Preserving Music by Preserving Musicians

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 preservation and proliferation of American musical traditions.
New Orleans Musician's Fund - assistance to musicians affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Music Maker Staff: Timothy Duffy, Executive Director; Denise Duffy, Administrative Director; Amy Weaver, Programs Coordinator; Sara Waters, Development Assistant

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Ryan Costello
Daniel “Mudcat” Dudeck
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Colonel Bruce Hampton
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Kenny Wayne Shepherd
Carolyn Chocolate Drops
Jerry Harrison
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Dear Friends,

We thank everyone that donated to our membership drive last spring. MM donors matched the $50K challenge gift! Music Maker depends on our donors to insure the richness of our programs.

We have had a very busy summer and we have a great deal to look forward to this fall. This summer the MM Revue toured Germany and Spain introducing many new music fans to the mission of MMRF. We were playing wonderful festivals alongside acts such as The Roots, India.Arie and Foreigner. Our last moving package show featured Macavine Hayes, Eddie Tigner, Albert White, Pura Fe, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins supported by Ardie Dean, Sol and myself. Truly great fun! This revue is booked for Australia, Germany and France next year. We were thrilled to bring the MM Revue to the "Roots N Blues N Barbeque Festival" in Columbus, MO in September. There is nothing more precious and important for MM artists than to get out on stage and perform.

The Built for the Blues project is so moving for us. That a person is laying on the line to build a house and donate all the profits from its sale is truly humbling. This generosity and spirit inspires us all to dedicate ourselves even more to our mission. There are many ways for you to participate in this project. Buy the kitchen sink or come to the Open House celebration and help us match this gift of $80,000.

We have many events to look forward to. Board member Ryan Costello and his partner Todd Cornett booked The John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts for this year's 5th Annual Congressional Blues Festival. We are deeply honored to celebrate our nation's greatest natural resource next year at QVC's, an incredible day in DC visiting MM supporters including W. Fedex, Clyde's Restaurant Group, Hardy Lott, Congressman Jon Porter and were overwhelmed by their enthusiasm to support our mission.

We are gearing up for our Fishin' Blues Tournament in Playa Zancudo, Costa Rica this upcoming February. Our 6th annual is guaranteed to be an incredible adventure. Join us for the best Blues and catch the Big One!

The Carolina Chocolate Drops completed an historic summer of touring, thrilling audiences throughout Canada, the US and at the Newport and Philadelphia Folk Festivals. They have done close to 200 shows this year and there is no end in sight. They will tour England, France and Germany next March. We thank the CDF for celebrating our mission and being such dynamic ambassadors for MMRF.

The CDs we are offering in our Holiday Gifts program are spectacular! "Blues, Sweet Blues" demonstrates the richness of our record- ing legacy. These 49 previously unreleased recordings proves that MM has issued the finest recordings of rural blues in modern times.

"Christmas with Cootie" is a real treat. Cootie is joined by John Dee Holeman, Cool John Ferguson, Macavine Hayes, Whistlin' Britches and Captain Luke for a hilariously uplifting Christmas celebration. "Pura Fe, Hold the Rain" is an exquisite set of personal songs by this native chanteuse. Thank you for gifting all your friends, these packages arrive in festive packaging with your personal note.

I leave this letter with the announcement that Music Maker just bought a holding in historic Hillsborough, NC. Congressman David Price made this possible through an appropriation grant from the federal government. We thank board member Ryan Costello for炎热ing the seed at our first Congressional Blues Festival. This space will help us grow our organization and give us a stronger presence in Raleigh.

With warm regards,

Timothy & Denise Duffy

Music Maker Rag Page 2

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Music Maker Rag Page 2
Sustenance

THE NEED:
A majority of the artists we serve are over 65 years old and have an annual income of $8,000 a year. Providing basic life needs such as housing, utilities, medical, transportation and food within this budget is difficult for them. When a crisis arises such as a natural disaster or medical problems, times get very difficult. Under these conditions it is hard to concentrate on their music.

THE SOLUTION:
Musician Sustenance Program - grants to meet basic life needs and emergency relief.

Ask Amy

Do you have a question for Music Maker? Ask Amy at amy@musicmaker.org.

What is Adolphus Bell doing driving around town with food in his van? – John Price, Kittery, Maine

That's a great question, John. Many people in Birmingham, Alabama may have seen Adolphus’ van around town. Painted on the side, “World’s Greatest One Man Band”, he will often times deliver food to people in need. “I just want to give back, I’m grateful for where I am and what I have accomplished. If I can help someone out, I will.” Adolphus delivers his homemade food himself to the homeless. He enjoys cooking for people every chance he can get. “I like to keep people eating, to keep them happy!”

