

The Official Newsletter Of Musicians Union Local 6



A word cloud on a black background featuring terms related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The most prominent words are "solidarity", "quarantine", "change", "isolation", "community", and "union". Other visible words include "lockdown", "distancing", "gloves", "mask", "virus", "health", "support", "gratitude", "insecurity", "face mask", "the new normal", "co-workers", "resistance", "human", "micro droplets", "connection", "compassion", "patience", "relationships", "covid-19", "slow down", "hospital", "family", "time", "service", "traffic", "gloves", "support", "unity", "love", "gather", "micro droplets", "connection", "compassion", "patience", "relationships", "covid-19", "slow down", "hospital", "family", "time", "service", "traffic", "gloves".



President's Message

by Kale Cummings

What a great distance to travel in one week from playing concerts to standing in line for toilet paper! What would have been unfathomable even two short months ago has now become our normal. We all went from thinking about our next performance to thinking about the next time we may have the opportunity to perform. For many, if not most of us, this represents a loss of our ability to earn a

living. We are hearing daily projections that paint a very bleak picture for returning to a normal work schedule any time soon. How can we adjust to something we have never seen before?

The obvious answer is nobody really knows. But we do know we need to continue to prioritize health and safety. The office staff has transitioned almost completely to working remotely during the shelter-in-place requirement. Our hours remain the same and phone lines are open to serve you.

We also know that our response to this crisis is going to mean more than the crisis itself. For instance, when all the work cancellations were becoming public, many people in our own community brought up the concern for their fellow musicians who were left without an ability to pay for rent and groceries. The response to this concern was overwhelming. Thanks to Jeannie Psomas and Patrick Johnson-Whitty, who set up a GoFundMe account, our tireless staff, our dedicated Board of Directors, and most importantly the hundreds among our own ranks who donated money, we were able to raise over \$40,000 for those of us most in need. (See pages 10-11.) This kind of empathy and solidarity is heartwarming, and I think exactly the response that gives us reason for hope.

In addition to our relief effort we've been:

- Working with Lorena Gonzalez and several factions from across the industry to draft language for musician exemptions to AB5 that both make sense and protect musicians. (Something she announced Friday, April 17th)
- Negotiating with several groups that have had to cancel services. In many instances, we have been able to find ways to support musicians put out of work.
- Publicizing the plight of musicians in newspaper articles, radio interviews, and television news stories as well as lobbying more directly with legislators.
- Acting in solidarity with many of our sibling unions to fight for relief for musicians.
- Wading through the mountains of information available for possible sources of relief. (See pages 6-7.)
- Helping our members navigate this strange new reality.

Despite the uncertainty of the situation, I am confident that we will face and overcome these and all future obstacles together.

In Memoriam

Elizabeth Bell
Arthur Cummings
Michael Grebanier
Craig McAmis
Emil Miller
Wallace "Wally" Wells

Membership Dues

Regular Membership	\$52.50/Quarter
35 Year Membership	\$38.50/Quarter
Life Membership	\$25.25/Quarter
70/20 Year Membership	\$29.25/Quarter

LOCAL 6 OFFICERS

Kale Cummings, President
Forrest Byram, Vice-President
Beth Zare, Secretary-Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meredith Brown, Trustee
Gretchen Elliott, Trustee
Josephine Gray, Director
Steve Hanson, Director

STAFF

Lori Ponton Rodriguez, Treasury x304
Katie Curran, Casuals x306
Cheryl Fippen, MPTF, Death Benefits x307

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Melinda Wagner

MEETINGS SCHEDULE

General Membership
April 27, 2020 1:00 pm
Board Of Directors

Board meetings are open to the membership.
Call for schedules.

The Office Will Be Closed:

New Year's Day
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
President's Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Columbus Day
Veterans Day
Thanksgiving Day (and day after)
December 24 & 25

Editor, Musical News: Beth Zare

The Musical News is published by Musicians Union Local 6, AFM. Any notice appearing herein shall be considered to be an official notice to the membership. The appearance herein of an article or an advertisement does not imply an endorsement by the editors.

MUSICIANS UNION LOCAL 6

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Local 6 General Election

The Board of Directors has established **Thursday, October 29, 2020** as the date of the next General Election for Local 6.

VOTING ELIGIBILITY: Members must be paid through the second quarter, which ends **June 30, 2020**, and must have paid any required initiation fees in full. **The deadline for paying second quarter dues is August 31, 2020.**

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE: Any member who meets the qualifications stated in this notice may be nominated and become a candidate for **any office or delegation of this union**, and thereby be entitled to have their name placed upon the ballot, as follows:

President (and delegate to the Convention)

Vice President

Secretary-Treasurer (and delegate to the Convention)

Board of Directors – 5 positions

Delegates to the Convention – 2 positions

Diversity Delegate to the Convention – 1 position.

All officer and board positions have 3-year terms, which begin on the first Monday following the January General Meeting in 2021.

1) Nominees must be, and have been, full members in good standing of Local 6 for a period of two (2) years preceding **August 31, 2020**, which is the deadline for filing nomination petitions;

2) Nominees must be U.S. citizens;

3) Nominees must not have been found guilty of any malfeasance in office or theft of union property.

Nomination petitions, available online or by request must contain 10 or more signatures of members in good standing and must be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer no later than 4:00 p.m. on August 31, 2020

RESOLUTIONS & AMENDMENTS: Proposed Amendments to the Local 6 Constitution or Bylaws must be submitted in writing on the proper form (available online or by request), accompanied by signatures of 25 or more members in good standing, to the Secretary-Treasurer no later than **4:00 p.m. on July 10, 2020**, so that they may be transmitted to the Law & Legislative Committee by **July 17, 2020**, as required by the Bylaws.

For any additional information regarding election procedures, please refer to Article IV of the Local 6 Constitution and Bylaws in the 2018 Directory or contact the office of the Secretary-Treasurer.

The following corrections were submitted regarding the Carole Klein: Pioneer article, December 2019, Vol. 91, No. 6:

Three women were elected to the Local 6 Board of Directors in the 1984 election for the 1985-86 term:

Melinda Wagner, Carole Klein, and Diana Dorman. (Gretchen Elliott was elected to the Board following her terms as Secretary-Treasurer.) The other board members elected were James Matheson and Mark Teel.

