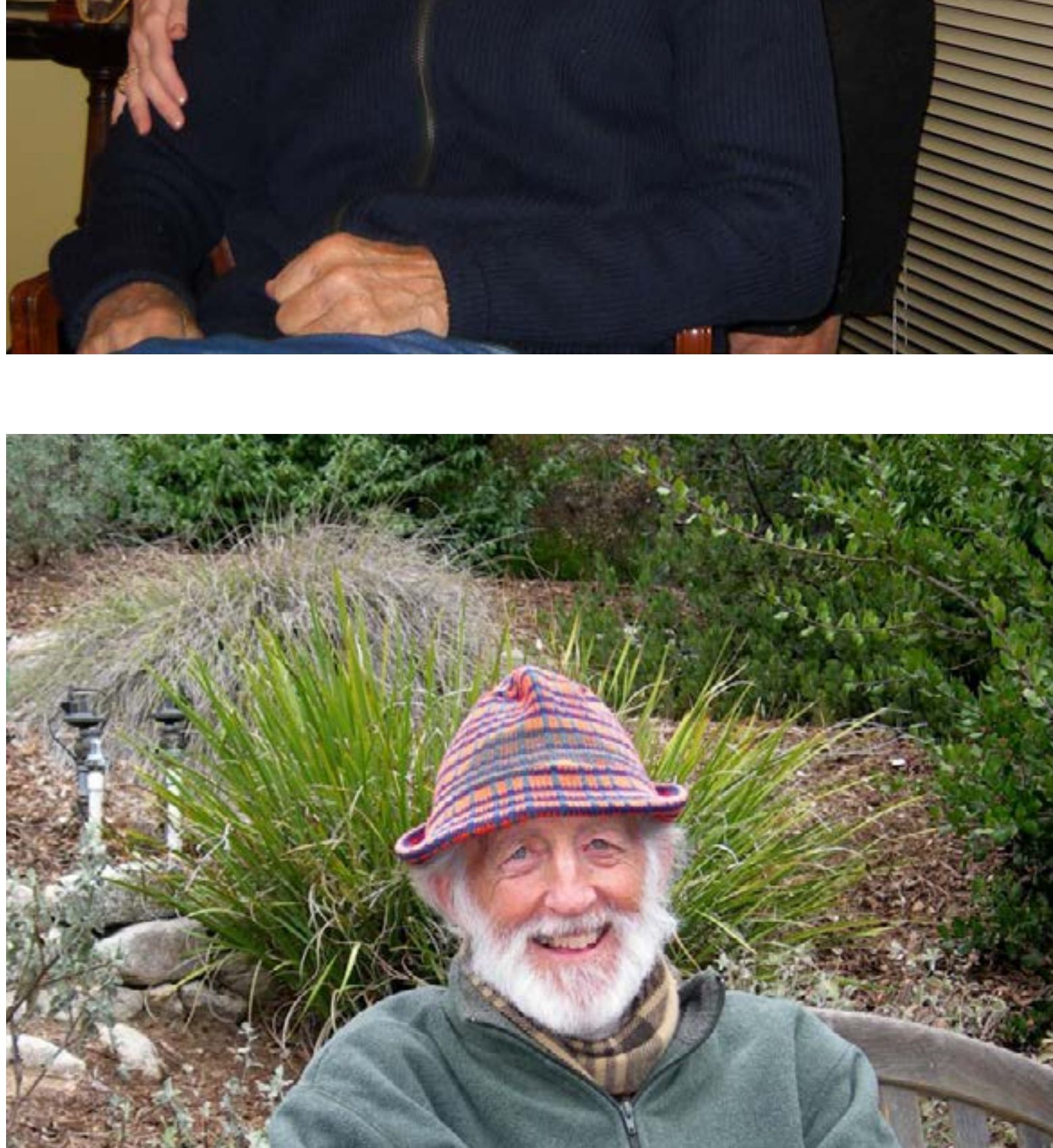
From jazz tours, to the recording studio, from legendary Wrecking Crew member and beyond, my dad transcended his roots with his final album, "The Soul of Dennis Budimir."

Not only did he deliver gorgeous music on gut string, he played all other instruments via synth guitar and wrote the arrangements. As he said in the liner notes, "During the recording of these pieces, the beauty, elegance, and power of these compositions overcame me with emotion. I hope you are touched in a similar fashion."



Indeed, we are forever touched by his music, his love, and his life. As we mourn his loss, we celebrate his life.

He was our song  
We were his light  
With love forever,  
Take heavenly flight



# Open Mic

share YOUR story  
*with*  
the Overture

**OPEN MIC!**



Got a story to tell?

AFM Local 47 welcomes submissions from  
our members!

Please share about your latest union recording,  
performance or event by sending us your story  
and photos using our online submission form at  
[afm47.org/overture](http://afm47.org/overture).

