

vol. 21

2015 Annual Report

MUSIC MAKER

RELIEF FOUNDATION

RAG



SUPER SPIRIT

Dear Friends,

We want to thank everyone who helped make our 20th Anniversary year such an incredible period of celebration and growth for Music Maker. **Our biggest year of performance ever** kicked off at the Lincoln Center Out of Doors Series in August 2014. Music Maker's Homecoming celebration, here in NC in October, was the largest gathering of Music Maker artists ever assembled. The music and camaraderie were truly inspirational; we extend our deepest thanks to everyone who joined us and to the Artist Sponsors, the National Endowment for the Arts, the NC Humanities Council, the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation and the Orange Arts Commission for making it possible.

The music rolled on to Roots N Blues N BBQ, Byron Bay Blues Festival, a series at the Mars Theater in GA, Winnipeg Folk Festival, Capitol Blues Night, Music in the Gardens at Duke, our new Freight Train Blues series in Carrboro, NC and dozens more. Another great year got under way with the Music Maker Revue at the Newport Folk Festival with Dom Flemons.

Our new book, *We Are the Music Makers!*, along with our **20th Anniversary celebrations** were featured on **PBS News Hour**, CBS Evening News, NPR Weekend Edition, the Wall Street Journal, the Tavis Smiley Show and Dan Akroyd's Ellwood's Bluesmobile. Our release of Dom Flemons' new CD, *Prospect Hill*, landed him on Fresh Air with Terry Gross and great reviews domestically and in Europe.

Our *We Are the Music Makers!* exhibit was **viewed by 82,000 people at venues throughout the country**. The two sets of panels are touring through 2017. A new exhibit, *Our Living Past: A Platinum Portrait of Music Maker*, will debut and begin traveling this fall.



Robert Lee Coleman, Music Maker Homecoming, Hillsborough, NC 2014 © T. Duffy

Our Mission: Helping Musicians Make It

MUSIC MAKER STAFF

Timothy Duffy, Executive Director
Denise Duffy, Managing Director
Corinne Everett Belch,
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Aaron Greenwood,
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NEWSLETTER CREDITS

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Duffy, Corinne Everett Belch,
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Design: Aaron Greenwood
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John Dee Holeman, Sam Frazier, Jr. and Dom Flemons 2015 © T. Duffy

As Music Maker heads into its third decade, we remain excited about all the artists that are still with us and the many new partner artists that continue to join our journey.

After the CBS Evening News piece aired, we received a wonderful package from the daughter-in-law of an artist from Birmingham, Alabama named **Sam Frazier Jr.** Sam grew up with blues legends Slim Harpo and Sonny Boy Williamson performing at his mom's juke joint. Sam can sing and play the blues and R&B, but his real passion is country music. After moving back to his father's coal mining shack after 20 years on the West Coast, Sam had lost his hometown connections and faded from the music scene. He began to feel isolated and did not know where to turn.

We reached out to Sam and he has now visited us twice in Hillsborough, NC to work on a new record, performed with us in Clarksdale, MS and at Duke University, and has joined our Music Maker Blues Revue. We are currently working to help lift Sam out of dire poverty, so he can concentrate on his art. We have helped him purchase diabetic shoes, harmonicas, and performance suits, and we are working to move him into safer living conditions. We are thrilled that he wants to partner with us and move forward to a brighter future.

Ironing Board Sam is reaching new heights at 75 years young as the **new spokesperson for Faultless Spray Starch** (don't miss the commercials online!) and he has

MUSIC MAKER PROGRAMS

Musician Sustenance

Grants to meet basic life needs and emergency relief

Musical Development

Grants and services for recipient artist professional development and career advancement

Cultural Access

Supports the presentation, preservation and proliferation of American musical traditions

Next Generation

Encourages and mentors young artists and documentarians



Captain Luke, Hillsborough, NC 2013 © T. Duffy

an **upcoming release**, *Super Spirit*, on Big Legal Mess Records debuting October 2nd.

The old **vinyl records are back!** There is nothing like spinning a record on your turntable and feeling the warmth and purity of tone. With the help of donors Al and Caryn Bunshaft we have issued a **limited edition** of just 500 **Etta Baker, Railroad Bill LPs**. The beautiful design by Bruno Brussard, makes this release a collectible work of art!