The President in 1985-86 was Billy Catalano, not Jerry Spain as stated in the article.

Effective Immediately

The Board of Directors of Local 6 waives the \$5 late fee for Membership dues.

Welcome to the AFM

Elizabeth Dorman - Celeste, Harpsichord, Organ, Piano

Praised by Joshua Kosman of the San Francisco Chronicle for her "crisp, brightly finished" playing and her "elegance and verve," pianist Elizabeth Dorman received the 2017 Father Merlet Award from Pro Musicis and was a finalist in the 2018 Leipzig International Bach Competition. Dr. Dorman freelances as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral keyboard player and recently moved from New York to Berkeley, CA. She has appeared at international festivals including Tanglewood, Britt, Sarasota, Aspen, Toronto Summer Music, Icicle Creek, Banff and her live performances have been nationally broadcast on public radio. She studied with Gilbert Kalish at Stony Brook University where she also served as Adjunct Lecturer of Piano Pedagogy while completing her D.M.A. A native of San Francisco, CA, Dr. Dorman began her training with Paul Hersh at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.



Lynne Miller - Bagpipes

Lynne Miller, a native of Great Britain, has been playing bagpipes for well over 40 years. A lifetime fan of the instrument, he began playing after receiving his first set of pipes as a birthday present from his wife and taking lessons from Jack Cunningham of San Francisco. Over the years, he has played with various pipe bands around the Bay Area including The Irish Pipers Band of San Francisco and the MacIntosh Pipe Band. He not only plays traditional music but has also recorded with Steven Kent, the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra, and the jazz group Iter. He has been invited to play with such well known acts as Neil Young, Joan Baez, and Ravi Coltrane, and has done sound effects for motion pictures. Mr. Miller is now the owner of House of Bagpipes and teaches bagpipes privately and at The Piedmont Adult School.

New Members

Beard, Robert "Kyle" - clarinet, bass & Eb clarinet
Bukujian, Ani - violin
Christianson, Joseph - viola, violin
Cox, Michael - baritone, euphonium, trombone, bass trumpet
Endo, Tetsuya - trombone, alto trombone, bass trombone
Feng, Yuh-Boh - saxophone, alto & bari saxophone
Ham, Barret - clarinet
Kauffman, Antoinette Marie - flute, piccolo
Klieger, Robert - percussion
Krause, Marci - flute, piccolo
McAtee, Kevin Tyler - flute, piccolo
Miller, Lynne S. - bagpipes
Nishimura, Julie - piano
Nordmoe, Anna - piano, viola, violin
O'Donnell, Andrew - clarinet
Smith, Jamael - bassoon, contrabassoon
Sparling, Kent - guitar, keyboard, synth, percussion
Thompson, Michail - trumpet
Tillstrom, Carolyn - sousaphone, tuba
Van Loon, Samsun Young - cello
Wei, Tsan-Jung "Maggie" - piano, trumpet

Reinstated

Baird-Daniel, Sophie
Blumenstock, Elizabeth
Burian, Laura
Chanco, Aileen
Fasman, Kelly
Fitzerald-Cherry, Irene
Khalikulov, Vladimir
Kim, Byung Woo
Knudson, Christine J.
Laguana, Rose
Lee, Joyce Y.
Leung, Amy
Martinez, Ricardo
Matteri, Alan
Reilly, Tyler

Resigned

Arnaudo, John B
Barrad, Kseniia Polstiankina
Bedner, Alex
Blendulf, Joanna
Boyle, Inez
Cooley, Floyd
Faridany, Lucy
Goodman, Chad
Jandula-Hudson, Peter
Janusch, Jay Scott
Johnston, Brian H
Kim, Junghae
Kofler, Ivelina
Lanzone, Emily
Lenicheck, Robert
Olachea, Miguel
Orbasido, Tony
Perlman, Jessica

Poole, Maggie Ellen
Renzi, Matthew P.
Sakakeeny, Gabriel
Strauss, Victoria
Thorne, James
Urbano, Rosi
Waite, Alicia
Walsh, Alex
Warchol, Monika
Wells, David
Wolohan, Kevin

Pamela Parker - Guitar, Vocals

Pamela Parker is a producer, engineer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and high-powered vocalist. She sings as well as plays guitar, piano and percussion. In addition to being a session musician and live performer, she has been working for the last 13 years at the legendary Hyde Street Studios in SF as a producer and engineer with an array of bands. She fronts a rock band and has a new album out called *The Fantastic Machine*, produced by herself, Chris McGrew and Jaimeson Durr (Sammy Hagar, Jason Bonham) at Hyde Street Studios. Pamela has two degrees in music. The first in vocal performance with a double minor in jazz and classical guitar and piano while performing with the college jazz band on piano. The second degree is in commercial music from Shenandoah Conservatory, where she studied classical voice, piano and guitar with a major emphasis on recording, producing and arranging music in the studio. Recently, her band produced a full score and theme song for a multi-award-winning short film *Love Hurts*. Her band has also composed custom music for commercial clients such as Discovery Channel and Verizon. Pamela was slated to perform at the ACT for the production of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* on electric and acoustic guitar, before it was canceled.



Daniel Scuiry - Trumpet, Cornet

I joined AFM 6 for reasons very different from what you might expect. It's a long story spanning almost a century of union activism. Since the early 20th century, someone in my family has always championed labor. My cousin Dan was a well-known labor leader in Ohio his whole life. When he died in December there was no one left to carry this torch. Like my cousin, I'm a musician, trumpeter and choral singer. He also belonged to the musicians union (AFM Local 111, Canton OH). Joining AFM 6 was the most fitting way I knew to express my love for him and honor his commitment to labor, so that someone in the Scuiry family is still supporting unions.

While I've played trumpet since childhood, much of my experience has also been in choral music. I was choir director for Our Lady of Fatima (Byzantine) Catholic Church in San Francisco from 2006 to 2013. My most serious work was with Slavyanka, a Bay Area based choral group well known for its superb performance of Russian/Eastern European religious and folk music from 2012 to 2014. In my spare time, I compete in Country Western dance

(UCWDC) with my coach and world champion Joan Lundahl. She has brought me to many successful wins in Country Western and ballroom dancing. Dance has been a major part of my life for more than 30 years. My *day job* for 34 years was with the University of California, Office of the President, UCOP (Oakland). I directed the UCOP Singers for a number of years until I retired in 2018. I'm honored to belong to such a fine organization and group of artists. I'm glad to count myself among all of you who share the same artistic goals and ideals.



