

# Celebrate 8 days of world-class Jazz on Amelia Island!

Get ready for an unforgettable musical experience at the 21st annual Amelia Island Jazz Festival! This year's festival features an extraordinary lineup of headliners sure to captivate audiences.

We are thrilled to welcome **Grace Kelly**, a sensational saxophonist, and **Marcia Ball**, whose soulful vocals and masterful piano playing will enchant. **Tony Cruz & the Latin Jazz Legends** will bring vibrant Latin rhythms to the stage.

Our Artistic Director, renowned drummer **Les DeMerle**, along with the enchanting vocalist **Bonnie Eisele**, will also perform, ensuring a festival filled with unforgettable musical magic.

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to experience world-class jazz in the beautiful setting of Amelia Island. Mark your calendars, invite your friends, and get ready to be swept away by the finest sounds of jazz!



## The Dynamic Les DeMerle Band with Bonnie Eisele

World-renowned drummer, band leader and Amelia Island Jazz Festival Artistic Director, Les DeMerle has toured and recorded with Harry James, Wayne Newton

and The Manhattan Transfer. In the words of Downbeat magazine, DeMerle and powerhouse vocalist, Bonnie Eisele, are: "Upbeat from the downbeat, one of the most exciting acts on the jazz scene today".



The Manhattan Transfer headlined the 2023 Amelia Island Jazz Festival

The Amelia Island Jazz Festival, enriches the local community by introducing thousands of residents and visitors of all ages to the vibrant and exhilarating world of jazz, a quintessentially American art form.

Our festival showcases performances by renowned jazz legends alongside emerging young talents. This year, the 2024 Festival will feature performances at a variety of exciting venues across Amelia Island, including Courtyard | Springhill Suites by Marriott, The Decantery, Mocama Beer Company, and the Fernandina Beach Recreation Center.

At the heart of our festival are our educational programs, spearheaded by our Artistic Director, Les DeMerle. These initiatives include Jazz in Schools, Jazz for Kids, and Jazz for Seniors, all designed to foster a love for jazz in the area.

The culmination of our educational efforts is the Amelia Island Jazz Festival Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to deserving high school musicians who show exceptional promise in performing jazz at the collegiate level.

Join us in celebrating the rich tradition of jazz and support our mission to educate and inspire the next generation of jazz musicians. Visit our website to learn more and get your tickets today!

# Buy Tickets Today!

Available online ...

[AmeliaIslandJazzFestival.com](https://AmeliaIslandJazzFestival.com)

or at

## The UPS Store

Island Walk Shopping Center  
1417 Sadler Road  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034  
(904) 277-0820

or at the Door (if not sold out)

Jazz Hotline: (904) 504-4772

# Amelia Island Jazz Festival



Grace Kelly  
Friday, Oct. 4



Marcia Ball  
Saturday, Oct. 5



Les DeMerle



Bonnie Eisele



Latin Legends  
Thursday, Oct. 3



SCAN ME

September 29 to  
October 6, 2024

A not for profit 501(c)(3) corporation, the Les DeMerle Amelia Island Jazz Festival distributes proceeds toward a scholarship program to fund college educations for aspiring jazz musicians and works to provide a rich, diverse jazz offering to the Amelia Island area.

# 2024 Schedule of Concerts & Events



University of North Florida Jazz Ensemble 2 at the Jazz at the Atlantic Rec Center

**Sunday, September 29 • 12–2 pm**

## Jazz Party at the Rec – Free Community Concert

2500 Atlantic Avenue - Fernandina Beach, FL

Food and beverages available from Chef Courtney Thompson - Beyond Horizons

Presenting

21-piece UNF Jazz Ensemble 2 with special guests, directed by Dennis Marks

**Monday, September 30 • 7–9 pm**

## Jazz Festival Sponsor Party

Courtyard | SpringHill Suites by Marriott  
2700 Atlantic Avenue - Fernandina Beach



Les DeMerle - Artistic Director

A very special evening hosted by **Les DeMerle** - drums/vocals and **Bonnie Eisele** - vocals, plus special guests.

This event is our way of saying a heartfelt THANK YOU to our incredible supporters.

As a special invitation-only experience for our valued Bronze Saxophone Sponsors and above, enjoy an unforgettable night of music and celebration. The generosity of our sponsors brings the magic of the Amelia Island Jazz Festival to life, allowing us to continue sharing world-class jazz with our community.

If you're not yet a sponsor, consider joining us in making this festival truly special. Your support ensures that the music, joy, and inspiration of jazz continue to thrive on Amelia Island. We'd love to have you as part of our jazz family!

### Join the High Note Club Friday or Saturday

-VIP Seating -Official 2024 T-Shirt  
-Hot Hors d'Oeuvres-Signed Poster by the artist  
-2 Drink Tickets -Meet and greet the artists at the Courtyard | SpringHill Suites

**\$150 per person**

Available online only [ameliaislandjazzfestival.com](http://ameliaislandjazzfestival.com)

**Tuesday, October 1 • 5–6:30 pm & 7–8:30 pm**

## Jazz & Wine Tasting

The Decantery  
117 Centre Street - Fernandina Beach

Starring:

### The Jazztet

**Paul Tafoya** - trumpet  
**Ajax McDonnell** - saxophone  
**Doug Matthews** - piano  
**Bonnie Eisele** - vocals

Hosted by AIJF Artistic Director **Les DeMerle** - drums/vocals & The Decantery



Tickets: \$45 per person



Bonnie Eisele

**Wednesday, October 2 • 7–10 pm**

## Jump, Jive And Wail/Swing Night Concert & Dance

Courtyard | SpringHill Suites  
2700 Atlantic Avenue - Amelia Island

Featuring: **The Dynamic Les DeMerle Little Big Band** with **Bonnie Eisele** - vocals