Saying goodbye is the most difficult part of our work with senior musicians and this year was particularly sad because we lost one of our founding artists, **Captain Luke**. We find consolation knowing his music touched the lives of so many music lovers around the world.

WE THANK ALL OF YOU for making this 20th Anniversary year so successful. We would especially like to **welcome the 1,200 new contributors** to our cause. You make the music happen- it is through your support that Music Maker is doing more than ever before and **increased our program activities by 30% this year!**

Please visit our website, join our email list and follow our blog to learn how you can be more involved. It is through these unsung heroes of music that we learn about our cultural heritage. Please continue your support and keep on lovin' the blues!

Warmest Regards,

Tim & Denise Duffy
Tim and Denise Duffy

Listen. Watch. Learn. Give.

Head over to **musicmaker.org** to get the latest news!

The screenshot displays the Music Maker Relief Foundation website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'HOME', 'ABOUT US', 'NEWS & EVENTS', and 'PROGRAMS'. The main header features the 'MUSIC MAKER RELIEF FOUNDATION' logo. Below this, there are several featured articles and promotional banners. One prominent banner is for the book and CD 'We Are the Music Makers!', with a 'BUY TODAY' button. Another article is titled 'Diggin': Slewfoot and the Angels - Give Your Love Away'. A 'NEWS FEED' section on the right lists several recent news items, including 'Our Newport Folk Festival show Reviewed by Pop Matters', 'Music Maker Featured on WFDD!', 'Drink Small Awarded NEA National Heritage Fellowship!', 'Music Maker Tintype Featured in View Camera Magazine', 'Ironing Board Sam is the New Spokesperson for Faultless Spray Starch!', and 'Music Maker Blues Revue & Dom Flemons to Perform at the Newport Folk Festival!'. A 'TOUR CALENDAR' table is visible on the left, and a 'BLOG' section is partially shown at the bottom.

Date	Artist	City
06/30/15	We Are the Music Makers' Photography Exhibit	Delta Arts Center Winston-Salem, NC
08/29/15		



/musicmakerfoundation

@musicmakerblues



/musicmakerrelief



/musicmakerrelieffoundation

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blog.musicmaker.org

★ Music Maker Exhibitions



We Are The Music Makers! on display at Appalachian State University, Boone, NC © Hannah Crowell

We are the Music Makers!, created with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, educates and engages viewers in the cultural history of Southern traditional music. Images and stories of musicians immerse visitors in the musical identity of the South, increasing appreciation and understanding of American music. Many venues will also feature live performances by Music Maker artists.

Exhibit Schedule

Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC	September 2015 – April 2016
U. of North Carolina Pembroke, Pembroke, NC	September – October 2015
Mary G Hardin Center for Cultural Arts, Gadsden, AL	February – April 2016
Hickory Museum of Art, Hickory, NC	April – July 2016
Mt. Airy Museum of Regional Art, Mt. Airy, NC	May – August 2016
Boone County Museum and Galleries, Columbia, MO	August – September 2016

Support for We Are the Music Makers! is provided in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the North Carolina Humanities Council, the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, Cathead Vodka, Catherine Elkins and supporters like you.



Lena Mae Perry, Hillsborough, NC 2015 © T. Duffy

Our Living Past: A Platinum Portrait of Music Maker: For 35 years, photographer Tim Duffy has forged a unique vision immortalizing Southern musical heroes and the world in which they live. This compelling collection of images was made with the wet-plate collodion process, which Tim has explored with the assistance of Aaron Greenhood. These photographs were then taken to breathtaking heights with platinum/palladium printing.

This exhibit is sponsored and produced by 21st Editions® and Steven Albahari. (21steditions.com) Original wet-plates from this project have been collected by the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture and the Morris Museum of Art.

