

President Obama and Michelle Obama Hosting International Jazz Day at the White House

Herbie Hancock, Aretha Franklin, Esperanza Spalding, Buddy Guy, many others to play the event

By [Evan Minsker](#)

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President [Barack Obama](#) and First Lady Michelle Obama will host [International Jazz Day 2016](#) at the White House. The concert will be televised as an hour-long primetime special on ABC on April 30. The event features performances from Herbie Hancock, Aretha Franklin, Esperanza Spalding, Buddy Guy, Sting, Chick Corea, Wayne Shorter, Robert Glasper, Hugh Masekela, Al Jarreau, Pat Metheny, John McLaughlin, and many others. Find more info [here](#).

Presented in partnership with the [Thelonius Monk Institute](#), International Jazz Day was created to highlight "the power of jazz as a force for freedom and creativity, promotes intercultural dialogue through respect and understanding, and unites people from all corners of the globe." In addition to the White House performances, musicians and educators will participate in a day-long series of master classes, improvisational workshops, roundtable discussions, education programs, jam sessions, and community outreach initiatives across Washington, D.C.

Read "[Insubordinate By Nature](#)," our interview with Spalding.