

POSITIVE
vibes

presents

4th Annual



REUNION
MUSIC
FEST

Riverside White Park

Sunday, September 1, 2024

Gates Open @ 12:00 PM

Concert: 2:00 PM — 10:00 PM

MARK TAKANO

39th DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
RANKING MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & LABOR



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August 29, 2024

Friends,

As the Representative of California's 39th District, it is a pleasure and honor to send my greetings to you as you gather in downtown Riverside for the 4th Annual Reunion Jazz & Blues Festival.

It was a great honor to join you all at last year's festival, and I am thrilled to welcome you as the top musicians across the country gather and perform for our community. The *Positive Vibes Musicians Movement* has played an indispensable role in promoting musicians of all backgrounds and the city of Riverside to festival goers. I would like to thank them for promoting the best of what Riverside has to offer, and I am hopeful that this beneficial partnership will continue well into the future.

I hope that as you enjoy the talents of performers, that you also enjoy the beautiful scenery and atmosphere of White Park and downtown Riverside. This successful event boosted the Riverside community economy and positively impacted the lives of many Riversiders. I am excited for the impact that the festival will have on our community this year.

I am honored to send my best wishes to *Positive Vibes Musicians Movement* as well as to the performers and vendors at the 4th Annual Reunion Jazz & Blues Festival.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Takano".

MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



City of Riverside, California
Office of the Mayor
PATRICIA LOCK DAWSON



August 1, 2024

Greetings,

As Mayor of Riverside, California, it is a pleasure and privilege to welcome attendees to the 4th Annual Reunion Music Festival to be held on September 1st, 2024. I extend a special greeting to East Side Reunion Group, NAACP-Riverside Chapter, Dell and Carmen Roberts Foundation and the musician-led movement and non-profit organization Positive Vibes. We thank you for hosting the Reunion Music Festival.

This signature event was created to bring together local artists, businesses, and organizations that have the desire to make an impact in their respective communities. The support and services that are provided to the attendees will impact the lives of many Riversiders.

On behalf of the City of Riverside, I would like to extend my sincerest thanks for supporting local vendors and artist. Best wishes on a successful event!

Sincerely,

Patricia Lock Dawson
Mayor, City of Riverside



Our Story



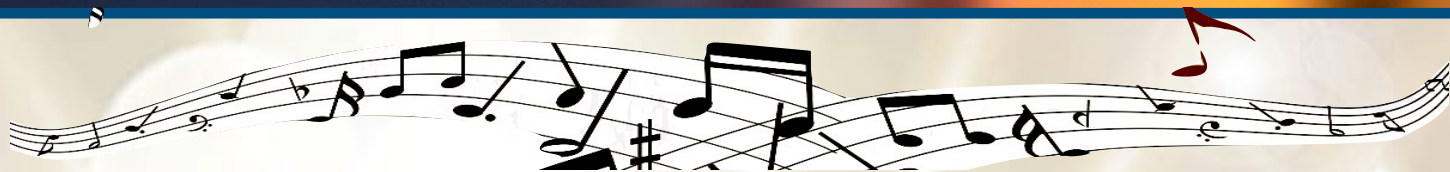
Reunion Music Fest

The Festival provides:

- An opportunity for the diverse community to come together as a family.
- Funds and services to support and bring awareness to the efforts of other non-profits in the community.
- A multi-generational event aimed to reunite local artists, community leaders, and small business owners who share common roots within Eastside Riverside.
- Scholarships that benefit our city's future young minds.
- An opportunity for guests to delve into the vast musical experiences of all genres.

Event Organizers

Positive Vibes Musician's Movement
Riverside Neighborhood Reunion Committee



Who Are the Positive Vibes?

We are a musician-led movement committed to using our platform to raise awareness to support those in need.

How We Vibe

- * Educate viewers on cause awareness and resources.
- * Encourage followers to share the music and message with others.
- * Empower community enrichment and outreach.