Where did the “Carolina Chocolate Drops” get their name? - Chris Reid, Durham, NC

Rhiannon Giddens, Dom Flemons and Justin Robinson met at the “Black Banjo Gathering” held in the mountains of North Carolina, and wanting to take part in the upcoming Mount Airy Fiddler’s Convention, they decided to come up with a name for their group so they could compete. Sharing a love of traditional music and education of the history of this music, the name they picked comes from the 1920s black string band the “Tennessee Chocolate Drops.” This group featured fiddler Howard Armstrong and the Carolina Chocolate Drops name pays homage to his contribution to black string music, and their love of Piedmont music.

Cultural Access

THE NEED:
Artists need to be discovered and heard, music fans need the opportunity to enjoy their talents and unique artistic statements.

THE SOLUTION:
The Cultural Access program supports the preservation and proliferation of American musical traditions.

We want to let the world know of the incredible music made by the artists we serve. By presenting their music with beautiful packaging and audiophile quality recording and mastering we hope this music we love and cherish will be listened and enjoyed by music fans the world over.

Blues, Sweet Blues celebrates the work of 40 men and women from Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Texas, South & North Carolina. These recordings were made between 1994 and 2006; all but a very few are released here for the first time. These recordings by a foundation for these modern masters to be appreciated by a whole new generation of music fans.

Get ready to Rock the House and the Senate...

5th Annual Congressional Blues Festival
April 22 & 23
South Plaza at The Kennedy Center, Washington D.C.
Artists to be announced
Drummer extraordinaire Ardie Dean has supported our mission since he joined Guitar Gabriel's band, "The Brothers in the Kitchen" in 1991. He has been our musical director for literally every Music Maker Revue show throughout the world since then and feels his work with MMRF is his vocation. In the past few years Ardie has been invaluable to developing artists, a job that is referred to in the music business as A&R (artist and repertoire). This entails helping artists select material, work on arrangements and develop their acts. Artists such as Alabama Slim and Albert White were virtually unknown and after working with Ardie are now performing throughout the world. He is truly one of the greatest unsung heroes of Music Maker history as he volunteers his time for these musicians. You can hear his work as a producer on albums by artists Sweet Betty, Essie Mae Brooks, Lee Gates, Sonny Boy King, Jerry "Boogie" McCain, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Alabama Slim and Albert White. Oftentimes, we meet artists and they have inadequate or no musical instruments, no recordings of their music and need help developing their music.

**THE SOLUTION:**
Musical Development - grants and services for recipient artist professional development and career advancement.

**New CD Reviews: Fricke's Picks**
by David Fricke, from Rolling Stone, Modern Jug-Band Music

Carolina Chocolate Drops are three young black musicians revisiting, with a joyful vengeance, black string-band and jug-band music of the Twenties and Thirties - the dirt-floor dance electricity of Mississippi Sheiks and Cannon's Jug Stompers. "Dona Got a Ramblin' Mind" (Music Maker) is dazzling in its velocity and virtuosity; while the a capella lament "Another Man Done Gone" and waltz "Short Life of Trouble" ensure that you don't miss the blues that drove those pioneers to make such defiantly ecstatic music.

**Reserve your spot!**

**FEBRUARY 10TH-16TH, 2008, PLAYA ZANCUDO, COSTA RICA**

For 5 years running, the Music Maker Relief Foundation has brought together two of the best things in life: sportfishing and blues for a phenomenal week of fun and music to raise awareness for funds for our programs to aid Southern musicians. Reserve your spot early, as we are limited to 30 fishermen. Participants will stay at world renown The Zancudo Lodge, where over 60 I.G.F.A records have been set. For more information call Denise or Tim Duffy at 919-643-2456 anytime or email denise@musicmaker.org. The entire fee of $5,975 ($2,250 tax deductible) per fisherman.

**JOIN THE RAFFLE**
Enter the exclusive raffle and be one of 130 Music Maker supporters to win 2 slots in this year's fishin' tournament (an $11,000 value). This is six days of fun in the costa Rican sun. We will fish for Marlin, Sailfish, Dorado, Tuna and more by day and groove to the world's best live blues by night. All you need to bring is your passport, shorts, sneakers, a hat and some sunscreen. Tickets are just $100, order by mail, online at musicmaker.org or by phone 919-643-2456. 

