



Quarterly
Newsletter
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A Message from: The Executive Director



Last Sunday the Bridge church had the pleasure of welcoming Tom Killian a missionary to Eastern Africa (Darfur, Kenya, and South Sudan) to speak at our meeting. He was in town through the efforts of Sarah Dalton and others for fundraising. Tom ministers through an organization called Mercy-Partners.org (please visit their site). They provide

physical, emotional, and spiritual assistance to relieve “those that have seen the worst of Humanity”. I was most impressed that Tom is just an ordinary guy who is doing a phenomenal (even, miraculous) job in an extremely dangerous part of our planet.

When I say ordinary, he is simply like... you or I. He is a man – one man - who sees life beyond himself and those things that belong to him. He sees the need that others have. His message to the Bridge was basically from Luke 6:46-48:

Jesus said, “Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent

struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.”

What happens when one doesn't do as Jesus said? In light of these words of our Lord, where do we as individuals stand?

Something to think about...

Rufus

4thFridays September Highlights

The September show was great! We featured great performances by Spoken Word Artist – **Jeff Nelson** and Gospel Artist – **Sonnie Day**. We also listened to music by the **4thFridays** house band.

Rufus Harris

Rufus and the house band were up first and performed *No Compromise* and *It's Not About*. These first two tunes are – respectively - about our commitment to the Lord Jesus' purpose and a



life of selflessness. Then, Rufus acoustically performed *The Worship Song* which lends itself as a reminder to who the Lord is. One of the verses says:

*I want to be the worshipper you seek
Inspired by your truth and Spirit always
To glory only in the risen Christ
To serve you faithfully all days
I want to love you above all others,
And that devotion shown through my time
I want to be totally enveloped by you
Because only you renew my mind*

The performance was one of desired devotion to our Lord.



Detroit's poetry / spoken work venues. He is married and is the father of two young boys. Jeff was truly unlike anyone we had ever had at **4F**. The audience was fixed on every word. Not only was he a poet but he was a tremendous (with capital T) storyteller. He shared great stories – some were funny while others were inspiring. Many were birthed out of personal experiences. He shared the first poem he had ever written. It was about his son - Casey. It was inspired by him becoming a dad for the first time. The poem was about the day Casey was baptized. Another poem told of how he was a chubby awkward little boy that sat in the back of the room in school. But one day his teacher encouraged him to write and that very encourage awakened something deep inside of him. Finally, he shared a piece about one day taking his son to a fast food restaurant and how he wanted his son to choose the meal with the toy truck inside but to his surprise his boy choose the pink pony. This was an outstanding set with clever writing enjoyed by the **4F** audience.

Sonnie Day

Next up was Sonnie Day. Sonnie is a **4thFridays** favorite. Not only has she shared several times at **4F** but she also does a lot of prison concerts with Rufus and Denise for Prison Fellowship. At



4thFridays Sonnie shared several songs from her various albums: *You Visit Me Not*; *Jesus A Bad Dude* and *Good Life*. Rufus accompanied her on acoustic guitar for her first song entitled *Everything*. Sonnie - as always - was genuine, passionate and skilled with her vocal delivery. Her rich soulful voice

Jeff Nelson

After a short onstage interview with Rufus, Jeff Nelson took the stage. This was his first time at **4thFridays**. Jeff is very unique in that he is a pastor by day and a poet by night, frequenting many of Metro



echoed soulfully throughout Studio A. Her songs encouraged us be steady in our walk with the Lord. They also exhorted us to be faithful to God and even though things may look bad, we should trust him to work all things out for the good. Throughout her set, Sonnie pointed us to the character of God and expressed what he should truly mean to us. We look forward to having her back again next year.



rufus harris

The house band returned to the stage and closed out the evening with two more songs: *2BePraised* and *Takin' It to the Streets*. *2BePraised* is a song encouraging one to give tribute to of the Lord all day long. For the listener to:

See his power and majesty in the simplest of things

[To] be affected by the wonder that he brings

Rufus mentioned the importance allowing the Lord to affect one's life in the way He wants. The band also wonderfully performed their cover of Michael McDonald's *Takin' It to the Streets*.

