



COMMUNITY
EXCELLENCE
AWARDS
Gala

presented by



THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026
7:00 PM
AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY CENTRAL
AUSTIN, TX

www.urbanmusicfest.com

MEMORIES NOT LONG FORGOTTEN



OUR HISTORY

The **Urban Music and Cultural Festival (UMCF)**, since its establishment in 2006, has played a pivotal role in successfully fostering community engagement and music development for the Central Texas community and has been able to promote a stronger social and educational community. Twenty years ago, this festival was spawned out of an “Austin Quality of Life Initiative” derived to address the need for an overall transformation of the Socio-Economic landscape that would lead to better living conditions within Austin and surrounding areas for the African American community.

The City Demographer did a study that *“confirmed African Americans trailed other ethnic groups in many socio-economic areas.”* City staff, along with an outside consulting firm called Group Solutions and community leaders identified 56 initiatives in six categories that would improve African American quality of life in Austin.

Arts, Culture & Entertainment was one of the six and so the trio got together and presented their idea to the city and they gained the support they needed to make the Urban Music Fest happen.

The UMCF was an idea of three businessmen: Homer Hill, co-founder of Catfish Station, Donnie Little, a former quarterback of the University of Texas, and Donnell Creech, owner and founder of Soulcity.

The festival brings in 7,000 to 12,000 attendees and is held at Auditorium shores. Urban Music Fest has had performers such as Boyz 2 Men, Frankie Beverly and Maze, En Vogue, Charlie Wilson, The Ohio Players, Brandy and so many more. They also work closely with the community and have created the Soul Tree Collective Young Band Project, which fosters young Musicians in Travis and Williamson County.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the festival, a cherished, multi-day gathering that brings families, neighbors, and community leaders together in a spirit of unity, purpose, and reflection. The festival takes pride in bringing in top entertainers and grooming local talent, while also hosting “free” community outreach efforts showcasing training and fairs around job readiness, health and wellness, and workforce development.

UMCF has long championed community engagement through initiatives like the Soul Tree Collective’s (STC) Young Band Project, which aims to nurture young musicians and vocalists into R&B and related genre bands and has since its inception in 2007 launched 14 bands. The festival as brought in 1,000 to 12,000 attendees at Auditorium Shores and Moody Amphitheater securing performers such as Boyz 2 Men, Frankie Beverly and Maze, En Vogue, Charlie Wilson, The Ohio Players, Brandy and so many more.

UMCF believes that music provides a voice to those who may otherwise be unheard, communicating struggles and aspirations with an emotional impact that words alone cannot always achieve.





A TRIBUTE THE CO-FOUNDER

Compassionate, Devoted, and Generous



Homer Hill

Mr. Homer Hill is a true cultural bearer and pioneer in Austin's music scene. In 1987, Homer Hill started a restaurant w/ Marcus Walls called The Famous "Catfish Station Restaurant & Bar" 1987-1998 (Austin & Atlanta) and The Famous "Catfish Station Restaurant & Bar" 1987-1998 (Austin & Atlanta), serving Fried Catfish, Booze, & Great Live Music! It would go on to become a popular music venue that hosted national acts like The Roots, Bryan McKnight & Erykah Badu. Matthew McConaughey worked there when he was a student.

He is credited as one of the three founders of the Urban Music and Cultural Festival (UMCF). The UMCF's first festival was held on the first weekend in April, 2006, and it featured Chaka Khan as the overall headliner. The organization's CEO Homer Hill has been successfully producing public events since 1990 (35 years) with UMCF, Catfish Station, and more. Since August 2011, Homer Hill through Soul Tree Collective has been building the young R&B bands of the future. Soul Tree Collective auditions, rehearses, and showcases young aspiring musicians and vocalists every year to form a band that eventually perform at the Austin Urban Music Festival.

Homer Hill has led the way from 2005 – Present for the Urban Music Festival, that showcases R&B and its surrounding genres. The festival has been centered around the Texas Relays. The festival has become a place marker in the city of Austin by addressing the entertainment needs of the festival entertainment needs of an often overlooked and underserved minority population.

The festival, which has been produced by Mr. Hill, is entering its twentieth year in 2026 and has featured more than 370 artists from across the nation.



A TRIBUTE THE CO-FOUNDER

Compassionate, Devoted, and Generous



Donnie Little

Donnie Little is a pioneering former University of Texas quarterback (1978–1981) known as the first Black quarterback to start for the Longhorns. A versatile athlete, he led UT in total offense in 1979 and 1980, played in the CFL, and later served 24 years as a fundraiser for the Longhorn Foundation.

Key Career Highlights:

- **High School Success:** Before his collegiate career, he led the Dickinson Gators to a state championship in 1977.
- **University of Texas (1978–1981):** Recorded 15-5 as a starting QB, passed for 2,067 yards, and earned recognition as an All-Time Top 10 Longhorn Quarterback.
- **Professional Career:** Played in the Canadian Football League (CFL) for the Ottawa Rough Riders as a QB and wide receiver before a knee injury in 1983.
- **Athletic Administration:** Served for 24 years as a fundraiser for the University of Texas Longhorn Foundation.
- **Recognition:** Recognized for his trailblazing role in breaking racial barriers at the quarterback position in the Southwest Conference.

Following his football career, Little worked in fundraising and served as an athletic director in Tyler, Texas. He is also credited for being one of the founders of the Urban Music and Cultural Festival.

