

# ALABAMA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

**Todd Schmidt**  
Executive Director

**Quin Gresham**  
Artistic Director

In association with

**ARTISTS LUNGE LIVE**



## UNFORGETTABLE

John-Mark McGaha Sings Nat King Cole

FEBRUARY 12-15, 2026



The Legacy  
Sites

# Three spaces. One powerful experience.



## The Legacy Museum

On the site of a cotton warehouse where enslaved Black people were forced to labor in bondage, the Legacy Museum tells the story of slavery in America and its legacy through interactive media, first-person narratives, world-class art, and data-rich exhibits.



## The National Memorial for Peace and Justice

The National Memorial for Peace and Justice is a sacred space for truth telling and reflection about racial terrorism and its legacy. The memorial honors the more than 4,400 Black people killed in racial terror lynchings between 1877 and 1950.



## Freedom Monument Sculpture Park

The new Freedom Monument Sculpture Park honors the lives and memories of the 10 million Black people who were enslaved in America and celebrates their courage and resilience. Breathtaking art and original artifacts invite an immersive journey and provide a unique view into the lives of enslaved people.

Plan your visit at [legacysites.eji.org](http://legacysites.eji.org)

# ALABAMA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

A not-for-profit organization under the direction of

**TODD SCHMIDT**

Executive Director

**QUIN GRESHAM**

Artistic Director

In association with

**ARTISTS LOUNGE LIVE**

presents

## **UNFORGETTABLE: JOHN-MARK MCGAHA SINGS NAT KING COLE**

**WRITTEN BY ANGELA INGERSOLL WITH JOHN-MARK MCGAHA**

**DIRECTED BY ANGELA INGERSOLL**

**MUSIC DIRECTED BY WILLIAM KURK**

**PRODUCED BY MICHAEL INGERSOLL**

Starring

**JOHN-MARK MCGAHA**

Piano/Music Director

**WILLIAM KURK**

Drums

**KHRISTIAN SMITH**

Upright Bass

**JABARI BROWN**

Sax/Talent Coordinator

**REGI YARBROUGH**

Guitar

**CARLOS PINO**

Arrangements

**JO ANN DAUGHERTY, JASON ELLIS, CHUCK LARKIN**

Artists Lounge Live Executive Producer

**MICHAEL INGERSOLL**

Artists Lounge Live Artistic Director

**ANGELA INGERSOLL**

*The concert runs approximately two hours with one intermission.*

Alabama Shakespeare Festival sits on the traditional homelands of the people of the Creek Nation. We acknowledge and honor the original people of the land upon which ASF stands and the Native people who remain in this region today.

THE VIDEOTAPING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS OF THIS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS OR STREAMS IN ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED, A VIOLATION OF THE AUTHOR(S)'S RIGHTS AND ACTIONABLE UNDER UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT LAW.



**John-Mark  
McGaha**



**Michael Ingersoll**

## MUSICIANS AND CREATIVE TEAM

**JOHN-MARK MCGAHA (HEADLINER)** is an acclaimed singer, actor, storyteller, and multi-instrumentalist. He headlines concerts across the country with Artists Lounge Live, starring in *Signed, Sealed, Delivered: A Stevie Wonder Experience with John-Mark McGaha*, *Someday At Christmas: John-Mark McGaha Sings Stevie Wonder*, *Unforgettable: John-Mark McGaha Sings Nat King Cole*, and *A Nat King Cole Christmas*. Theatre credits include starring Off-Broadway in the musical *Cafe A Gogo*, portraying jazz great Lionel Hampton in *Tuxedo Junction*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, and *Violet*, as well as *The Ray Charles Legacy*, *The Sinatra Legacy*, and *The Cash Legacy* at Nashville's historic Ryman Auditorium. Also a music arranger, he provided music direction and adaptation for the world premiere musical *Ocean 1222: A Black Family Christmas*. TV appearances include BET's *Centric Celebrates Selma: 50th Anniversary Music Special*. A native of Birmingham, McGaha began studying classical piano at age five. He attended Birmingham Southern College and the American Musical and Dramatic Academy (AMDA) in New York. His central passion is worshipping God in spirit and truth. He currently serves as Director of Worship and Arts at Christ Presbyterian Church in Nashville, TN, and is a member of the arts faculty at Christ Presbyterian Academy. He formerly served as Director of Contemporary Worship and Arts at Trinity United Methodist Church in Birmingham. John and his wife, Grace, have five beautiful children. @johnmarkmcgaha

