



HEALING ILLINOIS ON ONE A-CHORD 3RD COMMUNITY CONCERT JAZZMATAZZ

JUNE 25, 2026 • 6PM
MARION CULTURAL AND CIVIC CENTER
800 TOWER SQUARE PLAZA, MARION, IL 62959





WELCOME

Thank you for
joining us for On One
A-Chord: Why Jazz?
Tonight's program
celebrates the power
of music to connect
communities, inspire
dialogue, and
preserve cultural
heritage. We invite
you to enjoy the
performances, engage
in the discussion, and
experience the
unifying spirit of
jazz.

SPONSORSHIP & PURPOSE

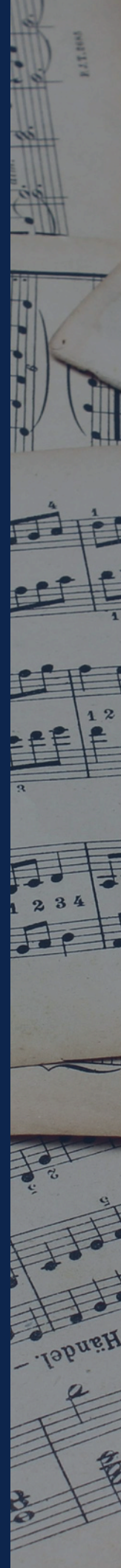
Healing Illinois is a racial healing initiative of the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS), in partnership with The Field Foundation of Illinois, and the Southern Illinois Community Foundation to begin, or continue, the work of racial healing. The goal of Healing Illinois is to build the foundation for long-term racial healing and anti-racism in Illinois.

Healing Illinois' intended outcomes are to:

- Build knowledge and understanding of racial healing and equity in communities across the state.
- Strengthen trust and relationship building among community residents.
- Expand opportunities for communities and individuals to begin to heal from the harms caused by racism.
- Increase awareness and media engagement focused on racial healing.

Music is a powerful medium for expression, connection, and healing. Musical collaborations, in particular, offer a unique opportunity to bridge racial divides, foster understanding, and promote racial healing. By bringing together artists from diverse backgrounds, these collaborations can create a shared space for dialogue, cultural exchange, and mutual respect. You can join us . . . Read the resource section of the program and choose at least one of the resources to act on and share. Involve local communities in musical projects like this one. Community concerts, workshops, and collaborative songwriting sessions can engage people of all ages and backgrounds, fostering a sense of belonging and shared purpose. Through intentional efforts and support, we can harness the power of music to strengthen all of Southern Illinois!





PROGRAM

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Presented by Lynne Chambers

Purpose of the Evening and "Why Jazz?"

Presentation by Dr. Michael Cain, Vice President of Music Education, MacPhail Center for Music

Spoken Word Performance

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Performed by Van Ikner

Performance by Mel Goot and the Young Lions

Featuring Special Guest Vocalist Ammiel Russell

Performance by Illinois Humanities

Road Scholar Dr. John Cooper

Hometown Hero Award

Intermission

Headlining Performance by Daryl Davis

Musical Performance, Audience Discussion, and Question & Answer Session

Closing Remarks and Evaluation Reminder

Adjournment

Thank you for joining us for On One A-Chord, an evening dedicated to music, dialogue, and community healing. Your presence and participation help advance the mission of Healing Illinois by fostering understanding, connection, and meaningful conversation throughout our communities.

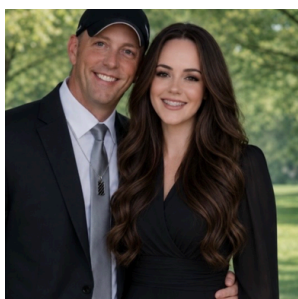
FEATURED ARTISTS & SPEAKERS

Daryl Davis



Daryl Davis is an acclaimed American rhythm-and-blues musician, author, actor, and race-relations activist. He is globally recognized for his unconventional activism: actively befriending members of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) and white supremacist groups, successfully persuading over 200 members to renounce their ideologies.