In 2026, **Donnie Little** serves as the **Assistant Athletic Director** for the **Tyler Independent School District (Tyler ISD)** in Texas. In his capacity as Assistant Athletic Director at Tyler ISD, he works alongside Director of Athletics **Sam Gillispie** to oversee the district's sports programs.



A TRIBUTE TO THE CO-FOUNDER

Compassionate, Devoted, and Generous



Heath Donell Creech

Heath Donell Creech was a **visionary community builder**, media strategist, and mentor whose impact shaped Austin's cultural and civic life for over three decades.

As founder of Soulcity and the African American Leadership Institute, Heath's work centered on uplifting Black voices, building bridges, and nurturing the next generation of leaders. This space is dedicated to preserving his legacy — not just in memory, but in motion.

On February 24, 2025, the world lost a luminary. Heath Donell Creech, a man whose life's work was dedicated to uplifting others, passed away at the age of 57, leaving behind an indelible mark on the city he loved and the people he served.

Growing up in Snyder, Odessa, and Austin, Texas, **Heath was known for his humble spirit and giving nature.** He was a bright, determined child with an entrepreneurial mindset and a love for knowledge. He played football and baseball, enjoyed playing the drums and piano, and had a deep passion for reading and discussing history.

As the founder of Soulcity, **Heath built a digital platform that amplified Black news, culture, and business in Austin.** Through GriotMedia, he provided marketing and advertising services to organizations like The University of Texas, The Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau, and SXSW, ensuring that Black entrepreneurs and artists had access to major opportunities.

Heath also co-founded MVMT50, a groundbreaking initiative at South by Southwest (SXSW) that increased Black participation in Austin's growing tech and innovation scene. The viral hashtag #BlackAtSXSW, which he helped popularize, became a rallying cry for Black attendees seeking representation at the festival.

His commitment to cultural preservation was evident in his work with the **Urban Music Festival, Austin Jazz Festival, Capital City Black Film Festival, Soul Food Truck Festival, and the Black X Conference.** Most notably, he expanded Austin's Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration from 500 attendees to over 20,000 participants annually, securing funding and awareness that made it one of the largest and most inclusive MLK commemorations in Texas.

As the Founder of the African American Leadership Institute (AALI), **Heath invested in the next generation of Black leaders, fostering civic engagement** and together with Co-founder BiNi Scoor, he created a pipeline for Black professionals to connect with major corporations and leadership roles.

His work was never just about business—it was about people. **He believed in the power of community, representation, and shared success,** and he made sure that others had the opportunities he had once fought for himself. Though he has left this world, Heath's spirit will never fade. His life was a testament to the power of community, storytelling, and collective action.

The logo for the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) consists of the letters 'AHF' in a white, serif font, centered within a solid red square.

AIDS HEALTHCARE
FOUNDATION

Proudly Supporting

Urban Music & Cultural Fest

Coming together is a powerful way to create change and build community. AIDS Healthcare Foundation is committed to fighting for equality across the nation and around the world. We are proud to sponsor **Urban Music & Cultural Fest** because when like-minded people come together, amazing things can happen.

*Cutting-Edge Medicine and Advocacy
Regardless of Ability to Pay.*

AHF.org





THE SPIRIT & CORE OF THE FESTIVAL

Our Spirit

The festival takes pride in bringing in top entertainers and grooming local talent as well as minimizing ecological impact through improved recycling and waste management. Committed to maintaining and continually improving the prestige of the event, the Austin Urban Music Festival continues to host quality entertainment year after year. The organization became a 501c3 nonprofit in 2024.

Goals and Objectives

- Enhance the Arts and Culture opportunities available regardless of socio-economic status
- Maintain a signature event that draws tourists, has significant economic impact and remains a Spring highlight for locals
- Improve access to the arts for youth through our Soul Tree Collective music education program
- Lead in environmental initiatives in the events industry through maximum waste minimization
- Increase our marketing reach through a consistent and coordinated campaign to the benefit of all Festival stakeholders
- Continue to attract long-term corporate partnerships to maintain and increase the prestige of the event
- Tap into the spirit of a dedicated volunteer group and recognize the need for people of all ages to connect to their community in a fun and engaging way

Key Messages

- Music festival featuring Award-winning R&B, Funk, Soul, Jazz and Hip-Hop artists
- Safe, family-friendly and fun AND High caliber music for all tastes and ages
- Over 350 acts have performed on the grounds of the beautiful Auditorium Shores and Moody Amphitheater, Downtown Austin
- Retail and Food Marketplaces
- Takes place every year except one during Texas Relay Weekend
- Two “free” community events focused on Health and Wellness, as well as Workforce Development and Job Readiness

Greetings from the Chairman



On behalf of the Urban Music and Cultural Festival, I welcome you to tonight's gala celebrating 20 years of delivering great music to the Central Texas region. Celebrating our 20th anniversary is a testimony to the many generous people who have contributed their resources, enabling us to carry on over the years.

Tonight, we celebrate the memories of festival while also recognizing the contributions of artists and leaders, who were instrumental in fulfilling a dream and who entertained us with great music for the soul and inspiring words of encouragement. I am excited about what promises to be a great evening of celebration. Other key hallmarks for tonight's Gala are the recognition of community leaders and trailblazers. True leadership shines during challenging times, and we are fortunate to have such

exceptional artists and leaders with us tonight.