Tickets: \$45 per person  
Cash Bar

**Jim Malmgren** - trumpet  
**Clarence Hines** - trombone  
**Don Zentz** - saxophone  
**Ajax McDonnell** - saxophone  
**Doug Matthews** - piano  
**Ricky Ravelo** - bass  
**Les DeMerle** - drums/vocals

**Thursday, October 3 • 7–10 pm**

## Hot Latin Jazz – Concert & Dance

Courtyard | SpringHill Suites  
2700 Atlantic Avenue - Amelia Island

Featuring:

### Tony Cruz & the Latin Jazz Legends

Unleash your inner mambo at this sizzling Latin Jazz Concert and Dance! Tony Cruz and the Latin Jazz Legends will set the stage on fire with irresistible rhythms.

Tickets: \$45 per person  
Cash Bar



Tony Cruz & The Latin Jazz Legends

**Friday, October 4 • 7 pm**

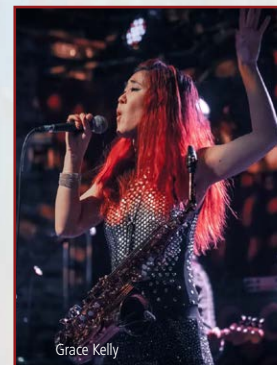
## Grace Kelly Band in Concert

Courtyard | SpringHill Suites  
2700 Atlantic Avenue - Amelia Island

Experience the rise of a true jazz superstar at the Amelia Island Jazz Festival as Grace Kelly, an extraordinary singer, saxophonist, songwriter, composer, and bandleader, captivates audiences with her 14 acclaimed albums, sold-out concerts, performances at the Hollywood Bowl, and role as the youngest Berklee Board of Trustees member.

Opening for Grace Kelly is

**The Les DeMerle Jazz Quintet** - **Les DeMerle** - drums, **Mike Levine** - piano, **Dennis Marks** - bass, **Doc Handy** - percussion, **Bonnie Eisele** - vocals plus special guests.



Grace Kelly

**10 pm 'til 12 am**

## Late Nite Jam at "Dizzy's Den"

Mocama Beer Company  
629 S. 8th Street - Fernandina Beach

Bebop, Blues & Beyond... hosted by 2024 AIJF Scholar, Ayanna Nelson - bass/vocals

**VIP \$95 per person**  
(Fri. or Sat. Concert & Late Nite Jam)

**General Admission \$75 per person**  
(Fri. or Sat. Concert & Late Nite Jam)

**Late Nite Jam Session \$25 per person**  
(Snacks and Beverages available)

**Saturday, October 5 • 7 pm**

## Marcia Ball Band in Concert

Courtyard | SpringHill Suites  
2700 Atlantic Avenue - Amelia Island

A force of nature on stage, Marcia Ball has been captivating audiences for over 50 years. Billboard hails her as "a welcome ray of sunshine... Ball is a killer pianist, a great singer and songwriter" who blends "potent blues, sweet zydeco, soulful, fast and furious Texas boogie... heartfelt, powerful and righteous."

Also featuring

### Les DeMerle Hittin' the Blue Notes Band

**Longineu Parsons** - trumpet, **Don Zentz & Matt Vance** - saxophones, **Mike Levine** - piano, **Dennis Marks** - bass, **Bonnie Eisele** - vocals, **Les DeMerle** - drums/vocals, plus special guests

**10 pm 'til 12 am**

## Late Nite Jam at "Dizzy's Den"

Mocama Beer Company  
629 S. 8th Street - Fernandina Beach



Marcia Ball



Bebop, Blues & Beyond... hosted by 2024 AIJF Scholar, Ayanna Nelson - bass/vocals

## Meet our 2024 AIJF Scholar & the Host of the Late Nite Jams



Ayanna Nelson, an 18-year-old Jazz and Classical Double Bass player and Jazz Vocalist from Jacksonville, Florida, discovered her passion for Jazz Vocal in her senior year at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. A YoungArts winner, she has performed with renowned musicians like Marcus Printup, Jazzmeia Horn and Rodney Whitaker. Ayanna is studying Jazz & Commercial Music at Jacksonville University. This year, she will host the Late Night Jazz Jams at Mocama Beer Company.



The Spare Rib Six

Join us for the grand finale! Enjoy a special menu, and with musicians unwinding after 8 days of jazz, expect the unexpected. It's a jazz-filled feast you won't want to miss!

**Sunday, October 6 • 10:30 am & 1 pm**

## Dixie to Swing Jazz Brunch

Courtyard by Marriott - 2700 Atlantic Avenue - Amelia Island

Featuring: **The Spare Rib Six** - **Longineu Parsons** - trumpet, **Dr. Bill Prince** - clarinet, **Cameron Strine** - trombone, **Mike Levine** - piano, **Dennis Marks** - bass, **Les DeMerle** - drums/vocal, plus **Bonnie Eisele** - vocals, and special guests

Tickets: \$75 per person  
Includes Special Jazz Festival Menu. Cash bar available

Concert events are open seating. VIP tickets guarantee seating within the front row sections.  
Friday & Saturday ticket levels include access to that evening's Jam Session.

Schedule subject to change

**VIP Jazz Passes available online**

access to all General Admission events (except the Sponsor Party - Sept. 30)

**\$360 ea (\$400 Value)**