

History of the Jacksonville Jazz Society

The Jacksonville Jazz Society (JJS) is an organization comprised of professional jazz musicians, scholars, media professionals, club performers and everyday people who love jazz. The organization was established in 2009 by Na'im Rashid and the late Wayne Barlow who had a vision to create an organization for jazz enthusiasts. What started as a small group of people who were excited about the very essence of jazz has quickly grown.

JJS originated under the auspices of the Ritz Theater and our motto is "Keeping Jazz Alive in Jacksonville". To keep in line with our motto, we believe that investing in the lives of students will preserve the future of jazz. Therefore, the Wayne Barlow Scholarship Fund was established.

Each year we host the Wayne Barlow Scholarship Fundraiser. The proceeds from this event are used to present deserving students, who are studying in jazz music, a scholarship to help offset college expenses. The continued success of our scholarship program depends upon financial support of corporate and private sponsors. Our monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

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