The uplifting support from companies like AHF, the City of Austin, and H-E-B, to name a few, inspired us to navigate pass prevailing obstacles and concentrate on continuing the mission that started twenty years ago.

We are thankful to our current Mayor, Kirk Watson, and the entire City Council for their support for the festival. Special thanks also goes to this year's Honorary Chairs Travis County Commissioner Jeffrey Travillion and Austin City Manager T.C. Broadnax. Leadership matters!

Special thanks to our core team of supporters and the volunteers that have, over the years, contributed so much towards the success of this festival and the gala tonight.

The ultimate credit goes not to those in the limelight but to those who selflessly rolled up their sleeves, knuckled down, and got the job done.

My heartfelt thanks...

Homer

Homer

Greetings from the Gala Chair

I welcome you to tonight's gala, which celebrates 20 years of excellence for the Urban Music and Cultural Festival (UMCF). Thank you for your presence this evening. John Maxwell once said, "A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way. Most of us tonight were fortunate to see three great leaders show great vision in assisting the City of Austin in navigating 56 initiatives in six categories that would improve African American quality of life in Austin. Arts, Culture & Entertainment was one of the six and so the trio got together and presented their idea to the city on how they could impact this category, and they gained the support they needed to make the Urban Music Fest happen.



Due to the co-founders of this festival, we continue to celebrate the significance of Urban Music and Cultural Fest. We applaud them for their many contributions and labors of love for so many years. Their wisdom and commitment allowed our community to hear music from some of the best musician in the world, while also providing key resources to Austin residents.

This year, 2026, marks the twentieth anniversary of the UMCF. Because of this milestone year, UMCF's Board of Directors has aimed to make this year even more special. This week, the UMCF will partner with many other community organizations to host a Workforce Development and Job Readiness Symposium, a Health and Wellness Day, as well as, a food event hosted by Food for Health powered by AHF that feed over 500 families in Austin. This weekend, UMCF will again attract thousands from around the state and in our city for their annual concert at the Moody's Amphitheater.

Organizations like UMCF are fundamental in helping to prepare, equip, and support the younger generation musicians and leaders. UMCF has long championed community engagement through initiatives like the Soul Tree Collective's (STC) Young Band Project, which aims to nurture young musicians and vocalists into R&B and related genre bands. Since 2007, STC has championed R&B genres through auditioned bands, fostering 14 groups ranging from ages 12 to 21. While the official age requirement is 16 to 21, UMCF embraced flexibility to ensure every aspiring musician has an opportunity to flourish. Mother Teresa once said, "If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one." UMCF can not touch every young musician, but organization does a great job in doing their part to support the success of a few annually.

Thank you for joining the UMCF today! We sincerely hope you will stand with them as they continue to support our future leaders, who will make it better for all of us.

Finally, thank the many volunteers and staff who made the gala possible. Enjoy the evening, and let's celebrate excellence tonight!

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Snipes

Anthony J. Snipes



UMCF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Homer Hill

Chairperson

UMCF

Occupation: Chef, Mr. Catfish

Deuce Malone

Vice Chair

UMCF

Occupation: Sales Supervisor, Salesforce

Kendell Wallace

Secretary

UMCF

Occupation: Retired, IRS

Javier Wallace

Member

UMCF

Occupation: Professor, Duke University

Marco Conchola

Member

UMCF

Occupation: Entrepreneur

Mac McCrary

Member

UMCF

Occupation: UX/UI Developer



City of Austin

Kirk Watson, Mayor

301 W. 2nd St., Austin, TX 78701
(512) 978-2100, Fax (512) 978-2120
mayor.watson@austintexas.gov



March 10, 2026

Greetings,

As the Mayor of Austin, I want to welcome you to the 20th anniversary celebration of the Urban Music and Cultural Festival (UMCF). The theme for the gala is “Celebrating 20 years of Excellence”. What a great celebration of 20 years of bringing music, health and wellness, and art to our community and visitors. Year after year, UMCF has brought our community together to emphasize how wonderful it is to live in the Live Music Capital of the World. We understand the importance of all of these areas of focus and our love for music that feeds our soul.

Tonight, we celebrate the true meaning of community while recognizing the need for all of us to come together and appreciate the value the UMCF has provided us over the last 20 years. As I reflect over the last 20 years, we have seen many things change, but the one constant was UMCF supporting our economy with festivals and vision for a family-friendly event in our city.

As we gather to celebrate the success, we hope for a bright UMCF future in Austin, Texas. I congratulate you on 20 years of making an impact on our community. We look forward to 20 more.

Sincerely,

Kirk Watson
Mayor of Austin

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request.



OFFICE OF TRAVIS COUNTY JUDGE ANDY BROWN

March 26, 2026



To Whom It May Concern:

As County Judge, it is my distinct honor to welcome you to the annual Urban Music and Cultural Festival here in Travis County. This incredible celebration continues to highlight the very best of our region by bringing together music, culture, health, and community in a way that reflects the vibrant spirit of our residents and visitors alike.

Year after year, this festival has served as a powerful reminder of how the arts unite us. Through its commitment to showcasing diverse musical talent, promoting wellness, and supporting local businesses, the Urban Music and Cultural Festival plays an important role in strengthening our local economy and enriching the quality of life across our communities.

