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**The MAX Announces Upcoming Art Classes, Youth
Recording Studio Workshops, + Live Music**

Event line-up also includes talks with authors and dance legends

MERIDIAN, Miss. (January 27, 2026) – Following a sold-out Evening of Jazz event last week, the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience (The MAX) is excited to share details of upcoming events, including a conversation and book signing with author Jere Nash this Thursday, January 29.

January 29: *Reconstruction in Mississippi: A Conversation* with Jere Nash – Mississippi historian and award-winning author Jere Nash will be joined by John Spann, historian and inaugural member of the Two Mississippi Museums, to discuss Nash's new book, as well as Reconstruction's impact and its lessons for today

February 7: First Saturday at The MAX – Enjoy free admission to The MAX every first Saturday of the month, with art activities upstairs from 11 am-1 pm

February 11-March 4: Stained Glass Class – Learn to craft stained-glass pieces in this four-week class aimed at beginners and intermediates ages 16+ (\$75 for members | \$85 for non-members | supplies not included)

February 21: "Face the Clay" Sgraffito Planter Workshop – Create your own one-of-a-kind, expressive head planter using pre-made ceramic vessels by artist Hector Boldo (\$45 members | \$60 non-members)

February 26: *Meridian Rising* with Paul Burch – Join us for a book reading and live performance by musician, author, and scholar Paul Burch, who will be joined by blues

historian and host of MPB's *Highway 61*, Scott Barretta, to discuss Burch's imagined memoir of Jimmie Rodgers

February 28: A Conversation with Melanie Person - The Mississippi native and Co-Director of the world-renowned Ailey School joins us for an inspiration conversation with David Keary, Artistic Director of Ballet Mississippi, and Rebekah Pleasant-Patterson, Executive Director of GRIOT Arts Inc., focusing on themes of turning Mississippi roots into a career, resilience, and mentorship

March 7: First Saturday at The MAX – Enjoy free admission to The MAX every first Saturday of the month, with art activities upstairs from 11 am-1 pm

March 10-14: Spring Break Recording Studio Workshops – Students ages 12-18 are invited into our Recording Studio for hands-on workshops ranging from recording and producing music and podcasts to creating original beats from scratch (registration required, scholarships available)

March 19: Final day to view *Cecelia Moseley: Remnants of Language* exhibition

March 20: Album Launch: *Juke Joint Blues* – Enjoy live music at the launch of a new album by Meridian musician Terrence Davis

March 21: Now Showing: *Jim Henson – Idea Man* – Dive into the mind of a visionary with a special screening of this acclaimed documentary in the Alexander Family Church Gallery

March 21: Puppet Making Workshop with Jordan West – Join Mississippi artist Jordan West for a two-hour interactive workshop where you'll design and build a puppet straight from your imagination, concluding with a live performance in the new puppet theater at The MAX (\$25 per puppet)

April 4: Earth's Bounty at The MAX – Meridian's favorite way to spend a Saturday returns with Earth's Bounty's farmers market from 8 am-noon, free admission to The MAX all day, and art activities upstairs from 11 am-1pm

April 11: Sipp & Savor – Sip on cold beers, fine wines, and craft cocktails while you savor irresistible bites by the South's top chefs, featuring MICHELIN recognized Chef Alon Shaya

May 2: Earth's Bounty at The MAX – MPB's *The Gestalt Gardener*, Felder Rushing, joins us at May's Earth's Bounty, plus enjoy free admission to The MAX and art activities upstairs from 11 am-1 pm

May 7: Jimmie Rodgers Music Festival Bluegrass Night – America's longest-running music festival kicks off with a free performance at The MAX featuring some of the biggest names in bluegrass: The Grascals, Southern Legacy, and Becky Buller & Ned Luberecki, presented by the Jimmie Rodgers Foundation

May 9: Comic Commons at The MAX – Come read, connect, and create in a welcoming studio space for comic lovers of all kinds

June 6: Earth's Bounty at The MAX – Shop local produce and enjoy live music from 8 am-noon, with free admission to The MAX all day and art activities upstairs from 11 am-1 pm

June 13: Comic Commons at The MAX – Come read, connect, and create in a welcoming studio space for comic lovers of all kinds

June 19: Juneteenth Heritage Festival Presented by the City of Meridian + *John Jennings: Build Your World* Preview

June 20: Opening day of *John Jennings: Build Your World* exhibition

New events are added regularly. Stay up to date on everything we have planned at msarts.org/events.

About The MAX:

The Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience (The MAX) is an arts and cultural center in the heart of downtown Meridian that celebrates Mississippi's creative legacy through interactive exhibits, workshops, and live performances. The multipurpose facility contains a two-story Hall of Fame celebrating the state's groundbreaking artists like Walter Anderson, William Faulkner, Morgan Freeman, Jim Henson, B.B. King, Elvis Presley, and Leontyne Price to name a few, along with over 20,000 square feet of interactive exhibits, art studios, a recording studio, and performance spaces. Every visit to The MAX is a unique experience that leaves visitors feeling inspired and in awe of Mississippi's global impact on music, literature, art, and entertainment. Visit www.msarts.org to learn more.

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