

Get ready for
8 days of world-class Jazz!

Immerse yourself in the 2023 Amelia Island Jazz Festival, where a lineup of jazz legends will ignite the stage.

The Festival headliner, **The Manhattan Transfer**, celebrating their 50th anniversary and farewell tour, will wow you. Jazz Flautist **Néstor Torres** enchants with melodies, while Grammy nominee for “Best Instrumental Arrangement Accompanying Vocals” the **Tierney Sutton Band** mesmerizes. Dance the night away to the rhythmic tunes of the **LPT Salsa Orchestra**, and swing to the **Les DeMerle Little Big Band** with with vocalist **Bonnie Eisele**.

This festival promises an unforgettable experience, with each artist contributing their unique magic to the tapestry of sound. Get ready to be swept off your feet by this extraordinary lineup of jazz talents.



*The Dynamic
Les DeMerle Band
with Bonnie Eisele*

Renowned drummer, band leader and Amelia Island Jazz Festival Artistic Director, Les DeMerle has played with Harry James 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 John Pizzarelli Trio headlined the 2022 Amelia Island Jazz Festival

The Amelia Island Jazz Festival

provides a rich, diverse cultural offering to the Amelia Island area by exposing thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds to the sounds, excitement and vitality of great jazz - a uniquely American art form.

Music is performed by jazz greats as well as fresh, up-and-coming young talent.

Performances are staged in several venues around Amelia Island. The 2023 Festival is excited to perform at venues which include Courtyard | Springhill Suites by Marriott, Sadler Ranch, The Decantery, Mocama Beer Company, Fernandina Beach Recreation Center, and First Baptist Church.

The cornerstone of the Festival is its **Educational Programs** led by Les DeMerle, the Festival’s Artistic Director. These programs include Jazz in Schools, Jazz for Kids and Jazz for Seniors.

The Festival’s educational programs culminate in the **Amelia Island Jazz Festival Scholarship**. This financial award goes to deserving high school musicians who demonstrate strong potential to perform jazz at the collegiate level.

Buy Tickets Today!

Available online ...
AmeliaIslandJazzFestival.com
or at

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

the Door (if not sold out)
Jazz Hotline: (904) 504-4772

Celebrating 20 years
of world-class Jazz
on Amelia Island



October
1 to 8, 2023



The Manhattan Transfer
Thursday, Oct. 5



Bonnie Eisele



Les DeMerle



Néstor Torres
Friday, Oct. 6



Tierney Sutton Band
Saturday, Oct. 7



LPT
Tuesday, Oct. 3



ameliaislandjazzfestival.com

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.

2023 AIJF Artwork by Park West Artist Mark Kostabi

Brochure and Web Site Design - Studio CB Photography - CBAAdvertising.com

2023 Schedule of Concerts & Events



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

Sunday, October 1 • 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**

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

Jazz & Wine Tasting

The Decantery
117 Centre Street - Fernandina Beach

Featuring: Multi Instrumentalist
Bill Prince - Trumpet, Trombone, Clarinet & Flute and
Doug Matthews - Piano

Hosted by AIJF Artistic Director
Les DeMerle - Drums & The Decantery

Tickets: **\$45** per person



Les DeMerle, Dr. Bill Prince, Doug Matthews

Monday, October 2 • 7–9 pm

Jazz Festival Sponsor Party

Courtyard | Springhill Suites by Marriott
2700-2 Atlantic Avenue - Fernandina Beach



Joe Watts

A very special evening hosted by **Les DeMerle** - drums/vocals and **Bonnie Eisele** - vocals, plus special guest, **Joe Watts** - vocals/trombone. By invitation only for Bronze Saxophone Sponsors and above.

Go online and become a Saxophone Sponsor Today!

Tuesday, October 3 • 7–10 pm

Hot Latin Jazz – Concert & Dance

Sadler Ranch
868 Sadler Road, Ste. 2 - Fernandina Beach

Featuring:

LPT Salsa Orchestra - 10-piece band delivering salsa music with high-energy live shows.

