EDUCATION
WORKSHOP

JAZZ DAY FOR KIDS

Grades K–6

Charleston Jazz

CHARLESTON GAILLARD 10 CENTER

MEET THE ARTIST

CHARLTON SINGLETON

A native of Awendaw, SC, Charlton Singleton began his musical studies at the age of three on the piano. He would then go on to study the organ, violin, cello, and the trumpet throughout elementary, middle, and high school. In 1994, he received a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance degree from South Carolina State University. Since that time, he has taught music at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, as well as being an adjunct faculty member at the College of Charleston. In 2008 he co-founded and became the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Charleston Jazz Orchestra; an 18-piece jazz ensemble of some of the finest professional musicians in the Southeast and the resident big band in Charleston, SC. Mr. Singleton is also the organist and choir director at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Charleston, SC. In November of 2016 he was named the inaugural Artist in Residence at the recently renovated Gaillard Center in downtown Charleston. He remained in this position until July 2019; at that point he was named Artist in Residence Emeritus. In this position he continues to lead the Summer Youth Jazz Orchestra Camp as well as lead the "Jazz Through the Ages" assembly, which attracts a capacity crowd of students at the Gaillard Center. As a performer, Charlton leads his own ensembles that vary in size and style. He has performed in France, Great Britain, Scotland, Spain, Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Norway, Canada, The Netherlands, as well as many great cities throughout the United States. He is a founding member of an ensemble called Ranky Tanky. The group is a quintet that interprets the sounds of Gullah from the Southeast Coast of the United States. In 2017 Ranky Tanky reached the top of the Billboard, iTunes, and Amazon Contemporary Jazz charts with their self-titled debut recording. In 2019 they accomplished the same feat with the release of their sophomore effort, "Good Time", which won the 2019 Grammy Award for "Best Regional Roots Album". In 2022 the band's live recorded set at the prestigious New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival was nominated for and won the Grammy Award in the same category. In 2021 he was the recipient of the SC Governor's Award, which honors arts organizations, patrons, artists, members of the business community, and government entities who maximize their roles as innovators, supporters, and advocates for the arts. It is the highest honor for the arts in the state of South Carolina. In addition to performing, he is in demand as a speaker, clinician, composer, and arranger. He has also shared the stage with and/or worked with some of the most talented entertainers in the world, including Lisa Fischer, Bobby McFerrin, Ruby Dee, Jimmy Heath, Slide Hampton, Houston Person, Darius Rucker, Fred Wesley, and Cyrus Chestnut to name a few. Outside of music and entertainment, he, and his wife, MaryJo, are the proud parents of Shalamar and D'Marcus and new grandparents to Sophia Rose. They are also parents to their FIVE pets...Jango, MoJo, Dakota, Pumpkin, and Ginger.

WATCH Charlton with a Quintet

Jazz Theory: Charlton Singleton

MEET THE ARTIST

ROBERT LEWIS

Director of the Charleston Jazz Orchestra

A lover of music since childhood, Lewis began playing saxophone in middle school. He earned a bachelor's degree in saxophone performance from the University of Idaho and a master's degree in saxophone performance from Western Michigan University.

In 1998, Lewis began teaching in the College of Charleston School of Music as an adjunct instructor, before taking the helm of the jazz studies program in 2002. His love of jazz runs deep, which is evident in his wide-ranging interests of teaching, performing, and composing within the genre. Since 2019, he has been the Music Director of the Charleston Jazz Orchestra.

"I first of all just love the sound of jazz," he says. "The melodies, harmonic language, and, most importantly, the rhythmic language has captivated me since I was very young. Also, the improvisation that is a requisite part of a jazz performance is extremely satisfying. To compose and perform simultaneously is one of the great joys I find in music, and since the entire group is often improvising there is really a conversation (in music) happening all the time."

