Click here for JFP Fast Facts in 20 Seconds!
See how Jazz for Peace funding starts with a simple comment by viewing our latest comments page below!

NEXT STEP: Watch or review anything you’d like about Jazz for Peace such as our Latest Videos, Podcast Interviews or Print articles; Easy Instructional Video, Easy 3 Minute Grant Video etc. and then simply submit your own honest comment to us by email (info@jazzforpeace.org) just like these people from around the world did below! This step completes Easy Letter A of our Easy Steps Process!

Each Comment is a Seedling for an Empowerment Tree. Over 850 have grown!

Below are the Latest Daily Comments from around the world. See thousands of earlier comments at: https://jazzforpeace.org/comments.pdf

See how your Empowerment Tree Grows Below:

EASY LETTER A (this seedling below represents your comment)

EASY LETTER B (this step above grows your comment from seedling to Roots!)
EASY LETTER C EXPANDS THESE ROOTS (see above) AND COMPLETES OUR NOW FAMOUS SLOGAN:

"HELP US PLANT THE ROOTS, SO WE CAN GROW YOUR EMPOWERMENT TREE!"

For the NEWEST UP TO DATE COMMENTS Click HERE!

Received June 19, 2023: “~ Thank you so much for your time today -- I so enjoyed our discussion and can’t wait for my listeners to hear it.” ~ Patty Deutsche, Host of “Your Daily Chocolate podcast” - Tennessee

“Thank Y-O-U! Peace is everything.” ~ Dr. Ingrid D. Hicks - Milwaukee, Wisconsin

“Great chat with you today Rick DellaRatta! It was lovely talking about your passion for music, in particular jazz, how you started Jazz for Peace™, and having your advice on what it takes to not give up and keep pursuing a career in music! Wish you all the success and hope to have you again on the show in the future!” ~ Adrian Au, Host of the Meaningful Jobs Podcast - London, England

“Rick….it was great having you on.” ~ Jeremy Bryant, Host - Maniacal Music Musings Podcast - Worcester, Mass.


June 12: “Rick! Thank you so very much…You were a wonderful podcast guest” ~ Kimberly Gawne, Founder, Star Students - British Columbia, Canada

June 10: “I found the first interview with Rick DellaRatta profoundly interesting and deeply concur when he said that in the end, the world’s leaders will ultimately have to turn to Music and the Arts to resolve the world's problems. I look forward to continuing to listen to...other items…” ~ Catherine Louise Geach - Rome, Italy

June 6: “Awesome” ~ Sharon Naiga - Kampala, Uganda

June 5: “A beautiful mission of Peace and true human spirit and unity. And in a country that has known huge suffering. A Wonderful flowing Piano Solo, played with heart, with the ability to sing whilst playing! I liked very much when the lights come on and the rest of the Jazz ensemble begins, with "Stop and smell the Roses" and "leave your luggage on the doorstep”. Thank you ~ Catherine Geach - Rome, Italy (commenting on this Live in Nigeria Video - https://www.prlog.org/12942496 )

June 2: “This very inspirational. Thanks for all you do for the world.” ~ Lynne Jenkins - Sundance, Utah

“Awesome” ~ CARLOS OROZCO - Fort Lauderdale, Florida
June 1: “Rick. It was an absolute pleasure to record the episode with you. You're an amazing musician and you're a gentleman. The live improvisation was awesome too!” ~ Steve Winduss, Host of Batting the Breeze Podcast - Bransgore, England  https://www.battingthebreeze.com/jazz-for-peace/

“You are doing wonderful job dear friend Rick DellaRatta , our best wishes and prayers for you always.~ ` Aamir Sindhu - Lahore, Pakistan  Commenting on NEW Rick DellaRatta & Jazz for Peace™ feature on "Batting the Breeze"! https://www.battingthebreeze.com/jazz-for-peace/

“Awesome” ~ David Schoeles - USA

May 28: “Rick is amazing!!!!…He speaks our language.” ~ Andrea Winifred Royall Jones - NYC

