

April 2025

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3rd Annual HEM LOCAL

FESTIVAL

"This is triumphant music."

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

Two-day concert series celebrating AFM Local 47 Life Members

April 26 & 27, 2025

FREE ADMISSION

Spring Membership Drive: Join Now and Save!

Next General Membership Meeting: April 28

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MANAGE YOUR LOCAL 47 EMAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS

AFM Local 47 members may customize your communications preferences — including Overture Online email notifications — by logging in to your online account at <u>ensemble.afm47.org</u>.

(If you have not yet used our new system, please visit <u>afm47.org/e2</u> for the new login instructions.)



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MAN

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Spread the Word: AFM Local 47 Spring Membership Drive



AFM Launches #NotMe App for Safe Reporting of Workplace Misconduct



Entertainment Union Coalition 'Keep California Rolling' Campaign Update

Officer Reports

President Stephanie O'Keefe

"Jazz speaks for life. The blues tell the story of life's difficulties, and if you think for a moment,

you will realize that they take the hardest realities of life and put them into music, only to come out with some new hope or sense of triumph.

This is triumphant music."

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

April is Jazz Appreciation Month, as designated by no less than the Smithsonian Institute.



But why does jazz receive this recognition? Certainly, there are many genres of music and many thousands of musicians performing them, yet jazz holds a unique position in our culture.

Perhaps because the story of jazz is really the story of America.

Jazz is about both structure and freedom, about making rules and breaking rules, about new ideas and directions, and perhaps most of all, about inclusion. Jazz musicians play for the audience, but they also play for, and with, each other.

Before the civil rights movement gained momentum in this country, jazz musicians were already breaking down racial barriers, performing together whenever and wherever they could, as they recognized that the true value of a musician – and of a human being – had nothing to do with the color of their skin.

Jazz spoke of both oppression and freedom and came to be known as "America's Music."

However, as much as jazz is loved and revered, the practitioners of jazz are treated perhaps worse than any musicians in any genre. They are often forced to work for substandard wages, while receiving no benefits. Many older jazz musicians, after a lifetime of working five and six nights a week, have no pension, or any type of retirement benefit. There are charities that exist solely to help these brilliant musicians with life's basic necessities, such as housing and medical care.

In my many years of working as a professional musician, I saw no musicians more marginalized and mistreated than the very people we honor as the torch bearers of our national art form.

I find myself wondering how people can say they love jazz and yet feel no need to respect or fairly compensate the musicians who create it.

This month we take a step in the right direction, presenting 13 bands, all led by Life Members, with every single musician receiving union wages and benefits. And because of a generous grant from the Music Performance Trust Fund, all of these concerts will be free and open to the public.

I hope to see you all on April 26 and 27, for the 3rd Annual AFM Local 47 Jazz Festival.

Stephanie

Officer Reports

Vice President Marc Sazer

April is Jazz Appreciation Month, and a great time to remember the momentous events leading up to the end of segregation between the



two AFM Locals in Los Angeles, Local 47 and Local 767, the Black Local.

Racially segregated locals were the norm throughout the AFM in the early 20th century, and almost everywhere else in the AFM, they integrated either due to court orders, or order of the AFM after legal action. Here in Los Angeles, rank and file musicians from both Locals organized together and won two tough elections in order to amalgamate voluntarily. In 1953 Nat King Cole, Benny Carter, Marl Young, Buddy Collette and other musical luminaries alongside all Black working musicians — were finally able to be on the same contracts and work for the same scales as white musicians here in L.A. A wonderful source for information is the book "Union Divided: Black Musicians' Fight for Labor Equality," by Leta E. Miller, available from many online booksellers.

In 2017 Local 47 helped produce a really marvelous and comprehensive exhibition of Local 767 and amalgamation documents, photographs and artifacts. Yet even as we remember and celebrate our incredibly rich and vibrant musical and social heritage, the progress that 767 and 47 musicians struggled for in the 1950s is under attack right now from the current administration in Washington. Now is the time, more than ever, for us to gather together and support our union and the many programs that our union supports, from fellowship and mentoring programs to Federal, state and local arts funding, in support of diversity, inclusion and equity from, by and for musicians.

April is also a key month in the legislative process in Sacramento, as workers throughout the

entertainment industry support the "Keep California Rolling" initiative to double the size of the California Film/TV tax credit system. As musicians, we and the AFM are supporting the coalition and coalition goals even as we understand that without the inclusion of music scoring in the program our employment will not benefit.

We know from hard experience that the hundreds of millions of dollars California spends supporting film and TV production here have not produced jobs for musicians. In 2017 Local 47 embarked on a campaign for change, and we accomplished quite a lot. We engaged musicians, worked with composers, built relationships with key legislators and held innumerable meetings with the LA County Federation of Labor and the other entertainment industry unions. Our campaign culminated in a tremendous, joyous rally and concert on the steps of City Hall in DTLA. The stakeholders met with us and proposed a solution to keep scoring in California, a system of "bonus points." Legislation was passed, and regulatory implementation followed.

Unfortunately that system has proved not to work, as

large projects, from Netflix' "Gray Man" to Amazon's "Fallout" have taken our music scoring jobs overseas.

This legislative session presents another opportunity to finally be fully included into the tax credit program, finally achieving the principle of "if it films here, it scores here."

This effort will elevate the position of the AFM in the entertainment industry as well as bring more good union jobs to musicians in our region. And the benefits will go far beyond those thousands of musicians who would get work calls as a result (from 2021-2023 over 3,080 unique individual musicians worked under these contracts here in L.A.). The revenues for Local 47 would be significant, at a time when our Local is facing real financial difficulties. And the AFM, which is crucial for the negotiation and administration of all of our media contracts, would benefit as well.

Stay tuned — there will be more information on the near horizon.

Officer Reports

Secretary/Treasurer Gail Kruvand

Greetings, Local 47 members!

Our annual Membership Drive starts on April 1 and runs through June 30. During this three-month period all initiation fees,



both Federation and Local, are waived resulting in a savings of \$140 for first time members. Please join us in promoting this great opportunity by sharing this information with your colleagues and students. See our website <u>afm47.org/join</u> for more information.

Speaking of membership, if you haven't yet paid your 2025 dues then your account may have already been suspended. Please login to ensemble.afm47.org to make sure that your membership dues are current. Email <u>membership@afm47.org</u> if you have any questions.

Our Local's income is derived from two sources, membership and work dues. Year after year we are facing rising costs, from insurance to utilities while revenues decline. Plan on attending the next General Membership meeting on Monday, April 28 for an indepth look at our finances.