Carolyn Swayze - Vocals, Piano

Hailing from Chicago, Swayze relocated to California in the early 1970s, making a 30 year career in local government. For almost that same length of time, she has performed as a pop/jazz singer, songwriter, and composer, working mainly on the San Francisco Bay Area hotel and country club circuits throughout the mid-1970s through the early 1990s. Working not only with various side bands, she was also the singer with the Jimmy Diamond Orchestra for nearly 20 years. Retiring from public service in 2007, she published her first novel, *Of Noble Character*, in 2012. In 2016, she established the Sacramento Jazz Cooperative, Inc., a nonprofit charitable benefit, dedicated to the preservation of classic jazz, and in January 2020, she recorded her second CD, *Reflections*. The singer/songwriter currently resides in Sacramento, California.

Frequently Asked Questions about Unemployment



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Local 47

** DISCLAIMER: The information offered here is based on the most current answers we have received from EDD and UI experts. Everyone's situation is unique, and this general FAQ does not necessarily address the exact situation of any one individual; please contact your EDD representative for specific guidance. This FAQ will be updated in real-time to reflect the most current information available. Please visit afm47.org/covid19 for additional resources for musicians.*

When should I file a claim?

If you have experienced canceled work services or reduced hours, you may be eligible to file a claim with the California EDD. The most important thing EDD wants ALL members to know is: Don't wait to file the claim – file it now. Don't worry about trying to see if you qualify – file and EDD will make the determination.

What benefit(s) am I eligible to receive?

Review this COVID-19 Benefits Worksheet to review your circumstances and how to apply for benefits. Below is a quick overview:

- **Reduced Work Hours:** If your employer has reduced your hours or shut down operations due to COVID-19, you can file an Unemployment Insurance (UI) claim.
- **School Closures:** If your child's school is closed, and you have to miss work to be there for them, you may be eligible for Unemployment Insurance benefits. Eligibility considerations include if you have no other care options and if you are unable to continue working your normal hours remotely. Contact the EDD and a representative will determine if you are eligible.
- **Sick or Quarantined:** If you're unable to work due to having or being exposed to COVID-19, certified by a medical professional, you can file a Disability Insurance (DI) claim. (Note: Gov. Newsom has waived the state's one-week waiting period for filing a claim.)
- **Caregiving:** If you're unable to work because you are caring for an ill or quarantined family member with COVID-19, certified by a medical professional, you can file a Paid Family Leave (PFL) claim.
- **Work Sharing Program:** Employers can apply for the Work Sharing Program if reduced production, services, or other conditions are causing you to seek an alternative to layoffs.

How do I file for EDD benefits?

Currently there are three ways to file: online, phone, paper. Online at edd.ca.gov/claims.html continues to be the quickest way to file but it still may take a while based on the volume (California currently has a surge of claims). Phones are open 8am-noon for now. To calculate your estimated unemployment amounts please visit: edd.ca.gov/unemployment/UI-Calculator.htm.

How long will it take for my claim to be processed?

Your claim may take on average 21-30 days to process. The system is currently experiencing a surge in applications.

Who do I file under if I am a corporation / have an S-corp?

Whoever the paycheck comes from – usually a payroll company – file using them as the employer. Whoever pays the employer tax, should be designated as the employer.

I am self-employed / an independent contractor / gig worker. Can I file a claim?

Typically, no. However, if you are self-employed, an independent contractor, or gig worker and are unable to work or have had your hours reduced due to COVID-19, you may be eligible for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits under a few different scenarios:

- You chose to contribute to UI Elective Coverage and paid the required contributions to be considered potentially eligible for benefits.
- Your past employer made contributions on your behalf over the past 5 to 18 months.
- You may have been misclassified as an independent contractor instead of an employee.

For more information visit the EDD's Coronavirus 2019 FAQs.

I have both W-2's and 1099s to report. What should I do?

The recommendation is to apply using the EDD UI application pdf form rather than applying online. In most cases, self-employed workers, independent contractors, and freelance workers who lose their income are not eligible for unemployment benefits. If you were paid as an independent contractor and receive a 1099 form, you were not considered an employee and would not be eligible for unemployment. If you believe you were misclassified and should have been considered an employee, the EDD will make that determination.

What if I receive multiple W-2s, some from work done in other states?

Having multiple W-2s is OK. You only have to provide data on the majority of employers. If some of your highest wages were paid out of state, it is best to call to file your claim if verifying for more than one state because EDD has to coordinate with the other state to verify the wages earned in another state. If you earned a significant money from another state, this may enable you to receive the maximum amount for UI. EDD combines all wages together and select the highest amount. If your hours are reduced 20% or greater, you can apply.

• Example: If your weekly benefit is \$450 and you make \$50 – the first \$25 or 20% is non-deductible. EDD will subtract it from what you'll receive.

Are residuals considered wages?

Yes; the Department considers residual payments to be wages since they are compensation for personal services. Some other terms used for this type of payment are use, reuse and rerun payments or fees.

The Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund sends me one large residuals check each year, on July 1, as W-2. Do I claim the Fund as an employer?

Yes; whoever is responsible for processing the payroll and collects and distributes the wage to the musician is the entity you should list on the claim. Do your best to estimate your hours per week, and explain that these are residual payments in the follow-up eligibility call you will receive from the EDD rep.

Under 'Employment History' it asks what employer I worked for the longest. How do I answer this as a freelance musician with multiple employers?

Aim for where the highest wages earned come from when adding employers. When you are self-employed put yourself down as your own employer. When an EDD rep receives your claim they will treat it on a case by case basis.

I had a gig scheduled for next month, which got canceled due to the coronavirus outbreak. Can I list this on my UI claim?

No; you can only report on past wages earned. If it is a new company you were supposed to work for, but the contract was cancelled before you worked for the company, you cannot list them as an employer. However, if you had previously worked for this same employer in the past, then you are considered an employee and can file.

• For example: You worked for Princess Cruise and finished their job March 1st. Then you received work from Norwegian Cruise (who is a brand

new employer for you – you have never worked for Norwegian Cruise before) to start March 30th, however, Norwegian Cruise cancels the contract. The employee can file unemployment, but Norwegian will not be the employer that will be attached to the claim. The last employer considered will be Princess Cruise.