# Letters



**We want to hear from you!**

Send in your Letters to the Editor:

[overture@afm47.org](mailto:overture@afm47.org)

3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504

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

## Membership Dues Policy

### Membership Dues Fees

#### Regular Member

Annual Dues: \$210

Semi-Annual Dues: \$110

#### Life Member

Annual Dues: \$110

#### Inactive Life Member

Annual Dues: \$90

### Make checks or money orders payable to:

AFM Local 47,  
3220 Winona Ave.  
Burbank CA 91504

You may also make payments with VISA, MasterCard, Discover, AmEx by phone at 323.993.3116 or at [afm47.org/dues](http://afm47.org/dues)

## Dues Schedule

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

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

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

### Notice From the Executive Board: Work Dues Delinquency and Suspension

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

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

In order to reinstate membership, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed.

## Resignation Policy

In order to resign in good standing, you must submit your written request to Local 47 before your membership is suspended. Though dues are due Jan. 1 and July 1, current grace periods extend to March 31 and Sept. 30, respectively; suspensions are posted April 1 and Oct. 1.

In addition to membership dues, all other financial obligations, Local and International, must be paid prior to resignation. Your letter of resignation will be presented at the following Executive Board meeting and a written response will be mailed to you. If you wait, you will be required to pay another half year's dues and/or clearance fee.

## AFM Local 47 Refund/Return Policy

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

## HELP A MUSICIAN IN NEED

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

## Multiple-Card AFM Member Rebate

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Do Not Work For...

The list published at [afm47.org/donotworkfor.html](http://afm47.org/donotworkfor.html) contains the names of employers with whom Local 47 currently has disputes.



*If you have any questions about this list please contact the President's Office: 323.993.3181*

## Notice of Strike Sanctions

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

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

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

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

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



# Auditions

## Modesto Symphony Orchestra

Announces auditions for the following positions:

**Section Violin I, II (multiple positions)  
Assistant Principal Violin II**

Auditions will be held at:  
The San Francisco Conservatory of Music  
50 Oak Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Audition Date: June 8, 2023  
Application Deadline: May 25, 2023**

Additional information and repertoire can be found at:

<https://www.modestosymphony.org/employment-and-auditions>

Send a one-page resume and refundable audition deposit  
of \$20 to:

Matthew Siek, Director of Operations  
Modesto Symphony Orchestra  
911 13th Street  
Modesto, CA 95354  
[msiek@modestosymphony.org](mailto:msiek@modestosymphony.org)

checks should be made payable to:  
Modesto Symphony Orchestra Association

2023-2024 base service pay: \$153

Assistant principal: \$168.30

Paid Pension

Travel Compensation up to \$42 per day

Homestays/housing available

# Auditions

## MONTEREY SYMPHONY

Monterey Symphony announces auditions for the following positions:

**May 17, 2023**

**Second Trombone**

**\$139.31 per service (23-24 rate TBD)**

Employment will be offered beginning with our September, 2023 pops program.

Approximately 35 services offered in the 23-24 season.

Daily travel reimbursement ranges from \$8.25 to \$56.01, based on a musician's home county.

Audition repertoire will be posted when available on [www.montereysymphony.org](http://www.montereysymphony.org) and e-mailed to candidates who have already applied. Auditions are planned to be held at All Saints Episcopal Church in Carmel, CA.

Please submit a one-page resume, including name, e-mail, phone number, mailing address and two references to [auditions@montereysymphony.org](mailto:auditions@montereysymphony.org) by 11:59pm, April 17, 2023.

**May 22, 2023**

**Principal Bassoon**

**\$174.14 per service (23-24 rate TBD)**

**Principal Bass Clarinet / Third Clarinet**

**\$174.14 per service (23-24 rate TBD)**

Employment will be offered beginning with our September, 2023 pops program.

Approximately 41 Principal Bassoon services offered in the 23-24 season.

Approximately 23 Bass Clarinet services offered in the 23-24 season. Plus first call for Second Clarinet work at \$139.31/service while that chair remains vacant.

Daily travel reimbursement ranges from \$8.25 to \$56.01, based on a musician's home county.

Audition repertoire will be posted when available on [www.montereysymphony.org](http://www.montereysymphony.org) and e-mailed to candidates who have already applied. Auditions are planned to be held at Sunset Center in Carmel, CA.

Please submit a one-page resume, including name, e-mail, phone number, mailing address and two references to [auditions@montereysymphony.org](mailto:auditions@montereysymphony.org) by 11:59pm, April 22, 2023.

Advertise

# ADVERTISE

WITH AFM LOCAL 47!

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— Released monthly —

**The Local 47 Beat**

— Emailed biweekly —

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CONTACT: [advertising@afm47.org](mailto:advertising@afm47.org)

*For information on posting auditions, please visit  
[afm47.org/auditions.html](http://afm47.org/auditions.html)*