<u>What can you do?</u>

Participate in the Membership Drive

- Share the Membership Drive opportunity with colleagues and students.
- Direct interested individuals to <u>afm47.org/join</u> for more information.

Maintain Your Membership Status

- Log in to <u>ensemble.afm47.org</u> to ensure 2025 dues are current. (If you have not yet logged in to our new system, please visit <u>afm47.org/e2</u> for instructions.)
- Email <u>membership@afm47.org</u> with any membership questions.

Stay Informed About Our Future

- Attend the General Membership meeting on Monday, April 28 for a financial review.
- Observe our weekly Executive Board meetings every Tuesday at 10 a.m. Email <u>st_sec@arm47.org</u> for the Zoom link.

Stand Up for Labor

Support the campaign for CA State Tax Credits through participating in the "Keep California Rolling" campaign. We all know that entertainment industry jobs, including scoring, are vital to the economy of Los Angeles. Please take a few minutes to contact

your electeds and <u>"Take The Pledge" here</u>.

The unionized workforce is under attack from the current administration in Washington, D.C. Hundreds of thousands of federal workers were just stripped of their rights to collective bargaining. The AFL-CIO is asking every single American to call their Congress members right now. Use this link to show your support for federal workers to be represented by a union.

Closer to home, our LA County Federation of Labor is calling on all of us to unite and take to the streets on May Day to show that "we're stronger than the forces that seek to divide us." This mass mobilization on Thursday, May 1, starts at 9 a.m. at Olympic and N. Figueroa. Stay tuned for more information from Local 47.

Our community is our power!

- ADVERTISEMENT -

DO WE HAVE ROYALTIES FOR YOU?



More than \$700 Million Distributed to Musicians & Vocalists

Royalties Distributed to Both Union & Non-Union Session Musicians & Vocalists For Their Performance on Songs Played on Satellite Radio, Non-Interactive Streaming Services, Webcasts, Other Digital Formats and International Neighboring Rights

Find Out If We Have Royalties For You www.afmsagaftrafund.org



Cover Story

The second secon

"This is triumphant music."

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

AFM Local 47 3rd Annual Jazz Festival

We are thrilled to announce the 3rd Annual AFM Local 47 Jazz Festival! The two-day concert series, celebrating AFM Local 47 Life Members, will take

place on Saturday, April 26 and Sunday, April 27 in our Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place.

Saturday, April 26

12 pm - The Hard Bop Ensemble

- 1 pm Gina Kronstadt & the Winona Wyz Guyz
- 2 pm Encore Saxophone Quartet
- 3 pm The Witham Section
- 4 pm Geoff Stradling & the StradBand
- 5 pm LA6

3rd Annual

6 pm - Darrell Leonard's Line Up

Sunday, April 27

- 12 pm Tony Jones Vocal Project
- 1 pm Bonnie Janofsky Quintet
- 2 pm The Eric Ekstrand Ensemble
- 3 pm Six Beats Apart
- 4 pm Steve Huffsteter Big Band
- 5 pm Jennifer Leitham Trio

These performances are generously sponsored by

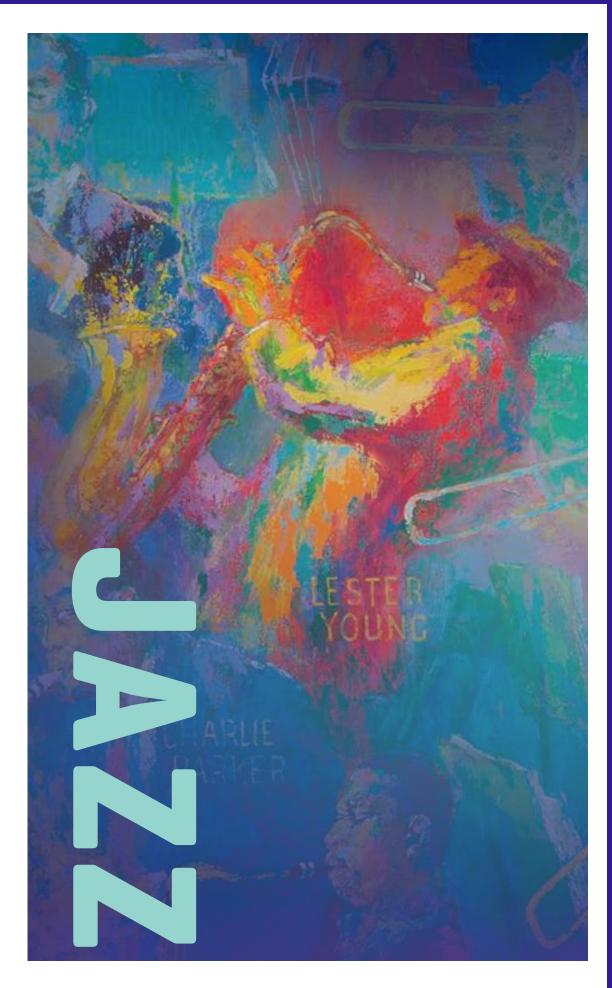
the Music Performance Trust Fund and the American Federation of Musicians Local 47.

RSVP Here

Feature

Jazz and Civil Rights

Jazz and civil rights have been inextricably intwined in the United States for many years. In that spirit, during this month dedicated to jazz appreciation, we'd like to share with you the words of Harlem Renaissance poet Langston Hughes and his 1935 poem, "Let America Be America Again."



- Let America be America again.
- Let it be the dream it used to be.
- Let it be the pioneer on the plain
- Seeking a home where he himself is free.
- (America never was America to me.)
- Let America be the dream the dreamers dreamed—
- Let it be that great strong land of love
- Where never kings connive nor tyrants scheme
- That any man be crushed by one above.
- (It never was America to me.)
- O, let my land be a land where Liberty
- Is crowned with no false patriotic wreath,
- But opportunity is real, and life is free,
- Equality is in the air we breathe.

