



*Vision*  
*To establish a home for the legacy of Funk music*  
*By acknowledging the artists who brought this art form*  
*To life while showcasing the Funk experience and its memorabilia*

*Mission*  
*To house and maintain memorabilia related directly to Funk music, where the*  
*General public and specifically children, can be educated*  
*About the history of Funk music*

*"On The One"*

## Monthly Newsletter – APRIL 2016

DMG Corner by [Lamar Webster](#)

Hello Dayton Funk fans, far and near. My name is Lamar Webster, a former Daytonian who has lived in Los Angeles since 1983. I am a bass player and former member of the groups *Soul Experience*, *Cypress* and *Record Player*. I grew up on Huron Ave. and attended Westwood Elementary and Nettie Lee Roth HS. There were so many musicians in Westwood, as a teenager and I felt like a sponge, just trying to soak all the musical influences in. I attended Mt. Enon Missionary Baptist church as a child, and both Mark Wood Jr. (Lakeside) & Raye Turner (Slave) were church members there too. Dayton has been a musical city for a long time, and several talented musicians hail from the Gem City.



I am the founder of a band called *Cypress* (1976), that included my brother Dallas Webster (guitar), Delbert Jones (guitar), Cheryl Rutledge (keys), Kevin Hurt (drums) and myself on bass. We did a few gigs around town, and at Kentucky State's homecoming one year. Eventually that group morphed into *Record Player Show Band* (1977), where we added more members to the core of Dallas, Delbert and myself. The group eventually left Dayton for Los Angeles in April 1983, and we disbanded November 1983. One of our highlights in LA was performing at the LA Street Scene in September 1983.

I fancy myself as a self-proclaimed Funk historian of sorts, so TheFunkCenter organization should be a perfect match for my writing talents, regarding the music history of Soul & Funk music as I remember it. I still perform from time to time, and I have done seven shows at Gilley's Jazz Club for my DMG organization. DMG (Dayton Musicians Guide).

I am currently a Freelance Photo Journalist and musician these days, since I have retired.

Some of the items I want to discuss include a review of some of Dayton's most popular recording groups, some other groups that were well known, but didn't have record contracts, as well as a history of some of the chart topping records starting from the 1970's. Some of the questions I will answer in my column include these questions;

1. What was the first number 1 hit from a Dayton act that charted in Billboard?
2. What group did The Ohio Players begin as before they became the OP?
3. Who are the three Dayton musicians associated with several of Solar Record's biggest hits?

4. What Dayton family has two Brothers who were members of different national recording groups, besides the Troutman family?

So as I close I would like to thank David Webb, Rhine McClin and George Gee for inviting me to be involved with "The Funk Music Hall of Fame & Exhibition Center". I currently am a contributing Photo Journalist and Free Lance Journalist for the *Scoop LA* online magazine blog, and here are two articles I wrote for the media outlet.

Scoop LA Stellar Awards - <http://thescoopla.com/6865/30th-anniversary-stellar-gospel-awards>

Scoop LA Greek Funk Fest - <http://thescoopla.com/7100/the-wave%E2%80%99s-soulful-summer>

*Sincerely your Brother in Funk*

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## FROM THE DESK OF DAVID



*(We have been away, but this article must be read)*

Black History Month is always the perfect time to celebrate and recognize the contributions of African American

Funk artists who have become some of the world's greatest musical legends both past and present. In many cases these musicians were also pioneers of the Black Power movement. The fact that this music genre and the Black Power Movement evolved around the same time is no coincidence Music regardless of genre has always reflected societal mores even during turbulent during times.

In the 70s, the Black Power movement gave rise to many songs that focused on the struggle African Americans faced. In spite of racially biased restrictions placed on Black artists by white record companies that contractually controlled them, the focus on black awareness continued to reign supreme in songs like the Temptations song "Get Ready", which gained momentum as wider audiences starting listening and appreciating these types of lyrical expressions. James Brown was certainly an uncontrolled pioneer, promoting the very essence of the movement through his song, "Say It Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud". Other songs like "Soul Power", and "Give More Power To The People" also reflected the attitudes of many African Americans during that time. One of my personal favorites was, "Young Gifted and Black" which became the tune that dominated the voices of Black children. This song also enhanced the momentum of the Black Power movement among the young black adolescent.