Exhibit Schedule

Appleton Museum of Art, Ocala, FL
Atlanta International Airport, Atlanta, GA
Clifton Center, Louisville, KY
Norton Center for the Arts, Danville, KY
Henderson Fine Arts Center, Henderson, KY
Janice Mason Art Museum, Cadiz, KY
Kentucky Folk Art Center, Morehead, KY
Downtown Arts Center in Lexington, KY

January – April 2016
November 2015 – January 2016
August 2016 – October 2016
September 2016 - January 2017
January 2017 - March 2017
January 2017- March 2017
March 2017 - May 2017
March 2017 - May 2017

★ Program Notes



Freeman Vines of Greenville, NC is one of the greatest guitar builders alive. Unchecked diabetes causing numbness in his hands has slowed his productivity. Music Maker granted him a Fender amplifier and provided him with a sustenance grant. Greenville, NC 2015 © T. Duffy



Guitar Lightnin' Lee was scheduled to perform at a festival in North Carolina when he was injured in a car accident. He had hip replacement surgery and is enduring recovery and physical therapy. The loss of income from not being able to perform has been a serious challenge. Music Maker stepped in to cover food and rent while Lee recovers. Check him out on Treme Season 4. New Orleans, LA 2014 © T. Duffy



Folk artist and musician David Bryant is the son of great Georgia blues artist Cora Mae Bryant. Music Maker helped David get a new set of dentures this year. Augusta, GA 2015 © T. Duffy

★ Artist Notes



The Como Mamas, Apollo Theater, New York City, NY 2014 © A. Greenhood

Robert Lee Coleman and **David Bryant** both got new sets of chompers ★ **Ironing Board Sam** returned to France where he performed with his Sticks, former interns Raphael Evrard and Simon Arcache ★ **Alabama Slim** and **Big Ron Hunter** toured France twice with renowned French Saxophonist Raphael Evrard as part of his "Music is My Home" project ★ More than 50 artists gathered in October, 2014 in Hillsborough, NC to celebrate Music Maker's 20th Anniversary ★ Music Maker returned to Byron Bay Bluesfest for another successful revue featuring **Cool John Ferguson**, **Gorgeous George Stancell**, **Vasti Jackson** and **Super Chikan** ★ Duke Performances partnered with MMRF to present 18 Music Maker artists over 4 performances this Summer ★ **The Como Mamas** performed as part of the Daptone Super Soul Revue to a sold out crowd at the Apollo Theater ★ **Pat "Mother Blues" Cohen** got a new car thanks to MMRF Board Member Jon Porter ★ Music Maker Blues Revue's Lincoln Center Out of Doors performance was immortalized in a New Yorker cartoon ★ **Beverly "Guitar" Watkins** was featured on the cover of Premier Guitar magazine ★ Music Maker helped **Pat Cohen**, **Pura Fe**, and **Ironing Board Sam** get new eye-glasses ★ **Ironing Board Sam** returned to New Orleans Jazzfest where his drummer Kerry Brown finished the show with a flaming drums routine ★ **Ironing Board Sam** was named celebrity spokesperson for Faultless Spray Starch ★ **Drink Small** was awarded the prestigious **National Folk Heritage Fellowship** ★ Tim and Denise Duffy received the Pauli Murray Award ★ We helped **Willie James Williams**, **David Bryant**, **Ironing Board Sam**, **Eddie Tigner**, **Boo Hanks** and **Captain Luke** keep their houses warm ★ **Eddie Tigner** celebrated his 89th birthday ★ **Captain Luke** and **George Daniel** passed away ★ **Lakota John** celebrated his 18th birthday and graduated from high school ★

