

Mac Arnold

Mac Arnold must have known at an early age that his music career would read like a “Who’s Who” of blues and rhythm and blues legends. Prophetically, his high school band J Floyd & The Shamrocks often featured none other than Rock and Roll Hall of Famer James Brown on piano. Arnold later moved to Chicago in 1965 to work with recording artist/saxophonist A. C. Reed.

He was afforded the opportunity of a lifetime to join the Muddy Waters Blues Band and help shape the electric blues sound that inspired the rock and roll movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Arnold expanded his musical horizons as The Muddy Waters Blues Band shared the stage with the likes of Howlin’ Wolfe and several other blues artists. Arnold continued to flourish as a blues musician during this period as he played on John Lee Hooker’s “Live at Café Au Go-Go,” Otis Spann’s “The Blues Is Where It’s At” and Tyrone Davis’ “Turning Point.”

After more than a year with Muddy Waters, Mac formed the Soul Invaders, a group that backed up many artists. He later enjoyed a successful career in Los Angeles working with ABC Television and LAFF RECORDS (Redd Foxx), working on the set of Soul Train, and collaborating with another legendary musician, Quincy Jones.

Arnold returned to South Carolina in 1990. Embracing his blues roots in Pelzer, where he learned to play his brother Leroy’s home-made guitar, Arnold now serves up a mess of Blues with his own band, Mac Arnold & Plate Full O’ Blues. The band consists of Danny Keylon on bass, Austin Brashier on guitar, Max Hightower on keyboard, harmonica, guitar, Mike Whitt on drums, and Mac Arnold on vocals, bass and Gas Can Guitars.



As part of the Muddy Waters Blues Band, Mac helped shape the electric blues sound that inspired rock and roll.

February

Learn more about the people featured in this calendar at www.scafricanamerican.com



South Carolina African American History Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Langston Hughes was born in 1902.	2 Groundhog Day Ernest E. Just, biologist, received the Spingarn Medal for pioneering research on fertilization and cell division, 1914.	3 Geraldine McCullough won the Widener Gold Medal for Sculpture in 1965.	4 Rosa Parks was born in 1913.	5 Henry "Hank" Aaron, the home run king of major league baseball, was born in 1934.	6 Jonathan Jasper Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme Court in 1870.
7 Eubie Blake, pianist, was born in 1883.	8 Oprah Winfrey became the first African American woman to host a nationally syndicated talk show in 1986.	9 In 1995 Bernard Harris became the first African American astronaut to take a spacewalk.	10 Roberta Flack, singer, was born in 1940.	11 Clifford Alexander, Jr., became the first African American Secretary of the Army in 1977.	12 Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809. Congress enacted the first fugitive slave law in 1793.	13 Joseph L. Searles became the first African American member of the New York Stock Exchange, 1970.
14 Valentine's Day Frederick Douglass was born in 1817.	15 President's Day Henry Lewis was named director of the New Jersey Symphony in 1968.	16 Joe Frazier became World Heavyweight Boxing Champion by a knockout in 1970.	17 Michael Jordan, basketball player, born in 1963.	18 Author Toni Morrison (born Chloe Anthony Wofford) was born in 1931.	19 William "Smoky" Robinson was born in 1940.	20 Frederick Douglass died in 1895.
21 Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965.	22 George Washington was born in 1732. Julius Winfield "Dr. J." Erving was born in 1950.	23 Fat Tuesday W.E.B. DuBois born in 1868.	24 Ash Wednesday In 1864, Rebecca Lee became the first African American woman to receive an M.D. degree.	25 Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) won World Heavyweight crown in 1964.	26 Singer "Fats" Domino was born in 1928.	27 Marian Anderson, opera singer, was born in 1902.
28 Hattie McDaniel became the first black (male or female) to win an Oscar (for Best Supporting Actress) for her role as Mammy in Gone With The Wind in 1940.						