• If you have worked with Princess in the past and you had a new contract to work with them again in April but that gets cancelled, then you can apply for UI using Princess as the employer. If the contract would show dates of performance, wage, etc. then you are considered an employee and can file.

How does a freelancer who still teaches privately but has lost all other gigs for the foreseeable future apply for partial unemployment? How does one calculate the lost income when the income is variable based on the orchestra, pay scale, and number of services?

UI is based on past wages earned. When filing a claim enter your most recent and highest paying jobs in order to maximize your benefit.

Can I receive unemployment if I am receiving Social Security payments?

Yes, this will not affect your UI benefits.

Can I receive both unemployment and disability insurance?

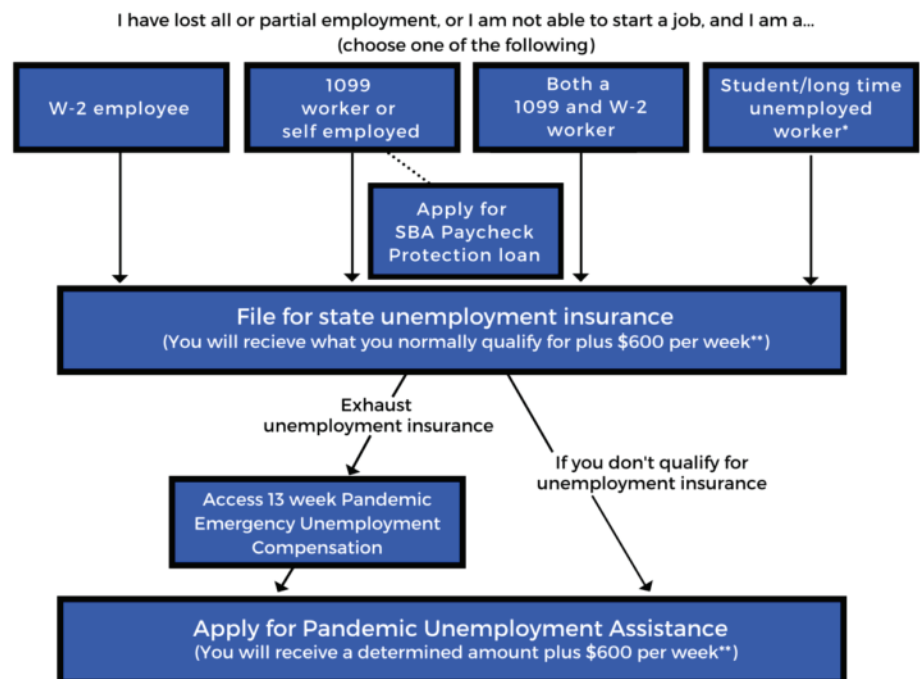
In most cases, no. If you are unable to work physically, the best route is to get a doctor's note and file for Disability Insurance.

Can I file for unemployment as a non-U.S. citizen?

Yes. UI is not only for U.S. citizens. Anyone with the right to work in the U.S. can apply.

Where can I find more information about benefits directly related to coronavirus?

Please visit edd.ca.gov/about_edd/coronavirus-2019/faqs.htm.



*Someone who has not worked in the last six months

**Through July 31, 2020, all UI and PUA claimants will receive their calculated benefits plus an additional \$600 per week in compensation.

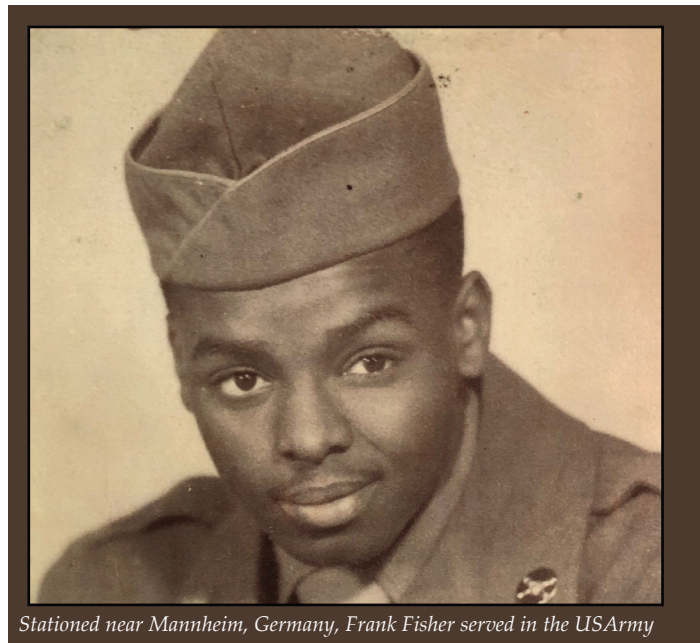
Frank Fisher: Against All Odds

compiled by Cheryl Fippen

Life Member Frank Fisher was born in 1926 and has been a member of Local 6 since 1960, the year that the African-American members of Local 669 were allowed to join Local 6, although he had already been in Local 669 for 12 years. Frank's story is one of segregation, not only in the South, but in California. It's a story of separate and unequal education at all levels, including college, and of military service that led to a civilian career in Alameda for the Department of Defense. But most importantly, Frank's story is about a passion for music and a drive to succeed as a musician against all odds.

Frank was born in 1926 in Huntsville, Texas, just north of Houston. His mother was a beautician and his father was a chef at a white hotel. He started playing the trumpet in his black high school where instruments were hand-me-downs from the cross-city white high school. Arriving late for his first band class, all the instruments were taken until a kid abandoned his trumpet because he needed to go home early and work. Frank picked it up and that's how he got started on the trumpet. Even before he graduated high school in 1943, Frank had formed a jazz combo that happened to be performing on a local radio station on Dec. 7, 1941, the day that Pearl Harbor was attacked. The entrance of the United States into World War II was a defining moment in Frank's life.