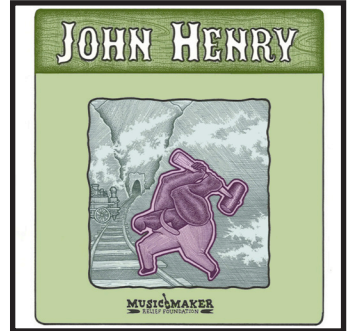
2015 Releases ★



Ironing Board Sam Super Spirit



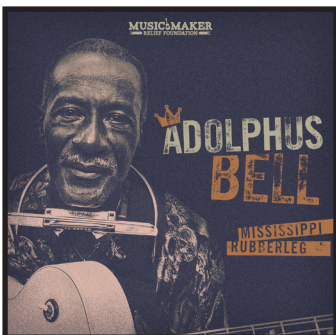
Dom Flemons What Got Over



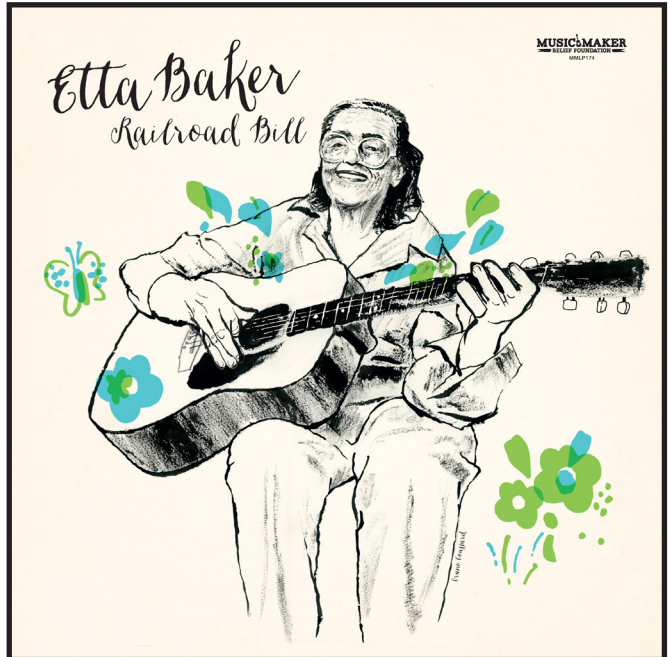
Various John Henry



Captain Luke & Cool John Ferguson Live at the Hamilton



Adolphus Bell Mississippi Rubberleg



Etta Baker Railroad Bill
Limited edition Vinyl LP of Carolina's beloved Piedmont Blues guitar virtuoso!

Purchase at shop.musicmaker.org

★ New Artists

Through 20 years of dedication to documentation and performance, Music Maker has disproved the myth that all the greats were gone. We are bringing to light many talented musicians previously shrouded by poverty and geography; this year we welcomed Peewee Hayes, Charles Hayes, George Staniel, Sam Frazier, Jr.



Brothers Charles and Peewee Hayes from Racine, Wisconsin, learned how to play on their father's guitar while he was away at work. They are both hard driving guitar players who have spent their lives playing in small clubs throughout the country. Music Maker has granted acoustic and electric guitars to Peewee and booked both artists on several summer shows. Hillsborough, NC © T. Duffy



Kelley Breiding (left) and Martha Spencer (right) live in Appalachia, they are both accomplished traditional musicians. Collectively, they play in the Spencer Branch Band. Music Maker is working with them to connect with traditional musicians in Appalachia. Hillsborough, NC 2015 © T. Duffy

Gorgeous George Stancell from Arlington, Texas performed with us in Australia this year at the Byron Bay Blues Festival. He played nightly for years in his club in the suburbs of Milwaukee while working by day in the railyards. Coolangatta, Queensland, Australia 2015 © A. Greenhood



Sam Frazier, Jr. grew up in Edgewater, AL, a small mining camp. His father was a coal miner and his mother ran a tavern out of the back of their house. It was there that Sonny Boy Williams gave Sam a harmonica and showed him how to play his first notes. He has joined Music Maker on a few shows and we are working on a new record for him produced by Dom Flemons. Music Maker helped him purchase diabetic shoes and performance clothes. Hillsborough, NC 2015 © T. Duffy

★ Volunteers and Interns

Without the zealous efforts of volunteers and interns, we could not keep Music Maker's programs going. You can find these generous individuals transporting artists, fixing cars, roofs and mobile homes, stuffing envelopes, selling CDs at gigs, designing artwork for albums, posters and even billboards, shooting photos and video, writing blog posts, organizing our archives and so much more. We cannot thank them enough, so THANKS AGAIN!



“Being able to mix and mingle with some of the most talented guys and gals who bring us the real, true Southern Blues and to hear their music and first hand stories of how MMRF has helped them personally was absolutely life changing.” – Kat Leon, Volunteer

Clockwise from top left: George Bartz, Big Ron Hunter, Dave McGrew, Captain Luke, Kat Leon at the Music Maker Homecoming, 2014 © T. Duffy

“Working with the great team at MMRF to preserve such a treasured musical heritage is an honor! It’s incredibly rewarding to work in a place that’s making a difference.” – Jennifer Hicks, Summer 2015 Intern



Jennifer Hicks, Hillsborough, NC 2015 © T. Duffy

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Tim Duffy and B.B. King, Ocean Way Studios, Los Angeles, CA © T. Duffy

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*deceased

★ We Are The Music Makers!