There is no doubt in my mind that there existed a synergy between the Funk music and the social change that occurred during the 70s. Most African Americans over the age of eighteen can fondly recall the events of that occurred during this time as we grooved to sounds of EWF, P-Funk, Confunkshun. George Clinton, James Brown, the Isley Brothers and Aretha Franklin (just to name a few). As I reflect. I can recall the sense of community we felt listening to these songs as we struggled for greater identity and a sense of accomplishment.

So this year as you celebrate Black History Month, take a moment to reflect on or to inquire about the artists who were labeled as "Funkateers" (sometimes referred to as "Black Hippies") for creating music that was hard driving yet sensitive and empowering. If not for these artists, there may not have been a music genre that released the enslaved mindset of African American people who before the Black Power movement and the contributions Funk played in its evolution, may have felt powerless to change the society they lived in. I hope you will celebrate these Legends with fervor!!!

## Funk Chronicles Interviews – March 2016

(Click on artist to go to YouTube link)

[Tim "Tiny" Dozier](#) original drummer for SLAVE  
[ZAPP Band](#) reunion w/original members  
[Gary "Mudbone" Cooper](#) of Bootsy's Rubber Band, & Parliament-Funkadelic  
[Steve Arrington](#) of SLAVE and Hall Of Fame  
[Greg Webster](#) original drummer of the Ohio Players

## Funk in the Street: April 2016

**04/22/16 – North West Branch Library GRAND Opening  
1:30-5:30 p.m. 2410 Philadelphia Dr. & Hillcrest Ave.  
Dayton**

**05/14/16 – Unity Center's Drug Awareness Rally, heroin pandemic w/ Audio Show Band on Courthouse Sq.  
Dayton**

**05/18/16 – Funk Chronicles taping at DATV**

## Upcoming Concerts

**April 15<sup>th</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup>**

**04/15/16 – Avant, Dru Hill, Ginuwine, & Tank, The Venue  
Horseshoe Casino, Hammond, IN 8:00pm**

**04/16/16 – Commodores, French Lick Resort, French Lick,  
IN 8:00pm**

**04/16/16 – Floetry w/Musiq Soulchild, The Venue  
Horseshoe Casino, Hammond, IN 8:00pm**

**04/18/16 – Floetry, The Vogue, Indy, 8:00pm**

**04/23/16 - Ohio Players & The Original Stone City Band,  
Club Fever, South Bend, IN, 7:00pm**

**04/23/16 – Mike Epps & Earthquake, Palace Theatre  
Columbus, Columbus, 8:00pm**

**04/28/16 – Buckethead, The Vogue, Indy, 8:00pm**

**04/29/16 - Buckethead, Woodland Tavern, Columbus,  
10:00pm**

**05/01/16 – Fantasia & Anthony Hamilton, Palace Theatre  
Columbus, 7:30pm**

**05/02/16 – Floetry, OTR Live, Cincy, 8:00pm**

**05/05/16 – R Kelly, Bankers Life Fieldhouse, Indy, 8:00pm**

**05/06/16 – Gladys Knight, Rose Music Center, Huber  
Heights, 8:00pm**

**05/06/16 - George Clinton, The Vogue, Indy, 9:00pm**

**05/07/16 – Crystal Gayle, Effingham Performance Center,  
Effingham, IL, 7:00pm**

**05/08/16 – Marlon Wayans, Egyptian Room at Old National  
Centre, Indy, 8:00pm**

**05/11/16 - Snarky Puppy, Park Street Salon, Columbus,  
8:00pm**

**05/13/16 – Sinbad, Taft Theatre, Cincy, 8:00pm**

**05/13/16 - Heart, Foellinger Theatre, Fort Wayne, IN,  
7:31pm**

**05/13/16 - Snarky Puppy, The Vogue, Indy, 9:00pm**

**05/14/16 – Jonny Mathis, Clowes Memorial Hall, Indy,  
8:00pm**



PO Box 26081  
Trotwood, OH 45426  
(937)837-4441

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