May 25: “Rick’s a world class musician, Debra, playing with a world class trio. It’s a great cause and I obtained a lot of insight into jazz during the podcast. There’s actually a history of rap and poetry in jazz (Ray Brown w Blossom Dearie on up to Digable Planets) but the way he does it it is very innovative.” ~ Paul Fuller - Atlanta, GA (Commenting on the NEW Rick DellaRatta/Jazz for Peace™ performance/interview on The Perceptions Today Podcast UK Featuring Music & Poem at Minute 38 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhIdGeEboBs )

May 23: “Your episode was great and….Your time was a tremendous support of our goals to share values and stories with our listeners” ~ Wendi Douglas, Transacting Value Podcast - Virginia Beach

May 20: “Absolutely Brilliant performance Rick. So Great. Your playing and phrasing is amazing and very compelling. I just loved it.” ~ Dave Powers - Salt Lake City, Utah

May 15: “Cool” ~ Daniel Scott White - Eugene, Oregon,


“Great 👍😊” ~ AFZAL - Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India
May 13 “Looks pretty good to me Debra, the more people know the better. Keep up the great work.” ~ Martin Anthony - Detroit, Michigan (commenting on the NEW NFT Collectors Item by Jazz for Peace™! “The Hypocrisy No One Cares About” https://opensea.io/assets/ethereum/0x495f947276749ce646f68ac8c248420045cb7b5e/46003741107806350958617572236760826869191772435717705387290685691442568888321)

“so nice to see the cause your are defending!” ~ Marie TAMOIFO NKOM - Palaiseau, Île-de-France, France www.ajvc.org (Commenting on this video from Jazz for Peace Nigeria: Rick DellaRatta plays “Free J A”, “Ruby My Dear”, “Stop & Smell The Roses”. https://youtu.be/HXTw0lPG0Ow)

May 12: “Such a great opportunity and project, will pass along any info and hope someday to work with you directly!….thanks for all your life-saving work!!” ~ Janet Feldman - Clinton, North Carolina

“Worthy and wonderful” ~ Vicki (Keats) Abelson - Montrose, California

May 11: “I can't think of a better reason to dedicate your life to than Jazz for Peace. Such efforts need to be duplicated many fold given the state of the world.” ~ Burton Danet - Los Angeles, California

“Thanks for providing such insights, look forward to chatting more.” ~ Host Paul from Perceptions Today Podcast - UK

May 5, 2023: “One of my favorite things about having a new guest each week on the Passion on Purpose; Leaders on Center Stage podcast is that every single one of them teaches me something new! And my interview with Rick DellaRatta was nothing short of ‘something new!’ I just have to say thank you so much Rick for coming on the show and being such a good sport! Before we got on the air, I knew that Rick was going to be a ball of energy, but I did not know that he would bring a serenade with him as well! I’m so excited for you to hear his episode while we’re still finagling with the production elements (us learning something new), I’m so excited to be able to bring a little bit of jazz for you to listen to on our show! Rick, again thank you for being such a great sport, thinking so innovatively on how we can get your message and the great work you do through jazz for peace to the masses, and believing in the work we’re
“doing here on the show! I can’t wait for your episode air later this month!” ~ Steph Hilfer, Host - Passion on Purpose Podcast - Seattle

“This is amazing Rick!! ~ Derek Scott Graves - New Orleans commenting on the latest BREAKING NEWS! FOUR MORE versions of "Free J.A." were performed on the latest Rick DellaRatta & Jazz for Peace™ interview on "MUSIC 101 w/ Daniel Lucas" bringing the total of combined performances from both In Concert and Live performance/Interviews up to 61. Spotify: https://open.spotify.com/episode/7JAhJ7gii0V7C8MX3H5tXU

May 4: “Rick That. Was. In Fact. Awesome. Thanks so much for joining me on the show. I got a ton of value, and I know our listeners will also!...It was an enlightening and incredible experience.” ~ Mechelle McDonald - Evolvepreneur (After Hours) Show - New Providence, The Bahamas

May 2: “That was a very insightful interview, the concept of Free JA(ss)is quite refreshing although I hadn’t heard of it or the history around it before. I’m not a musician but I think the numerous processes that resulted in a lyricist with a poem, birthing a musical movement that uses the power of art and culture as weapon to grow and shape a much better future for humanity from a tiny, unknown, but well watered seed is beyond impactful and truly inspiring” ~ Connie Walyaro - UK

“I loved having you as a guest on Label Free Podcast!” ~ Deanna Kuempel, Host - Chicago, Ill.