About Charleston Jazz Orchestra

"Founded in 2008, Charleston Jazz is a non-profit organization whose mission is to build a local and global community for jazz through performance, education and outreach while celebrating Charleston's rich history in jazz."[1]

WATCH

Charleston Jazz Orchestra: Blues in the Night

Charleston Jazz Orchestra: Caravan

1. "About Charleston Jazz" Charleston Jazz, accessed January 19, 2022, https://charlestonjazz.com/about/.

EXPLORE

CLASSROOM WORKSHOPS

THEATER: CAT ANDERSON

Grades 4–6th

In this workshop, students will learn about the Jenkins Orphanage Band and William "Cat" Anderson. Students will then create scenes based on events in Anderson's life, from performing with the Jenkins Orphanage Band to performing with Duke Ellington.

Click Here for the Lesson Plan

WHAT A WONDERFUL SCAT

Grades K-5th

In this workshop, students will explore scatting. Students will learn how they can act and tell stories without using words inspired by "What a Wonderful World".

Click Here for the Lesson Plan

WATERCOLOR JAZZ

Grades K-3rd

In this workshop, students will relate instruments to specific colors. They will create a silhouette of a jazz instrument and use watercolors to create abstract art representing the sound of the instrument.

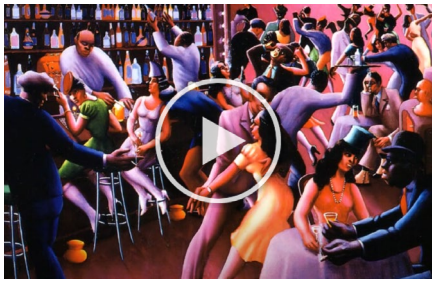
Click Here for the Lesson

CONNECT

JAZZ IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

WATCH

Harlem Renaissance



The Jenkins Orphanage

JAZZ MUSICIANS NATIVE TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Figure 1

James Brown

Listen

Learn

Figure 2

Dizzy Gillespie

Listen

Learn

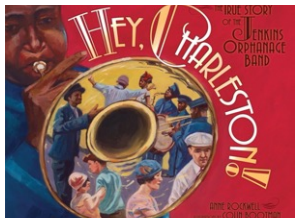
Figure 3

Freddie Green

Listen

Learn

READ



Hey Charleston! The True Story of the Jenkins Orphanage Band
by Anne Rockwell
Hey Charleston! is the story of the kind man who gave America "some rag" and so much more. What happened when a former slave took beat-up old instruments and gave them to a bunch of orphans? Thousands of futures got a little brighter and a great American art form was born.[2]

Harlem Renaissance Party
by Faith Ringgold
Faith Ringgold's bold and vibrant illustrations capture the song and dance of the Harlem Renaissance while her story will captivate young readers, teaching them all about this significant time in our history. A glossary and further reading list are included.[3]

Figure 1 James Brown performing in Hamburg, Germany, 1973 ("James Brown," Wikipedia, accessed December 12, 2023, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Brown)
Figure 2 Dizzy Gillespie ("Dizzy Gillespie,"Britannica, accessed December 12, 2023, https://www.britannica.com/biography/Dizzy-Gillespie)
Figure 3 Freddie Green ("Freddie Green Rythm Lesson," Acoustic Guitar, accessed December 12, 2023, https://acousticguitar.com/swing-lesson-learn-to-play-rhythm-guitar-like-freddie-green/)
2. Anne Rockwell, *Hey, Charleston: The True Story of the Jenkins Orphanage*, Illustrated by Colin Bootman (Minneapolis: Carolrhoda Books, 2013).
3. Faith Ringgold, *Harlem Renaissance Party* (New York: Harper Collins, 2015).

ENHANCE

CHARLTON SINGLETON & OTHER JAZZ INFLUENCERS

LISTEN & WATCH Jazz with Charlton

Charlton at Howe Hall Aims Workshop
Interview with Charlton

LISTEN Samples of Jazz Music

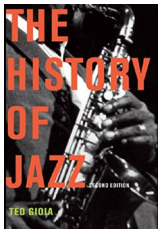
"What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong
"Cheek to Cheek" by Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald
"It Don't Mean a Thing" by Duke Ellington
"Oop Bop Sh' Bam" by Dizzy Gillespie

VISIT

Jenkins Orphanage
Click here to see one of the original Jenkins buildings, the current location, the historic marker, and the Bell of Hope.