(There's never been equality for me, Nor freedom in this "homeland of the free.") Say, who are you that mumbles in the dark? And who are you that draws your veil across the stars? I am the poor white, fooled and pushed apart, I am the Negro bearing slavery's scars. I am the red man driven from the land, I am the immigrant clutching the hope I seek— And finding only the same old stupid plan Of dog eat dog, of mighty crush the weak. I am the young man, full of strength and hope, Tangled in that ancient endless chain Of profit, power, gain, of grab the land! Of grab the gold! Of grab the ways of satisfying need! Of work the men! Of take the pay! Of owning everything for one's own greed! I am the farmer, bondsman to the soil. I am the worker sold to the machine. I am the Negro, servant to you all. I am the people, humble, hungry, mean— Hungry yet today despite the dream. Beaten yet today—O, Pioneers! I am the man who never got ahead, The poorest worker bartered through the years. Yet I'm the one who dreamt our basic dream In the Old World while still a serf of kings, Who dreamt a dream so strong, so brave, so true, That even yet its mighty daring sings In every brick and stone, in every furrow turned That's made America the land it has become. O, I'm the man who sailed those early seas In search of what I meant to be my home— For I'm the one who left dark Ireland's shore, And Poland's plain, and England's grassy lea, And torn from Black Africa's strand I came To build a "homeland of the free." The free? Who said the free? Not me? Surely not me? The millions on relief today? The millions shot down when we strike? The millions who have nothing for our pay? For all the dreams we've dreamed And all the songs we've sung And all the hopes we've held And all the flags we've hung, The millions who have nothing for our pay— Except the dream that's almost dead today. O, let America be America again-The land that never has been yet—

And yet must be—the land where every man is free.

The land that's mine—the poor man's, Indian's, Negro's, ME—

Who made America,

Whose sweat and blood, whose faith and pain,

Whose hand at the foundry, whose plow in the rain,

Must bring back our mighty dream again.

Sure, call me any ugly name you choose—

The steel of freedom does not stain.

From those who live like leeches on the people's lives,

We must take back our land again,

America!

O, yes,

I say it plain,

America never was America to me,

And yet I swear this oath—

America will be!

Out of the rack and ruin of our gangster death,

The rape and rot of graft, and stealth, and lies,

We, the people, must redeem

The land, the mines, the plants, the rivers.

The mountains and the endless plain—

All, all the stretch of these great green states —

And make America again!

- ADVERTISEMENT -



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST UPDATES





News



IRS Announces Tax Relief for CA Taxpayers Filing deadline extended to Oct. 15

The Internal Revenue Service has announced tax relief for individuals and businesses in parts of California affected by wildfires and straight-line winds that began on Jan. 7, 2025. These taxpayers now have until Oct. 15, 2025, to file various federal individual and business tax returns and make tax payments.

Following the disaster declaration issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), individuals and households that reside or have a business in Los Angeles County qualify for tax relief. The declaration permits the IRS to postpone certain tax-filing and tax-payment deadlines for taxpayers who reside or have a business in the disaster area.

The Oct. 15, 2025, deadline also applies to affected businesses.

For more information, <u>click here</u>.

Member Spotlight



Harvey Mason, aka "the Chameleon behind the drums," is among the most recorded and in-demand drummers of all time.

Mason has worked with a Who's Who of musicians, playing with everyone from Bob James to Chick Corea to Lee Ritenour to George Benson. He has toured with Herbie Hancock's Headhunters and been in the Mizell Brothers' productions with Donald Byrd, Johnny Hammond, Bobbi Humphrey, and Gary Bartz. His drum duet with percussionist Ralph MacDonald on Benson's hit "On Broadway" shows off his style, and his beats have been samples for the Notorious B.I.G., among others.

Born in Atlantic City, New Jersey, in 1947, Mason developed an interest in drumming at a young age. He studied performance, composition, arranging, and percussion at both Berklee College of Music and the New England Conservatory of Music. Since starting his career in the '70s, Mason has released many albums, producing some of them as well as composing the music. In 1979, he released a hit single, "Groovin' You," from the album of the same name, and he has recorded everything from jazz to religious works to jingles.

Always a good collaborator, Mason is the percussionist for the contemporary jazz group Fourplay, comprising keyboardist Bob James, guitarist Chuck Loeb, and bassist Nathan East. For his solo work and work with Fourplay, he has been nominated for 11 Grammy Awards and won several Modern Drummer magazine awards. In 2015, Mason received an honorary doctorate from Berklee, and in his commencement speech he said, "The Berklee experience helped me to become my own man. Being in this environment was stimulating beyond words. Now, as all of you go out into the world, I urge you to search your heart and soul, and proceed with

passion. Go out and make some great music. Go out

and make some noise!"

Events

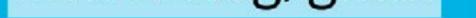
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Monday April 28 7:30 pm