Our Giving Back History

Since 2020, Positive Vibes has supported the community through donations and partnerships. As the pandemic ravaged America, performing artists were the first to feel its impact. This industry was the first to close its doors and the last to open. Although this local team of musicians was experiencing first-hand what it was like to lose income due to canceled or postponed events, and general lockdown restrictions, they knew they could make a positive difference in the lives of others. And make a **POSITIVE** difference, they did.

Donations

Adrian Dell and Carmen Roberts Foundation
NAACP-ACTSO Awards
Riverside Peacemakers Ministry
Feed Dem Kids
California Jazz and Blues Museum

Highlighted Support Events

- Fed individuals with housing insecurities (homelessness).
- Provided toys for children during a Christmas toy drive.
- Assisted other musicians in addition to those in Positive Vibes in meeting their needs during the pandemic.
- Soothed people as they attended various music jam sessions in parking lots, doorways, private serenades, backyards, parks, virtually, and other available spaces.

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CROWN

ERIC GALES

One of the best blues guitarists in the world!!!

Eric Gales, also known as **Raw Dawg**, is an American **blues rock** guitarist, originally hailed as a **child prodigy**. At the age of 16, he was signed to Elektra Records and released his debut album *The Eric Gales Band*. At 19, he played with Carlos Santana at Woodstock '94. After 30 years in the music business he has 19 albums, and is topping the blues heap of blues guitar artist. His 2022's album **Crown** was nominated for a Grammy for Best Contemporary Blues Album and reached #1 on the Billboard Blues Album chart.

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B. I. G.



(Brothers Igniting a Groove)

California's Favorite R&B Party Band

B.I.G. (Brothers Igniting A Groove) is an R&B Smooth Jazz and old school funk band based out of SoCal playing both covers and original music. Their repertoire extends to over 100 songs and counting – you want it, they play it! They deliver the best musical performance each and every time, and as a bonus they have fun doing it! Let them ignite your groove!!!

[LEARN MORE](#)

JSQ (J Boykin)



International Saxophonist, Philanthropist, Producer

Millennial Saxophonist JSQ, affectionately known as the "**Sax Sensation**" has played with and opened for Frankie Beverly & Maze and Ledisi, John Legend, Take 6, Koinonia, Kirk Whalum, Doc Powell, and Brian Culbertson. JSQ has appeared on Fox Television's "Glee" and J's "Happy" sax version video was spotlighted when Oprah interviewed Pharrell on Oprah Prime. JSQ's unique performance style has captured the hearts of fans everywhere.

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Errol Bonnick



Jamaican Reggae Artist

Errol, a smooth Rasta rebel, is pursuing his solo career and moving with the spirit of the conquering lion on his path of creating a repertoire of upbeat and uplifting Lovers Rock, Roots Reggae. He is on his journey of weaving his magic across the airwaves with his cultural messages and his mysterious, powerful, commanding, yet very sensual voice.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Ericka Guitron



Pop Soul Recording Artist

Ericka is a professional pop/soul recording artist, musician/songwriter and entertainer from SoCal. At 19 years old, she signed to Grammy award-winning producer RedOne. She's toured the world with major acts such as Jason Derulo, PARTYNEXTDOOR, and has sang for the likes of David Foster, Michael Buble, Dr. Dre, Jay-Z & more. With a commanding stage presence, she knows how to get people off their feet, be it a full band or solo piano accompaniment by herself. She is taking the world by storm!!!

[LEARN MORE](#)

Monique Renee



One of the Hottest Vocalist in SoCal

Monique Renee and Friends know how to get the party started and they keep it jumping until the very end!. They are know through tour SoCal for their tributes to TeenaMarie and Rick James. Be sure to come early. This a group you don't want to miss!

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Fernando Jones



Blues Guitarist - Renaissance Man

Fernando's *creative genius is rare!* This multi-instrumentalist started playing the Blues when he was just four years old. He has performed from basement to the University of Hawaii, to The Smithsonian Institute, to the Conservatory of Music in Pescara, Italy, to Havana, Cuba. In January 2020, he lectured on the impact of Blues Pedagogy at the National Association of Music Merchants. As a lecturer, he has established Blues Camps for youths on the continents of Asia, Europe, North America and the Caribbean island of Cuba.