Gordon Holden



Hometown Hero - Cairo Rehab

Gordon Holden is a local business owner operating in Southern Illinois who has a deep passion for community and helping people.



Dr. John Cooper



Dr. John Cooper is Professor Emeritus of Music at Western Illinois University and former Director of Jazz Studies. An accomplished jazz artist, composer, conductor, and educator, he remains active as a performer and founding conductor of the Post 6 Big Band. He is also a Road Scholar with the Illinois Humanities Council, sharing the history and cultural significance of jazz across Illinois. Throughout his career, he has performed with renowned artists including The Temptations, The Four Tops, and Lou Rawls.

Mel Goot



Mel Goot is a pianist, educator, and performer who began his professional music career as a teenager. A self-taught musician, he has performed at major jazz festivals across the United States and internationally, sharing the stage with renowned jazz artists. Since 1995, he has performed with the New Arts Jazztet at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and continues to mentor young musicians through SIMFest's "Jive with Jazz" youth programs.

Ammiel Russell



Ammiel Russell is a Southern Illinois native whose lifelong love of music has led her to perform a variety of genres, including gospel, R&B, pop, and musical theater. A talented vocalist and former Athlete Scholar, she earned a bachelor's degree in Human Resource Management with a minor in Business Analytics from Southeast Missouri State University, graduating magna cum laude. She currently serves as an HR Recruiter with Southern Illinois Healthcare and as Program Coordinator for Legacy Training, Inc., where she has contributed to community initiatives since 2017, including Healing Illinois, Envisioning Justice, and the African American Women's Health Conference.

Van Ikner



Van "Van of the People" Ikner is a community leader and advocate committed to advancing equity, economic opportunity, and community development in Southern Illinois. He serves as Director of Engagement and Partnerships for the Clean Energy Jobs and Justice Fund and as Dean of Students at Legacy Training Incorporated. Known for his collaborative leadership, Van works to connect people, strengthen communities, and expand opportunities for underserved populations.

Lynne Chambers



Lynne Chambers is a social entrepreneur, attorney, and community leader dedicated to creating positive change. As CEO and Executive Director of Legacy Training, Inc., she leads initiatives focused on healing, workforce development, clean energy, and community engagement. Lynne serves on several regional and national boards and is a passionate advocate for equity, education, and community empowerment throughout Southern Illinois.

The Southern Illinois Young Lions of Jazz



Eli Fry, Bass

Ian DePalma, Drumset

Oliver Stoffel, Percussion

Gabriel Cerrato, Trumpet

Zion Wilkins, Alto Saxophone

Everett Snyder, Trumpet

Amir Williams, Trumpet

HEALING ILLINOIS: CONTINUING THE JOURNEY RESOURCE GUIDE

Read

Race, Equity, and Understanding

How We Heal

Author: La June Montgomery Tabron

A powerful exploration of truth-telling, racial healing, and community transformation through personal stories and practical action.

The Sum of Us

Author: Heather McGhee

Examines how racism harms entire communities and presents a vision for collective prosperity.

Stamped from the Beginning

Author: Ibram X. Kendi

A historical examination of racist ideas in America and their continuing impact.

Caste

Author: Isabel Wilkerson

Connects systemic inequality to broader social structures and encourages deeper understanding.

Between the World and Me

Author: Ta-Nehisi Coates

A deeply personal reflection on race, identity, and the Black experience in America.

Dialogue and Reconciliation

The Little Book of Race and Restorative Justice

Author: Fania E. Davis

A practical guide connecting racial justice with restorative practices.

Healing the Heart of Democracy

Author: Parker J. Palmer

Encourages community dialogue, civic engagement, and bridging differences.

Storytelling and Community Healing

Just Mercy

Author: Bryan Stevenson

Stories that illuminate the human impact of injustice and the power of redemption.