Tickets: **\$45** per person
Cash Bar - Food Available



LPT Salsa Orchestra

Wednesday, October 4 • 7–10 pm

Jump, Jive And Wail/Swing Night Concert & Dance

Sadler Ranch
868 Sadler Road, Ste. 2 - Fernandina Beach

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



The Dynamic Les DeMerle Little Big Band

Tickets: **\$45** per person
Cash Bar - Food Available

Jim Malmgren - trumpet
Clarence Hines - trombone
Rob Chapman - saxophone
Ajax McDonell - saxophone
Doug Matthews - piano
Dennis Marks - bass
Les DeMerle - drums/vocals



Thursday, October 5 • 7 pm

The Manhattan Transfer 50th Anniversary & Farewell Tour

First Baptist Church
1600 South 8th Street - Fernandina Beach

Celebrating their 50th Anniversary, The Manhattan Transfer continues to set the standard as one of the world's greatest and most innovative vocal group. Winners of ten Grammy Awards, with millions of records sold worldwide, this amazing quartet is building upon the extraordinary legacy created by founder Tim Hauser who organized the four-part harmony group along with Janis Siegel (alto), Alan Paul (tenor), and Laurel Masse (soprano) on October 1, 1972. Cheryl Bentyne (soprano) replaced Masse in 1979, and Trist Curless (bass) replaced Tim Hauser following his passing on October 16, 2014.

Opening for The Manhattan Transfer is

Les DeMerle Sound 67

Marvin Ferebee -trumpet, **Matt Vance** -saxophone,
Mike Levine -piano, **Dennis Marks** -bass, **Doc Handy** -percussion,
Bonnie Eisele -vocals, **Les DeMerle** -drums

Premium VIP	\$150 ea
(includes a meet & greet the artists after the show)	
VIP	\$120 ea
General Admission	\$ 80 ea

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' - Oct. 2)
\$468 ea (\$520 Value)

Friday, October 6 • 7 pm

Néstor Torres in Concert

Courtyard | Springhill Suites
2700 Atlantic Avenue - Amelia Island

Grammy award winning flautist Néstor Torres performed at the Amelia Island Jazz Festival in 2017. He returns to celebrate our 20th anniversary.
As a leading Latin jazz flautist he became part of Miami's flourishing music scene that included Gloria and Emilio Estefan and the legendary bassist Israel "Cachao" López.

Also featuring

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

10 pm 'til 12 am

Late Nite Jam at "Dizzy's Den"

SpringHill Suites Harbor Room
2700-2 Atlantic Ave. • Fernandina Beach

Bebop, Blues & Beyond...
hosted by 2023 AIJF Scholar,
Giovanni Martinez, Trumpet/Flugelhorn



Néstor Torres

VIP \$95 per person	(Fri. Concert & Late Nite Jam)
General Admission	\$75 per person
	(Fri. Concert & Late Nite Jam)
Late Nite Jam Session	\$25 per person
	(Snacks and Beverages available)

Saturday, October 7 • 7 pm

Tierney Sutton Band in Concert

Courtyard | Springhill Suites
2700 Atlantic Avenue - Amelia Island

The 9-time Grammy-nominated jazz vocalist, Tierney Sutton, fronts The Tierney Sutton Band which features instrumental virtuosos Christian Jacob, Trey Henry, Kevin Axt and Ray Brinker, functioning as true collaborative partners in business as well as music.



Tierney Sutton Band

Also featuring

The Les DeMerle Jazz Quartet – **Les DeMerle** -drums,
Mike Levine -piano, **Dennis Marks** -bass, **Bonnie Eisele** -vocals,
and special guest **Longineu Parsons** -trumpet/vocals

10:30 pm 'til 12 am

Late Nite Jam at "Dizzy's Den"

SpringHill Suites Harbor Room
2700-2 Atlantic Ave. • Fernandina Beach



Giovanni Martinez
2023 AIJF Scholar,
host of the
Late Nite Jam at
"Dizzy's Den"

VIP \$95 per person	(Sat. Concert & Late Nite Jam)
General Admission \$75 per person	(Sat. Concert & Late Nite Jam)
Late Nite Jam Session \$25 per person	(Snacks and Beverages available)



The Spare Rib Six with Bonnie Eisele

Sunday, October 9 • 10:30 am & 1 pm

Dixie to Swing Jazz Brunch

Courtyard by Marriott - 2700-2 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, plus **Bonnie Eisele** -vocals, & Guests.

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

Join the High Note Club Friday or Saturday

-VIP Seating -Official 2023 T-Shirt **\$150 per person**
-Hot Hors d'Oeuvres-Signed Poster by the artist
-2 Drink Tickets -Meet and greet the artists at the Courtyard | Springhill Suites

Available online only ameliaislandjazzfestival.com