The summer after high school, Frank worked on manufacturing destroyer escorts at the Brown and Root shipyard in Houston to make money during college. He then matriculated at Prairie View A&M, a Historically Black University affiliated with Texas



Stationed near Mannheim, Germany, Frank Fisher served in the US Army

A&M. To give you an idea how unequal the institutions were, the leader of Texas A&M was called a "President", while the head of Prairie View was called "Principal." Nevertheless, Prairie View had an active jazz band and Frank joined as soon as he could. He and his buddies would go to the clubs at night to hear jazz greats such as Roy Otis, Louis Armstrong, and Coleman Hawkins. In his second year of college Frank added radio (electronics) study to his curriculum, a propitious decision that would serve him well after he was drafted during his sophomore year. He ended up in Germany for the occupation and became a communications sergeant for his Army company.

After the war and his time in the Army, Frank and his wife moved to Oakland, where his wife's mother lived. With his radio and electronics background, Frank quickly got a day job at the Alameda naval air station working as a radio mechanic on the P-3 Orion anti-submarine aircraft. He worked there for 35 years before retiring in 1982.

From the very beginning of Frank's time in the Bay Area, he was looking for ways to be involved with music. He first got to know other musicians by jamming at De Fremery Park in Oakland. That developed into having little gigs around the area, and within a short time, he formed his own quintet. One of the places they regularly performed was Slim Jenkins Supper Club on 7th Street, one of the most prominent black nightclubs in Oakland. He also met new musicians to play with, including John Handy, and joined other prominent groups like the Jr. Courtney Big Band and David Hardiman's band. Frank gigged all over the Bay Area, including behind Tony Bennett, Jerold Wilson, and Duke Ellington. He also played with the King Sisters, OC Smith, Little Green Apples, and Lou Rawls. His very late nights and early mornings were frequently spent jamming at Bop City in San



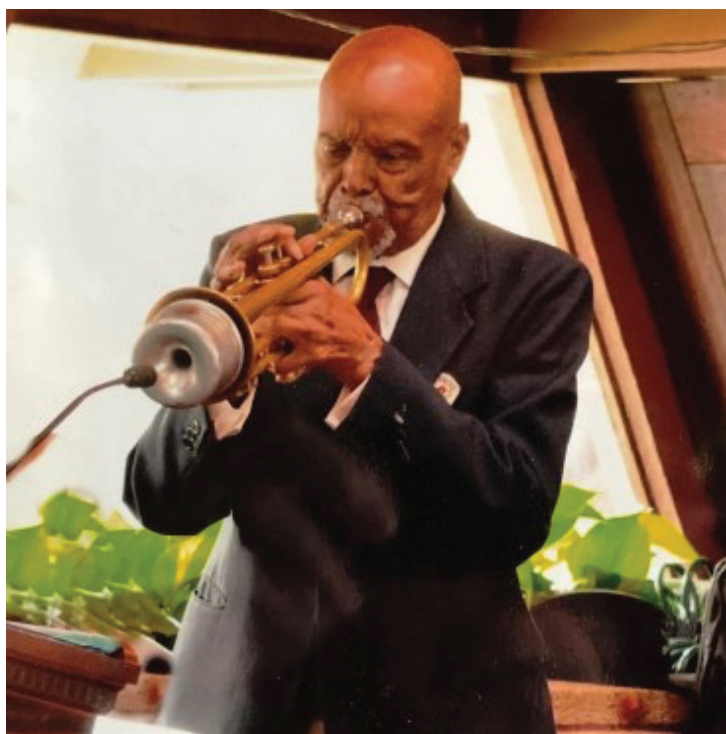
Harlem of the West book cover (left to right) at Bop City 1952: John Handy, Pony Poindexter, John Coltrane, Frank Fisher

"I'm just a little country boy from Texas grateful to be wakin' up on the green side of the grass."

Francisco's Fillmore district. Frank's music pals nicknamed him "Godfather" because he was usually the oldest member of the band.

Another aspect of Frank's musical life in the Bay Area was racial segregation. When he arrived here from Texas, he thought that aspect of life would be better, but was surprised to learn that the Union was segregated: Local 6 for white musicians, Local 669 for black musicians. As a member of Local 669, there were just certain places you couldn't play, like the Fairmont and Mark Hopkins hotels, and the Circle Star Theatre, unless you came in with an all-black outfit. Those venues would not let a black musician perform with a mixed-race band. One company that allowed mixed-race bands in those days was the NFL Raiders- and Frank played in the Raider band from 1968-1981.

After racial protests by black musicians outside of the Local 6 offices on Jones Street in the late '50s, the white San Francisco local finally was forced, by AFM President Lester Petrillo, to admit the members of the black Local 669. After the merger, Frank felt like the musicians came together and everyone went along with the change, and that it could have been that way a lot earlier.



Easter Hill United Methodist Church 2018

Later in his music career Frank wrote music for bands that he played in, much of it now archived at either Cal or Bowie State University in Maryland. A lot of Bay Area bands are still playing his charts, including two of his favorite tunes, "It'll be alright" and "Ain't no way." Frank retired from playing in 2017 and there was a big party at Yoshi's to congratulate him and celebrate his nearly 70 years of making music in the Bay Area. He still lives in Richmond, and in addition to listening to a lot of jazz CDs, enjoys keeping track of his 4 children, 8 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, and a new 7 month old great great grandson.

Remembering Local 669 by Alex Walsh

Musicians Union Local 6 was established in 1885. Ten years later, in 1896, The American Federation of Musicians was chartered and became part of the American Federation of Labor (which later became the AFL-CIO).

Black musicians were not allowed to join Local 6. In San Francisco, with rare exception, black musicians were not allowed to play east of Van Ness Avenue. In 1924, the Negro Musicians of San Francisco and the Bay Area were granted a charter by the AFM to do business as Local 648, which had the same jurisdictional boundaries as Local 6 and was headquartered in Oakland.

In San Francisco, black musicians could only play in black neighborhoods, such as the Western Addition. Very few club owners hired black bands east of Van Ness (downtown). In 1934, Local 6 pressured a downtown club owner to hire a white band, even though the gig was under a Local 648 contract. One night, Local 6 musicians just showed up before the black band, and started playing. Local 648 filed a lawsuit against Local 6,



George Spencer and Frank Fisher at the 2019 Life Member Lunch

and lost. That's the way it was back then. Local 6 then filed a complaint to the AFM who in turn revoked Local 648's charter, saying they should have resolved it within the AFM, not the courts. The black musicians were placed under the stewardship of Local 6. Ten years later, during a bitter territorial conflict with Local 6 which ended up in court, the AFM revoked Local 648's charter. Black musicians were then placed under Local 6 stewardship.

