



Rhythms: Winter Edition 2012

Edition: XLIV



"We gotta pull your coat tail to this here thing, and get 'em some lace. We got some. We need more, but the cause is righteously righteous. Hit up your friends, hit up your neighbors. Dig deep, an' help your brotha get futher. They do a hell of a job and they workin their buns off. The clinic does more than anyone else to help musicians who's sufferin'. The money ain' funny and the change is strange and we gotta get it together for them."



"Here's why I'm committed to help the NOMC&AF: It comes down to arithmetic. The life expectancy for the primary demographic of their patients, African-American males in New Orleans, is just 68.1 years, compared to 78.2 years for the other males in the USA. However, the NOMC lessens this disparity by engaging their patients to take control of their own well-being - the results are high participation rates in diabetes management programs, anti-smoking campaigns, and community wellness initiatives. By the grace of their donors, the folks at NOMC&AF weathered Katrina, political pushbacks on public healthcare and always made good on their promise to New Orleans' musicians. Please do good for them in their time of need- send a check or donate online and encourage others to do the same cause."

## Featured Staffer



NOMAF Community Nurse  
Jamilah Yejide Peters-  
Muhammad, RN BSN FCN  
Mama Jamilah is a graduate of G.W. Carver High School and Dillard University, is an African dancer and drummer, a Mardi Gras Indian Queen, and a nurse with more than 40 years of wide ranging nursing experience - including midwifery, diabetes management, HIV/AIDS, and innovative community health.

Currently Mama Jamilah divides her time with NOMAF with the two other communities she serves as the Health and Wellness Coordinator at the Ashe Cultural Arts Center and leader of the Christian Unity

## NOMC&AF Kicks off Donor Appeal!

In December 2012, NOMC&AF kicked off our end of year donor appeal. After assessing the current needs of our musicians and tradition bearers, our goal to raise \$315,000 for unmet medical needs by January 31, 2013. As of December 5 we've raised \$135,000. Please donate to the health and advocacy for New Orleans 'musicians who make our city a place world renown for good music and good times.



As the saying goes, sometimes you only get by with a little help from your friends - and two of our greatest supporters, one of our clinic's original founders, Dr. John and co-creator of the HBO Series Treme and The Wire, David Simon, are advocating on our behalf to secure the future of our clinic.

Baptist Church Health Ministry. She also serves on numerous boards of local and national organizations that strive to decrease health disparities related to racism, sexism and classism. Mama Jamilah brings a sincere dedication to those who "make New Orleans New Orleans" by serving our musician clients through face-to-face wellness outreach. "Sometimes talking with NOMC clients on their front porches or in their kitchens lets you really get to know them which helps engage them to become active, healing forces in their own lives," stresses Jamilah.

## Support NOMC Donors: Spotlight on ReStrung Jewelry

**ReCycled - RePurposed - ReBorn:** that's the calling card/motto of the ReStrung Jewelry line launched in January 2012 by Naomi Celestin. Celestin, previously the development director of the Acadiana Arts Council and life long music lover and artist, thought it was time to focus more on developing her creative side. She saw the opportunity to use her diverse background in arts administration, graphic design and metal work to transform broken and otherwise un-recyclable guitar strings into stunning pieces of hand-crafted jewelry. Her signature line draws inspiration from nature - using ethically sourced stones and 14-karat gold leaf - the collection evokes her interpretation of tidal waves, vines, flora and fauna.



*ReStrung is sold locally at Red Lantern, Bon Castor, Glam 504, Forever New Orleans and they regularly have a pop-up shop at the New Orleans French Market in addition to their [online store](#).*

From the start, Naomi has donated a percentage of her profits to the New Orleans' Musicians Clinic. About a year ago a dear friend of hers, Andy Cornett who played with Henry Gray and the Cats for over 25 years, fell ill with no health insurance or primary care provider. When doctors in the ER could not help, he sought care through the Healthcare for Musicians project

at the Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center, where doctors diagnosed him with Lyme Disease and delivered care to enhance his quality of life. Naomi is honored to give back to organizations with a commitment to serve our region's artists by providing easily accessible, comprehensive healthcare. When you're buying gifts this holiday season, support socially minded artists like ReStrung to spur positive cultural growth and to Keep New Orleans' Music ALIVE. ([read more about ReStrung...](#))

December 10 is the last day to order online for a guaranteed Christmas delivery.

## Featured Donor: New Orleans Parrot Head Club



A vital and long-time supporter of NOMC&AF, the New Orleans Parrot Head Club donated \$9,000 to our organization during this years'

9th Annual "Six String Music" Songwriters' Invitational. Cohosted by Jimmy Buffett's Maragritaville and Tropical Isle-Bourbon, this "Party with a Purpose" drew Parrot Heads from all over the country to share in the "tropical spirit." Mark your calendars: The NOPHC's 10th Annual invitational will be held August 8-11, 2013 in the French Quarter. For more information, please visit [www.nophc.com](http://www.nophc.com) & [sixstringmusicnola.com](http://sixstringmusicnola.com).

The New Orleans Parrot Head Club's (NOPHC) is a not-for-profit organization encouraging members to participate in the local, regional and national community to promote social and environmental change.



Join Our Mailing List!

## New Orleans Musicians' Clinic

New Orleans Musicians' Clinic (NOMC) and Assistance Foundation (NOMAF)



Hours: Monday-Thursday 10am to 4pm

504-415-3514 - [info@nomaf.org](mailto:info@nomaf.org)