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New Orleans

# Data

News Weekly

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Jazzing Up Your Style



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April 29 - May 5, 2023 58th Year Volume 1 [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com)

A Data News Weekly Exclusive



# New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

April 28 - May 7

PRESENTED BY



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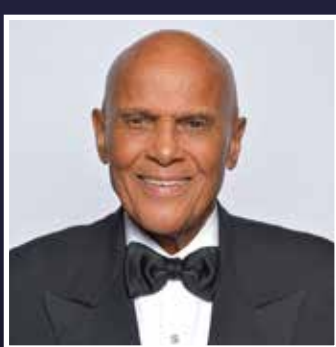
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### Harry Belafonte Has Died at the Age of 96



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# The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

April 28 – May 7, 2023

DIONNE CHARACTER  
Entertainment Columnist

The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, or as the locals call it, Jazz Fest, is the celebration of the unique culture and heritage of New Orleans and Louisiana. Featuring an endless amount of music, succulent local and regional delicacies, one-of-a-kind handmade arts and crafts, second-line parades and so much more – there is something for everyone at Jazz Fest, as over the years, it has worked its way into the hearts of locals and visitors alike. Jazz Fest is slated to return from April 28th - May 7, 2023.

With 13 stages of soul-stirring music—jazz, gospel, Cajun, zydeco, blues, R&B, rock, funk, African, Latin, Caribbean, folk, and much more—the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival is a singular celebration. The event has showcased most of the great artists of New Orleans and Louisiana of the last half-century: Professor Longhair, Fats Domino, The Neville Brothers, Wynton Marsalis, Dr. John, Branford Marsalis, Harry Connick Jr., Ellis Marsalis, The Radiators, Irma Thomas, The Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Allen Toussaint, Buckwheat Zydeco, The Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Better Than Ezra, Ernie K-Doe, Vernel Bagneris, The Zion Harmonizers, Beausoleil, and many others.

## The 2023 Jazz Fest Lineup

The Jazz Fest lineup always includes a solid mix of local talent with internationally famous touring artists. The 2023 lineup includes:

- Dead & Company
- Lizzo
- Ed Sheeran
- Santana



Jazz Fest 2023 is back and better than ever. With amazing music, food, and countless vendors, it promises to be a great event.



Lizzo



Kermit Ruffins

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## DATA NEWS WEEKLY

P.O. Box 57347, New Orleans, LA 70157-7347 | Phone: (504) 821-7421 | Fax: (504) 821-7622  
editorial: datanewseditor@bellsouth.net | advertising: datanewsad@bellsouth.net

Terry B. Jones	Contributors	Art Direction &
CEO/Publisher	Dionne Character	Production
Edwin Buggage	Tracee Dundas	Pubinator.com
Editor	DNW Staff Writer	Editorial and
Sharonda Green	Michelle Wright	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant	Stacy M. Brown	datanewsweeklyad
June Hazeur		@gmail.com
Accounting	Dr. Denocka Wardrick	Distribution
		by Terrence Lee

Please call 504-309-9913 for subscription information or to obtain a back issue of the paper ONLY.  
Dated material two weeks in advance. Not responsible for publishing or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos.

Cover Story, Continued from page 2.



Cyril Neville



Frankie Beverly and Maze



Big Freedia



Jon Batiste

- The Lumineers
- Mumford & Sons
- Jill Scott
- Jon Batiste
- H.E.R.
- Robert Plant & Alison Krauss
- Steve Miller Band
- Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue
- Gary Clark, Jr.
- Tedeschi Trucks Band
- Kane Brown
- Kenny Loggins

- Leon Bridges
- Jazmine Sullivan
- Ludacris
- Wu-Tang Clan + Soul Rebels
- Herbie Hancock
- Mavis Staples
- Ne-Yo
- Irma Thomas
- Preservation Hall Jazz Band
- Buddy Guy
- Galactic
- The Revivalists
- Big Freedia

- Melissa Etheridge
- Los Lobos
- Tom Jones
- Tank and the Bangas
- ...and so many more!

