

LOUISIANA PHILHARMONIC  
**ORCHESTRA**  
CARLOS MIGUEL PRIETO, MUSIC DIRECTOR

## Band Together: I Remember Louis



Wednesday, November 29 · Mahalia Jackson Theater

Stuart Chafetz, conductor · Lena Prima, vocalist · Dylan Hunter, actor

Featuring Lena Prima's band and ASCAP Scholarship winners

**Sponsored by The Gia Maione Prima Foundation, Inc.**

Thank you for joining the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra in our concert series Band Together. This series focuses on New Orleans landmarks and historical figures to deepen high-school students' understanding of their city's rich cultural history. The initial concert focused on the history of the Saenger Theater as a part of the grand re-opening of the theater after Hurricane Katrina. This season, our concert is all about Louis Prima. We welcome students in high-school band programs to study with orchestra musicians leading up to the performance during which students are invited to play with the orchestra for the grand finale.

# Band Together: I Remember Louis

## Program:

MENDELSSOHN: Symphony No. 4 in A major, Opus 90, "Italian"

I. Allegro vivace

SAINT-SAËNS: Tarantelle for Flute, Clarinet, and Bass, Opus 6

PRIMA/ESNEAULT: *Angelina / Che la Luna / Zooma Zooma*

TRADITIONAL: *Second Line*

PRIMA/ESNEAULT: *Sunday Kind of Love*

*Sing, Sing, Sing*

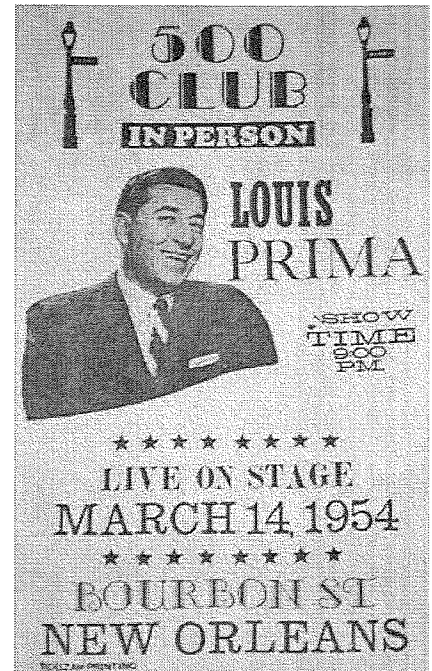
SHERMAN BROTHERS/ESNEAULT: *I Wanna Be Like You*

JOHNSTON & BURKE: *Pennies from Heaven*

ARLEN/PRIMA/ESNEAULT: *That Old Black Magic*

PRIMA/ESNEAULT: *Just a Gigolo / Ain't Got Nobody*

*Jump, Jive an' Wail*



The LPO would like to thank Lena Prima and the Gia Maione Prima Foundation for providing archival photos in this program.

## Performer Biographies:



**Stuart Chafetz** is the newly appointed Principal Pops Conductor of the Columbus Symphony. Chafetz, a conductor celebrated for his dynamic and engaging podium presence, is increasingly in demand with orchestras across the continent and this season Chafetz will be on the podium in Seattle, Detroit, Naples, Phoenix, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Vancouver and many more.

He's had the privilege to work with renowned artists such as Chris Botti, 2 Cellos, Michael Bolton, America, Roberta Flack, George Benson, Richard Chamberlain, The Chieftains, Jennifer Holliday, John Denver, Marvin Hamlisch, Thomas Hampson, Wynonna Judd, Jim Nabors, Randy Newman, Jon Kimura Parker and Bernadette Peters.

He previously held posts as resident conductor of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and associate conductor of the Louisville Orchestra. As principal timpanist of the Honolulu Symphony for twenty years, Chafetz would also conduct the annual Nutcracker performances with Ballet Hawaii and principals from the American Ballet Theatre. It was during that time that Chafetz led numerous concerts with the Maui Symphony and Pops. He annually leads the Spring Ballet at the world-renowned Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University.

In the summers, Chafetz spends his time at the Chautauqua Institution, where he conducts the annual Fourth of July and Opera Pops concerts with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra in addition to his role as

that orchestra's timpanist.

When not on the podium, Chafetz makes his home near San Francisco, CA, with his wife Ann Krinitsky. Chafetz holds a bachelor's degree in music performance from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati and a master's from the Eastman School of Music.