Events like this are vital to the identity of our region. They create opportunities for connection, foster cultural appreciation, and contribute to the dynamic energy that makes Travis County such a special place to live, work, and visit. It is inspiring to see so many individuals and families come together in celebration of creativity and community.

On behalf of Travis County, I extend my sincere congratulations and best wishes for a successful and memorable festival. We look forward to many more years of celebrating the Urban Music and Cultural Festival and the positive influence it brings to our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andy Brown".

Andy Brown

Travis County Judge

JEFFREY W. TRAVILLION SR.

COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 1

Office: 512-854-9111

Fax: 512-854-4897

Email: Jeffrey.Travillion@traviscountytx.gov



700 Lavaca St. Ste 2.200

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1748

Austin, Texas 78767



April 2, 2026

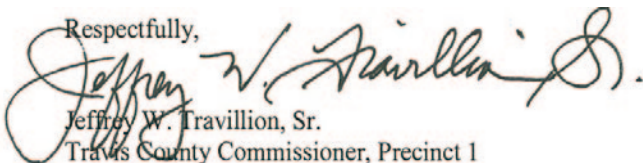
I am delighted to extend greetings as you mark two decades of lifting culture, creativity, and collective spirit through the power of music and artistic expression. Festivals such as this are more than gatherings; they are sacred spaces where memory, struggle, hope, and joy come together in rhythm and testimony. They remind us that culture is not simply entertainment; it is a declaration of presence, a proclamation of dignity, and a living witness to the resilience of the people of Central Texas.

For twenty years, the Urban Music and Cultural Festival has stood as a vibrant affirmation that the voices and visions of our communities matter. Through song, dance, spoken word, visual art, and fellowship, you have created a platform where stories are told honestly and boldly; stories born from lived experience, from perseverance in the face of challenge, and from an unyielding commitment to celebrate beauty and possibility. In doing so, you have helped shape Austin's cultural identity in ways that are both profound and enduring.

As you commemorate this milestone, may you take pride in the paths you have opened for emerging artists, the opportunity you've provided for our residents to see national artists, the bridges you have built across neighborhoods and generations, and the inspiration you have ignited in countless lives. Your work reflects the enduring truth that culture can heal, empower, and transform, and that when we celebrate who we are, we also proclaim who we are becoming.

I commend the Urban Music and Cultural Festival for its faithful stewardship of culture and community. May your legacy continue to grow, your rhythms continue to resonate, and your light continue to shine for many years to come.

Respectfully,



Jeffrey W. Travillion, Sr.
Travis County Commissioner, Precinct 1



Dear Community Excellence Awards Gala Attendees,

It is with great pride and heartfelt appreciation that we celebrate 20 years of excellence at this milestone Community Service Awards Gala—a meaningful occasion honoring both the remarkable achievements of our community members and recognition of the legacy of the Urban Music and Cultural Festival (UMCF), which has brought top entertainers to our City, while also grooming local talent and hosting “free” community outreach efforts showcasing training and fairs around job readiness, health and wellness, and workforce development.

This gala stands as a testament to UMCF’s founders’ vision, leadership, and commitment to building community, uplifting culture, and advancing the significance of music in our community. Their pioneering efforts have laid a strong foundation that continues to inspire and unite us all.

As we come together to recognize those who have made significant contributions to the betterment of our city and nation, we also reflect on the values the UMCF founders embodied—perseverance, service, and unity. Their legacy lives on in the ongoing work of this festival and in the spirit of celebration that brings us together each year.

We extend our warmest congratulations to this year’s honorees. Your dedication to service, music, and community advancement reflects the very essence of what this gala represents. You are living examples of the positive impact of leadership and commitment.

We also offer our deepest gratitude to Homer Hill for his steadfast dedication to continuing the original legacy. His leadership and support remain instrumental in the continued success of the UMCF.

As we honor the past and celebrate the present, may we look toward the future with renewed purpose—committed to fostering inclusivity, unity, and cultural pride throughout Austin. May this festival continue to grow and inspire generations to come.

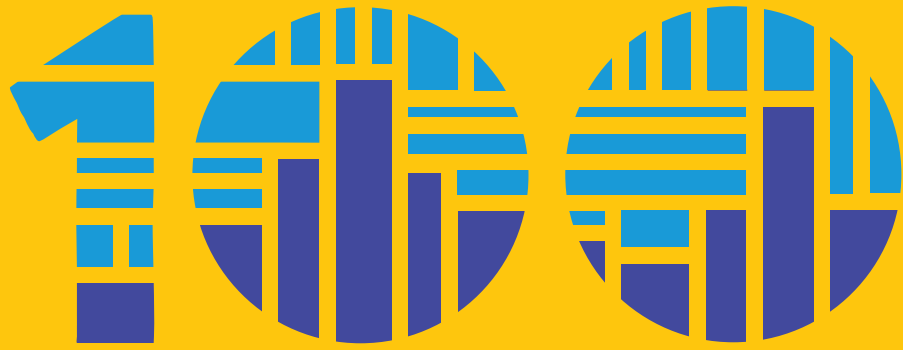
Wishing you all a memorable and joyful gala.

Sincerely,

T.C. Broadnax

City Manager

512-974-2200 | austintexas.gov



Austin Public Library
Centennial
Celebrations
1926 - 2026



For 100 years, Austin Public Library has been a place of learning, connection, and possibility. Join us all year long as we celebrate a century of serving our community, and look ahead to what comes next!