> View the agenda @ afm47.org/gmm



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

Open to members in good standing



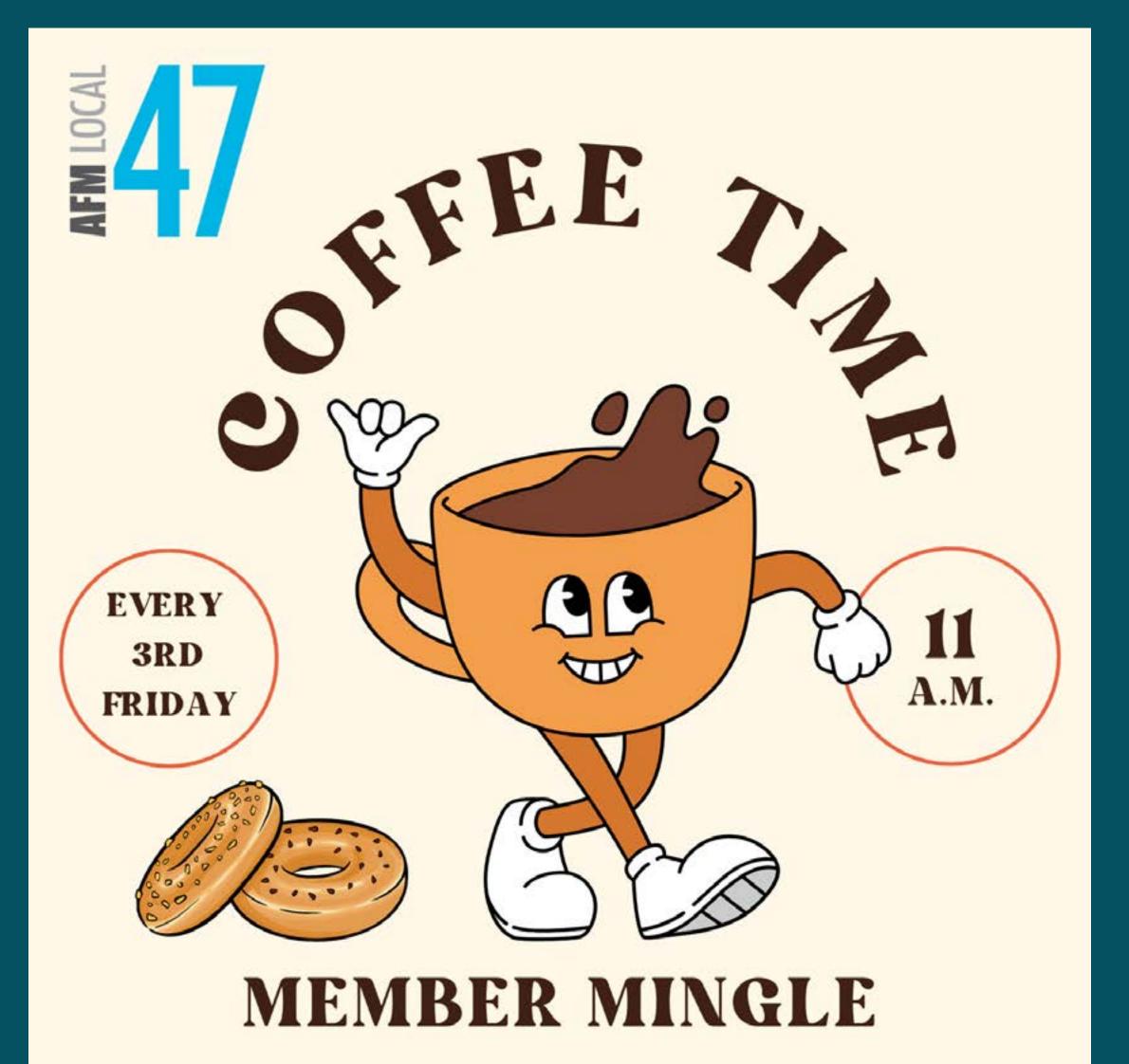


Open to all Local 47 members in good standing. Light refreshments will be served.

> **On the Agenda** (subject to change): – Presentation of 50-Year Pins – Officer Reports Old and New Business

Please plan to attend and make your voice heard. Remember — your union is only as strong as its members!

Events



JOIN US FOR COMPLIMENTARY COFFEE, BAGELS & CONVERSATION IN OUR CAPTAIN GREG WELCH GATHERING PLACE

AFM LOCAL 47 3220 WINONA AVE. BURBANK CA 91504

Next Member Mingle: Friday, April 18

All are welcome to join us for complimentary coffee, bagels and conversation in our Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place every third Friday from 11 a.m. to noon. We look forward to seeing you there! RSVP to: <u>rsvp@afm47.org</u>



LOCAL 47 EVENTS CALENDAR



Next General Membership Meeting

Monday, April 28, 7:30 p.m. Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place <u>afm47.org/gmm</u>

Ongoing Events:

Executive Board Meetings

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. via Zoom Members welcome as observers For login info email <u>st_sec@afm47.org</u>

New Member Orientation

Third Fridays, 10-11 a.m. Local 47 Executive Board Room Required of all new members <u>afm47.org/orientation</u>

Member Mingle

Third Fridays, 11 a.m. - noon Local 47 Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place Join us for coffee, bagels and conversation every third Friday of the month!

View our Google Calendar online @ <u>afm47.org/calendar</u> **Events**



Music Performance Trust Fund Gigs

Downey Symphony Society Leader: Laura Jesson - 57 musicians April 12, 7 p.m. @ Downey Theatre

Friends of the Silver Lake Library Leader: Leslie Baker - 4 musicians April 19, 12 p.m. @ Silver Lake Library

LA Valley College Foundation Leader: Ira Nepus - 6 musicians April 21, 1:30 p.m. @ LA Valley College

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

Leader: Tony Jones - 5 musicians April 27, 3 p.m. @ St. Stephen's of the Valley

Steel Bird Music

Leader: Joshua Nelson - 18 musicians April 29, 7:30 p.m. @ Riverside City College

Tedesco Enterprises Leader: Chris Tedesco - 6 musicians April 3, 12 p.m. @ Milken Community School April 4, 2 p.m. @ The Ivy in West Hills April 22, 2:30 p.m. @ Fair Winds Retirement Community

April 30, 2:30 p.m. @ Granada Hills High School

True Note Music

Leader: Brad Rabuchin, 7 musicians April 3, 8 p.m. @ Alexander Hamilton High

Leader: Terry Wilson, 10 musicians April 4, 6 p.m. @ American Legion Newhall

Leader: Ladd McIntosh - 19 musicians April 5, 12 p.m. @ Alta Loma Jazz Festival

Leader: Ed Wynne, 18 musicians April 8, 10 a.m. @ Brentwood School

Leader: Ed Wynne, 10 musicians April 9, 10:30 a.m. @ Garey High School April 9, 12:30 p.m. @ Pomona High School April 9, 2:30 p.m. @ Ganesha High School April 21, 10 a.m. @ Aviator Nation Dreamland

Leader: Ed Wynne - 17 musicians April 11, 10 a.m. @ Mupu Elementary School April 26, 10:30 a.m. @ Ralph Foy Park

Leader: Jon Papenbrook - 20 musicians April 14, 10 a.m. @ Aviator Nation Dreamland

Leader: Fred Dinkins - 7 musicians April 17, 11 a.m. @ Jordan High School

Leader: Brad Rabuchin - 7 musicians April 17, 8 p.m. @ LA College of Music

Leader: Bruce Lett - 6 musicians April 21, 7 p.m. @ Azusa Pacific University

Leader: Anthony Bonsera - 13 musicians April 21, 12:30 p.m. @ Glendora High School April 23, 2:30 p.m. @ Citrus College

Leader: Jim Watson - 5 musicians April 26, 12 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Gina Kronstadt - 5 musicians April 26, 1 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Doug Masek - 4 musicians April 26, 2 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: David Witham - 4 musicians April 26, 3 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Geoff Stradling - 18 musicians April 26, 4 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Thomas Peterson - 6 musicians April 26, 5 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Darrell Leonard - 15 musicians April 26, 6 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Tony Jones - 5 musicians April 27, 12 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Bonnie Janofsky - 6 musicians April 27, 1 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Eric Ekstrand - 10 musicians April 27, 2 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Bruce Lett - 6 musicians April 27, 3 p.m. @ AFM Local 47 April 28, 9 a.m. @ Aviator Nation Dreamland

Leader: Steve Huffsteter - 18 musicians April 27, 4 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Jennifer Leitham - 3 musicians April 27, 5 p.m. @ AFM Local 47

Leader: Jon Papenbrook - 8 musicians April 29, 12 p.m. @ Rio High School

Are you interested in presenting a FREE and open to the public CONCERT?

For over seven decades, the <u>Music Performance</u> <u>Trust Fund</u> provides grants for free public live music events. Its mission includes contributing to the public knowledge and appreciation of music, as well as making music a part of every child's life experience.