**Lena Prima** is a gifted singer and songwriter with five albums to her credit, a published author, a jewelry designer and a highly respected artist. She is the youngest daughter of legendary musician and entertainer Louis Prima and his fifth wife and singing partner, classically trained vocalist Gia Maione.

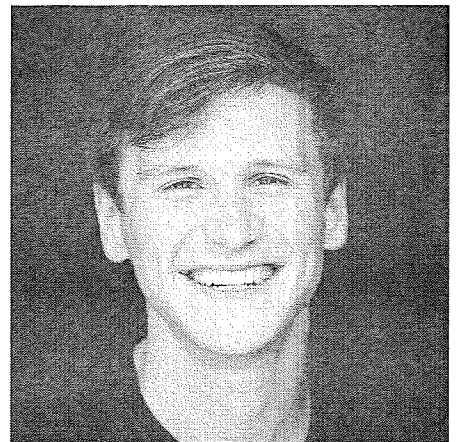
Lena began her singing career as a child on tour with her parents and then crafted a career for herself that has spanned over thirty years and over three thousand performances at showrooms, theaters, casinos, clubs and festivals across the United States. A career that inspired the Chicago Tribune to gush: "A standing ovation! Lena has the panache of her father!"

Lena has received numerous awards for advocating Italian American organizations and heritage. Most recently she was honored by Baton Rouge Mayor Melvin L. "Kip" Holden, when he proclaimed July 23rd "Lena Prima Day" and she has been invited to sing at the prestigious National Italian American Foundation annual gala in Washington DC.

Lena has donated her time and talents to charitable organizations such as The Neva-

da Childhood Cancer Association, The Cancer Association Of Greater New Orleans and The New Orleans Musician's Clinic. She has recently created an organization to celebrate Italian American women called CIAO WOMEN.

Lena is a Las Vegas native and currently resides in New Orleans where she spent a great deal of her childhood. She performs regularly at the Hotel Monteleone in the French Quarter and tours nationally. Her book "Wanderlust", a jewelry how-to, is available in Hobby Lobby stores nationwide.



**Dylan Hunter** is a company member of theatre troupe Goat in the Road Productions, and has been seen most recently in their original stage productions *Foreign to Myself and Numb*. He is also half of the performance duo *Creep Cuts*, a weird musical dada adventure cabaret thing. He is currently enrolled at the University of New Orleans, where he is studying music with a focus on composition. While not doing artistic things, he makes his living as a tour guide of the Vieux Carré, and thereabouts. Big love to his wife, Shannon, and their pets, Lucy and Bob.



## The New Orleans Years:

No one should be surprised that the “King of Swing” was born and raised in New Orleans. Though he may have spent the bulk of his career in New York City, Hollywood, and Las Vegas, Prima’s roots were present in his music and performance.

Louis Prima was born in New Orleans on December 7, 1910. He and his older brother and younger sister grew up in a house on St. Peter Street, just 3 blocks from where Mahalia Jackson Theater currently stands. His mother Angelina was a first-generation Italian American and music lover. She made sure that each of her children played an instrument. Though Louis was originally assigned the violin, his older brother Leon was a cornet player, and eventually Louis joined forces with him.

He started to become interested in jazz from the local Italian-American clubs in his neighborhood that featured many African-American musicians including Louis Armstrong. By the age of 14 he created his first band with childhood friends on clarinet and drums. Louis first attended Jesuit High School, then later transferred to Warren Easton High School, where he played with the “Eastonites” and made new musical friends, playing at clubs in the French Quarter.

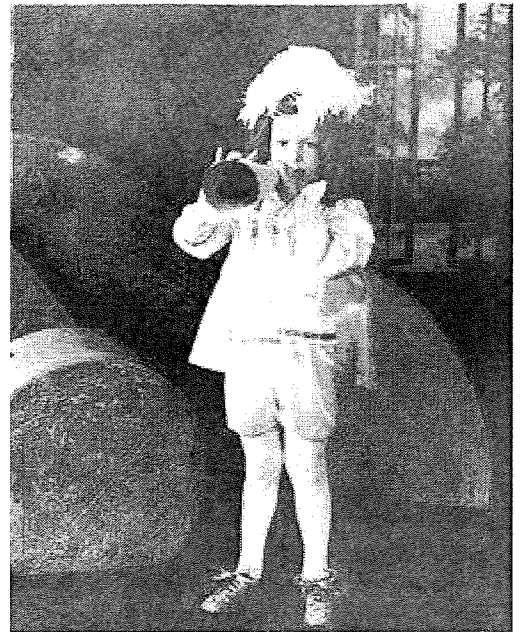
Louis Prima’s New Orleans years are represented by the LPO on the following works:

Felix Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 4 in A major, Opus 90, “Italian”  
I. Allegro vivace

Camille Saint-Saëns: Tarantelle for Flute, Clarinet, and Bass, Opus 6

Louis Prima: *Angelina / Che la Luna / Zooma Zooma*

Traditional: *Second Line*



Young Louis in New Orleans Mardi Gras



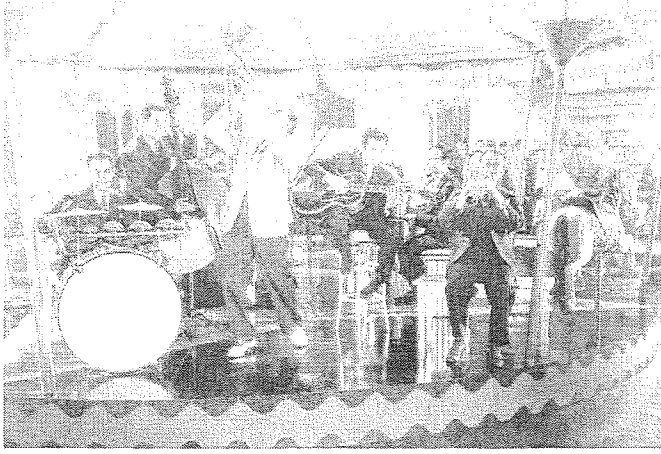
Above:

Mama Angelina Prima cooking pasta

At left:

Louis Prima’s High School Band





Prima and his New Orleans Gang in Manhattan

## The Big Apple:

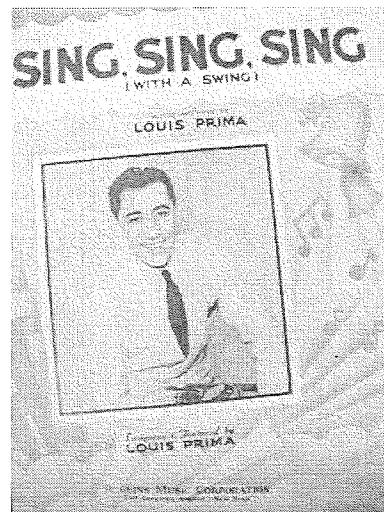
Louis Prima left New Orleans to try and make it in New York City in the early 1930s. His band, "Prima and his New Orleans Gang" was a five piece band that performed a combination of Dixieland and swing music. It was in New York where he wrote and recorded "Sing, Sing, Sing" which became a huge hit for jazz clarinetist, Benny Goodman.

He moved to California for a bit, but came back to New York again with greater success in the 1940s when he began recording some of his Italian songs such as "Angelina," named after his mother.

By the end of WWII, Prima was playing more jazzy music and was signed with RCA Victor.



Left: Grammy for "Old Black Magic"  
Right: "Sing, Sing, Sing" album



## Las Vegas:

In the 1954 Prima was offered a gig at The Sahara to premiere his new act which was a duo set with singer Keely Smith. "Just a Gigolo" and "I Ain't Got Nobody" were huge hits for the duo. Later they created a duo version of "Old Black Magic" which became a Top 40 hit for two months and earned them a Grammy.

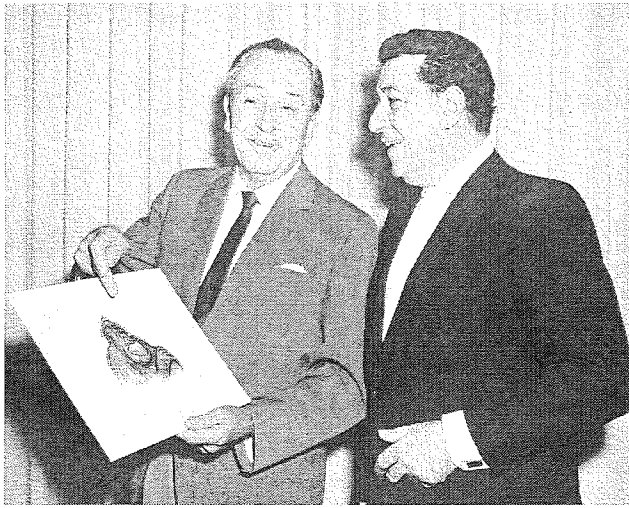
By 1962, Prima and Smith had parted ways and Prima began working with Gia Maione, who later became his fifth wife, and mother to his daughter Lena and son Louis Jr.



