

For Immediate Release
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Redwood City Downtown Business Group presents
Mardi Gras Carnival
Brass, Beads and Beignets!

Redwood City, CA – Bring the beads and we'll provide the bands! Celebrate **Mardi Gras Carnival** on February 22nd at the "French Quarter" in downtown Redwood City, where the public is invited to come disguised for the occasion. Presented by the Redwood City Downtown Business Group, this FREE New Orleans influenced cultural experience promises to bring NOLA to the Bay, complete with all the Mardi Gras trappings, including a music-filled procession, a Grand Marshall, and a Second



Line, as well as authentic beverages and cuisine. Plus four notable New Orleans inspired bands performing throughout the event will will move you to get down and get your funk on!

Mardi Gras Carnival will transform Broadway into Bourbon Street from Jefferson to Main Street. The main stage, located at Broadway and Main, will showcase original New Orleans swamp rock, funk and blues performed by Fog Swamp; the positive, uplifting, soulful and organic New Orleans inspired music of Al Lazard & the World Street Players; high energy, swinging and singing brass-line band of Carnival favorite MJ's Brass Boppers; and finish off with the fast, funky rhythms of Grammy-nominated accordionist Andre Thierry.

Mardi Gras Carnival guarantees a fun-filled evening of music, entertainment, dancing, food, beverages, and souvenirs for all ages. Details can be found at www.redwoodcitydowntown.com, or call the Mardi Gras hotline at 650.619.9311. Remember, the funk takes place on Saturday, February 22, from 4:30 to 10 p.m. **RAIN OR SHINE!!!**

Mardi Gras Carnival in Redwood City features:

- Specialized booths offering high quality beads, brews and beignets
- Local restaurants serving up special menus
- New Orleans style entertainment at other select downtown venues
- Delicious Cocktails and Brews available on site
- A musical procession around the “French Quarter”

**Main Street @ Broadway Stage Schedule
February 22, 2020, 4:30pm – 10pm**

5:15pm: Fog Swamp

6:30pm: Al Lazard & The World Street Players

7:45pm: MJ's Brass Boppers

9pm: Andre Thierry Accordion Soul Music

Mardi Gras Carnival Artist Information

5:15pm Fog Swamp

Fog Swamp is a San Francisco-based assemblage of first-call musicians that performs original swamp rock. Steeped in genres ranging from rock, New Orleans funk and blues to bluegrass and jazz, Fog Swamp’s members have toured the world, having shared stages with The Meters, Joan Baez, Wilco, Dave Brubeck, Yes, Phil Lesh, Ben Harper and others. No Depression magazine called Fog Swamp guitarist/vocalist Alex Wise the 2013 “Discovery of the Year” and the band has performed at multiple San Francisco festivals as well as nightclubs like The Chapel, Sweetwater Music Hall and The Boom Boom Room.

<http://fogswamp.com/>

Video at: https://youtu.be/amdw_hFaZ-8

6:30pm Al Lazard & The World Street Players

Al Lazard born and raised in New Orleans LA., the birthplace of jazz itself! Al was not quite born with a horn in his mouth, but started playing at the age of nine and has not put his sax down since. His passion for the music was inspired by marching in Second-line Parades alongside his father, “Dutt” Lazard, who told tell him, “Little Red, just do yo thang.” Following his advice lead him to his first professional work playing R&B in clubs on Bourbon St when he was 14 years old. In his career, he's opened stages for the likes of, Kermit Ruffins, The Funky Meters, New Orleans Usual Suspects, Glenn David Andrews, Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews, Cyril Neville, George Clinton, the forever Famous O'Jays, and the list goes on!

Al has been seen gracing many great Venues far and near, such as, Tipatins New Orleans, Maple Leaf New Orleans, Kermit Ruffins Mother In Law Lounge, Fillmore Theater SF, Yoshi's SF & Oakland CA, Legendary Boom Boom Room SF, Clifford's Los Angeles CA, Sweetwater Music Hall Mill Valley CA, New Parish Entertainment, as well The Prestigious SF "Stern Grove" Ampitheater. He now continues his musical journey in a quest to fulfill the cries for positive, uplifting, soulful, organic New Orleans inspired music, which is provided at every Al Lazard Performance!

<https://www.facebook.com/AlLazardandTheWorldStreetPlayers>

7:45pm MJ's Brass Boppers

MJ's Brass Boppers swinging and singing brass-line is the Bay Area's only New Orleans-style brass band, whose founding members were born and raised in New Orleans itself. Their sound has been meticulously formed over years of practicing, composing original material, and experimenting together, fusing classic high energy NOLA performance with funk, jazz, modern pop, with a second line rhythm and twist.

Since 2008, the tight knit musicians have written, practiced, and performed together at a host of festivals, Stern Grove SF, community events, nightclubs, and street corners around the Bay Area and beyond. They've opened for a variety of acts, including George Clinton & Funkadelic, The O'Jays, Trombone Shorty & Orleans Ave, Funky Meters, George Porter Jr., Kermit Ruffins, Glenn David Andrews, Zigaboo Modeliste, Monophonics, California Honeydrops, Dr. Michael White, Katdelic, and many more. Together, these musicians come together as the versatile MJ's Brass Boppers, offering a taste of authentic New Orleans style with a West Coast flair.

<https://www.mjsbrassboppersband.com/>

Video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8LoOFcSHREg>

9pm Andre Thierry Accordion Soul Music

Grammy-nominated accordionist Andre Thierry has become an international icon of Accordion Soul. Rooted in his French-Creole heritage, Thierry's music celebrates his background while integrating funk and R&B elements. His albums feature the accordion as an upbeat, rhythmic instrument that sounds equally at home in a New Orleans church gathering or on the dance floor. Playing with a force few can match, the award winning musician and his band effortlessly deliver energetic performances with electrifying sounds and fun dance beats capturing the attention of music lovers all over the world.

The Washington Post called Andre "A master at pumping out fast, funky rhythms on an instrument not usually associated with earthy syncopation. A versatile student of the music, Thierry can't be lumped into Zydeco's old-school R&B-influenced camp or its nouveau, rap-inspired one: He and his band, lay down both soulful, traditional slow-dances and bottom-end-booming kinetic grooves."

<https://www.andrethierry.com>

Video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oSGt1zols0>

PRESS INFORMATION:

Mardi Gras Carnival – Brass, Beads and Beignets!
Saturday February 22nd, 2020 - 4:30pm - 10pm

Broadway & Main, Downtown Redwood City. CA 94063

Free Admission

<http://www.redwoodcitydowntown.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Redwood-City-Downtown-Business-Group-2140473212842577/>

BLURB:

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More information at redwoodcitydowntown.com

DOWNLOADS:

For a pdf of this PR go to: <http://www.hopeinsite.com/rwc/pdfs/MardiGrasCarnival2020.pdf>

For a choice of hi-res images, go to: https://1drv.ms/u/s!At-H_rIPE0zLg7FL3w0E-HGrC34Htw?e=v9GFgl

Photo Credit: Courtesy of the bands, or of Redwood City's Downtown Business Group

SPONSORSHIP

Mardi Gras Carnival is proudly presented by the Redwood City Downtown Business Group.

Sponsors are called to help make Mardi Gras a success. For sponsorship opportunities please visit: <http://www.redwoodcitydowntown.com/event-3716691>

Visit Redwood City's award-winning website at www.redwoodcity.org for information about the City and its services, the community, recreation programs, education, City government, and local business. Subscribe to Redwood City's event newsletter by emailing recnews@redwoodcity.org.

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