**THE NEED:**
Oftentimes, we meet artists and they have inadequate or no musical instruments, no recordings of their music and need help developing their music.

**THE SOLUTION:**
Musical Development - grants and services for recipient artist professional development and career advancement.
HOLIDAY GIVING THROUGH MUSIC MAKER

Blues, Sweet Blues
40 songs by the greatest unheralded blues artists of modern times. These recordings were made between 1945 & 1966, but are a very few unreleased for the first time.

Christmas with Cootie
“Christmas with Cootie” will fill your home with sweet sounds. This 64-page boxed set includes photo essays by John Lee Hooker, Cool Papa Bell, and Captain Lue in a hilariously uplifting musical Christmas celebration.

Givin’ It Back Record Club
Join the Givin’ It Back Record Club and you will receive a new Music Maker CD every three months for one year. The CDs are mailed out in December, March, June, and September. Most recent artists have spent a lifetime performing their music but have never recorded until now. Your membership helps issue CDs for recipient artists.

Gift Options
1. $25 - Blues, Sweet Blues double CD or Christmas with Cootie CD, a donation in the recipient’s name and a subscription to the Music Maker Rag.
2. $45 - Blues, Sweet Blues double CD and Christmas with Cootie CD, a donation in the recipient’s name and a subscription to the Music Maker Rag.
3. $75 - Blues, Sweet Blues double CD and Christmas with Cootie CD, Music Makers, Portraits and Songs from the Roots of America hardcover book and CD, a donation in the recipient’s name and a subscription to the Music Maker Rag.
4. $135 - Blues, Sweet Blues double CD and Christmas with Cootie CD, Givin’ It Back Record Club one-year membership, a donation in the recipient’s name and a subscription to the Music Maker Rag.

Music Makers: Portraits and Songs from the Roots of America Book & CD
The story of the Music Makers Relief Foundation comes to life in this beautiful collection of photographs and writings. The 69 musicians profiled in this book take you on a soulful ride you'll never forget. Includes a 23-track CD and forward by B.B. King. 208 pages. 11" x 8 1/2" hard cover.

December Pick
Publ's, astonishing, surprising, charmingly two-time special guitar sessions and descendant blues & boogie word march to this, with southern blue & boogie grooves.

Senders Billing Information
Name:
Company:
Street:
City: State: Zip:
Phone: Email:

Payment Options
Mail: Money Orders, Checks, or VISA/MasterCard
Phone: 1-800-822-6394 (USA), 315-463-5411 (International)
By Fax: 1-315-463-5455

Total

Order Form

Music Makers Relief Foundation

Please copy this gift form to send additional gifts.

Musicmaker.org page 5
Music Maker Notes

Many thanks to The Blues Foundation who donated $2,000 to MMRF at the Roots N Blues N BBQ festival in Columbia MO.

Music Maker recently received a grant from the Orange County Arts Commission for equipment for our Music Development grant. We also received a grant from the North Carolina Arts Council to help with a release for a new Captain Luke CD.

Many thanks to the Durham Parks and Recreation for sponsoring another successful season of the Warehouse Blues Series in downtown Durham! The series was recently awarded the Arts and Humanities Award as the North Carolina Recreation and Parks Association Banquet.

Big thanks to the BMI Foundation for contributing to MMRF.

We are thrilled that Sara Waters joined our team in March of 2007 as Development Assistant. Her enthusiasm and love of music inspires our office. She has done excellent public relations work for our Built for the Blues campaign. Also many thanks to all the

father Pink Anderson and blues artist Floyd Council.

Etta Baker, John Dee Holeman and Joe Thompson were recently honored at the Durham Blues Festival in Durham, NC.

Adolphus Bell is on the move! This year he has toured Argentina, France, Germany, North Carolina, Missouri and will soon travel from Istanbul to Moscow on a four week tour.

Skeeter Brandon plays shows around Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill in North Carolina. Check his website skeeterbrandon.com for his complete touring schedule.

If you want to hear great authentic gospel then you should check out Essie Mae Brooks! She is from Perry, Georgia; Essie keeps gospel music alive with her deep spiritual songs.

The Carolina Chocolate Drops have been touring hard. Their schedule is full and their show is incredible, check the events link at musicmaker.org to see if they will be stopping by your community soon.

Pura Fé continues to tour Europe and is becoming a huge sensation in France. “Hold the Rain” is her newest CD will be our December Record Club selection.