We Are The Music Makers! Book & CD



We Are the Music Makers! is a beautiful 10"x10" hard-cover book featuring a collection of Tim Duffy's photographs, accompanied by stories from the musicians has worked with for over two decades. This 136-page book gives readers a new window into the world of Southern musicians.

The accompanying 2-Disc CD set features 44 tracks hand selected by Tim Duffy, which showcase an authentic and diverse array of modern Roots music. Both the book and CD are timeless tributes to America's musical heritage.

We Are the Music Makers! Book & CD - \$50

The photographs in this book are not only beautiful, but reflect the deep love and dedication The Duffy's have for both preserving traditional Blues culture and providing real support and opportunity for these wonderful musicians who might otherwise be forgotten.

-Bonnie Raitt

Whole Nine Yards Goes Digital!



Over the past 20 years Music Maker has accumulated an incredible collection of music from amazing artists from all over the South. Our new version of "The Whole Nine Yards" contains a digital collection of all 170 Music Maker releases consisting of 2,109 songs as well some unreleased gems. This beautiful package comes with a customized walnut USB drive, box, 5 greeting cards and a hard copy of the *We Are The Music Makers!* book.

The Digital Whole Nine Yards - \$600

Help Musicians Make it!

Your donation ensures musicians' voices are heard, helps them live in comfort and documents their art for future generations.

Please give today at musicmaker.org!

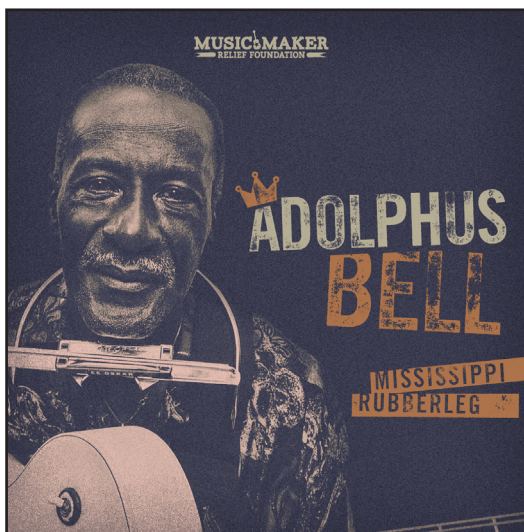
Or, mail a check to:

Music Maker Relief Foundation
PO Box 1358
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Simultaneously playing the guitar, harmonica, bass drum and hi-hat, Adolphus took on Alabama blues with his own style.

Witness the mastery of Adolphus Bell's one man band in this collection of live performances, recording outtakes and lost tracks. It is Adolphus Bell at his BEST!

Adolphus Bell
Mississippi Rubberleg - \$12



Order your copy of *We Are the Music Makers!*, the Whole Nine Yards, or any of our new releases now!

