

**NEW ORLEANS**

**300**  
1718 - 2018

**TRICENTENNIAL**

From *Bienville* to *Bourbon Street* to *bounce*. 300 moments that make New Orleans unique.



**WHAT HAPPENED**

The Original Dixieland Jazz Band made the first commercial recording of jazz in 1917.

The Eagle Saloon on South Rampart Street where Buddy Bolden played some of the first jazz.



Buddy Bolden and his band in about 1905, with Jimmy Johnson, Bolden, Willy Cornish and Willy Warner on the top row and Brock Mumford and Frank Lewis on the bottom row.



Jelly Roll Morton, introduced himself as the inventor of jazz, an uncertain claim, but he was the first to write down jazz arrangements.

**Jazz is the musical expression of the forces that created New Orleans.**

Traditional African rhythms from Place Congo, the Blues of newly freed slaves, brass bands from the Civil War, the Spanish “tinge,” spiritual music and jigs — these things came together with syncopated ragtime to create a new form of music — jass. The music is believed to have first been played by Charles “Buddy” Bolden at the Eagle Saloon on Rampart Street. From spots along the street, the music moved into Storyville after it opened in 1897. In the red light district, jazz was nurtured and given a spotlight because of its often-bawdy repertoire and dance rhythms. Jelly Roll Morton, the Creole piano player who long claimed to have invented jazz, was the first notable composer and arranger of the music. Morton said jazz was not a unique type of music, but a style that could be applied to music that called for “plenty of finger work in the groove ability.” Edward “Kid” Ory, Joseph “King” Oliver, Sidney Bechet, Freddie Keppard and Louis Armstrong were among the scores of New Orleans jazz musicians who followed and helped to take the local music to a national and international audience.



Jazz pioneer Sidney Bechet could play several instruments, but specialized in the clarinet.



Louis Armstrong and his first cornet, which is on display at the Old U.S. Mint on Esplanade Avenue.



The Original Dixieland Jazz Band beat other New Orleans bands to the recording studio, recording ‘Livery Stable Blues,’ the first jazz recording in New York in 1917.

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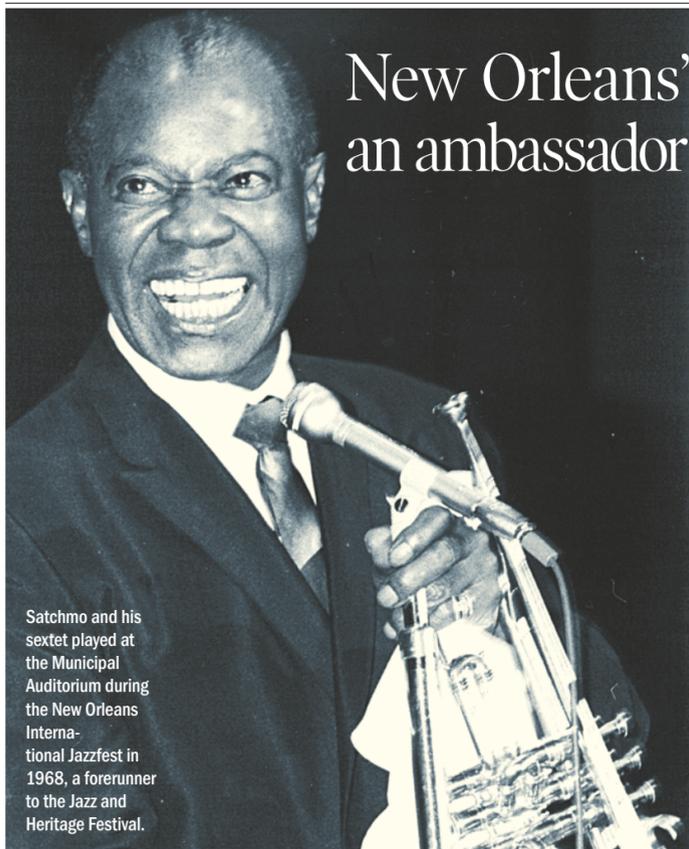
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Louis Armstrong made his first recording on April 5, 1923, with King Oliver.



Satchmo and his sextet played at the Municipal Auditorium during the New Orleans International Jazzfest in 1968, a forerunner to the Jazz and Heritage Festival.

New Orleans' most famous son, **Louis Armstrong**, became an ambassador of jazz and American culture to the world.

Born on Aug. 4, 1901, to 15-year-old Mary Ann Miles and Willie Armstrong, he spent his early childhood with his grandmother, Josephine Armstrong, in the neighborhood called “back of town,” near Broad Street and Tulane Avenue. Armstrong heard jazz being played along Rampart Street, where he went to work for the Karnofsky family collecting junk and delivering coal. The Karnofskys encouraged Armstrong’s love of music, and he began singing in the streets with friends. After firing a gun into the air on New Year’s Eve in 1912, Armstrong was sent to the Colored Waifs Home where he learned to play cornet. After leaving the home 18 months later, Armstrong began playing around town and on riverboats. When he was 18, he was hired by trombonist Kid Ory to replace Joseph “King” Oliver who had left for Chicago. Soon, however, Oliver lured Armstrong to Chicago. While Armstrong never returned to New Orleans to stay, New Orleans stayed with him. His recordings with the Hot Five and Hot Seven bands between 1925 and 1928, including “Struttin with Some Barbecue,” and “West End Blues,” are considered the definitive recordings of New Orleans-styled jazz. Armstrong moved to New York, where he became a star for his playing, his gravelly voice and his charm. Until his death, his signoff was, “Red Beans and Ricely Yours.”



Louis Armstrong, far right, poses with the Secret Nine, a baseball team that he owned, during a visit to New Orleans in 1931.



Satchmo (right) was the Zulu King in 1949.

Louis Armstrong’s birthplace, in “The Battlefield” or “back of town,” off Rampart Street in the red light district.