As a subsidiary of Local 6, black musicians paid work dues and membership dues, but they had no rights. They could not vote on wage scales or job condition matters, or receive the death benefit. They had their own officers and were housed upstairs in the Jones Street building.

In 1943, AFM President James C. Petrillo abolished all black subsidiary locals. He demanded that white locals accept black musicians as equal members, or he would grant them their own charters. When Local 6 refused, Local 669 was formed.

Helping each other out during this time of crisis

On March 18, the day before Governor Newsom gave the shelter-in-place order, Local 6 members, Jeannie Psomas and Patrick Johnson-Whitty started a fundraising campaign to help our members in need. Not knowing how many people would need help and how many would be able to help, the first goal was set at raising \$10,000. "When we blew past \$10,000 in the first 24 hours of starting our GoFundMe campaign I was really amazed," said Johnson-Whitty. "I didn't expect us to reach our first goal so soon. I got really excited talking to Jeannie over the phone about what we should make for our next goal and how far we could go. The outpouring of support and generosity from people inside and outside of our community was truly astounding. It was a reminder that people want to come together and help each other during a crisis, and that makes me feel pretty good as we go forward into these uncertain times." Over \$46,000 was raised in donations (see list of donors on page 11) and on March 30, 2020 the Board of Directors voted to give \$895 to each of those members who had applied for help. (See some of their responses below.)

Bay Area Musician's Relief Fund



This is a blessing,
thank you very much!
I'm practically in tears.
My family and I appreciate this.

Wow,
Oh my god!!!!!!
THANK YOU for your efforts!!!!
THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!!

Thx so much! U guys r awesome! This helps a lot! Hope this situation will be Pnished soon! Plz stay safe.

I cannot thank those that contributed enough! This will help me breathe a bit easier today.

This news brightened my day immensely! Thank you from the bottom of my heart (& bank account)!

Best news I have heard in a LONG TIME!

I just want to thank everyone at Local 6 for this much needed help. Local 6 has done so much for musicians in the Bay Area, and I'm very proud to have been a member here for close to 40 years.

EVERYTHING HELPS.

This is a very bright spot in otherwise dark times and we will remember that our union was there for us in the time of need.

Thank you so much for such a great news. I really appreciate this generous help from local 6. I am sure it lifts up so many musicians' hearts to get through this hard time.

Thank you again for organizing that relief fund. It really means a great deal.

Heartfelt thanks to my union!

Thanks for all that you do, especially now when it's such a thankless task.

Keep up all the good work, especially in these unprecedented times.

I AM VERY APPRECIATIVE OF THE SUPPORT FROM UNION.

I am staying safe and I can get my meds and the rest will go towards my rent. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am humbled!!!

Thank you so much to the union that makes this all happen.

Wonderful, thanks SO much!

**So grateful for this gift. I will be sure
to pay forward what I can in
this difficult time.**

Jean Ahn
David Allen
Richard Andaya
Janet Archibald
Eric Arnow
Karen Baccaro
Adam Bier
Cathy Blair
Caroline Blanding
Miriam Blatt
Barbara Bogatin
Norman Bookstein
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Mike Cahill
Case/Wyatt Family
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Caitlin Charos
Laura Chenel
David Chernyavsky
Minna Choi
Karen Chontofalsky
Debora Clark
Betany Coffland
Nicole Jackson Colaco
Ryan Conrad
Jeremy Constant
Chris & Gina Cooper
Marilyn Coyne
Lee Crocker
Maryellen Culotta
Joseph Curran
Sarah Dabby
Steven D'Amico
Allison Dang
Natalia Daniels
Nick Dargahi
Tracy Davis
Tim Day & Robin McKee
Steven Dibner
Evelyn Dilworth
Jenny Douglass
Mark & Patty Drury
Eli Eban
Nathaniel Echols
Gretchen Elliott
Jennifer Ellis
Roger Emanuels
Shinji Eshima
Chris Farrell
George Michael Ference
Cheryl Fippen

John Fisher
Nina Flyer
Clark Fobes
Lucinda
Formyduval
Clifton Foster
Gabriela Frank
Raymond Froehlich
Doris Fukawa
Nicole Galisatus
Von Gardener
Marcel Gemperli
Ross Gershenson
Chris Gilbert
Sébastien Gingras & Yuna Lee
Robert Girling
Rae Ann Goldberg
Sergi Goldman-Hull
Darlene Gray
Matthew S Gray
Patricia Grima
Michael Grossman
Monika Gruber-Gibbons
Craig Gruen
Tamara Gurin
Don Hall
Sarah Hartglass
Christa Haun
Beth Heid
Holly Heilig-Gaul
Patricia Heller
Tom & Regan Hemphill
David Henderson
Lisa Henry
Emily Hislop
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Kim Huynh
Robert Hylton
Joshua Icban
John Imholz
Keefe Ismael
Saisan Ismael
Emily Johnson
Katie Johnson
Judy Johnston
Alexander Kahn
Christina Kellogg
Joseph Kelly
Peggy Kennedy
Janet Ketchum
Angela Kieran-Vast
Brian Kim
Helen Kim
Kum Mo Kim
Carole Klein
Rachel Klein
Craig Knox

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Paul Welcomer
Kevin Westbrooke
Douglas Westervelt
Patricia Whaley
Pat Whitty
Johanne Williams-Baron
Hannah Wilson
Adrienne Withheld
Warren Wu
Lawrence Yabroff
MyungJu Yeo
Matt Young
Raphael Zack

Minutes

Board of Directors meeting minutes from December 9, 2019.

Meeting called to order at 10:43AM by Vice President Byram.

Present: Zare, Brown, Elliott, Goff, Gray and Hanson. Excused: Cumings. MSC to accept the new and reinstated members.

The board discussed a request from the SF Labor Archives for a donation. Secretary-Treasurer Zare reported the November credit card charges in the amount of \$6,945.43.

MSC to approve sending Fisher and Gray to the upcoming MLK Breakfast at a cost of \$125.

Director Hanson reported on communications with Life Members in regards to the dues sale.

Director Gray reported on meeting the head of the Entertainment Commission at their holiday party. Meeting adjourned at 11:43AM.