**MICHAEL INGERSOLL (EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, ARTISTS LOUNGE LIVE)** is an all-around entertainer who presents concerts nationwide as Executive Producer of Artists Lounge Live. He starred as Nick Massi of The Four Seasons in *Jersey Boys*, originating the Broadway tour casts in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Chicago, and performing on *The Emmy Awards*, *The Tonight Show*, *PBS' Capitol Fourth*, and *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. He directed several productions of *Jersey Boys* regionally and appears on the album *Seasons Greetings: A Jersey Boys Christmas* produced by Bob Gaudio. Ingersoll also created the retro-rock vocal-group sensation *Under the Streetlamp*, seen in millions of homes on PBS. As a member of the original quartet, he recorded four PBS concert specials and five albums, and extensively toured the US and abroad, headlining historic venues including *The Greek* in Los Angeles and *Wolf Trap* in Washington, DC. Other television: *Chicago Fire*, *The Beast*, *Access Hollywood*, co-producing three *Streetlamp* concert specials, and executive producing the Emmy-nominated *Get Happy: Angela Ingersoll Sings Judy Garland*. Film: *Walk the Line* (Donzil). Other theatre: *tick, tick... BOOM!* (Jonathan Larson, Jeff nomination), *Of Mice and Men* (George, Ostrander nomination), *Floyd Collins* (Floyd, Ostrander nomination), and *Bat Boy: The Musical* (Bat Boy, Ostrander nomination). Concerts with Artists Lounge Live include *Southern Nights: Michael Ingersoll Sings Glen Campbell*, *Let's Hang On: A Rock & Soul Party*, *Jingle Bell Rock*, and *Hooked on a Feeling: Michael and Angela Ingersoll in Concert*. [artistslounge.com](http://artistslounge.com)



**Angela Ingersoll**



**William Kurk**

**ANGELA INGERSOLL (DIRECTOR, WRITER AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, ARTISTS LOUNGE LIVE)** is an Emmy Award-nominated and multi-award-winning actor, singer, director, and writer. She headlines stages nationwide in *Get Happy: Angela Ingersoll Sings Judy Garland*, receiving an Emmy nomination for her performance in the concert's television broadcast on PBS. She also won acclaim starring as Judy Garland in several productions of *End of the Rainbow*, receiving Chicago's Jeff Award, a BroadwayWorld Award, and Los Angeles Times Woman of the Year in Theatre. Other theatre: *Follies* in concert (Sally), *How to Succeed in Business...* (Hedy, Jeff nomination), *South Pacific* (Nellie), *Carousel* (Julie), *The Secret Garden* (Martha, Jeff nomination), *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Belle, Ostrander Award), *Jekyll and Hyde* (Lucy, Ostrander Award), *Man of La Mancha* (Aldonza, Ostrander nomination), *Ragtime* (Evelyn Nesbit, Ostrander nomination), *Macbeth* (Lady Macbeth, Ostrander Award), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Beatrice), *Richard III* (Lady Anne), *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy), as well as work with The Second City in Chicago and Hollywood. She studied Improv with The Groundlings and received a BFA in Acting from Ithaca College. Other television: *Chicago PD*. Other concerts: *The 12 Dames of Christmas with Angela Ingersoll* and *Hooked on a Feeling: Michael and Angela Ingersoll in Concert*. She and husband Michael Ingersoll founded Artists Lounge Live, a Chicago-based production company presenting concerts nationwide. She is the Artistic Director of Artists Lounge Live, writing and directing many of their offerings. [artistsloungealive.com](http://artistsloungealive.com), [angelaingersoll.com](http://angelaingersoll.com)