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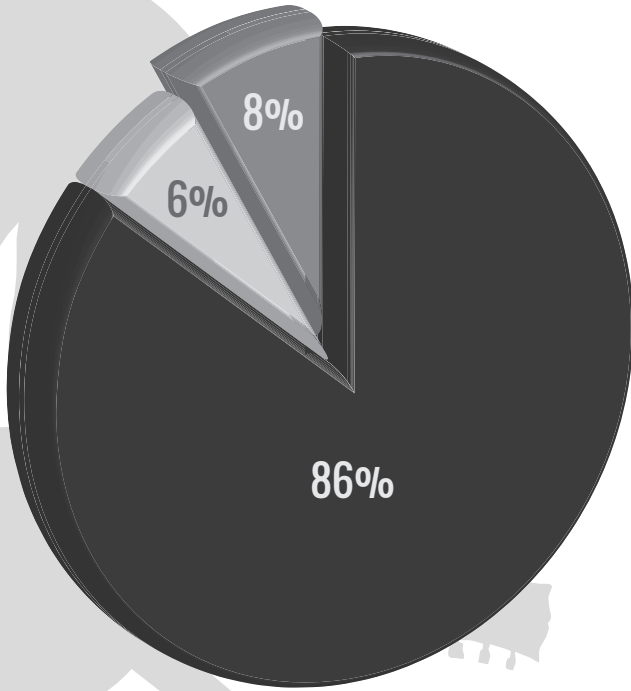
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 Thomas Montgomery Sneed
 Charitable Endowment Fund
 Anthony Thompson
 Joseph Thompson
 Matthew Thompson
 Benjamin L. Thompson
 Patrisha Thomson
 Kristine Thomure
 Jesse Thornham
 ThreeSpokes Fund
 Dave and Linda Thurber
 Gloria Thurmond
 Ann Thurmond
 Margaret Tice
 Charles and Paula Tiedemann
 James Tischler
 Marc and Eileen Tishler
 R Titus
 Fiona Tobler
 Judith Tolbert
 Michael Tolle
 Denise Tolley
 Brian Tombaugh
 Carol Tompkins
 Penelope Toni
 Fernando Toral
 Gerald Torch
 Andy Torkelson
 Joseph Trapanese
 Betty Traynor
 Nancy Triska
 Richard Trottier
 Carole and George Troxler
 Alvin and Mary Turner
 Kathleen Turner
 Alexandra Turner
 Erick Umstead
 United Way of the Greater Triangle
 University of South Carolina
 Emily Urquhart
 U.S. Charitable Gift Trust
 Luzmila Valadez
 Ann and John Valentine
 Linda Valleroy
 Daniel van Buskirk
 Mark Van Name and Bill Catchings
 Bert van Vliet
 Meg Van Voorhis
 Robert Van Franken
 William Vandford
 Vanguard Ranch
 James VanKirk
 David VanLiew
 Brenda VanLunen
 Cherry and Sam Vanneman
 Ken Vartan
 Heidi Vaughan
 Roberto Vazquez
 Allison Veishlow
 David Verble
 James Vernon
 Claude Verrier
 Christine Vertefeuille
 Kurt and Carol Viegelmann
 Jennifer Viets
 Visual Basics
 Kristin Vogelsbeg
 Michele Vogt
 Chris von Jacobi
 James Voorhees
 Charles Vorosmarty
 Martin and Gail Vranicar
 Ann Wagner
 Tom Wagner
 Jeffrey Walker
 Bob Walkup
 Eric Wall
 Gary and Linda Wallace
 Carl Wallace
 Tom Wallack
 Cyndy Wallhauser
 Robert Walls
 Walrus Corporation
 Marcia & Ralph Wanderer
 James Walton
 Elysa Waltzer
 Jenny Warburg
 Ray Ward
 Bruce Ward
 Jack Ward
 Lena Warner
 Joseph Warren
 Anne Washington
 Melanie Wasserman
 Richard Watanabe
 Stephen Watkins

★ Financial Report



- Programs
└ \$678,988
- Fundraising
└ \$62,535
- Management
└ \$51,173

\$792,696

2014/15 TOTAL BUDGET

Audited financial statements available upon request

10,188
Musician Grants

4,792
Performances

2,109
Songs released

374
Partner Artists

25
countries toured

21
years

4
Programs

1
Mission

Ernest "Doc" Watson
Glenn Watson
Jeter Watson
Terry Watts
William Wax and Sheila Jascot
Dave Weatherby
Rodman and Elise Webb
Buffie Weber
Vicki Weber
William Weber
Jane Webster
Michael Weddington
Brad Weed
Bradley Weed
Tandy Weger
Barbara Weidman
Janna Weil
Jesse Weil
Ronald Weinstock
Judy Weinstock
Laura Weisberg and David Wong
Susan Weissbarth
Judith Weitz
Ross Wells and Carol Beth Baker