See our full schedule of centennial events at:
library.austintexas.gov/100



INVOCATION

SENIOR PASTOR JOSEPH C. PARKER, JR., ESQ., D. MIN.



Pastor Joseph C. Parker, Jr., Esq., D. Min., a native of Birmingham, Alabama, is the Senior Pastor of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Austin, Texas, having completed his 27th year. He has been described as “called by God, shaped by experience, a man of action, and a Renaissance man.”

Prior to being called as Pastor in September 1992, starting in 1982, he served as a minister at David Chapel and from 1984 – 1992 as Associate Pastor for Christian Education. Since 1983, he has been licensed to practice law in the Texas and federal courts, and practiced as a trial attorney and as a mediator, which he continues practicing.

From 1976-79, prior to attending law school, he was a management/budget analyst and an assistant to an Assistant City Manager in the Dallas, Texas City Manager Office, where he also managed the \$2 million 1979 Summer Youth Employment Program. After graduating from law school, he served as a prosecutor and Chief of Criminal Litigation in the Travis County Attorney Office (1983-1986); civil litigator, director and vice president with the Austin, Texas law firm of Long, Burner, Parks & Sealy, P.C. (1986-92); Chief of Litigation for the State Bar of Texas (1992-1994); and was elected the first African American president of the Austin Bar Association for 1996-97.

He resigned his position with the State Bar of Texas to devote more time to his pastorate. He has taught preaching at Baylor University’s George W. Truett Theological Seminary and Advanced Civil Litigation in Trial Advocacy at the University of Texas at Austin School of Law. He has served on several committees of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and served on its Executive Board. He also served on the Baptist Standard newsmagazine board and serves as the President of the Ministers Conference of the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America. He serves on the board of the Austin Anti-Defamation League and the Travis County Public Defender Office Organizational Committee.

Pastor Parker graduated with a B.A. from Morehouse College (Atlanta, Georgia) and received his Master of Public Administration at the University of Georgia in Athens. He received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas at Austin where he was selected as a member of the Order of Barristers (one of the top ten graduating students in trial advocacy). He received his Master of Divinity (magna cum laude honors) from the George W. Truett Theological Seminary at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, where he was the first African American graduate and has served as the first alumnus and African American chairman of the Board of Advisors. In 2004, he was selected as the first “Distinguished Alumnus of the Year” of the Truett Seminary. He earned his Doctor of Ministry degree in Urban Ministry from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Boston, Massachusetts.

Pastor Parker has been married to J. Laverne Morris-Parker since 1976. They have three daughters – Jessica L. Parker-Battle, Jennifer L. Parker, and Janetta L. Parker and two grandchildren – Jordan Lynette Battle and Jeremy D. Battle, Jr.

MISTRESS OF CEREMONY

ASHLEY GOUDEAU



Emmy Award winning journalist Ashley Goudeau is the Political Director and anchors the 4pm and 5pm newscasts for KVUE News in Austin, Texas. Goudeau also hosts Texas This Week, a Sunday morning political segment that airs on KVUE. Her “call it like it is” commentaries have been awarded by several broadcast organizations and her work in Austin has earned her recognitions from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Associated Press, Texas Association of Broadcasters and several Austin-area organizations.

In 2017, then-Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives Joe Straus appointed Goudeau to serve on the State of Texas Election Advisory Commission. Goudeau currently serves on the advisory board of the Settlement Home for Children, which cares for children who have survived severe trauma, abuse and neglect.

Goudeau grew up in Houston, Texas and graduated with a degree in broadcast journalism from the Dan Rather School of Communications at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. She is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. When she’s not chasing news, Goudeau is spending time with her husband and their two children.

Uplifting Our Austin Communities One Family at a Time



TRAIN & HIRE CENTRAL TEXAS LOCALS FOR AUSTIN’S \$25 BILLION DOLLAR EXPANSION PROJECTS!

- Since 1998, our core mission has been to provide vocational and life skills training and job placement in our local communities.
- We have worked with clients in technology, industrial and commercial trade, construction, robotics and advanced manufacturing. We are able to customize to your needs in any area.
- We’ve trained over 5,000 people and provided successful job placement assistance with an 80% retention rate for our graduate hire

CONTACT US AT
AUSTIN@DIGITALWORKFORCEACADEMY.ORG

PROUDLY CELEBRATING
COMMUNITY
WITH YOU!



PROSPERITY BANK
MEMBER FDIC

Real bankers... not just a bank.®

512-472-5433 | prosperitybankusa.com



Community Excellence Gala
THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026 – 7:00 PM
AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY CENTRAL // AUSTIN, TX

Musical Interlude	Don Diego, Jazz Saxophonist AUSTIN, TX
Mistress of Ceremony.....	Ashley Goudeau Weekend Morning & Political Anchor KVUE News
Welcome and Occasion	Duece Malone Board Member, UMCF Austin, TX
Negro National Anthem.....	De’Juana Shaw, Soloist Austin, TX
Greetings and Recognition of Elected Officials.....	The Honorable Jeffrey Travillion Travis County Precinct 1 Austin, TX
Greetings.....	The Honorable Kirk Watson City of Austin Mayor Austin, TX
Greetings.....	The Honorable Andy Brown Travis County County Judge Travis County, TX
Remarks	T.C. Broadnax City Manager City of Austin Austin, TX
	Katherine “Kat” Cantrell Chief Administrative Officer Austin Public Library Austin, TX