Funds are made available by MPTF to sponsor performances for community events, outdoor park concerts, libraries, senior citizen centers and museums, as well as educational performances by a wide variety of jazz, classical, chamber, symphonic and other ensembles.

Musicians interested in applying for a grant are invited to contact our in-house MPTF Administrator. All requests will be reviewed for approval, and recommendations will be forwarded to MPTF in New York. For more information on how to apply, <u>click here</u>.

At the Local



American Federation of Musicians Local 47 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

New and returning members pay ZERO initiation fees through June 30, 2025 — a savings of \$140!

Do you know a musician who should join the union? Now is the perfect time to become a member during our Spring Membership Drive! Help spread the word about the myriad benefits of being #UnionStrong.

AFM member benefits include:

Wage protection

LOCA LOCA

- Health insurance & pension
- Low-cost rehearsal rooms
- Instrument insurance
- Emergency travel assistance
- Musicians referral service
- Expert help from union staff
- A say & a vote in your union

Local & international contracts cover:

- Low-budget/student films
- Studio recordings
- Video games
- Live concerts
- Theatrical stage shows
- Motion pictures & television
- Commercials/jingles
- Demos



At the Local



Welcome New Members!

- Joe Dougherty Electric Guitar
- Pano Fountas Piano
- Roger Wayne Garcia Trumpet
- Lauren Harrold Percussion
- David Klein Keys
- Eddy Lanois Trumpet
- Shynar Nagimova Violin
- Art Santora Acoustic/Electric Guitar
- Earl Louis Stewart Composer

CBA Roundup

We're proud to announce that collective bargaining agreements with the following employers were ratified during this past quarter:

January Pacific Jazz Orchestra

February LA Jazz Society LA Orchestra Leaders Association

March SMG Greek (Greek Theatre) Six Flags Magic Mountain Weddington Street Productions (El Portal Theatre)

Copies of the agreements may be found in the members-only section of our website at <u>ensemble</u>. afm47.org. (If you have not yet logged in to our new system, please visit <u>afm47.org/e2</u> for instructions.)

Local 47 Rehearsal Rooms



Whether you have a two-member band or a 55-piece orchestra, our rehearsal rooms have got you covered.

Special rates for Members and Life Members w/ priority booking are available to members in good standing.

Members: Book and pay in seconds at afm47.org/rehearsals

(login required)

Non-Members: Please contact us for a quote: 323.993.3172 | booking@afm47.org



AFM Launches #NotMe App for Safe Reporting of Workplace Misconduct

Report Anonymously, Protect Your Rights, and Contribute to a Better Work Environment for All

by Rochelle Skolnick, AFM Symphonic Services Division Director and Special Counsel and Jonathan Ferrone, AFM Chief of Staff and Assistant to the President

Reports of sexual harassment, assault, and other abusive practices within our industry have become more public over the past few years. The AFM strives to ensure a safe, comfortable, and productive work environment for all members. Our union, after all, belongs to all of its members, and an injury to one is an injury to us all. Unfortunately, we have learned that some members may not have felt comfortable reporting sensitive situations to their union and some were unaware that their union could help in such cases.

In addition to adopting a new Code of Conduct that reaffirms our commitment to a union in which discrimination and harassment are not tolerated, the AFM is partnering with NotMe Solutions to make the #NotMe app and website available to AFM members. It is a secure and encrypted platform where AFM members can report a range of concerns, including harassment, contract or policy violations, unresolved payroll discrepancies, and instances of feeling unsafe in any way.

How Does #NotMe Work?

The AFM and its locals support musicians, and we hope that everyone feels comfortable directly sharing their concerns. We recognize, though, that not everyone has the same level of comfort. To help ensure that every member has a communication channel through which they feel comfortable connecting with support from the AFM, we have implemented the #NotMe app. The #NotMe app is 100% free to all AFM members, and is available in English, French, and Spanish.

With #NotMe in place, we hope to encourage a union culture and work environments free from misconduct by ensuring that musicians' concerns are taken seriously. We expect our members to uphold our collective responsibility to stop harassing conduct whenever possible, support those who speak up, and report offensive conduct whenever possible.

When a report is submitted through the Speak Up tab, it is reviewed by a dedicated team of AFM staff members. AFM members can expect to receive a timely initial response and regular updates. When creating a report, the app asks members a series of questions to help describe the incident being reported. There are a variety of preselected answers to choose from or members may describe the situation in their own words.

You can report anonymously or on behalf of someone else, and you can choose your level of comfort. The chat feature may be used anonymously, and you may submit photos or other supporting documents as evidence. For more informal reports, the "Just Sayin" tab may be utilized.

Speak Up Safely

You own your reports:

- All account data is saved on NotMe Solutions servers, not on the AFM server
- You decide when you're ready to share your report
- All notifications go to your personal (not work) email
- You can keep track of your reports and view them at any time, even if you leave the AFM

You choose your anonymity:

- Anonymous reporting is available, or you can give your name
- You may use an anonymous two-way chat with your investigator to continue the discussion
- Reveal your name/information when you're ready
- The app and web platform are designed to be intuitive and easy to navigate, and submitting a report typically takes less than five minutes.

And remember, the AFM:

- Cannot course correct if you do not speak up
- Cannot engage in a meaningful conversation with you if it does not know what is happening
- Cannot protect you, if and when protection is warranted, if it does not know about issues

Change the Culture Committee

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Local 10-208 Secretary-Treasurer Karen Suarez Flint and the Change the Culture Committee for introducing the AFM to NotMe Solutions and for their continued dedication to protecting all members equally.

Members of the Change the Culture Committee include:

- Karen Suarez Flint, Change the Culture Committee
 Founder, Local 10-208 Secretary-Treasurer
- Jennifer Arnold, Black Orchestra Network Founding and Steering Committee Member, Local 99 (Portland, OR) Member
- Heather Boehm, Theatre Musicians Association president, Local 10-208 Member
- Marta Bradley, Local 161-710 (Washington, DC)
 Secretary-Treasurer
- Tammy Noreyko, Local 7 (Orange County, CA) Secretary
- Stephanie O'Keefe, Local 47 (Los Angeles, CA)
 President
- Rochelle Skolnick, AFM Symphonic Services Division Director/Special Counsel
- Amanda Swain, Regional Orchestra Players
 Association Vice President, Local 65-699 (Houston, TX) Member
- Ellen Trainer, Local 77 (Philadelphia, PA) President
- Melinda Whitley, International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians, Local 257 (Nashville, TN) Member
- Michele Zapf-Belanger, Organization of Canadian Symphony Musicians and Local 591 (Thunder Bay, ON) Member

The AFM needs and wants every member to engage in building a culture where all musicians are included, welcomed, and appreciated. Please use the QR code to download the #NotMe app today, so when you see something, you're ready to speak up!