Here's what's coming up this Friday – October 28th



Jan Krist

Jan is one of the busiest artists in around. She travels all over the country sharing her clever melodic tunes. She began writing and singing songs in Detroit-area folk

clubs back in 1980. At the time, she was a young mother, and a graduate of Berkley High School who had grown up in Grand Haven. Over the years she began spreading her wings beyond the Metro area, winning praise at the nationally known Kerrville Songwriting Competition in Texas in 1991, and then releasing her first album of songs, *Decapitated Society*, in 1992. That album won praise from Billboard and other magazines, and Krist followed it up with 1993's *Wing and a Prayer*, which also garnered accolades. She was honored as Best Vocalist in the Acoustic Division at the Detroit Music Awards in 1995. In 1996 she celebrated the release of her latest album, the intelligent and polished *Curious*, with a show at the Ark in Ann Arbor. She soon followed that up with her release entitled *Wounded Me, Wounded You*. This project was called her finest moment, combining Beatle-esque pop, folk-rock and intelligent, thought-provoking songs of love and faith with nine Krist originals and a cover of *Walk Away Renee*. Her release, *When Planets Collide* talks about the collision of politics and religion, hope and fear, grace and judgment. Her new highly-anticipated CD entitled *Fallow Ground* is a thoughtful mapping of the past six years of her life with the lyrical power we have come to expect from this acclaimed singer-songwriter. For more information about Jan, visit:

JanKrist.net

Mahogany Jones

True to the original form of Hip- Hop, Mahogany Jones began as a poet. Raised in Mt. Vernon, New York, it was from the age of thirteen she began to compile hundreds of poems scribbled in composition notebooks. It wasn't until '96, during her first year of college, that in a small cafe called the Brooklyn



Moon, that she began to hone the art of the Spoken Word by sharing mics with the likes of Saul Williams, Mums the Schemer, Sarah Jones, and several others. From then on she took theater classes, read countless poetry books, and in addition thrived on the poetic genius of emcees from the underground. Livin' in the heart of BK and being the avant garde village rat she was is what introduced her to J-Live, Jean Grae, Stronghold, and a slew of emcee's whose verbal dexterity was deadly. Mahogany states "I caught the bug- It was my dream to rock the mic." In 2000 she became a member of Toni Blackman's ("Hip-Hop Ambassador"/Activist) Freestyle Union and with a rigorous diet of weekly freestyle session, accountability meetings and movement training an emcee was born. Through it all there was still something missing, a void, and in that same year Jesus Christ filled it. It was in 2001, right before the rise of Poster Boy and Jin, that Mahogany Jones, a timid, 5'11 wordsmith would go to win B.E.T's "Freestyle Friday's" battle competition and come out a four time Champion and do so in the name of Christ. Now an active member of Holy Hip-Hop's movement, The Yuinon, the only battling she is interested in is battling the degregation, mindless instant gratification, and poverty mentality that is suffocating Hip-Hop today. Her travels as both a spoken word artist and emcee have taken her throughout the U.S. and have allowed her to grace stage line-ups with Dead Prez, The Roots, India Arie, Canton Jones, Lecrae, Da Truth, Flame, Ambassador, K-Drama, Braille, Sean Slaughte, and Eric Cross. Along with producer, I-ron-ic- Lee, the two have completed Mahogany's debut full length project, Morphed. For more information about Mahogany visit:

MySpace.com/MahoganyJonz

rufus harris

Take the vocal and melodic sound of Seal; add a little funk; guitar work like Toto; bundled with a spiritual focus; and you have - Rufus Harris. With three projects under his belt and two more in the making – this Recording Artist has taken Christian