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Jimmy Sterling



The Jimmy Sterling Experience

Jimmy and his band are known locally for their tribute to legendary Bobby Womack. Through audience participation and musical flare, he and his band will take you back in time to when music on the radio drifted through the hot summer nights and your thirst was quenched with a tall glass of ice tea.

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Erin Blunt, "DJ Alcatraz"



LA's Favorite DJ

DJ Alcatraz is the DJ for all occasions. His keen ability to read his audiences allows him to program his music in a way that is always pleasing to the crowd. His exceptional skills and unique mixing style have landed him esteemed residencies in several clubs around Los Angeles. Erin's ability to rock the mic and the turntables at the same time has captivated celebrity clients. He is becoming one of the region's top deejays.

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Big Llou Johnson



The Coolest Voice on the Planet

Big Llou is the Voice Host of one of the biggest blues stations in the world, B.B. Kings Bluesville on Sirius-XM, a gig he's had since Sirius and XM merged. He was chosen by the original and legendary Program Director, Bill Wax. He has appeared on over a dozen cd projects since the release of his Blues Music Award-winning debut "They Call Me BIGLLOU". With a voice as big as the Grand Canyon and a personality to match, he was a featured voice at the 2024 DNC Convention in Chicago for Kamala Harris and Tim Walz.

[LEARN MORE](#)



In Memoriam

Barbara Morrison

Legendary Renowned Jazz & Blues Singer

Barbara Morrison always delivered when she came to town. Spinning yarns and sharing jokes, she inhabited a stage like it was her living room, leaving each audience member captivated. She will truly be remembered.

**We Love You
Barbara!!!**



Blinky Allen

Bryant Wesley "Blinky" Allen was born in Riverside California on January 14, 1919. After returning from WWII Bryant formed his own groups—The Starlites and the Blinky Allen Group. Allen earned the nickname of "Blinky" because he used to blink his eyes when he played the drums. Another honoree, Reggie Strickland, also a native of Riverside, was also member of his band. Bryant always stipulated that there was to be no discrimination against Blacks in the clubs in which he performed. Blinky died in Los Angeles in 1969.



Reginald & Susan Strickland

Reginald "Reggie" Errol Strickland was a talented tenor saxophonist, with a true appreciation for music. He loved music so much that he and his beloved wife, Sue, shared his love of music, and her love of teaching with their children, as well as with the children in their Riverside neighborhood. Both Reggie and Sue were active members of the Riverside NAACP. They were very supportive of ACT-SO (Afro-Academic, Cultural Technological Olympics) a program of the NAACP intended to promote academic and cultural achievement in high school students.

This year's Reunion Donation to ACT-SO is in honor of the late Reggie Strickland and his wife Susan.