**How many stages are there and what can I expect at each stage?**

Jazz Fest has a number of stages and tents dedicated to different genres of music and performances, fest activities and even live dem-

onstrations. The following can be found on fest grounds:

- Festival Stage - Main Stage
- Gentilly Stage - Secondary Main Stage
- Congo Square Stage - Afro-Centric and World Music
- Blues Tent - Blues Music
- WWOZ Jazz Tent - Contemporary Jazz Music
- Gospel Tent presented by Morris Bart - Gospel Musicians and Performers

- Kids Tent - Children's Music and Performances
- Sheraton New Orleans Fais Do Do Stage - Cajun & Zydeco Music
- Jazz & Heritage Stage - Mardi Gras Indians + Brass Band Performances
- Economy Hall Tent - Traditional New Orleans Jazz
- Lagniappe Stage - A pot-

Cover Story, Continued on page 7.

# ROUSES MARKETS

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WEEKLY SPECIALS

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Prices good at New Orleans, Metairie, Gretna, Kenner, Marrero, Covington, Mandeville and Slidell locations  
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ONLY 88¢ LB

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USDA ANGUS CHOICE BEEF  
Boneless Chuck Shoulder Roast

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LIMIT 9

SAVE \$9.96 ON 3

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Donny Rouse, CEO, 3rd Generation

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# Jazzing Up Your Style



**Tracee Dundas**  
Fashion Stylist

For most the Jazz Fest is the perfect opportunity to wear fun, casual fashions that speak to the occasion of music, dancing and living your best festival life! And while style is subjective, an individual choice should never be sacrificed, let's be clear that some things are universal. Here are a few tips to remember when putting your outfit together for this year's Jazz Fest, along with a few of our fav looks.

- Fabric content should be breathable, light weight; ideally cottons and linen textiles
- Loose fitting pieces that allows the air to flow throw works best
- Keep the sun at bay with a large brim hat
- Protect the eyes with a cool pair of sunglasses
- The brighter the better and more festive
- Comfort is key for footwear
- Hands free for dancing with a crossbody or fanny bag
- Protect that sun-kissed skin with sunblock

Photos Courtesy of each Retailer



Multicolor Print Maxi Dress – Electrify U Boutique



Tie Dye Pants Set – Electrify U Boutique



Green Short Set – Shein



Jazz Trumpet Short Sleeve Shirt – Royaura



Graphic Floral Print Long Sleeve Shirt – Light in the Box



Sunglasses – Krewe du Optic



Zanna Raffia Hat – Black Art Depot



Turquoise Cowboy Hat and Earrings – Electrify U Boutique



Paste Multicolor Shorts and Graphic Tee – Pop Culture NOLA



Orange Short Tier Dress – Pop Culture NOLA



Rainbow Crop Style Fringe Jacket and Black Shorts – Pop Culture NOLA



A-Line Loose Fit Print Dress – Redbubble

Visit [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com) for more photos from these events.



# Councilman Oliver Thomas City Employee Appreciation Crawfish Boil

Last week, District E City Councilmember Oliver Thomas honored employees in a very New Orleans style with a Crawfish Boil. Employees from various City departments were on hand for the celebration.

"The employees of the City of New Orleans are hard working men and women. If you recall, this is something I've done in the past when I was Council President. So, this would be a great way we can continue to show our appreciation," said Thomas of the event that was well attended.

"It was an honor to see so many of them come out and enjoy the event. Listen, nothing moves without them and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to be a dedicated partner. Thanks for all the sponsors for their support and my staff for assisting."



District E City Councilmember Oliver Thomas and employees from various City Departments enjoying a day that celebrates their hard work.



Help Wanted

## Administrative Assistant

- Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for an administrative assistant.
- Compensation is competitive.
- Writing skills and detail orientation will be appreciated.

Call (504) 821-7421 to apply.



# Black Real Estate Week Lights Up New Orleans

*More than 200 in attendance at this year's event.*

**Michelle Wright**  
Push 2.0 Group PR Firm

(New Orleans) - With the Crescent City's Central Business District as a backdrop, over 200 people converge on the Drury Plaza Hotel for the three-day conference.

Real Estate, Banking and Mortgage Lending professionals addressed the crowd on a variety of topics ranging from Diversity in Development and Building Stronger Communities to the Black Land Buying Movement and Accessing Capital at the event which ran from Friday, April 21st through Sunday, April 23rd.