**ARTISTS LOUNGE LIVE (CONCERT PRODUCTION COMPANY)** is a Chicago-based production company created by married team Executive Producer Michael Ingersoll and Artistic Director Angela Ingersoll. Artists Lounge Live presents captivating concerts nationwide which feature singular talents singing classic pop music with superb musicianship and intimate storytelling. The company's team of creators, headliners, and musicians enjoy distinguished careers in Broadway, theatre, film, television, and the recording and touring industries. Caring for audiences with a refreshing blend of humor and heart, Artists Lounge Live believes in the restorative power of live entertainment for the individual and the community. Partner organizations include Marriott Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, and Paramount Theatre (Chicago), Goodspeed Musicals and Westport Country Playhouse (Connecticut), La Mirada Theatre and Laguna Playhouse (Los Angeles), Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, The Phoenix Theatre Company, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, and many more. [artistsloungealive.com](http://artistsloungealive.com)

**WILLIAM KURK (MUSIC DIRECTOR/PIANO)** is a diverse and in-demand piano and synthesizer aficionado, music director, band leader, composer, brand ambassador, and recording artist. Chicago-born Kurk's renowned musical family includes his grandmother, composer, educator, and author, Reverend Dr. Lena Mclin; and great-granduncle Thomas A. Dorsey, the father of gospel music. Chicago theatre credits include music directing *Sarafina* (Black Theatre Alliance Award nomination), *Once on This Island*, *Ragtime*, *Hair*, *Runaways*, *Godspell*, *Nefertiti*, *The Wiz*, *Cabaret*. TV appearances include playing keys for the NBA All-Star Game. Kurk has toured with The Dells, Marvelettes, Platters, and Coasters, and accompanied Dionne Warwick, Melba Moore, Martha Reeves, Koko Taylor, Andre DeShields, Taylor Dane, Chico DeBarge, Malcolm-Jamal Warner, KRS-ONE, Kool Moe Dee, Michelle Williams, Ronnie DeVoe, and Bill Cosby. Kurk has released seven full-length albums (*The Sound: Volumes 1, 2, & 3*, *Pop Fusion*, *Super Pop Fusion*, *Legacy*, and *Willonaire*). He founded the band William Kurk Enterprise and performed with *Lakeshore Encores*. Kurk hosts the web series *Synth Sounds Of* and the documentary *Electric Rhythm* for Reverb.com. He is a graduate of Columbia College Chicago with a BM in Composition. @williamkurk



**Regi Yarbrough**



**Carlos Pino**



**Khristian Smith**




**Jabari Brown**

**REGI YARBROUGH (SAXOPHONES/LOCAL TALENT COORDINATOR)** is a multi-instrumental “utility man,” vocalist, educator, composer, arranger, and producer, born and raised in Alabama. He leads the popular band Yarbrough and Company, also known as “YAC,” which won Male Blues Artists of the Year at the Alabama Music Awards, won the Magic City Blues Battle, and appeared at the International Blues Challenge. YAC also performs gospel, hip-hop, and rock music. Yarbrough wrote, recorded, and digitally distributed their album “YACblues.” Yarbrough served as a chorale, band, and theatre director for the Bessemer City school system, as well as music director at 45th Street Baptist Church. Regional theatre credits include music director for *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Smokey Joe’s Cafe*, and *The Color Purple*. Yarbrough possesses a B.A. in Music Technology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and a M.S. in Entertainment Business from Fullsail University. His album “4 Right Turns” and Yarbrough and Company’s music is available on most streaming services. @yacblues / @mrypianoguy