Greetings and Sponsor Recognition.....Anthony Snipes, Gala Chair
Regional Director – Tennessee & Texas
AIDS Healthcare Foundation
Los Angeles, CA

InvocationJoseph C. Parker
Senior Pastor
David Chapel Missionary
Baptist Church
Austin, TX

DINNER IS SERVED

GALA Entertainment.....Don Diego & The Razz Band
Dallas, TX

Introduction of Honorees.....Homer Hill
Co-Founder
Urban Music & Cultural Fest

Anthony J. Snipes
Chair
2026 Community Excellence Gala

HONOREES

Matthew McConaughey
Julius Tennon
Marco Conchola
David Lott
Brad Terrence Jordan (Scarface)

Special PresentationHomer Hill
Co-Founder, UMCF

Founder TributesAnthony Snipes
Gala Chair & UMCF Board

Concluding RemarksHomer Hill
Co-Founder, UMCF

BenedictionPastor Joseph C. Parker

**AFTER-GALA PERFORMANCE
DON DIEGO**



ENTERTAINMENT

DON DIEGO



There's only one man who can cover Chris Stapleton's "Tennessee Whisky," roll right into Cardi B's "Bodak Yellow" just before playing his original charting recording "Ago's Jukejoint." He is surely known for keeping the crowd moving all night by playing versatile and relevant music.

Don Diego has been traveling the world for the last thirty years serenading fans everywhere from corporate events to festivals. Don Diego is a contemporary jazz fusion saxophonist, vocalist and keyboard player who mixes instrumental covers of modern and classic R&B with rap and pop vocals.

His music is divinely focused and undoubtedly appeals to the tastes of smooth jazz lovers. However, the urban flavor of Don Diego's music is unmistakable. Some of the artists he has shared the stage with are Vanilla Ice, Johnny Taylor and Kenny G. National recording artists Kirk Whalum and Gerald Albright have been featured on

Don's projects. He reached the Billboard charts with "It Never Rains in Southern California" on his "Razz" release and spent 26 weeks there. His music has been covered from various artists from pop to jazz including R&B superstar group Toni! Tony! Toné! Don has performed with Kenny G, George Howard and Najee. His versatility was on display when he toured with Vanilla Ice for three years and also played in B.B. King's band.

This Texas Southern University alumani has accomplished the unheard of, by performing at Vinetti's, formerly Stonetrail, for 18 years each and every Friday and Saturday night to a standing room only crowd. He continues to be a trailblazer in the music industry and has set the standard.

ENTERTAINMENT

DE'JUANA SHAW



De'Juana Shaw is a classically trained vocalist, recording artist, and junior Vocal Performance major at Huston-Tillotson University in Austin, Texas. Rooted in gospel and shaped through classical study, she is a member of the Austin-based gospel group The Levites and performs with the university's Concert Choir.

She has appeared on stages including Carnegie Hall, the CMT Awards, and the Austin City Limits Festival, and has performed for professional NBA organizations such as the Dallas Mavericks and Dallas Wings. She has also provided background vocals for Grammy Award winning artist Fantasia and country music icon Ronnie Dunn.

As both a performer and recording artist, De'Juana is passionate about creating music that uplifts, inspires, and reflects her faith and artistry.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON - 1871-1938

Lift every voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might,
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.



**THIS
EVENT
IS FREE**



Health, Wellness & Job Fair

Community Resources Day

**Friday
April 3 | 10a - 2p**

- FREE GIVEAWAYS
- VITAL CHECKS & HEALTH SCREENINGS
- FRESH-FOOD COMMUNITY DRIVE
- WORKFORCE JOB READINESS SYMPOSIUM
- KID'S ZONE

**Millennium Youth
Entertainment Complex**
1156 Hargrave St, Austin, TX



Women's Health • Men's Health • Mental Health • Fitness Sessions
Health Screenings • Food & Nutrition • HIV/AIDS Free Testing • Resume Building
Financial Literacy Education • Job Readiness Preparation • Soft Skills Training
On-the-Spot Job Training Referrals • Interview Prep



Thanks to our Health & Wellness and Workforce Development/Training Symposium Partners!

URBANMUSICFEST.COM | 2026



YEAR ANNIVERSARY

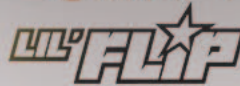
URBAN MUSIC & CULTURAL FEST

SATURDAY
APRIL 4TH
GATES OPEN AT 1PM

PERFORMING LIVE

RAHEEM DEVAUGHN

MIDNIGHT STAR
Carl Thomas



MYIA B
MUSIC

Along with a
Kyle Turner Musical Tribute to Michael Ward
with his son's Cortes and Shaun Ward.
Sounds by DJ AC.



ticketmaster®



Moody Amphitheater
Waterloo Park
1401 TRINITY ST
DOWNTOWN AUSTIN



HONOREE



MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY

Matthew McConaughey is an Academy Award-winning actor known for roles in films like 'Dazed and Confused' and 'Dallas Buyers Club,' and the TV series 'True Detective.'