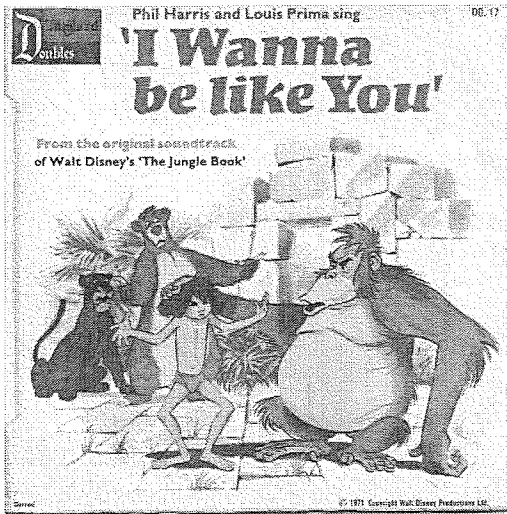
Prima with Gia Malone, at the Sahara promoting "This Is ... Gia"



Louis with his daughter Lena



Prima with Walt Disney and the illustration of his character "King Louis"



Album cover for the hit song, "I Wanna Be Like You" from Walt Disney's *The Jungle Book*



Gia Maione Prima with her husband Louis' trumpet

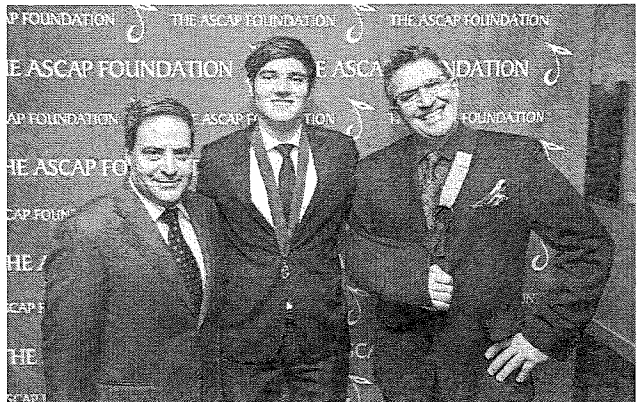
## Hollywood:

In 1967, Louis Prima was offered the role of the orangutan King Louis from the Walt Disney animated movie *The Jungle Book*. Prima sang the hit song "I Wanna Be Like You" with Phil Harris who voiced the part of Baloo the bear. He later recorded *Happy Birthday Winnie the Pooh*, and a second album with Phil Harris entitled *More Jungle Book*.

## Legacy:

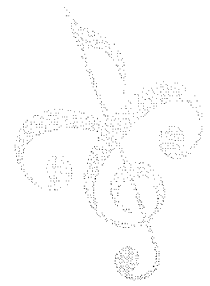
In 1973, Prima suffered a heart attack and, two years later, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. He passed away in New Orleans 1978 after a cerebral hemorrhage. Prima is buried in Metairie Cemetery in a marble crypt topped by the trumpeter angel Gabriel. His tomb inscription reads "When the end comes, I know, they'll say, 'just a gigolo' as life goes on without me..."

In 2011, The ASCAP Foundation Louis Prima Award was established to honor the legendary musician Louis Prima by Gia, wife of Louis and her friend and long-time counsel, Anthony J. Sylvester of Sherman Wells Sylvester and Stamelman LLP. Each December, The ASCAP Foundation hosts an awards ceremony in New York City. The annual award is given out to a graduating senior from NOCCA, preferably in the jazz or big band genre. The LPO is happy to welcome the six recipients of this prestigious award to perform "Jump, Jive, and Wail" with the LPO and Lena Prima's band in honor of Louis Prima at today's Band Together concert.



The ASCAP Foundation award ceremony in 2014

# Orchestra Roster:



Carlos Miguel Prieto,  
*Music Director*

*THE ADELAIDE WISDOM  
BENJAMIN MUSIC  
DIRECTOR AND  
PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR*

## **VIOLINS**

Position vacant, *Concertmaster*  
*THE EDWARD D. AND LOUISE L. LEVY  
CONCERTMASTER CHAIR*

Benjamin Hart, *Associate Concertmaster*  
Hannah Yim, *Assistant Concertmaster*  
Byron Tauchi, *Principal 2<sup>nd</sup> Violin*  
*THE HELEN W. BURNS  
PRINCIPAL 2ND VIOLIN CHAIR*