In Memoriam

PASS THE MANTLE...CARRY ON

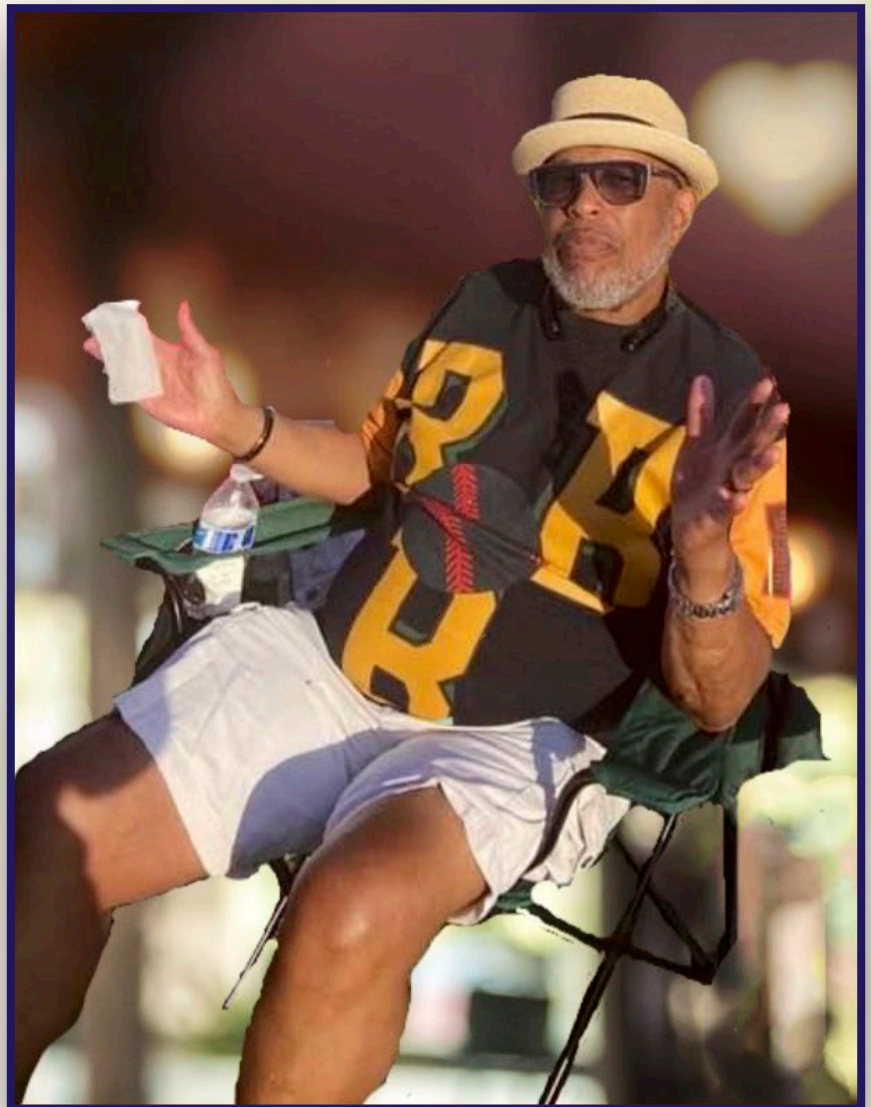
In late June 2021 James (Butch) Mathews and the Riverside Neighborhood Reunion Committee met on these very grounds to discuss the possibility of this event. His dream of bringing this family type reunion to fruition was overwhelming. He wanted the community to feel the love and connectedness he had experience growing up here. He wanted neighbors to get to know each other, make new friendships, talk with one another, and see each other as family... a modern day neighborhood reunion.

He always knew that "good jazz music" would be the platform and set the mood.

He also worried that the upcoming generation would not have an opportunity to hear and appreciate jazz if his generation never introduced it to them. As they walked this park that day, he talked...and talked...and talked. Some would say he gave a speech to remember...his lasting call for action.

"We are getting older, who's going to pick up this mantle. We need to hand this off to the younger generation. If we don't do it now, then when! We may not be here next year. Let's show them how. Let's pass the mantle, so they can carry on!!"

Today, we "Carry On..."





HONOREES

2024-2025

**James E Mathews Awardee:
Vincent "Vinny" Basurto**

Music has always been my preferred method of communicating my thoughts and self-expression. I have found that expressing my thoughts through music is my way of having a voice. Jazz is the language in which I can express my voice to the world the most. Regardless of skill, knowledge, history, or familiarity with anything in the jazz scene, the pursuit to speak my voice through the trombone with fantastic music far exceeds any of that, and it keeps me alive.



I have played brass instruments for eight years, and the trombone for the past two years. In my short time on the trombone, the possibilities to contribute to the jazz world have significantly increased. As my college career continues, it's only a matter of time as I enrich my knowledge of jazz to have no more barriers to my self-expression at last.