Matthew David McConaughey was born on November 4, 1969, in Uvalde, Texas. He was an athlete at a young age, playing golf and tennis at Longview High School, and was voted "Most Handsome Student." Matthew McConaughey graduated from the University of Texas at Austin and got his first big break with the 1993 film *Dazed and Confused*. He later starred in *A Time to Kill* (1996) and *Amistad* (1997), among many others. While at the University of Texas, Matthew worked at the Catfish Station, where he met Homer Hill, the co-owner.

Named *People* magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive" in 2005, McConaughey also starred in *Mud* (2012) and *Dallas Buyers Club* (2013), which earned him the Academy Award for Best Actor. McConaughey came on strong in 2014 with his starring role on the TV series *True Detective*, a project that propelled him even further on his star trajectory.

In 2015, McConaughey began serving as a visiting film instructor at UT Austin's Moody College of Communication. In the summer of 2019, it was announced that the actor had been appointed a faculty member to teach a Script to Screen film production class for the fall semester.

He and his lovely wife Camila founded the just keep livin Foundation, which helps at-risk high school students make healthier mind, body, and spirit choices. He has served as a professor of practice at the University of Texas at Austin, as well as Minister of Culture/M.O.C. for the University of Texas and the City of Austin. Matthew's brand is international, with him serving as an owner of the Major League Soccer club Austin FC, and he and his wife Camila being co-founders of Pantalones Tequila.

McConaughey married Camila Alves in 2012. They have three children together, sons Levi (b. 2008) and Livingston (b. 2012), and daughter Vida (b. 2010).

HONOREE



JULIUS TENNON

Julius Tennon is an accomplished film, television, and theatre producer and actor with over thirty years of experience. A native of Austin, Texas, he began as both a thespian and a star linebacker. Julius was offered a full football scholarship to the University of Tulsa, where he became the very first African American to graduate from the theatre department.

His notable screen credits include: *The Simone Biles Story*, *Batman v. Superman*, *Get On Up*, *Fame*, *Friday Night Lights*, and *Dazed and Confused*, and popular television shows such as *Criminal Minds* and *Lonesome Dove*, among many others.

In 1999, Julius was blessed to meet the love of his life, Viola Davis, on the set of the CBS series *City of Angels*. They were married four years later. A couple in every sense of the word, their greatest joy comes from sharing both their life and art together. Julius and Viola have shared both the stage and screen, appearing in such notable projects as *How to Get Away With Murder* and *Lila and Eve*, the first film they also produced together. Together they have one adopted daughter, Genesis, and he has two children from a previous relationship.

Julius Tennon (born December 24, 1953) is an accomplished American actor, producer, and former football player known for his extensive work in film and television, and as the co-founder of JuVee Productions with his wife, Viola Davis, the company is an artist-driven company focused on diverse, impactful stories. He has produced acclaimed projects, including *The Woman King* (2022), *Air* (2023), and *Silver Dollar Road* (2023).

He made history as the first Black student to graduate from the University of Tulsa's theatre department. He has consistently supported the Austin theater scene and was presented with the key to the city of Austin.

HONOREE



DAVID LOTT

Since its founding in 1998, Mr. Catfish & More has been an Austin treasure, delivering the perfect blend of Southern comfort food, soulful vibes, and rich history. At the helm is David D. Lott, fondly known as "Mr. Catfish" or "The Catfish King," whose passion for food, music, and community has shaped this iconic dining destination.

David's entrepreneurial journey began in East Austin, where he learned the ins and outs of business from his father at the Aristocrat Lounge, a staple of the old-school party scene. This early exposure not only taught him business acumen but also fostered a lifelong love for music—especially the blues. Building on these experiences, David managed Catfish Station on Austin's famous 6th Street in the 90s, where his dedication to quality and consistency took root. In 1998, he launched the original Mr. Catfish & More on Springdale Road, with subsequent locations in North Austin and Elgin. Today, the flagship restaurant is located at 1144 Airport Boulevard, Suite 220, in the Eastland Plaza Shopping Center.

David Lott doesn't just run the show; he's an integral part of the team. Whether prepping food, manning the register, or personally delivering meals, David exemplifies dedication and leadership. This hands-on approach ensures that every dish meets the high standards that have made Mr. Catfish & More a beloved Austin institution.

HONOREE



MARCO CONCHOLA

Marcos Canchola grew up around a bar. His grandparents had a huge house in El Paso with a bar in the basement. His cousin's and Marcos would pretend to be bartenders for fun. Then when he was a senior in high school, he would rent out bars in Juarez, Mexico and throw parties with friends. His first job as a bartender was right before he turned 21 at Catfish Station on 6th street where he eventually became the general manager. He went with them to Atlanta to help open a new Catfish Station before the Olympics. He then decided to continue his education in accounting and took a job as a bartender at Houston's restaurant, where he met Brian Hyde. A couple of years later after taking the job at Houston's, Marcos opened Barfly's with Keith Young. He then opened MugShots with Brian 23 years ago. Since then he has opened five other places with Brian and another by himself.

He is indebted to Homer Hill and Marcus Walls for their mentorship and friendship and is trying to pay it forward.