Cool John Ferguson is doing well in Beaufort, SC and has been performing quite often in Durham, NC.

Benton Flippin recently played at the Shakori Grassroots Festival and the North Carolina Museum of History.

Lee Gates recently received the Artist Most Deserving of Attention in the recent Living Blues Awards.

Little Freddie King has returned to his beloved New Orleans! He is now a resident at the musicians Village. Many thanks to Wicka Wade for his great support and care of his band leader.

Many thanks a generous Music Maker supporter for donating a Ford Taurus.

Many thanks HendersonBromsteadArt for their work on “Blues, Sweet Blues” and Mark Beeson for his design for “Christmas with Cootie.” Both of these design firms have been donating to MMRF for years and we thank them for their support and for making MMRF look so good.

Slewfoot & Cary B. have been playing with Alabama Slim in venues around New Orleans. See our events page for a complete listing.

Christmas with Cootie is our new Christmas release and a must have for your personal collections, as well as a festive gift for friends and family this holiday season.

Beverly “Guitar” Watkins is back in business. She has a new release out on Dixie Frog Records in France. Fully recovered from a heart attack and cancer, it is truly amazing to witness Beverly just slaying the crowds. She will be touring France next March, June and July.

Whistlin’ Britches is doing great…but he’d really appreciate

some mail. Recovering from his leg amputation, he has received a prosthetic leg and is able to walk with the use of a walker. He was able to make it out to the Warehouse Blues series and had a great time! Send him a card if you get a chance: Haskell Thompson, Reynolds House, 2900 Reynolds Park Road, Winston Salem, NC 27107.

Music Maker has a dynamic intern program. Lauren Hart of Hampshirr College spent the summer archiving over 200 hours of field recordings. Her work included transferring master tapes into WAV files to be stored on a hard drive, cataloging and making notes on all recordings.

Music Maker has given many grants to our artists since the last newsletter. Here are just some of them. Ron Hunter got a new guitar; Boo Hanks was able to get some new musical supplies. We granted Little Pink Anderson, Adolphous Bell, Beverly “Guitar” Watkins, Eddie Tigner, Pink Anderson, Slewfoot & Carrie B., Macavine Hayes, Albert White, Pura Fe and John Dee Holeman CDs to sell at their shows. We assisted Skeeter Brandon with his monthly rent, bought Essie Mae Brooks a new air conditioner; paid for a lighting bill for Precious Bryant; bought a new radiator for George Higgs’ tractor; helped Algia Mae Hinton with some bills and many of our artists also received their monthly “feed an artist” grants to help with groceries.

We thank Timothy Nichols Design, The Millennium Center, HendersonBromsteadArt, Sherwin Williams, Foothills Brewery, K & W Plumbing, Tanglewood Cabinets, Rocha Framing Piazza Heating and Air and S & W Lighting for sponsoring the Built for the Blues project.

We wish to thank Taj Mahal, Bill Puckett and Blane Wright for their incredible service as Music Maker board members.

Mudcat celebrated Sweet Petunia Day, October 17; this was a day in celebration for Ms. Cora Mae Buckner.

Many thanks to Durham based LocoToppers who celebrated their second anniversary with a fundraiser for Music Maker!
little Pink Anderson • Carolina Bluesman • Masterful country blues guitar player and soulful vocals.

Etta Baker • Railroad Bill • A set of timeless beauty.

Etta Baker with Taj Mahal • This set includes duets with Taj Mahal plus all of her classic 1956 recordings.

Etta Baker & Cora Phillips • Carolina Breakdown • Recorded in late 60s when Etta was in her prime.

Adolphus Bell • One Man Band House • Rockin’ Foot Stompin’ authentic Alabama blues.

Sweet Betty • Live and Let Live • Sweet Betty is the finest blues singer in Atlanta.

Essie Mae Brooks • Rain in Your Life • Cool Joah accompanies her with light and masterful improvisations on guitar and piano.

Cora Mae Bryant • Born with the Blues • the daughter of Georgia guitar legend Curley Weaver.

Cora Mae Bryant • Born in Newton County • A stunning record featuring exceptional guitar playing.

Preston weaves stories of his life through both secular and sacred songs.

James Davis; Georgia Drumbeat • Drum Beat! Hypnotic electric guitar and drums from mid Georgia.

Carolina Chocolate Drops • Dona Got a Ramblin • Mind 14 classic old-time tunes by this trail-blazing band!