Learn more about the app and reporting process at <u>help.not-me.com/about-notme</u>.

Organizing



AFM Local 47 President Stephanie O'Keefe (pictured center) with San Francisco AFM Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Beth Zare (left) and President Kale Cumings (right) at a Joint Hearing meeting in the State Capitol on March 26 as part of the Entertainment Union Coalition.

Entertainment Union Coalition 'Keep California Rolling' Campaign Update

On March 26, the Entertainment Union Coalition again traveled to Sacramento to advocate on behalf of the California Film & Television Jobs Program at a Senate Revenue and Tax Budget Subcommittee. Our own AFM Local 47 President Stephanie O'Keefe and AFM Local 6 President Kale Cumings and Secretary-Treasurer Beth Zare joined close to 100 members of the Entertainment Union Coalition to show our support for the expansion of this program from \$330 million annually to \$750 million annually.

Last month we also saw movement around the two bills, AB1138 and SB630, that have been introduced by Assemblymember Rick Zbur and Senator Ben Allen. These bills are intended to modernize California's jobs program to further encourage production in the state in addition to increasing funding to the program annually. The bills introduced are seeking to expand the definition of a qualified motion picture, allowing more types of projects to apply. Additionally, the bills are seeking to increase the available credit amount for an individual project from 20% to 35% across California. Because an additional 5% uplift already exists for filming outside the zone, the increase in areas outside L.A. would be from 25% to 40%.

While the exact language of the bills has not been finalized, the EUC continues to work alongside Zbur and Allen to refine language and ensure the bills are structured to have maximum impact on retaining, attracting and creating jobs.

Soon the EUC will be rolling out a letter to send to elected officials asking them to support not only for the expansion of the funding, but also the specific elements of these two bills.

The EUC will likely be back again multiple times this month as we get closer to the budget vote set to take place in June.



How YOU can get involved:

1. Sign and share our pledge (<u>bit.ly/euc-pledge</u>) to get targeted action items about this campaign, and updates to get involved:

Sign the Pledge

- 2. Check out and share our 'Keep California Rolling' campaign website to learn more about our fight: <u>KeepCaliforniaRolling.org</u>
- 3. Read through our <u>'California Film & Television Jobs</u> <u>Program Impact Report'</u> to understand how this program benefits our entire State and countless industries Californians rely on.
- **4. Find your legislators.** Over 45% are new, making education and advocacy key components of our campaign. Locate who your legislator is to be prepared to reach out to them to tell them HOW important entertainment jobs in California are to you and your family. We will be rolling out a toolkit soon. Find your local Assembly and Senate representatives.
- 5. Follow us on social media for updates from next week and to elevate our fight:
 <u>Facebook</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>X</u> | <u>Bluesky</u>
- 6. Share your story. Take a minute to record a video highlighting WHO you are, WHAT you do and WHY you want to Keep California Rolling. *Hashtag #KeepCaliforniaRolling and tag us on social (links above).*

Stay tuned for more updates and ways to get involved.

On the Town





All photos by Gayle Levant Above left: 97th Oscars Musical Director Michael Bearden on the Warner Bros. scoring stage during pre-records. Above right: Oversized Oscars statuettes graced the entrance of the Dolby on Oscars night.

Oscars 2025

The 97th Academy Awards ceremony, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, took place on March 2, at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood.

The ceremony was televised in the United States by ABC and streamed on Hulu for the first time.



Woodwind section



String section



Brass section



Celli













Rhythm section



Josef Zimmerman, Music Prep Supervisor



Naomi Sato, Music Librarian



Gayle Levant, Harp



Kimberlee Wertz, Orchestra Contractor



Chris Walden, Lead Arranger



"Dune" sandworm taking over harp duties

97th Academy Awards Orchestra & Music Prep Personnel^{*}

Reed Dan Higgins (1) Jeff Driskill (2) Jacob Scesney (3) Glen Berger (4)

Viola Luke Maurer Leah Katz Lynne Richburg

Sal Lozano (5)

Trumpet

Wayne Bergeron (1) Dan Fornero (2) Aaron Janik (3)

Trombone Andy Martin (1) Alex Iles (2)

Bass Trombone/Tuba Byron Sleugh

> Keyboard/Piano Jeff Babko

Keyboard Dave Delhomme

Guitar Andrew Synowiec

Percussion Wade Culbreath

Horn

Laura Brenes (1) Steven Becknell (2) Lisa McCormick (3)

> Harp Gayle Levant

Violin 1

Charlie Bisharat Grace Oh Songa Lee Luanne Homzy Juliette Jones

Violin 2

Shalini Vijayan Daphne Chen Natalie Leggett Synton Grant Cello Giovanna Clayton Adrienne Woods Vanessa Freebairn-Smith

> Lead Arranger Chris Walden

Arranger

Tim Davies Jeremy Levy Patrick Russ Lenny Wee

Music Prep Supervisor Josef Zimmerman

> Music Librarian Naomi Sato

Copyists

Juan Arboleda Caitlyn Chenault Jina Choi Tyler DeTulleo Jennifer Fagre-Golya Vincent Fasano Max Fourmy Daniel Gold **Bradley Johnson** Michael Kallin Abraham Libbos Nathaniel Meeks **Brendan Moriak Bill Newlin** Jaimee Jimin Park Caryn Rasmussen Zach Yaholkovsky

Musical Director Michael Bearden

* This roster includes the names of AFM members in good standing at time of publication. To submit a correction please email <u>overture@afm47.org</u>.

News

Wildfire Relief Resources for Musicians BIT.LY/4

As our community continues to heal after the devastating Los Angeles fires, we'd like to remind you that help is out there for those in need.



Our <u>Wildfire Relief Resources</u>

for Musicians page contains

general aid resources, special assistance for union members in need, relief specifically for musicians affected by the disaster, as well as offers from Local 47 members offering free studio/recording space and complimentary real estate property reports. Resource categories include:

Resources for Musicians:

- Musical Instrument Replacement
- Financial Assistance/Grants
- Studio/Rehearsal Space

General Resources:

- Informational Meetings
- Housing Resources
- Food Resources
- Debris Cleanup/Damage Cataloging/Health & Safety
- Mental Health Resources

Our resources page also contains information about how to apply for immediate emergency financial assistance grants from many organizations, including Local 47 and the AFM.