“This is awesome!” ~ Jonathan Page - Rancho Cucamonga, California, (commenting on the NEW Rick DellaRatta recording of Billy Strayhorn’s Classic ISFAHAN with Lyrics! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K82baQJlrTI)

May 1, 2023: “Great review! Congrats. Music indeed builds bridges.” ~ Ina Hillebrandt - Los Angeles (commenting on the latest podcast interview: hanks for showing the world how many perceived differences can be reconciled through arts and culture.” ~ Douglas E. Noll, JD, MA Co-Founder, Prison of Peace, Inc. See Video! https://vimeo.com/822178323)

April 29: “Waouh great!” ~ Naomi Jones - President of French federation of music - Versailles, Île-de-France, France
“Art is important in social change for sure!”  ~ Amber Smith - Raleigh, North Carolina

April 28: “Dear Rick, I have interviewed many people on my podcast Listening With Leaders, and you take the cake. Your energy, enthusiasm, and passion shine like a bright light. And, as a jazz violinist myself, I greatly appreciated your music. Thanks for showing the world how many perceived differences can be reconciled through arts and culture.”  ~ Douglas E. Noll, JD, MA Co-Founder, Prison of Peace, Inc. (www.prisonofpeace.org)  Click here for VIDEO:

April 25: “Nice!”  ~ Donald Robinson - Narberth, Pennsylvania

April 21: “Rick DellaRatta…You are a great podcast guest!”  ~ Dr. Lunide, Host of The Best Morning, Ever Podcast.

“This is incredible work!!”  ~ Michael Esposito - Poughkeepsie, NY

“Wonderful.”  ~ Jackie Woodside - Boston

“I wish the people involved in this a tremendous and wonderful outcome..”  ~ Michael Des Barres - Pasadena, California.

April 20: “I have followed you and enjoy the message you spread through music.”  ~ Lucy E. Blanco - Entrepreneur Podcaster. Music and Neuroscience enthusiast - Staten Island, New York

April 18: “enjoyed meeting you….I want to see what if anything I can do to help free JA! That is an awesome project and I can’t wait to see you make that happen 🙏🤣”  ~ Troy - Sundance, Utah

April 17: “Awesome.”  ~ Erick DeLoach - Athens, Georgia (commenting on NEW Rick DellaRatta recording of Billy Strayhorn’s Classic ISFAHAN with Lyrics!)

April 14: “thank you for fighting for Peace and freeing Julian Assange.”  ~ Theresa Clark - Kansas City

April 11: “Jazz for Peace is a great way to support a great cause!”  ~ Maria DiGiusseppe - NYC (commenting on our latest article: “If someone is going to work with you, what is important they know about that might not be

April 8: “Wow…That’s great….thanks for the performance video….I appreciate you Debra. Your professional savvy and inner strength is amazing!”  ~ Mario Hunter - Winston-Salem, North Carolina

“In the wake of tumultuous propaganda, outright lies, false scrutiny, and shunning, it takes a lot of self-belief, and courage, to be among the first to publicly-deliver the truth as best seen fit.”  ~ Rage Writer Blog on Substack referring to Jazz for Peace™ Founder Rick DellaRatta (see article here:  https://ragewriter.substack.com/p/joe-rogan-finally-agrees-vaccines?  

“Wow very cool 😎 I really like it a lot”  ~ Jason Short - Port Huron, Michigan

April 3: “Your work is truly amazing, and far reaching!”  ~ Jan Mayer - Salt Lake City, Utah

March 31, 2023:  “Great”  ~ Shoaib Habib Memon - Thatta, Sindh, Pakistan - (commenting on the Rick DellaRatta performance interview for Assn.'s Thrive - https://open.spotify.com/episode/0WeCd9L5gDoCtpkr7BCs5Y  

March 30: “I like the chemistry between the pianist, bassist, and horn player.”  ~ Lamont Dickerson - Taiwan