music to a whole new level. Each cleverly crafted album illustrates Rufus' creativity and varied musical influences. His upbringing in Alaska exposed him to all types of musical artists ranging from Sly and the Family Stone to the Beatles. When not performing at coffeehouses and churches, Rufus often spends his time sharing his music at prisons and nursing homes. He is a national platform artist for Chuck Colson's Prison Fellowship and performs for inmates across the country. But Rufus is not just focused on his own music ministry. In an effort to help other independent Christian artists, he and his wife founded The CAMP – Christian Artists and Musicians Project – a non-profit organization that assists and showcases diverse independent artists. The organization's most visible event - 4thFridays with rufus harris has become one of Metro Detroit's premiere venues for Christian entertainment. The two also run a music label and downloads store called Red Letter Records. Rufus continues to touch many with his unforgettable melodies and thought-provoking lyrics. He has become a mentor to artists and prisoners and an inspiration to Christian music lovers everywhere. He currently lives in the Detroit area with his lovely wife Denise; has two beautiful daughters; and two grand daughters. He is pastor of The Bridge Church in Pontiac, Michigan. For more info visit:

MySpace.com/RufusHarrisMusic

Read about house band members:

Bassist: [James McGee](#)

Drummer: [Jeannine Gardner-Washington](#)



Coffee – The Coffee Brew mister invites you to stop by the coffee to enjoy this month's flavor of the month – Chocolate Cherry Cordial.

Raffle - With admission, you'll receive a ticket for our raffle. The drawing is



held near the end of the show. You can win music and coffee in a little tote.

Ministry at Milan Federal Prison

Prison Fellowship in conjunction with The CAMP continues its monthly event at Milan Federal Prison. In addition to the event, called Third Mondays in Milan, artists have also shared at prison yard events and poetry events. Many CAMP artists have come onboard including Rachanee, Aaron G., Therese Maynard, Mo Jones, Sonnie Day, Rhonda Welsh, Mahogany Jones, Debbie Brown (drama) and David Ivey. If you'd like to get involved, let us know. You will be required to take an orientation.

OTHER CAMP NEWS & EVENTS...

Ways to Give... You can give financially to the CAMP or by donating your used vehicle. Please help today so that we can keep all of the programs going.



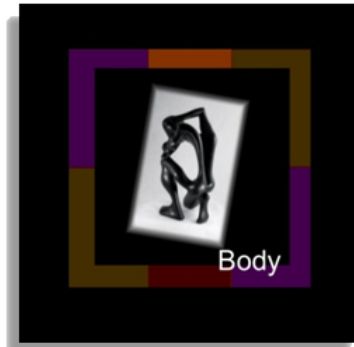
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(Christian Artists & Musicians Project)

The CAMP is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization
and
Red Letter Records: *Truth...spirituality...and intensity*
www.redletterrecords.com
Come check out 4thFridays
This month in **Studio A**
At the *beautiful*

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center
15801 Michigan Ave. Dearborn, MI
between Southfield & Greenfield Roads

Doors open at 8pm/Show starts at 8:30pm

Admission: \$10 (checks and money orders accepted)

Please make them payable to: "The CAMP"
Contact us: 248-872-1197 / info@theCampOnline.org

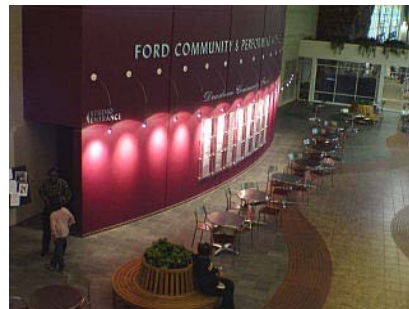
Board of Directors:

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Board Member - Paul Kelley
Rufus Harris - Executive Director

4F CREW:

Rufus Harris – Setup/teardown/host; Denise Strong - Show director/videography;
Lawrence Strong – Coffee brew mister; Kim Strong – Coffee brew mister assistant;
Mildred Sheats – Admissions; Aaron G. – Streaming Video; Tony Amore – Setup/teardown;
Marvin Sheats – Teardown/PowerPoint Op; Rod Sledge – Sound technician; Mike Brewer – Teardown/Lighting
and more...; Paul Kelley – Teardown

Visit us on line at www.theCampOnline.org
Watch our Camp Video www.thecamponline.org/video



Credits:

4thFridays' performance photos by Denise Harris; Jan Krist's photo by Ron Moore
Newsletter written and edited by Denise Strong and Rufus