ALL of our support volunteers are Trained in one of the most respected Trauma Based Healing Therapies of our time, Brainspotting Therapy. Most of our therapy volunteers are highly trained and highly experienced practitioners and therapists.

Individuals, families, children, teens, first responders, firefighters, police officers...

We are here for you.

You will receive up to 10 Free Sessions with one of our highly trained Brainspotting Therapy practitioners. There is no fee, and no strings attached.

> Simply fill out the simple **Request Support Form**

For support **NOW** or in the **FUTURE**, Please:

Visit our website,

Take a picture of this flyer, or

Scan this QR code:



www.BrainspottingHelp.com



Brainspotting Help is a humanitarian project which brings trauma therapy, support and healing to communities affected by war and disasters.

For more information: www.BrainspottingHelp.com or contact:





Labor News



AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler

Pro-Labor Bill, the PRO Act, Reintroduced in Congress

On March 5, the Richard L. Trumka Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act was reintroduced in Congress. The bill would bolster labor rights and level the playing field for working people.

The PRO Act was passed in the U.S. House of Representatives back in 2021, but an anti-worker majority blocked it in the Senate. This is the most significant worker empowerment legislation to be introduced since the Great Depression. It would repeal "right to work" laws, strengthen our right to form unions, create stronger enforcement mechanisms to punish bosses who retaliate against organizing workers and more.

"The PRO Act is long overdue, and the American people agree," said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. "We urge the elected leaders of both parties to move this critical legislation forward so that all workers have the chance to stand together and build better lives for themselves and their families... And in today's economy, where our workers' hard-earned paychecks are covering less of what they need while still facing unsafe conditions and a lack of respect on the job, there's no fight more righteous than ensuring that every single worker who wants a union has a fair shot to join or form one."

Read the full statement from AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler <u>here</u>.

Labor News

The Political Landscape & Black Workers

Join the LA Black Worker **Center for an Essential** Conversation

A message from Jeremiah Gordon, LABWC Organizing Coordinator

With all that we've witnessed in these first few months of the current presidency, it's critical that we come together as Black workers, labor organizers, and community leaders to confront the escalating political attacks on our communities and our rights at work.

We're living in a moment where policies and budget decisions are being weaponized against us—where labor laws are increasingly being manipulated to protect employers, not workers. The present administration has stacked power at the top, empowered billionaires, and rolled back worker protections, all while public services across the nation that communities rely on are being defunded and dismantled.

This meeting is not just another check-in — it's a call to action.

We'll break down how these decisions are directly impacting Black workers, share strategies for resistance, and discuss community-led solutions that center our power, our voices, and our survival.

> **Date:** Saturday, April 5 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Location: 5336 Crenshaw Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90043 **Click Here to RSVP**

Benefits Corner



Explore Credit Card Options Built for Union Members

With the Union Plus Credit Card, you'll enjoy

exclusive features and benefits negotiated for union members and their families,¹ like \$0 annual fee² and hardship grants for eligible cardholders.³ See if you're pre-approved for card offers today with no impact to your credit score.

Primary Access

Strengthen your financial future by building your credit score. The Primary Access Credit Card can help you grow your credit through responsible use so you can get even more from your finances.

Rate Advantage

If you have excellent credit, you deserve a credit card with excellent benefits. With the Rate Advantage Credit Card, enjoy a low interest rate + 0% APR for the first 15 months on purchases or transfers.

See if you're pre-approved

About this message:

¹ Families of members of the following unions are not eligible for the Union Plus Credit Card: ALPA, ATU, CSEA, CWA, CWA-NABET, CWA-TNG, NNU, UWUA.

² Credit approval required for all products. Terms and conditions apply. The Union Plus Credit Cards are issued by Capital One, N.A. pursuant to a license from Mastercard International Incorporated. Mastercard is a registered trademark, and the circles design is a trademark of Mastercard International Incorporated. Rates accurate as of December 31, 2024.

Cash Rewards Purchase and Transfer APR: 0% intro rate for the first 12 months from account opening date; 17.15%, 23.15%, or 26.99% variable thereafter, based on your creditworthiness. Transfer Fee: 3% of the amount of each transferred balance that posts to your account during the first 12 months that your account is open, or at a promotional APR that we may offer you at any other time. None for Transfers at the Purchase APR after the first 12 months that your account has been open.

Rate Advantage Purchase and Transfer APR: 0% intro rate for the first 15 months from account opening date; 15.15%, 21.15%, or 25.15% variable thereafter, based on your creditworthiness. Transfer Fee: 3% of the amount of each transferred balance that posts to your account during the first 15 months that your account is open, or at a promotional APR that we may offer you at any other time. None for Transfers at the Purchase APR after the first 15 months that your account has been open.

Primary Access Purchase APR: 27.49% variable APR. Transfer APR: 27.49% variable. Transfer Fee: 3% of the amount of each transferred balance that posts to your account at a promotional APR that we may offer you. None for balances transferred at the Transfer APR.

Terms applicable to Cash Rewards, Rate Advantage and Primary Access Cards: Cash Advance APR: 28.24% variable. Variable APRs will vary with the market, based on the Prime Rate. Cash Advance Fee: greater of 3% of each cash advance amount or \$3.

³ Certain restrictions, limitations and qualifications apply to these grants. Additional information and eligibility criteria can be obtained at <u>unionplus.org/assistance</u>.

Benefits, rebates and discounts offered by Union Privilege. Offers available to union members, retired union members, Union Plus Credit Cardholders, members of AFL-CIO affiliated organizations and their families. Capital One, N.A., is not responsible for the contents of these benefits, rebates, discounts and/or any products/services offered.

Please see the Terms for eligibility and rate, fee and other cost information.