Xiao Fu, *Assistant Concertmaster*

Qi Cao

Zorica Dimova\*

Judith Armistead Fitzpatrick

Eva Liebhaber

Zhaneta Mavrova

Kurt Munstedt

Elizabeth Overweg

Gabriel Platica

Yaroslav Rudnytsky

Yuki Tanaka

Benjamin Thacher

Kate Withrow

Sarah Yen

## **VIOLAS**

Richard Woehrle, *Principal*

*THE ABBY RAY CATLEDGE AND  
BYRNE LUCAS RAY PRINCIPAL  
VIOLA CHAIR*

Bruce Owen, *Assistant Principal*

Amelia Clingman

Valborg Gross

Ila Rondeau

Carole Shand

Tyler Sieh

## **CELLOS**

Jonathan Gerhardt, *Principal*

*THE EDWARD B. BENJAMIN  
PRINCIPAL CELLO CHAIR*

Daniel Lelchuk, *Assistant Principal*

Rachel Hsieh

Jeanne Jaubert

Kent Jensen

David Rosen  
Dimitri Vychko

## **BASSES**

David Anderson, *Principal*  
*THE HUGO WEDEMEYER PRINCIPAL  
BASS CHAIR*

William Schettler, *Assistant Principal*

Matthew Abramo

Paul Macres

Benjamin Wheeler

## **FLUTES**

Patrick Williams, *Principal+*  
*THE MARY FREEMAN WISDOM  
PRINCIPAL FLUTE CHAIR*

Sarah Schettler

Patti Adams, *Assistant Principal*

*THE RICHARD C. AND NANCY LINK  
ADKERSON FLUTE CHAIR*

## **PICCOLO**

Patti Adams

## **OBOES**

Jaren Atherholt, *Principal*  
*THE RANNEY AND EMEL SONGU MIZE  
PRINCIPAL OBOE CHAIR*

Jane Gabka, *Assistant Principal*

Michael McGowan

## **ENGLISH HORN**

Michael McGowan

## **CLARINETS**

Christopher Pell, *Principal*  
Stephanie Thompson, *Assistant  
Principal*

John Reeks

## **E♭ CLARINET**

Stephanie Thompson

## **BASS CLARINET**

John Reeks

## **BASSOONS**

Jack Peña, *Principal*

Michael Matushek

Benjamin Atherholt, *Assistant Principal*

## **CONTRABASSOON**

Benjamin Atherholt

## **HORNS**

Mollie Pate, *Principal*  
Josiah Bullach, *Assistant Principal*  
Matthew Eckenhoff\*

Scott Holben+

Amy Krueger

Kevin Winter

## **TRUMPETS**

Vance Woolf, *Principal*

Stephen Orejudos

*THE PETE WOLBRETTE SECTION  
TRUMPET CHAIR*

Position Vacant, *Assistant Principal*

## **TROMBONES**

Greg Miller, *Principal*

Matthew Wright

## **BASS TROMBONE**

Evan Conroy

## **TUBA**

Robert Nuñez, *Principal*

## **TIMPANI**

Jim Atwood, *Principal*

## **PERCUSSION**

Jacob Powers, *Principal*

Dave Salay

## **HARP**

Rachel Van Voorhees Kirschman,  
*Principal*

\*denotes musicians that are on leave for  
the 2017-2018 season  
+denotes acting musicians in this position  
for the 2017-2018 season

The string section of the Louisiana Phil-  
harmonic Orchestra is listed alphabetical-  
ly and participates in revolving seating.

## Thank you to participating Bands:

Algiers Charter Schools Association Talented Music, Christopher Kohl

Bonnabel High School, Victoria LaFitte

KIPP Renaissance High School, Lester Wilson

Eleanor McMain High School, Riccardo Emilien

Ridgewood Preparatory School, Shari Meyer

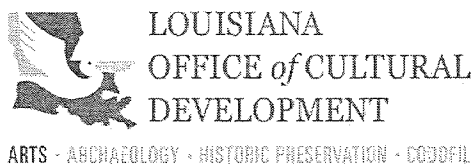
Sophie B. Wright Charter School, Desmian Barnes

Vandebilt Catholic High School, Brad Adams

## Thank you to our Sponsor:

### **The Gia Maione Prima Foundation, Inc.**

In addition, a special thank you to the following who make the LPO Educational Programs possible:



Band Together is supported by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council as administered by the Arts Council New Orleans.



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- Eugenie and Joseph Jones Family Foundation
- Kabacoff Family Foundation
- Keller Family Foundation
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- Mary Freeman Wisdom Foundation
- Edward Wisner Donor Advised Fund

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