"I like to joke my Bachelor's degree was obtained at Catfish Station, my Master's was at Houston's Restaurant and now I'm currently working on my PhD." —Marcos

HONOREE



BRAD TERRENCE JORDAN (SCARFACE)

Brad Terrence Jordan (born November 9, 1970), known as Scarface, is a legendary Houston-based rapper, producer, and former Geto Boys member. Renowned for his vivid storytelling and influential Southern hip-hop style, he released acclaimed solo albums like *The Diary* and *The Fix* via Rap-A-Lot Records. He is consistently ranked among the greatest lyricists of all time.

Career and Achievements

- **Geto Boys:** Joined the group in the late 1980s after starting as a solo artist under the name DJ Akshen.
- **Solo Career:** Debuted as a solo artist in 1991, establishing a hard-boiled, "Dirty South" rapping style.
- **Rankings:** Ranked #16 on *The Source's* Top 50 Lyricists of All Time and #6 on *About.com's* 50 Greatest MCs of Our Time (1987–2007).
- **Other Pursuits:** Briefly ran for Houston City Council District D in 2019.
- **Author:** Released an autobiography detailing his life and career.

During his Mayoral campaign, Jordan highlighted his vision of "putting the neighbor back in the hood," which is the motto of Positive Purpose Movement, an organization that he founded. The organization works with area schools to promote education and empowerment among children from underrepresented communities. In March 2020, Scarface revealed that he had tested positive for COVID-19. The virus damaged his renal system and on September 14, 2021, Scarface received a kidney transplant from his son. Scarface converted to Islam in 2006. Today, he continues to invest his time in the community, while also touring throughout the country.

CHE

CENTER for HEALTH EMPOWERMENT

20 URBAN MUSIC & CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Proud to Celebrate 20 Years of

CULTURE, COMMUNITY & LEGACY

— joining AIDS Healthcare Foundation at the —

URBAN MUSIC & CULTURAL FESTIVAL

20th ANNIVERSARY 2026



About CHE

*The Center for Health Empowerment is honored to stand alongside The Urban Music & Cultural Festival, INC as **Tamboti Sponsor** for their 20th year Anniversary.*

Our Commitment

- Community Health & Wellness showcase
- Job Readiness & Workforce Development symposium
- Community Outreach & Education
- Free Resources & Health Information



==== **Visit Us at the Festival!** =====

CELEBRATE CULTURE. CELEBRATE COMMUNITY. CELEBRATE HEALTH.

CHE
CENTER for HEALTH
EMPOWERMENT

AHF
AIDS HEALTHCARE
FOUNDATION

Women in Jazz Association, Inc.

30+ Years of Legacy, Empowerment & Jazz Excellence.

Support Women in Jazz. Keep the Music Alive.

Visit womeninjazz.org/events

- A Tribute to Nancy Wilson /Cannonball Adderley - 4/9/26, Parker Jazz Club
- International Jazz Day in collaboration with Austin Jazz Society and Texas Jazz Society
- Uplift Jazz Concerts for Seniors
- Future Jazz Legends Young Adult Concert
- Jazz Camp in Collaboration with African American Youth Harvest Foundation
- Summer Madness Concert
- 4th Annual Austin Women in Jazz Festival
- 'Tis the Season to Be Jazzy Holiday Concert

Contact Us

Email: womeninjazz@womeninjazz.org

Web: www.womeninjazz.org Office: 512-258-6947

Facebook: [womeninjazzatx](https://www.facebook.com/womeninjazzatx)

Instagram: [womeninjazzatx](https://www.instagram.com/womeninjazzatx)

Youtube: [@womeninjazzATX](https://www.youtube.com/@womeninjazzATX)



**EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES.
CHANGING LIVES.**

For over 48 years, the Austin Area Urban League has been committed to advancing economic empowerment and social equality for African Americans and underserved communities across Central Texas.

Through Education & Youth Development, Workforce & Career Development, Housing & Community Development, Health & Wellness, Entrepreneurship, and Justice & Advocacy, we work every day to create pathways to opportunity and build a stronger, more equitable future for all.

**LEARN MORE & DONATE AT
AAUL.ORG**



STERLING Acura
of AUSTIN

Proud Sponsor of
The 20th Anniversary Urban Music & Cultural Fest



STERLING Acura
of AUSTIN
SterlingAcura.com
512-823-1914



New & Certified Pre-Owned Acura Models
Quality Used Cars, Trucks, SUVs & Award-Winning Service
4801 S IH 35 Frontage Rd, Austin, TX 78744

Tap into Austin ▶

CapMetro buses now let you use Tap to Pay with Apple Pay, Google Pay, or any credit or debit card. With fare capping, Tap to Pay riders will never pay more than \$2.50 per day for standard fare.



Tap ▶ Go ▶
CapMetro



CapMetro.org/TaptoPay



Thank You
to our sponsors & local government partners



Presenting Sponsors



Supporting Sponsors





OUR *Differences*
 MAKE THE
DIFFERENCE



DIVERSITY
 ————
INCLUSION

As a born-and-bred Texas company, H-E-B is committed to fostering a culture of diversity & inclusion in Texas, both in our workplaces and the communities we serve. Celebrating the differences and similarities of all Texans is integral to everything H-E-B does, every day, from employee recruitment to supplier registration, store locations to in-store product selection.

The City of Austin would like to congratulate
the Urban Music and Cultural Festival on
“Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence.”

We know the gala will be a huge success.

We are hopeful about the future of
the Urban Music and Cultural Festival.

Best Wishes,



City of Austin

To Learn More about the City of Austin

Visit us at AustinTexas.gov