March 29: “Very cool”  ~ Marcus Paca - Trumbull, Connecticut

March 27: “I like it! Xxx,”  ~ Elaine Elizabeth (Liz) Presley, President of: The Presley Foundation Inc - Memphis, Tennessee (Commenting on this performance/interview - “Is Rick DellaRatta the Elvis of Jazz?”  https://open.spotify.com/episode/1QSG7JBS0wXrBbmnGPyRo3?si=INuR1ruYRWGVgaV5CYKNGA  

“Oh this is so so cool thank you 😊❤”  ~ Elizabeth (Jean Olivia) Gagnon - Cornwall, Ontario, Canada
March 25: “I would love to do an Artists Spotlight segment with you! JazzforPeace sounds amazing and I’m sure my diverse audience would enjoy your story!” ~ Kristin McGriff aka "Kandidly Kristin"

March 21: “Great” ~ Rodrigo Vivanco - Santiago, Chile

March 12: “I love what you are doing guys. You are doing magic, something incredible, you are visiting the country and you connect from the grassroots, hope all named big organizations have been doing the same, we would have been able to solve millions of challenges the world especially undeveloped countries are facing! Unbelievable but true of how you have funded and sponsored more than 8500 projects worldwide. No one can mention an organization that can do that except you guys!!” ~ Abaasi Walugembe. Founder and director. www.ciochumanitarianinitiative.org Mityana-Kampala Uganda.

March 10: “Kudos to you and your work!” ~ David Gracia - New York, NY

March 7: “you are probably just as important as anybody in the world, my friend… Appreciate what you do and watching your journey” ~ Steve Love - NYC

“Yes !!! Thank you again for your time and shared wisdom. It was a great pleasure to meet you and an honor to listen to you live in person….I don’t take for granted these amazing moments” ~ Cristina Pujol, host of the “Change Maker’s Mind” Podcast - Barcelona, Spain

February 26: “Cool🌺…..Wonderful news!!!” ~ Gwendolyn Black - NYC

Feb. 25: “Thank you very much, Rick - although I am not a devoted Jazz fan I like your song! ~ Michael Stenov - Austria

Feb. 24: “excellent, thank you so much!” ~ Jair-Rohm Wells - Riverton, New Jersey

Feb. 14: “Bravo! Congratulations for attracting the NYT attention. That is a big deal indeed!” ~ Sergio Lub - Napa, CA

“Spectacular” ~ MARIO MIGUEL MARQUEZ TRUJILLO - Havana, Cuba

Feb. 12: “Jazz/ music for peace is awesome!” ~ Ricky Byrum - Suffolk, VA

Feb. 7: “It was brilliant!” ~ Predrag Nikolik - Dallas

January 31, 2023: “Using music for peace is awesome!” ~ Ricky Byrum - Suffolk, Virginia

Jan. 30: “I love your music and your mission.” ~ Jan Mayer - Salt Lake City

“Can’t thank you enough brother Rick !!” ~ A. Christopher Johnson - NYC

Jan. 29: “Awesome podcast. I listened to it twice actually. Very impressed with your talents and your willingness to share such amazing gifts with people and countries in great need of comfort and healing. Thanks brother.” ~ Eric Wagstaff - Salt Lake City, Utah

Jan. 26: “Cool! I love the quartal and fifth voicings in the left hand:-)” ~ Michael Heavner - Little Rock, Arkansas (commenting on the performance at min. 12 of this interview: https://open.spotify.com/episode/0WeCd9L5gDoCtpkr7BCs5Y)

Jan. 25: “very interesting interview” ~ Samer Hatoum - Netherlands

“I really dug the piece that was around 12 minutes I believe into the interview….They both run into each other very smoothly even though the vibes are totally different” ~ Justin Robinson - NYC


Jan. 20: “Congratulations! That’s awesome” ~ Hamed Rouzbahani - Tehran Province, Iran

Jan. 19: “The episode is wonderful! ….Thank you so much! What an honor to interview Rick. We will share this far and wide!….I love it. It's insightful and unique!....thank you for all that you do to raise funds for worthy organizations.” ~ Joanna M. Pineda CEO/Chief Troublemaker Matrix Group International, Inc.
and host of Associations Thrive, the podcast celebrating successful associations and their leaders. ~ Click here: https://open.spotify.com/show/7o55KMD1gpCm3wJGQmByuc

