
American Federation of Musicians Local 444
2030 Schumacher Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207

To Whom It May Be Concern:

September 14, 2026

I am writing to express my deep appreciation for Michael (“Fitz”) Fitzgerald for his tremendous support of American Federation of Musicians Local 444 in our endeavor to restore the memory and history of AFM Local 632, a short-lived segregated African American Local that existed alongside ours through most of the 1940s and 1950s. Fitz’s tremendous knowledge about notable local musicians obtained in conducting research and interviews for his books and documentary-in-progress (*The Cowford Chronicles*), as well as his personal connection to some of their descendants and to other key local community members, have been instrumental in our efforts.

He has 1) pointed us toward archives and historical sources that have enabled us to begin reconstructing Local 632’s membership rosters, 2) introduced us to Mitch Hemann, the Ritz Theatre and Museum’s archivist, 3) served as a bridge connecting us with the Clara White Mission and Eartha M.M. White Museum, at whose location Local 632 was housed, and 4) and secured cooperation from key members of Jacksonville’s City Council, who stand ready to craft a resolution in support of our project.

It is with great delight that I recommend to you that, should the opportunity arise to partner with Fitz, to absolutely grab the chance. You’ll be glad you did!

Sincerely,

Andy Bruck, President

Musicians Association of Jacksonville, AFM Local 444

2030 Schumacher Avenue, Jacksonville FL 32207

afm444@comcast.net