Carolina Chocolate Drops present: Sankofa Strings: Colored Aristocracy Blues, Stringband and Jazz featuring the incredible percussion and banjo of Sule Greg Wilson with CCD members Rhianon Giddens, Justin Robinson and Dom Flemons.

Mr. Frank Edwards • Chicken Raid • A nine decade career; this was his last recording session the day of his death.

Pura Fé • Follow Your Hearts Desire • Native chan- tenue Pura Fé has the voice of an angel.

Cool John Ferguson Here One of the world’s finest guitarists.

Cool John Ferguson • Cool Yule • you will play this disc all year long!

Cool John Ferguson • Guitar Heaven • Taj Mahal tells, “He’s up there with Hendrix, Wes Montgomery. Django Reinhardt, people like that!”

Dom Flemons • Dance Tunes, Ballads and Blues: Solo recording by Carolina Chocolate Drops instrumentalist.

Benton Flippen: Fiddler’s Dream 24 tracks of Mt. Airy, North Carolina style fiddle tunes.

Preston Fulpie • Sawmill Worker • Born in 1915, Preston weaves stories of his life through both secular and sacred songs.

Lee Gates and the Alabama Cotton Kings • One must rejoice in the glorious tone of Lee’s guitar.

Lee Gates • Black Lucy’s Deuce • The kind of party mad Preston introduces you to the music and stories of Cool John Ferguson, Adophus Bell, Drink Small & Pura Fé. Start your collection now, we plan on 4 volume set.

Get both for $45, or just one for $25

Songs from the Roots of America II: A companion album of 21 artists, previously unreleased recordings.

Included in the winning package are your airfares from Adams or Miami (additional fees may apply for other US cities), transfers, fishing accommodations (based on double occupancy), meals, and drinks. For more information call Denise at 919-643-2456 or fishin@musicmaker.org. This trip is the ultimate cure for the winter blues and helps keep the blues of the blues alive!


The story of the Music Maker comes to life in Music Makers: Songs from the Roots of America. With a forward written by B.B. King, this beautiful collection of photographs and writing showcases 70 musicians and includes a 23-track CD, 208 pages, 11” x 8½, 160 black and white photos, hand-torn pages, to learn more about the musicians featured in the book purchase our compilation “Songs from the Roots of America, Volume 2”.

Enter this exclusive raffle as one of 130 Music Maker sponsors to win a trip to Costa Rica in this years fishing tournament (a $11,000 value). This is six days of fun in the costa Rican sun. We will fish for Marlin, Sailfish, Dorado, tuna and more by day and groove to the world’s best live blues by night. All you need to bring is your passport, shorts, sneakers, a hat and some sunscreen.

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Music Maker Treasure Box • This incredible 3 CD compilation set celebrates 38 artists and 53 tracks! Also comes with 36-page booklet.

This BOX SET IS $30

Sisters of the South • Gospel and country blues in the Piedmont style, to modern blues.

Songs from the Roots of America II • A companion to the book “Music Makers: Portraits & Songs from the Roots of America” this CD presents 41 songs by 21 artists, previously unreleased recordings.

Drink House to Church House • DVD/CD set • Volume 1 explores the lives and music of Captain Luke, Macavine Hayes, Whistlin’ Bitches, Little Freddie King, Alabama Slim, John Dee Holeman, Bishop Dready Manning and Family.

Volume 2 introduces you to the music and stories of Cool John Ferguson, Adophus Bell, Drink Small & Pura Fé. Start your collection now, we plan on 4 volume set.

Get both for $45, or just one for $25
A music loving homebuilder has embraced our mission. He is using his skills, resources and heart to build a home in Winston-Salem, NC. All profits of its sale will be donated to the Music Maker Relief Foundation.

Work has begun! The lot is purchased; house plan completed. We will break ground in early September and the home will be completed the first week of November. If we all put something good into it, Music Maker will get something good out of it!

Get involved! To help with this cause we are asking you to please purchase things needed to build this home such as the kitchen sink, a driveway, a window or the lot. Our goal is to decrease the cost of the home, so more of the sales proceeds go to our mission. We thank you for your involvement. Keep on loving the Music Makers!

$25 Helping Hands
$50 Journeyman
$100 Blues Builders
$250 Community Designer
$500 Artistic Engineer
$1,000 Foundation Club
$5,000 Cultural Architects
$10,000 Founder’s Society

Built for the Blues

All Membership donations are fully tax deductible.

Please return this form with your payment in enclosed Business Reply Envelope or stamped envelope to Music Maker, PO Box 72222, Durham NC 27722

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed!