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.

Our Mission: Helping Musicians Make It
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

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**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
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 and Denise Duffy

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

/musicaemakerfoundation
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blog.musicmaker.org
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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC</td>
<td>Charlotte, NC</td>
<td>September 2015 – April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. of North Carolina Pembroke, Pembroke, NC</td>
<td>Pembroke, NC</td>
<td>September – October 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary G Hardin Center for Cultural Arts, Gadsden, AL</td>
<td>Gadsden, AL</td>
<td>February – April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hickory Museum of Art, Hickory, NC</td>
<td>Hickory, NC</td>
<td>April – July 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Airy Museum of Regional Art, Mt. Airy, NC</td>
<td>Mt. Airy, NC</td>
<td>May – August 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boone County Museum and Galleries, Columbia, MO</td>
<td>Columbia, MO</td>
<td>August – September 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
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
August 2016 – October 2016
September 2016 - January 2017
January 2017 - March 2017
January 2017- March 2017
March 2017 - May 2017
March 2017 - May 2017
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
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

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
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 eyeglasses ★ 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★

Captain Luke & Cool John Ferguson Live at the Hamilton

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

Purchase at shop.musicmaker.org
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 Stanciel, 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
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

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
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

“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
Board of Directors

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

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Pete Townshend
Lightnin’ Wells
John Price
Bill Krasilovsky
Don Was
B.B. King *
Levon Helm *

*deceased
We Are The Music Makers!

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
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 Adophus 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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Veronica Egan

Kim Eger

Anne Eggers

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Lucy Durham

Daniel Duffy

Tim Duffy

Denise Duffy

Lucy Lila Duffy

Mary Jane Duffy

RM Duffy

Jeanne Dufour

Thomas Dukich

Deborah Duncan

Louise and Ian Dunn

Clair Dunn

Michele and Charles Dunne

Dennis Dunne

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Financial Report

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

2014/15 TOTAL BUDGET $792,696

86%
6%
8%

10,188
4,792
2,109
374
25
21
4
1

Musician Grants
Performances
Songs released
Partner Artists
countries toured
years
Programs
Mission

Audited financial statements available upon request

Ernest "Doc" Watson
Glenn Watson
Jeter Watson
Terry Watts
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Rodman and Elise Webb
Bufie Webber
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Jane Webster
Michael Weddington
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John Williams
Tom Williams
Robert Pete Williams
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Julie Williamson
John Williamson
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Elliott Winton
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Hans Woolley
Thibault Worth
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Eve Yagel
Clara Yarbro
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