Submitted by S-T Beth Zare

Board of Directors meeting minutes from January 3, 2020

Meeting called to order at 10:35AM by President Cumings.

Present: Zare, Brown, Byram, Elliott, Gray and Hanson.

MSC to accept the amended minutes from November 25, 2019.

MSC to accept the amended minutes from December 9, 2019.

The board discussed the letter of resignation from the Trustee Hall Goff. MSC to accept the new and reinstated members.

Secretary-Treasurer Zare presented the board with the Official Proceedings from the 101st Convention.

MSC to approve expenditures for Nov. in the amount of \$95,947.03.

No deaths were reported in Nov.

MSC to continue to self-insure the Local 6 death benefit with monthly Board oversight.

\$2000 was paid on behalf of deceased member Donn Schroder from the Death Benefit Fund.

MSC to hire Thielen & Associates to prepare the Local 6 Annual Financial Statements for a fee of \$9500.

Secretary-Treasurer Zare reported on the charges on the December credit card bill in the amount of \$3,510.11.

Secretary-Treasurer Zare reported on a payment from Local 12 for work dues from previous engagements.

President Cumings reported on negotiations and activities for our collective bargaining groups.

MSC to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for the term of the contract with the San Francisco Opera which has already been ratified by the musicians. (5-0-1[Byram])

President Cumings reported on a recording project for a new work commissioned by Theatreworks.

President Cumings reported on AB5 discussions as they relate to musician exemptions.

Trustee Brown reported on bystander intervention training offered by Impact Bay Area as it relates to the town hall meeting on harassment.

Meeting adjourned at 12:38PM in memory of Arthur Cummings and Michael Grabanier.

Submitted by S-T Beth Zare

Board of Directors meeting minutes from January 23, 2020

Meeting called to order at 10:34AM by President Cumings.

Present: Zare, Brown, Byram, Elliott, Gray and Hanson.

MSC to accept the amended minutes from January 3, 2020.

The board discussed the letter from in-house council, David Rosenfeld, offering training on harassment.

The board received a request from Berkeley High School for donations of musical instruments to take to students in Cuba.

MSC to accept the new and reinstated members.

MSC to approve expenditures for December in the amount of \$85,070.54.

No deaths were reported in December.

MSC to continue to self-insure the Local 6 death benefit with monthly Board oversight.

In accordance with the Bylaws Article IV, Section 2.(a) MSC to set October 29, 2020, as the date of the General Election.

President Cumings reported on negotiations and activities for our collective bargaining groups.

MSC to approve a successor 3-year agreement with Berkeley Symphony

which has already been ratified by the musicians.

President Cumings reported on the upcoming Area Wide Casual Wage Scale Committee Meeting.

MSC to cover the expenses to send 3 delegates to the Joint Legislative Conference in Sacramento in May.

MSC to cover the expenses to send 2 delegates to the Biennial Labor Conference in Los Angeles in August.

MSC to cover the expenses to send President Cumings to an AFM meeting in New York on

February 3-4, 2020 to discuss Rule 24 and Pamphlet B travelers.

President Cumings reported on AB5 discussions with the author of the bill, State Assembly Member, Lorena Gonzalez.

Director Gray reported on the MLK Breakfast.

Meeting adjourned at 12:21PM in memory of Elizabeth Bell.

Submitted by S-T Beth Zare

Board of Directors meeting minutes from February 13, 2020

Meeting called to order at 10:45AM by President Cumings.

Present: Zare, Byram, Elliott, Gray and Hanson. Excused: Brown.

Guest: Patrick Johnson-Whitty.

MSC to accept the amended minutes from January 23, 2020.

The board discussed requests from members wishing to use the Local 6 payroll for nonmusical services.

The board received a letter from a member thanking Local 6 for its support from the AFM Emergency Relief Fund.

MSC to reinstate membership in the California Arts Advocates pending agreement on AB5 support.

MSC to accept the new and reinstated members.

S-T Zare reported on the January credit card charges in the amount of \$5,155.68.

MSC to approve expenditures for January in the amount of \$102,675.02.

Two deaths were reported in January.

MSC to continue to self-insure the Local 6 death benefit with monthly Board oversight.

\$2,000 was paid on behalf of deceased member Arthur Cummings from the

Death Benefit Fund.

MSC to approve a budget for 2020 as submitted, including a wage increase (2.5%) for Local 6 officers and staff, computed in accordance with Local 6 Bylaws, to take effect July 1, 2020.

S-T Zare reported that of the 1166 Regular Members, 598 took advantage of the dues sale.

S-T Zare reported that \$1,635.50 was raised in TEMPO contributions during the months of December and January.

President Cumings reported on negotiations and activities for our collective bargaining groups.

MSC to authorize VP Byram to negotiate the upcoming CBA renewal with Philharmonia Baroque and to be reimbursed in accordance with Standing Resolution 12.c.

President Cumings reported on an AFM meeting in New York on February 3-4, 2020 to discuss Rule 24 and Pamphlet B travelers.

President Cumings reported on AB5 discussions and harassment meeting held at the Red Stone Labor Temple.

Patrick Johnson-Whitty discussed endorsing candidates in the upcoming

California Primary.

Meeting adjourned at 1:26PM in memory of Wally Wells.

Submitted by S-T Beth Zare

Board of Directors meeting minutes from February 27, 2020

Meeting called to order at 10:40AM by President Cumings.

Present: Zare, Brown, Byram, Elliott, Gray and Hanson.

Guest: Andrea Tempkin.

MSC to accept the amended minutes from February 13, 2020.

MSC to allow musicians from Lamplighters to donate 2 services for their annual fundraiser.

MSC to accept the new and reinstated members.

MSC to purchase an ad in the Jazz in the Neighborhood program book at a cost of \$200.

S-T Zare reported on her meetings with representatives with United Business Bank and First Data Merchant Services.

President Cumings reported on negotiations and activities for our

collective bargaining groups.

The Board discussed the continuing vacancy on the Board.

President Cumings reported on the success of his presentation at the SF Conservatory of Music and the potential for future presentations.

MSC to accept the proposal from attorney, Liza Medina, to represent the SF Ballet in their upcoming negotiations at a cost of \$72,000.

MSC to accept a pre-hire agreement with ACT for The Rocky Horror Show in April.