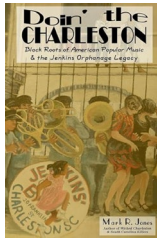
Photo Credit to M.B. Paine

READ



The History of Jazz by Ted Gioia
Gioia brings the story up-to-date, drawing on his latest research and covering the full spectrum of the music's past, present, and future in a survey that is a must-read for all jazz musicians, educators, and fans.[4]

Charleston Jazz by Jack McCray
Charleston Jazz sets out to reveal the rich, untold story of the evolution of American jazz in one of its major cradles: Charleston, South Carolina. The text and images show that what happened on the Gullah coast of South Carolina in terms of history, culture, and entertainment had a huge impact on jazz as we know it today.[5]



Doin' the Charleston by Mark R. Jones
For the first time, here is the stirring story of the Jenkins Orphanage Band and its role in American popular music. From slavery to freedom, follow the inspirational rags-to-riches story of some of America's greatest jazz musicians brought together by the determination of one man, a freed black slave named Rev. Daniel Jenkins. His "Jazz Nursery" revolutionized the music world.[6]

4. Ted Gioia, *The History of Jazz* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997).
5. Jack McCray, *Charleston Jazz* (Charleston: Arcadia Publishing, 2007).
6. Mark R. Jones, *Doin' the Charleston: Black Roots of American a Music & The Jenkins Orphanage Legacy* (Charleston: East Atlantic Publishing, 2013).

EXPLORE

JAZZ MUSIC ACROSS THE GLOBE

Figure 4

The travel and migration of jazz musicians from the United States to different countries has helped to popularize the genre and has led to the conception of new age international jazz music. “That genre [jazz] has come a long way from its birth in the American South. You can listen to jazz music around the world today, but it might sound a little different than what you're used to hearing.”[7] While many international musicians have taken inspiration from American jazz music, we can also see a pattern of jazz musicians who have created their own cultural fusions through the incorporation of music from across the globe.[8]

LISTEN

Scenery by Ryo Fukui (Japan)

Jazz Meets India by Irene Schweizer Trio (Switzerland)

Boeing by Dante Agostini (France)

Le Jazz by Kora Jazz Trio (Senegal)

Mambo No 8 - Dámaso Peréz Prado (Cuba)

Electric Blue by Kate Noonan (Australia)

Compare and contrast the jazz music you’ve just heard from around the world. How are they similar to or different from one another? How are they similar to or different from American jazz music?

Figure 4 "Shanghai Jazz" acessed December 12, 2023, https://www.shjazz.com

7. Michael Martin, “Tell Me More: A Jazz Journey Around the World,” National Public Radio, accessed December 12, 2023, https://www.npr.org/2014/04/30/308275971/a-jazz-journey-around-the-world.

8. Maxine Alleyne, “Jazz at the Crossroads of Culture and Migration,” International Organization for Migration, accessed December 12, 2023, https://rosanjose.iom.int/en/blogs/jazz-cross-roads-culture-and-migration.

EXPLORE

MORE RESOURCES

The Charleston Jazz Initiative

The Charleston Jazz Initiative is a multi-year research project that documents the African American jazz tradition in Charleston, the South Carolina Lowcountry, and its diasporic movement throughout the United States and Europe between the late nineteenthcentury through today.[9]

For more information on the Charleston Jazz Initiative, click here.

Charleston Jazz

"Founded in 2008, Charleston Jazz is a non-profit organization whose mission is to build a local and global community for jazz through performance, education and outreach while celebrating Charleston's rich history in jazz."

For more information on Charleston Jazz, click here.

9. "About the Charleston Jazz Initiative," Charleston Jazz Initiative, accessed January 19, 2022, http://www.charlestonjazz.net/about-main/

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