Hosted by Real Estate agent and The Freedom Georgia Initiative's Chief Communications Officer, Ashley Scott, attendees heard from industry heavyweights like Peebles



Meredith Dunbar (second right front row) with her team, speakers and VIP's. Photo: Dr. Denocka Wardrick

Corporation Chair and CEO Don Peebles, Prime One Lending Owner, Benaisha Poole-Watson, Michael Meridith, the CEO of VPG Enterprise, Invictus Development Group President, Chris Senegal, Kimble

Properties Founder and Managing Partner Anthony Kimble, and Integral Group, COO Daryl Jones.

The success of BREW 2023 is due in large part to its creator and founder Real Estate broker



Peebles Corporation and CEO Don Peebles being interviewed by New Orleans Native Meredith Dunbar. Photo: Dr. Denocka Wardrick

and New Orleans native Meredith Dunbar. She envisioned this conference as a way to make a meaningful contribution to the community, support diversity, highlight innovation, build wealth, and en-

courage entrepreneurship.

And thanks to the overwhelmingly positive response from both keynote speakers and attendees, Black Real Estate Week is set to return to New Orleans in 2024!

## State & Local News

# Putting Black People at Forefront of Fourth Industrial Revolution

**Data News Staff Edited Report**

We have enough bad news coming out of our beloved city. Here's some great news that could potentially benefit new energy technology venture-backable, high-growth, AFRICAN AMERICAN startups in New Orleans.

Rodney Sampson, Executive Chairman of Opportunity Hub [OHUB], would be a great person to interview about how we ensure that Black NEW ORLEANIANS are at the forefront of the profits from the Fourth Industrial Revolution. A new program at OHUB aims to increase the number of Black-owned venture-backed startups in New Orleans by 10x over the next four years.

Problem: Throughout history, Black people have made tremendous contributions to societal growth, but they often fail to get the monetary benefits. TechCrunch reports that just 1% of all venture capital goes to Black-founded high-growth firms. In New Orleans, the percentage of Black founders raising equity capital is even less than



Rodney Sampson, Executive Chairman of Opportunity Hub [OHUB].

the national average.

The solution: Invest in Black people as we move forward in the next Industrial Revolution

How: OHUB is joining forces with Greater New Orleans, Inc., and Louisiana Economic Development to launch a New Energy Technology Incubator in New Orleans that will prioritize racial equity in innovation in the region. Each year, the program will invest up to \$500,000 in five new energy technology

venture-backable, high-growth startups in New Orleans. The idea is that we prioritize Black communities in New Orleans and allow the same access to resources as we do in White communities in Silicon Valley.

In a Shark Tank style, the New Energy Technology Incubator will introduce 100 aspiring high-growth new energy, climate, hydrogen, and sustainability company builders to the best practices for ideation, design thinking and business

model generation; and will take 50 startups through its High Growth Company Building Certificate. Upon completion, founders will be ready to pitch investors and set up business development meetings with target customers.

Five high-growth, new energy startups will receive up to \$100,000 each in seed-stage investment. A demo day and fundraising event will be planned annually during New Orleans Entrepreneurship

Week. These founders will have an actionable framework for raising their seed rounds and connections to a local and national network of investors committed to investing in socially and economically disadvantaged communities.

The program is receiving \$3 million in federal funding via the Economic Development Administration's \$1Billion Build Back Better Regional Challenge from Greater New Orleans, Inc., and \$1 million investment into 100 Black Angels & Allies Fund via the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) from Louisiana Economic Development via United States Treasury Department.

The result of investing in Black innovation:

- More Black multi-generational wealth
  - More societal access to our inventions
  - More job creation
  - Systemic change and solutions
- It's a win-win for everyone!

Rodney Sampson is just the guy to speak with about how to make it all happen! In addition to his role at OHUB, he's the Inventor of Linear

Streaming, General Partner of 100 Black Angels & Allies Fund and a Nonresident Senior Fellow at The Brookings Institution. He also helped diversify the well-known Emmy Award Winning show, Shark Tank.

RODNEY TESTIFIED BEFORE CONGRESS LAST WEEK and shared a wealth of information on how Black people can be included in the Fourth Industrial Revolution!

On Friday, May 5th, OHUB is hosting #OHUBFridays, a monthly authentic networking event and speaker series to connect the region's emerging Black, Hispanic and Indigenous innovators, entrepreneurs, and investors. This month's speaker will be Jasmine Crowe, Founder and CEO, GoodrCo. The event will be held at the NOLA Art Bar (2128 St Claude Avenue 70116) and it will begin at 6:00pm.

Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ohubfridays-tickets-576157070307> to purchase tickets. Please reach out to us to schedule an interview with Rodney ahead of the upcoming NOLA networking event.

# Entertainment Icon & Human Rights Activist Harry Belafonte Dies at 96

*He was a Renowned Singer, Actor, Producer,  
and Legendary Civil Rights Trailblazer.*

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior  
National Correspondent

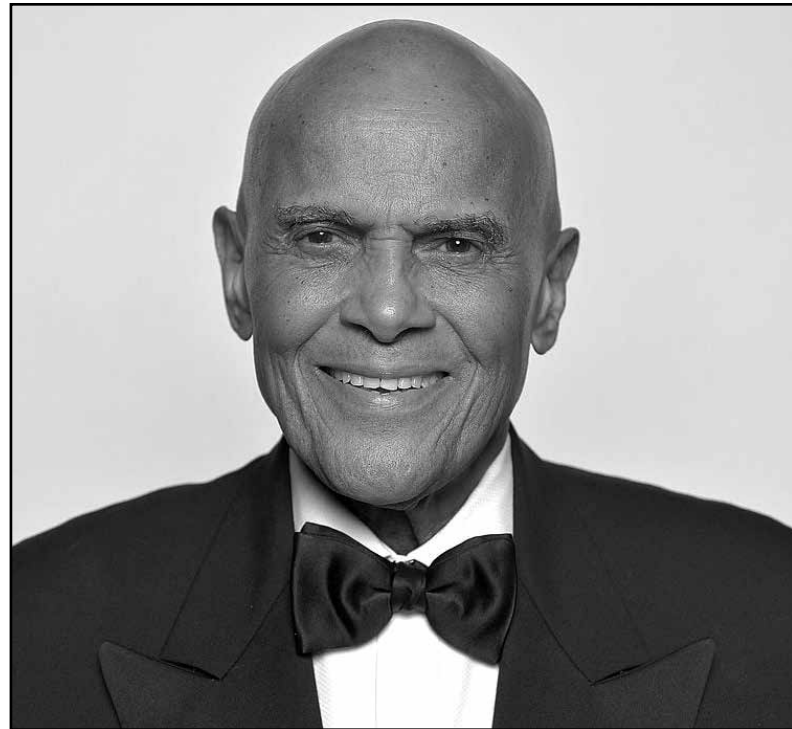
His publicist confirmed that the beloved icon died of congestive heart failure at his home in New York.

In addition to his children Adrienne Belafonte Biesemeyer, Shari Belafonte, Gina Belafonte, David Belafonte and two stepchildren Sarah Frank and Lindsey Frank, Belafonte leaves behind eight grandchildren: Rachel Blue Biesemeyer, Brian Biesemeyer, Maria Belafonte McCray, Sarafina Belafonte, Amadeus Belafonte, Mateo Frank, Olive Scanga, and Zoe Frank.

Known globally for both for his artistic ingenuity and humanitarian ideals, Belafonte became an early, vocal supporter of the Civil Rights Movement, a confidant of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and financial backer of countless historic political and social causes and events, including the anti-Apartheid Movement, equal rights for women, juvenile justice, climate change and the decolonization of Africa.

He was one of the organizers of the 1963 March on Washington and led a delegation of Hollywood luminaries including his best friend Sidney Poitier, as well as Paul Newman, Sammy Davis, Jr, Marlon Brando, Rita Moreno, Tony Curtis, James Baldwin, Burt Lancaster, Joanne Woodward, Dianna Carroll, Bob Dylan, Mahalia Jackson, Peter, Paul and Mary and Joan Baez, Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis and Tony Curtis.

The following is from Belafonte's bio on the HistoryMakers:



Entertainment Icon & Human Rights Activist Harry Belafonte

Born to immigrant parents in Harlem on March 1, 1927, Harry Belafonte spent much of his youth in his mother's home country of Jamaica.

Though difficult, life in Jamaica was full of rich cultural experiences that influenced Belafonte's art. At the beginning of World War II, Belafonte returned to Harlem with his mother and brother. He had trouble integrating into the new environment and later dropped out of high school to join the U.S. Navy.