Doris Wells
Elizabeth Welsby
Michelle Wempe
Foster Wendell
Michael Wendle
Ronda Wenger
Madelyn Wessel
David Wessinger
Debra West
Stefan Westhoff
Nancy Westrell
Jeff Whaley
Joel Whitaker
Julie Whitcomb
Russell Whitehead
Steve Whitting
A. C. Whitley
George and Kathi Whitley
Laura Whitman
Karl Whitney
Melissa Whittall
Tom Wible
Bill & Cynthia Wiist
Matthew Wilhite
Kenton Wilkinson
Leah Wilks

Jane Wille
Ryan Willett Jr.
Rebecca Willhoff
Germaine Williams
Tom and Ruth Williams
Peggy Williams
Cathleen Williams
Ross and Bobbie Williams
Jimmy Williams
Thomas Williams
John Williams
Tom Williams
Robert Pete Williams
Ridge Williams
Julie Williamson
John Williamson
Benjamin Williamson IV
James Willse
Roy Wilson
Douglas Wilson
Barden Winstead Jr.
Elliott Winton
Lin Witham
Professor John Witt
Mary Wolf

Liz Wolf
Joseph and Jane Wood
Valorie Woolley
Hans Woolley
Thibault Worth
Vanessa Wright
Eve Yagel
Clara Yarbrow
Larry & Susan Yarger
Delia Yarrow
Paul Yeaton
Martha M Yee
Dean Yeonas
Yeonas & Shafran
Amber Yoder
Tony Young
Ronald Young
Philip Young
Anthony Young and Hawley Linke
YourCause LLC
Andrew Yu
Carla Yusiewicz
Lorenzo Zadro
Christopher Zaharek
Allen Zaklad and Ellen

Benson
Matt Zemon
Bob Zeni
Mary Zeppa
David Ziegele
Andrew Ziegler
Ziegler Family Office
Dick & Mary Lou Zielinski
Ellen Zito
Christina Zorn

IRONING BOARD SAM (SAMUEL MOORE) WAS BORN JULY 17, 1939 IN ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA. HE WAS ATTRACTED TO THE PIANO WHEN VERY YOUNG AND HIS STEPMOTHER TAUGHT HIM BOOGIE-WOOGIE PATTERNS ON A PUMP ORGAN. AFTER HIGH SCHOOL HE GOT A BROADER EDUCATION WHEN HE STARTED PLAYING PIANO IN CHURCH, BUT ALSO GIGGED IN THE LOCAL DRINK-HOUSE SCENE. THE LURE OF THE ROAD, MONEY AND WARMER CLIMES TOOK HIM TO MIAMI, FLORIDA WHERE HE SHARED BILLS WITH SAM & DAVE AND SAM COOKE AND GRADUATED TO THE HAMMOND B-3 ORGAN. HE GOT HIS NICKNAME WHEN, AFTER LOSING HIS B-3 IN A FIRE, HE CREATIVELY PUT TOGETHER A MAKESHIFT KEYBOARD THAT AN AUDIENCE MEMBER DISCOVERED SAT ON AN IRONING BOARD! IN NEW ORLEANS HE WAS BILLED AS "THE 6TH WONDER OF THE WORLD" AND "THE HUMAN JUKEBOX" SINCE FLASH HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN IMPORTANT PART OF HIS SHOW. IN RECENT YEARS GIGS HAVE DRIED UP SOMEWHAT FOR THIS SOULFUL KEYBOARDIST, BUT HE STOICALLY FEELS THAT THIS HAS ONLY DEEPEEN HIS UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT "LIVING THE BLUES" MEANS.



I'D START PLAYING THAT BOOGIE-WOOGIE ON THAT PIANO...AND I WAS 16 AND A GROWN LADY SITS ON MY LAP, AND I SAID, 'I KNOW I'M GONNA BE A MUSICIAN NOW!'

...I PLAYED THE BLUES ALL MY LIFE, BUT THIS TIME IN MY LIFE I GOT THE BLUES. I'M HAPPY AND PEACEFUL, BUT I'M LIVING THE BLUES.

Story and Art by Gary Dumm

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IRONING BOARD SAM

Partners ★

Music Maker has forged strong relationships with many wonderful organizations, agencies and corporations. Here are just a few of the partners that support our programs and artists:

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- Roots N Blues N BBQ Festival
- Duke Performances
- Byron Bay Bluesfest
- Newport Folk Festival
- Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise

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- North Carolina Humanities Council
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