**CARLOS PINO (GUITAR)** is a New Orleans native with over 20 years professional experience playing, recording, and teaching music. He performs a variety of styles, including rock, traditional and modern jazz, blues, gospel, Latin American, and classical. He’s led various musical groups and performed with several accomplished musicians, including Ellis Marsalis, Claudio Roditi, and Oteil Burbridge. Pino has recorded two of his own albums and appeared on several others. Theatre credits include pit bands for *West Side Story*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Godspell*, *Cats*, *Grease*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *Always Patsy Cline*. He earned a Bachelor’s of Music in Music Technology at University of Alabama at Birmingham and a Masters of Music in Jazz at Rutgers University. He teaches guitar, ukulele, bass, and piano, as well as music theory. He leads jazz clinics and master classes locally and internationally including Centro Colombo Americano in Colombia, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Universidad de Caldes, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Sevijazz Festival in Sevilla, Universidad EAFIT, Miles College and University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. He is available for individual lessons, group classes, and clinics. carlospinomusic.com

**KHRISTIAN SMITH (DRUMS)**, also known as K.Smiles, is a musician from Birmingham, Alabama. He appears regularly with Yarbrough and Company, aka YACBlues. K.Smiles is recognized for his energetic style and connecting with fans through social media, sometimes livestreaming from live shows. Follow his musical journey on TikTok: @k.smiles94 / Facebook: Kristian Smith (K Smiles) / YouTube: @yacblues

**JABARI BROWN (UPRIGHT BASS)** is a musician based in Birmingham, Alabama. He has appeared with Yarbrough and Company, aka YACBlues. YouTube: @yacblues



March 17, 1919  
February 15, 1965

February 17, 1931  
October 13, 2011

### **The Nat King Cole Society, Inc.**

Awarded over **\$200,000.00** in scholarships to deserving high school seniors.

The Nat King Cole Society, Inc. was founded about 30 years ago, by Amos Harris who cherished the music of Nat King Cole. After Mr. Harris moved from Chicago, Illinois, he found out that Nat King Cole was born in Montgomery, AL. Mr. Harris, eager to preserve his memory of Nat King Cole, founded the Nat King Cole Society, Inc., to celebrate a man he truly admired and to provide college scholarships in Mr. Cole's honor to many deserving graduates from Montgomery County high schools.

To donate, mail your tax deductible donations to:

**The Nat King Cole Society, Inc.**

P.O. Box 1687

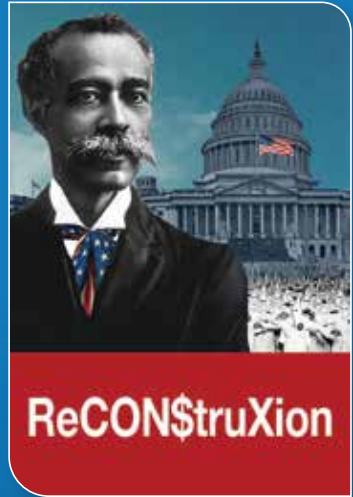
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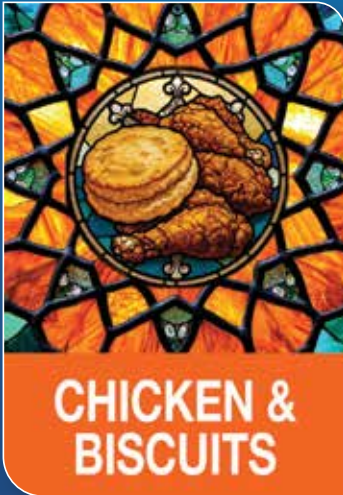
2025-2026  
SEASON



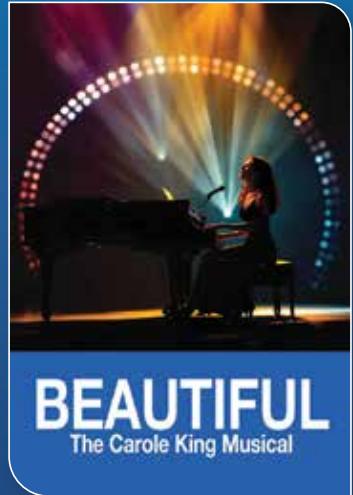
MAR 19 – APR 5, 2026



APR 23 – MAY 3, 2026



JUN 4 – 21, 2026



JUL 16 – AUG 16, 2026

