

WHEREAS; jazz is an original American art form that was created by Black musicians in New Orleans in the early 20th century and has been hailed as one of America’s greatest cultural exports; and

WHEREAS; jazz has produced some of the country’s leading creative artists and embodies the noblest aspirations of the country’s character, including individual discipline, perseverance, and innovation; and

WHEREAS; jazz serves as an expression of freedom for people in the United States and beyond and has become an international language that brings people together and bridges differences across all races, ages, backgrounds, and ZIP codes; and

WHEREAS; throughout the history of the country, jazz has inspired dancers, choreographers, poets, novelists, filmmakers, classical composers, and musicians, has helped unite cultures in a global environment, and has contributed to the facilitation of arts education and appreciation across communities; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has historically been home to a thriving jazz scene, with the Bronzeville District of Milwaukee at its heart, and notable international jazz icons from Wisconsin include Bunny Berigan, Woody Herman, Al Jarreau, and Les Paul; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin’s jazz heritage should be celebrated and be a part of musical education and appreciation everywhere; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins communities, schools, artists, historians, and jazz enthusiasts around the world in recognizing the outstanding work of the state’s jazz artists and educators and in celebrating jazz as an art form that strives to promote peace, diversity, and freedom of expression;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim April 2024 as

JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 22nd day of March 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State