Blues Kids Foundation

Blues Kids Foundation was established to preserve, perform and promote the Blues among America's youth, parents and educators under the tutelage of highly qualified instructors, globally. Our focus includes Social & Emotional Learning, music literacy, pedagogy & andragogy, career readiness and *Music as a Second Language*. Blues Kids Foundation is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible. We do not discriminate. All a student musician has to do is pass the audition to participate. That's it!

Unlike Jazz and Classical Music education programs, respectfully, there are far fewer funding sources, resources and endowments readily available when it comes to supporting nonprofits with a focus on Blues pedagogy.

By making Blues Kids Foundation your charity of choice and pledging your tax-deductible contribution, today, you will help ensure cultural and social and emotional enrichment opportunities for Blues Kids. Your support helps sustain current programs and establish new ones for student musicians, parents and community members. Music programs, in general, are too often undervalued and underfunded.

Feed Dem Kids

Our mission is to improve the health and living conditions of disadvantaged families in our community by procuring and distributing supplementary resources, food and otherwise household essentials; furthermore providing minor home repairs and modifications to our local elders in need!



Our action team takes the mission even further! We mentor, train, educate, motivate and inspire the youth within our community with a wide range of repair work, maintenance skills, outreach and training in order to aid the local elderly, disabled and disadvantaged residents with support services aimed to greatly enhance their quality of life, while providing the youth with lifelong skills to assist them in their future endeavors.



Music Changing Lives

Music Changing Lives (MCL) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing music, art, and tutoring programs in America's public schools and community centers while raising awareness about the importance of enrichment programs as part of each child's comprehensive education and lifestyle.

We believe music and art are fundamental components of human culture and behavior. Many students living in underserved communities have little or no access to the arts due to reductions in funding. The knowledge of the arts is very important because it is an irreplaceable means of self-expression and helps students understand others in different ways. There is a dire need to empower minority and low-income youth through arts education by going beyond an integrated classroom approach.



Music NAMA Music Angels Foundation

Music NAMA Music Angels Foundation is a 501 C3 Nonprofit, community-minded organization, that assists local schools and other community organizations with the goal of providing exceptional music instruction. Through our extensive outreach program and instrument donation and repair program, we strive to provide students with the opportunity to engage in live music studies by gifting donated playable musical instruments to them.

NAMA Music Angels Foundation's primary goal is to serve the economically disadvantaged, to help young people achieve their full musical potential, and to give them a sense of purpose by stimulating personal and educational growth through music.

NAMA Music Angels Foundation's programs are provided without regard to national origin, race, religious belief, gender, or physical handicap. Our guiding philosophy is to make the world a better place through music. We aim to do this by increasing access to music within communities and spread music to our youth, allowing them opportunities not otherwise afforded to them.



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At Amazon, we believe harnessing the power of art can **help build strong, healthy neighborhoods.**

We're proud to partner with **Positive Vibes Musicians Movement** as they contribute to a more inclusive and accessible local arts community for all.

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 While you Vibe... 

Please take an
opportunity to visit

the

 G a z e b o B a r

and

Fabulous Vendors!



A man with a beard and a colorful, patterned shirt is playing a saxophone. He has his right arm raised, pointing upwards. The background is filled with blue and yellow balloons and streamers, creating a festive atmosphere. The text "A Special Thank You!" is written in a white, cursive font across the top of the image.

A Special Thank You!

Positive VIBES for your hard work and dedication in making the event a success and being exactly as your name states...a positive vibe.

The **Volunteers and Community Workers** who are supporting our efforts behind the scenes. Your support has been vital and much appreciated. We could not have done this without you.

The **Riverside Neighborhood Reunion Committee**, your blood, sweat, tears and lack of sleep made this day possible. You are incredible. Rest up. Next year is fast approaching.

Stay in the groove with...

POSITIVE
Vibes



Book Designed by:

Another GeMM
...When your memories are priceless!



Gail Martin-Mathews
gail.martin.mathews@gmail.com

See You Next Year!!!