Final Notes



Michael D. Miller Life Member. Acoustic/Electric Guitar 5/8/1953 – 1/18/2025

Member since: 7/7/1981

Colleen Papp (aka Colleen P. Connor)

Life Member. Bassoon 8/16/1952 – 8/23/2024 Member since: 11/6/1984

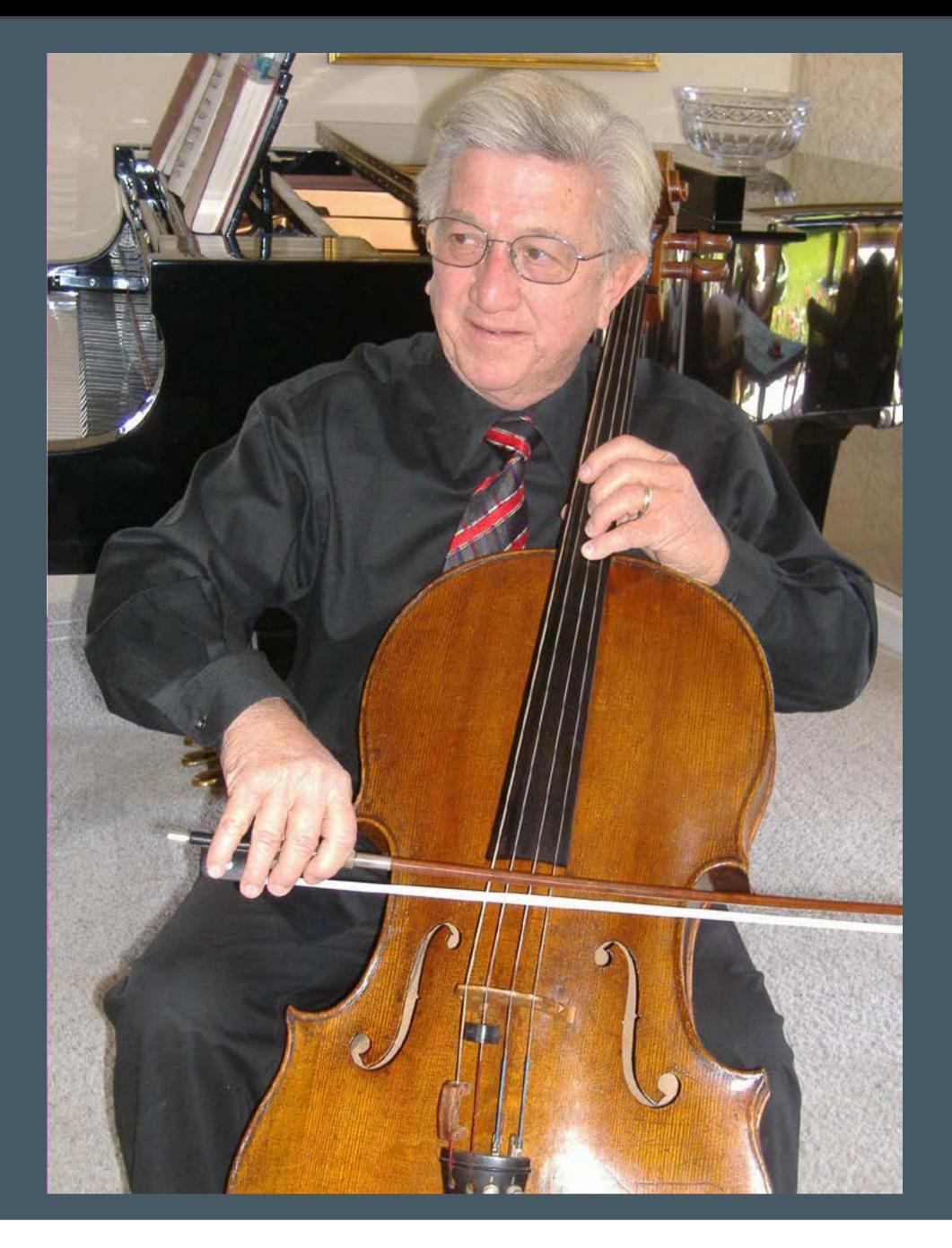
Stanley (Stan) Kevin Watkins

Member. Trumpet 1/4/1962 – 1/12/2025 Member since: 4/14/1987

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

or you may send to: <u>overture@afm47.org</u> Local 47 Overture Online 3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504

Final Notes



Ray Kelley Life Member. Cello 2/26/1938 – 3/4/2025

by Daniel Kelley

Ray Kelley had the cello career any musician would covet: a member of the Utah Symphony, Dallas Symphony and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, followed by decades of nonstop studio work during a golden era for records, jingles, live TV and motion pictures. But I would rather write about who he was.

Ray was the life of the party, the one who always

wanted to make sure everyone around him was having a good time. The player who elicited countless "Your dad is my favorite stand partner" comments. He was renowned for dropping wicked lines with perfect timing, for making newcomers on any instrument feel welcome, and for mixing the best drinks around, more often than not out of the trunk of his Mustang, ice bucket included.

Our own relationship was a typical array of fights, hugs, disagreements, fantastic advice, misfired asides, make-ups, and periods of, well, no activity at all. But for the final 10 years of his life, he and I never clashed even once, and I got to know the man who drew so many musicians to tell me frankly, "I love your father. Let me tell you a story about him."

I love you too, Dad. I'll miss you more than I could possibly say.

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 <u>afm47.org/overture</u>.

Letters to the Editor:

overture@afm47.org

3220 Winona Ave. Burbank CA 91504

Please keep within a maximum of 400 words. For our submission guidelines, please <u>click here</u>.

Bulletin Board

Membership Dues

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, Master-Card, Discover, AmEx by phone at 323.993.3116 or at <u>afm47.org/dues</u>

Dues Schedule

Annual and Semi-Annual Membership Dues for Regular, Life and Inactive Life Members are due January 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 **September 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 December 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.

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 <u>here</u> (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 <u>afm47.org/</u> <u>donotworkfor.html</u> 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



LOS ANGELES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA MUSIC DIRECTOR JAIME MARTÍN

Vacancies: ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL VIOLA 4TH CHAIR VIOLA

LACO reserves the right to dismiss immediately any candidate not meeting the highest professional standards.

> AUDITION DATES May 7 - 8, 2025

Los Angeles, CA Deadline to apply is April 15, 2025.

Additional information is available at www.laco.org/auditions/



Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra is an equal opportunity employer Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra is proud to be a partner orchestra of the National Alliance for Audition Support (NAAS), an unprecedented national initiative to increase diversity in American orchestras. It will do so by offering Black and Latinx musicians a customized combination of mentoring, audition preparation, financial support, and audition previews. Auditions

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL VIOLA

ASSOCIATE CONCERTMASTER FOURTH, EIGHTH CHAIR FIRST VIOLIN EIGHTH CHAIR SECOND VIOLIN

Auditions will be held in June 2025 in Los Angeles.

Audition info, dates and repertoire will be available after March 1 at

LAOPERA.ORG/ORCHESTRA

FRA

LA Opera is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Musicians of identities underrepresented in the classical music field are especially encouraged to apply.

Advertise

ADVERTISE WITH AFM LOCAL 47!

Overture Online App

—Released monthly—

The Local 47 Beat

—Emailed biweekly—



→ RESERVE TODAY

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

CONTACT: advertising@afm47.org

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