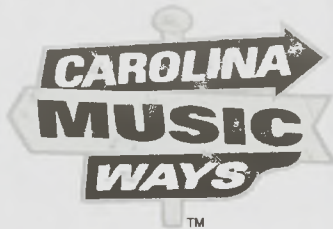


## Carolina Music Ways Benefit Features Joe Robinson and Mel Jones Popular Performers Bridge Region's Urban and Rural Music

Winston-Salem, NC: Carolina Music Ways Music Heritage Resource Group will present an evening of music with two of the area's most popular entertainers at the 411 Club in Winston-Salem on Sunday, April 2nd from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit Carolina Music Ways, a non-profit organization that serves the Northwest Piedmont through the education, performance, and preservation of the region's diverse music traditions ([www.carolinamusicways.org](http://www.carolinamusicways.org)).

Showcasing some of the area's finest jazz, blues, and bluegrass musicians, the benefit will feature the Joe Robinson Quartet and Mel Jones and his Bag O' Bones. Rooted in the region's music heritage, both groups add their own entertaining styles and contemporary feel to music traditions that have defined the area's musical character for generations.



Nationally-acclaimed trumpeter Joe Robinson has worked with a myriad of jazz greats, including Donald Byrd, The Benny Carter Group, Lou Donaldson, Gerald Albright, and Boney James. After discovering an old bugle at age thirteen on an outing in Winston-Salem's Happy Hill neighborhood, Robinson began his love affair

with jazz. Encouraged by his band director at Atkins High School, the late Harry Wheeler, Robinson attended the prestigious Berklee School of Music in Boston. He has performed at national jazz festivals, as well as at numerous venues around North Carolina. Robinson's CDs Better Late Than Never and Movin' On receive extensive regional airplay.

Popular showman Mel Jones recently won the Charlotte 2005 "Acoustic Blues Challenge". His Mocksville-based band, Mel Jones and His Bag of Bones, performs country blues with jazz and bluegrass elements added to the mix. Beginning his musical career as a rock n' roll and R&B drummer, Jones discovered bluegrass and old time stringband music when he moved to Davie County,



where he learned to play the harmonica from old-timers. Combining all these musical elements with his charismatic showmanship, Jones has earned himself a dedicated fan base. He has four CDs to his credit and is working on a fifth.



Parking for the Carolina Music Ways Benefit will be available on the street for free and for a fee in the parking garage across from the 411 Club, which is located at 411 Cherry Street, next to the Marriott Hotel in downtown Winston-Salem.

Admission is \$10.00. Ticket sales will benefit Carolina Music Ways, a non-profit organization celebrating the region's rich and diverse musical talent and heritage. For more information, call the 411 Club at (336) 725-1411 or go to [www.carolinamusicways.org](http://www.carolinamusicways.org). For more information on Joe Robinson, visit [www.joerobinson.net](http://www.joerobinson.net). For more on Mel Jones, visit [www.bonesblues.com](http://www.bonesblues.com).

**Carolina Music Ways Music Heritage Resource Group is a non-profit, grassroots, multicultural organization based in Winston-Salem. The organization works with people from around the region to highlight some of the best heritage music performed anywhere in the United States, including jazz, blues, gospel, bluegrass, old-time stringband, and Moravian music. To learn more about the region's heritage music, current events, artists, and organizations keeping these traditions alive, visit [www.carolinamusicways.org](http://www.carolinamusicways.org).**

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