

Jazz Appreciation Month!

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Jazz appreciation month is coming up in April! Let's talk about why we celebrate this amazing genre of music. This month-long celebration is to understand its roots and significance. Jazz is more than a genre of music; it is a cultural expression that represents creativity and historical depth.

Jazz originated in the late 19th century in the United States, particularly in New Orleans, Louisiana. African, Caribbean, and European music was mixed together to create something extremely unique which is now known as JAZZ. It emerged from blues, spirituals, and marching band music from enslaved Africans and their descendants who brought rhythmic complexity from their musical traditions. Then the European influence added harmonic structures. New Orleans was a perfect setting and played a crucial role in jazz's starting out and growing popularity. New Orleans consisted of vibrant nightlife, dancing, parades, and brass bands. Early jazz

musicians helped shape the genre by adding in some blues, swing, and classical music.

The 1920s became known as the Jazz age once it incorporated different styles. Jazz continued to evolve and added other music genres into it such as rock and funk and is a blend between many cultures and generations.

Jazz is unlike any other genre because they use improvisations to create spontaneity and melodies. Furthermore, jazz conveys deep emotion including themes of joy or struggles.