After Belafonte was honorably discharged, he went back to New York, where he worked odd jobs until two free tickets to the American Negro Theatre (A.N.T.)

changed his life.

Belafonte auditioned for the A.N.T. and earned his first leading role in Juno and the Paycock.

In 1953, he made his film debut opposite Dorothy Dandridge in Bright Road. He won a Tony in 1954 for his performance in Almanac.

At the same time, Belafonte developed his singing talents, having parlayed a series of nightclub performances into a record contract.

His third album, Calypso, topped the charts for thirty-one consecutive weeks and was the first record to sell more than 1 million copies.

Belafonte also secured a television outlet with his hour-long special, tonight with Belafonte,

which won him an Emmy.

He became the first African American TV producer and his company, HarBel, went on to produce one Emmy nominee after another.

In the early 1950s, Belafonte developed a strong relationship with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Belafonte worked tirelessly to mobilize artists in support of the civil rights movement.

In 1985, he again rallied the global artistic community to raise awareness of the famines, wars and droughts plaguing many African nations.

USA for Africa raised more than \$60 million for this cause with "We Are the World" and Hands Across America.

A longtime anti-apartheid activist, Belafonte hosted former South African President Nelson Mandela on his triumphant visit to the United States.

Belafonte maintained his commitment to service as a UNICEF goodwill ambassador.

"The lifelong commitment, courage, global leadership, and legacy of The Honorable Harry Belafonte will always be cherished and remembered by billions of people throughout the world," said NNPA President and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. "Belafonte was a gifted, talented, and transformative freedom fighter for all of humanity. The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) salutes the memory of Harry Belafonte and recommit to the struggle for freedom, justice, and equality that Belafonte so boldly epitomized and embodied."

## Cover Story/ Continued from page 3.

- pourri of sound and style
- AARP Rhythmpourium - A small stage (with wine bar) for jazz, blues, rock...and everything in between
- Cultural Exchange Pavilion - Daily performances from the New Orleans Black Masking Indians. Hear everything from blues and gospel to Latin & international sounds.
- Folklife Stage - Located in the Louisiana Folklife Village, where you can see artists & musicians creating in real-time. Celebrate our state's cultural traditions.
- Food Heritage Stage - Located in the Grandstand

near the Lagniappe Stage

Another pro-tip: the tents offer shade and misting areas, which are great ways to take a break from the sun while also enjoying world-class entertainment. The tent areas also provide seating, so you can give your feet a rest (although resisting the urge to dance isn't always as easy).

Tickets - when is the best time to buy them?

Jazz Fest tickets are available for purchase on the Jazz Fest site a few months prior to the event, or at the gates on any day of the fest. You can find a variety of tickets including single-day, general admission 3-day

weekend passes, VIP packages and travel packages.

VIP packages are weekend-specific and are valid for all three days of the weekend purchased. Jazz Fest offers three distinct VIP opportunities to experience the event in a very special way: the Festival's popular Big Chief VIP Experience ticket package provides special viewing access at most of the Festival's stages; the Grand Marshal VIP Pass allows for up-close access at the three major stages; and the Krewe of Jazz Fest VIP Pass entitles patrons to special covered seating at the Festival Stage audience area.

## Jazz Fest is Going Cashless

Like most other large scale special events and entertainment venues, Jazz Fest 2023 will be a cashless experience. Ticket, food, beverage, craft, and merchandise booths will no longer accept cash payments. For Festivalgoers who come to the event with only cash, the Festival will offer cash exchange booths near key vending locations. For more information check out the ultimate Jazz Fest Guide at [www.neworleans.com](http://www.neworleans.com).

Diva Dionne Character can be reached at [www.characterhollywood.com](http://www.characterhollywood.com).

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place your classified ad.

### Job Opportunity

#### Freelance Writers Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment. Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume and 3 writing samples to: [terrybjones@bellsouth.net](mailto:terrybjones@bellsouth.net) and [datanewseditor@bellsouth.net](mailto:datanewseditor@bellsouth.net).

We can't wait to  
hear from you!

### Job Opportunity

#### Administrative Assistant Wanted

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Compensation is competitive and detail orientation will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume to: [terrybjones@bellsouth.net](mailto:terrybjones@bellsouth.net)

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