

Texins Jazz Band

From 1986-2019, this group operated as The Texas Instruments Jazz Band, organized under the Texins Association at Texas Instruments. Members consisted of current, former, and retired TI employees, supplemented with subs as needed.

In 2020 the band became an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and changed the name to Texins Jazz Band. The band still gives priority to members with a STEM background. The band rehearses weekly at Dallas College, Richland Campus, under the direction of Bill Centera.

The band has hosted many world-class musicians over the decades including Clark Terry, Phil Woods, John Pizzarelli, Kurt Elling, Wayne Bergeron, & Randy Brecker.

Upcoming: Patrick Bartley at the Eisemann Center 4/19/26

Upcoming: John Pizzarelli at the Eisemann Center 5/31/26

www.texinsjazz.com (join our email list here)

www.facebook.com/TexinsJazz (follow us)

contact: Paul Westbrook, texins@enerjazz.com

Mardi Gras / New Orleans Traditions

Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday) has been celebrated in New Orleans since 1699. It was introduced by the French, who celebrated the final day before Lent. The weeks leading up to Fat Tuesday are celebrated with balls, parades, marching bands, King Cakes, masks, costumes, and revelry. There are several songs that have become associated with Mardi Gras, including Carnival Time, Mardi Gras Mambo, Go to the Mardi Gras, and Bourbon Street Parade.

The music of Mardi Gras is tightly woven into the musical fabric of the city of New Orleans – the birthplace of jazz. There is a distinct rhythm of the New Orleans street beat. There is the Second Line that follows behind the main section of the parade (the first line). Second lines are also associated with funerals. The march to the gravesite is usually a solemn occasion, but the march away is a joyous celebration of the deceased's life. New Orleans musicians helped form the music we know as jazz – and they shared it with the world.

"Laissez les bons temps rouler" is a Cajun French phrase that translates to "Let the good times roll." That's our goal for this concert.

Big Band Mardi Gras



presented by



Allen Civic Auditorium
Sunday, February 15, 2026

texinsjazz.com

Scan for online program-->
or texinsjazz.com/program



Texins Jazz Band

Director: Bill Centera

Saxes

Paul Westbrook (President) – B.S. Mechanical Engineering

Alejandro Vera (Treasurer) – M.S. Electrical Engineering

Gerry Burnham – Ph.D. Electrical Engineering

David West – M.S. Manufacturing Engr / Materials Science

Tom Hilbun (Secretary) – B.S. Chemical Engineering

Trombones

Bryan Campbell – MBA

Steve Schulz – B.S. Electrical & Electronics Engr; MBA

Jason Shick – B.S. Computer Science

Ken Kunz – M.A. in Music Education

Trumpets

Rob Jonas – Medicaid biller

John Alptekin - Ph.D. Chemistry

Andrew Kortze – B.S. Electrical Engineering (Sub: **David Randall**)

Dennis Doane – B.S. Mechanical Engineering

Rhythm

Bill Sallee (bass) – M.S. Electrical Engineering

Frank Luna (bass) – B.S. Chemical & Biological Engineering

Terry Bartlett (guitar) – M.S. Electrical Engineering

Mike Coldewey (piano) – M.Music; Software Developer

Chris Lichtenberg (drums) – Ph.D. Electrical Engineering

Vocalist

Nicole Bernard – B.S. Advertising - Business

Program (to be selected from)

Big Chief

By Earl King & Professor Longhair (1964); Arr. Paul Westbrook

Ol' Man River

By Jerome Kern & Oscar Hammerstein II (1927); Arr. Bill Holman

Carnival Time

By Al Johnson (1960); Arr. Paul Westbrook

Mardi Gras Mambo

By Frankie Adams, Lou Welsch, Ken Elliot (1953); Arr. Paul Westbrook

They All Ask'd For You

By Zigaboo Modeliste & The Meters (1975); Arr. Paul Westbrook

Basin Street Blues

By Spencer Williams (1928); Arr. James Morrison

Struttin' With Some BBQ

By Lil Hardin Armstrong (1927); Arr. Alan Baylock

Second Line (Joe Avery Blues)

Traditional; Arr. Victor Goines

Go to the Mardi Gras

By Professor Longhair & Theresa Terry (1949); Arr. Paul Westbrook

Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans

By Eddie DeLange and Louis Alter (1947); Arr. Ed Wilson

Bourbon Street Parade

By Paul Barbarin (1949); Arr. Mike J.D. Roberts

When the Saints Go Marching In

Traditional, Copyrighted by Virgil Stamps and Luther Presley; Arr. Dean Sorenson

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