The Warmth of Other Suns

Author: Isabel Wilkerson

A compelling account of the Great Migration through personal narratives.

My Grandmother's Hands

Author: Resmaa Menakem

Explores racialized trauma and pathways toward healing.

Listen

Music for Justice and Unity

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Melba Moore and Friends featuring Howard Hewett

Often called the Black National Anthem, this powerful performance celebrates hope, resilience, and unity.

Social Justice Classics Playlist

A collection of songs that have inspired movements for civil rights, equality, and social change.

Podcasts

Seeing White

An award-winning series exploring race, identity, and history in America.

Code Switch

Stories and conversations about race, culture, and identity.

Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation

Features practitioners and community leaders engaged in healing work.

Justice in America

Explores criminal justice reform, restorative justice, and equity.

Unlocking Us

Conversations about courage, belonging, empathy, and connection.

Ear Hustle

Stories from incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals.

1619

Examines the continuing impact of slavery on American society.

Watch

Documentaries

The Greatest Night in Pop

The story behind the creation of "We Are the World" and the power of music to unite people.

American Symphony

Follows musician Jon Batiste's artistic journey while exploring resilience, creativity, and community.

Gospel

Produced by Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr., this series explores the history and influence of Black gospel music in America.

Civil: Ben Crump

Examines the work of civil rights attorney Ben Crump and the ongoing pursuit of justice.

Accidental Courtesy: Daryl Davis, Race & America

Documents musician Daryl Davis's remarkable work building relationships across racial divides and engaging members of hate groups through conversation.

13th

Explores the connection between slavery, mass incarceration, and racial inequality.

Race: The Power of an Illusion

A foundational documentary for understanding race as a social construct.

True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality

Examines racial injustice and the legacy of lynching in America.

Cracking the Codes

Uses personal stories to explore systemic racism and encourage dialogue.

The Reunited States

Focuses on healing social and political divisions through listening and understanding.

Who We Are: A Chronicle of Racism in America

Combines history, personal narrative, and civic engagement.

The Black Church

Explores faith, resilience, culture, and community leadership.

Summer of Soul

Celebrates Black culture, music, history, and artistic expression.

Feature Films

Just Mercy

Based on the life and work of Bryan Stevenson and the Equal Justice Initiative.

Crash

A thought-provoking film exploring race, prejudice, and human connection.

LEARN & EXPLORE ONLINE

Daryl Davis

Musician, author, and racial reconciliation advocate known for building relationships across differences through dialogue and understanding.

Website: www.daryldavis.com

Widen the Screen

An initiative that explores media representation and encourages broader, more inclusive storytelling. | Website: us.pg.com/widen-the-screen

Fight Racism

Educational resources and videos promoting anti-racism and global understanding. | Website: www.un.org/en/fight-racism

Reflection Questions

As you continue your Healing Illinois journey, consider:

- What story did I hear today that challenged my perspective?
- How can I build stronger relationships across differences?
- What action can I take to promote equity in my community?
- How can I use my voice, talents, or creativity to foster healing?

"Healing begins when we choose understanding over division, dialogue over silence, and connection over fear."

Thank you for being part of the Healing Illinois community.

**Thank you for joining us!
Please take a moment to
scan the QR code and
share your feedback
through our event
evaluation.**



Get Involved

Ways attendees can:

- Volunteer
- Attend future events
- Join Healing Illinois initiatives
- Follow *Legacy Training, Inc.* on social media

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you:

**Healing Illinois
Legacy Training, Inc.**

◦ *Planning Committee*

- Lynne Chambers
- Van Ikner
- Ammiel Russell

◦ *Board of Directors*

- Lynne Chambers: CEO/Director
- Stephanie Fisher: Secretary
- Carolyn Dumas: Treasurer
- Crystal Russell: Board Member
- Connie Young Hunt: Board Member
- Tameika Morris: Board Member

Illinois Humanities

Field Foundation

Southern Illinois Community Foundation

Illinois Department of Human Services