MSC to accept a one-year successor agreement with People in Plazas.

MSC to accept a one-year successor agreement with San Jose Chamber Orchestra which has yet to be ratified by the musicians.

Andrea Tempkin of Transition Solutions presented her recommendations on the staffing infrastructure for continued organizational growth and sustainability.

Meeting adjourned at 2:07PM.

Submitted by S-T Beth Zare

SF Musical Fund Society Accepting Grant Applications

Attention Local 6 members: Do you know of a student (preferably age K-12) in need of financial assistance with a music activity such as private lessons, youth orchestra fees, or music camp tuition? If so, please consider submitting a grant application on his/her behalf to the SF Musical Fund Society. MFS grants have helped expand educational opportunities for young Bay Area musicians since 2001. To inquire further, or to request a grant recommendation form, email the Program Committee: cellopower6@sbcglobal.net. Don't delay: Application deadline is **May 18, 2020**.

The SFMFS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation.

Census Questionnaire Assistance (CQA) Toll-Free Lines

Beginning March 1, 2020, the English and Spanish language lines will be available to provide general information about the 2020 Census, including answering frequently asked questions (FAQs) via an automated Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system.

Beginning March 9, 2020, all lines will have live Customer Service Representative (CSR) providing information about the 2020 Census and assistance with the questionnaire.

Callers to the English and Spanish language lines will be routed through the IVR system prior to being transferred to a CSR. Callers to all other language lines will be greeted in their languages.

The CQA IVR and live CSR support on all language lines will end on July 31, 2020.

LANGUAGE LINE	TOLL-FREE NUMBER
English	844-330-2020
Spanish	844-468-2020
Chinese (Mandarin)	844-391-2020
Chinese (Cantonese)	844-398-2020
Vietnamese	844-461-2020
Korean	844-392-2020
Russian	844-417-2020
Arabic	844-416-2020
Tagalog	844-478-2020
Polish	844-479-2020
French	844-494-2020
Haitian Creole	844-477-2020
Portuguese	844-474-2020
Japanese	844-460-2020
TDD	844-467-2020

All CQA toll-free phone lines will be open seven days (Monday to Sunday) a week, 7:00 am to 2:00 am EST/ 4:00 am to 11:00 pm PST.

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Please remember to fill out the 2020 Census. You can fill it out online at my2020census.gov or by phone.

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AFM has many allies in Congress. We work with them to advocate on issues that affect musicians every day, from copyright protection to pension reform. The long-term success of AFM's legislative efforts depends on making sure that our allies in the House of Representatives and the Senate remain in office. Donating to their reelection campaigns is the best way to achieve this. Therefore, it is necessary that we raise contributions to AFM's political action committee, the AFM TEMPO Fund.

AFM donates to Members of Congress who help:

- Fight for a full performance right on all sound recordings. This performance right guarantees that musicians are fairly compensated when their work is played on AM/FM terrestrial radio.
- Fight for stricter copyright enforcement measures, therefore ensuring that musicians' hard work is protected from theft and misuse.
- Work to maintain and strengthen the pension system, so that musicians can afford to live comfortably in retirement.
- Advocate for more funding for the National Endowment for the Arts and Arts in Education programs, so that the next generation of musicians can have all the tools necessary to learning their craft.

AFM cannot use general treasury funds for political donations, so we need member donations to the AFM TEMPO Fund.

This new TEMPO Leadership Program allows members to step up their commitment to our political efforts by contributing an annual payment of \$52.00. Contributions are used to help keep friends in congress who are committed to supporting music and in particular federal policy issues that help our player conference artists.

AFM TEMPO may accept contributions only from members of the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada, executive and professional staff of AFM and its affiliates, and their immediate families living in the same household. Only United States citizens and lawful permanent United States residents may contribute. AFM TEMPO makes contributions and expenditures in federal, state and local elections. All contributions are voluntary, and an individual may refuse to contribute without any reprisal. Any guideline contribution amount is merely a suggestion and an individual is free to contribute more or less and AFM will not favor or disadvantage the individual by reason of the amount of a contribution or a decision not to contribute. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year. Contributions and gifts to AFM TEMPO are not tax deductible. Contributions by foreign nationals, corporations or companies are prohibited.

Join the TEMPO Signature Club!

In order to make your contribution send a check to: AFM, Local 6, 116 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Name (print) _____ Date _____

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Local No. _____ Job Title _____

Email _____ Telephone _____



announces the following vacancy:

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Audition Date:

Saturday, May 30, 2020

Please send resume and refundable \$35 deposit to:

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4629 Quail Lakes Drive Stockton, CA 95207

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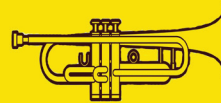
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Petition For 2019 Multi-Card Rebate

Effective January 1, 2018, members who belonged to three or more Locals throughout 2019 can petition the AFM Secretary-Treasurer for a "rebate equal to the per capita dues received by the Federation" for that member's membership in each AFM

Local in excess of two. (Members pay their Federation per capita dues as a portion of their Local annual dues. The Local forwards the member's per capita dues to the Federation. Only the Federation's portion of the annual dues will be rebated).

No rebates will be issued until the AFM Secretary-Treasurer's Office verifies that petitioning members held continuous membership in three or more Locals for the full prior year of 2019. No rebates will be issued until after February 1, 2020.

2019 Multi-Card Rebate

Regular Members - \$56.00; Life Members - \$40.00; Inactive Life Members - \$34.00

Article 5, Section 47(a) & 47(b) of AFM Bylaws

Under the terms of Article 9, Section 16 of AFM Bylaws, I am hereby requesting a rebate of 2019 per capita dues paid to the Federation.

Name: _____

Social Security or Social Insurance #: _____

I belonged to the following Locals for the entire 2019 calendar year:

Local #: _____ Local #: _____ Local #: _____ Local #: _____

Local #: _____ Local #: _____

Please include with this petition copies of all paid-up 2019 membership cards, receipts of cancelled checks for annual dues from all Locals, OR a letter from each Local stating that you were a member in good standing of the Local for all of 2019. Allow six to eight weeks to process your rebate. Return to:

American Federation of Musicians; Secretary-Treasurer's Office;

Multi-Card Rebate Program; 1501 Broadway, Suite 600; New York, NY 10036 Attention: Diane DePiro