And here for all streaming platforms: https://associations-thrive.captivate.fm/

January 17: “Rick, DellaRatta, Thanks for the wonderful gift you have to the World that is recommended by even former president. Congratulations, Kenwilliams - Malawi, Africa

“Awesome podcast!” ~ Natasha Evans - Rochester, NY (commenting on Rick talks about NEW JFP Grants for performing Artists and Outstanding Causes, the progress being made by JAZZforPEACE to free Julian Assange; plays FREE J.A. and sings Almost Blue on the What I’d Like to Know podcast with Paul G https://www.buzzsprout.com/2109052/11987365)

“You win the game of life!!” ~ Sarah Jane Cion - Westchester, NY

Jan. 16: “It’s a pleasure to be a part of your circle.” ~ Larry C Johnson - Caldwell, Idaho

Jan. 14: “Awesome thank you!!” ~ Thomas Alexander - Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

“Beautiful….I love it” ~ Georges Boukoff - Paris

“your idea is wonderful so I’d like to nominate myself to take part and in addition TSS The Southport school this is a boys school on the Gold Coast and I believe what you have in mind would be so good for young boys who we hope will grow into fine young men who will seek peace above all.” ~ Maggie Britton - Brisbane, Australia

“Right on!” ~ Keith Clizark - Los Angeles


Jan. 10: “Keep lifting hears and souls 🙏🦋” ~ Phyllis Kee - NYC

Jan. 8: “Very cool” ~ Nganyu Emmanuel Ndukong - Cameroon, Africa
January 3, 2023: “Love your stuff” ~ Patrick Butler - Los Angeles, California

December 31, 2022: “wow, that’s wicked cool” ~ Andy Thibault - Litchfield, Connecticut,

“Nice” ~ James Gibson - USA

Dec. 30: “I thought it was greatly done. The way he incorporated each part with a simple message.” ~ Ian Mandrew-Prendergast - Yonkers, New York (commenting on the latest Podcast interview on “Be The Good” with host Kate Cherichello. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xkyf3Kd1CCg)

Dec. 28: “Great singing Rick! Lovely voice!!” ~ Lorraine Heavey, Jazz Singer at Lorraine and The Flames - United Kingdom

Dec. 27: “It is wonderful to see so many people dedicated to making this a better and more beautiful world. Thank you Rick” ~ Jeri Baker - Canadensis, Pennsylvania

Dec. 26: “You are doing an amazing Job for PEACE” ~ Dr. Marie Claudine Mukamabano ~ Brooklyn, NY

Dec. 25: “Excellent!! That was so nice to hear today.” ~ Kristy Kline - Cleveland, Ohio (commenting on our latest podcast interview - Merry Xmas/Happy New Year!!! Special Thanks to Sri Chellappa for this latest interview which starts out with a Jazz at Christmastime Medley. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ScrgXKJ_RNE )

Dec. 24: “MY congratulation !” ~ Eike Pi - Austria

Dec. 23: “Wonderful, Rick!!” ~ Prof. Arnon R. Palty - NYC

“Nice” ~ Patience Nyange - Kenya

Dec. 21: “You’re doing great Rick. May God grant you more resource to expand your reach. God bless you, and Merry Christmas.” ~ Martins Ogbu

“Weldone” ~ Banjo (LizzieBanj) Omolayo - Ibadan, Ogun State, Nigeria
Dec. 20: “Congratulations to everyone involved in this project.” ~ Michael Parkinson - Overland Park, Kansas

Dec. 17: “JFP does have the potential of blowing up like Live Aid did, and do what it did for rock, for Jazz…..You took many risks Rick, and you should be commended for it, without a doubt!” ~ Ben Meigners, NYC

Dec. 15: “how impressive and humanitarian!…your music is so melodic, percussive, dramatic with beautiful nuances” ~ Melanie Baker-Futorian, NYC (commenting on the previous nights live performance of “Free J.A. version # 40” ~ see them all at www.jazzforpeace.org/freeja.pdf)

Dec. 14: “Awesome….. I can't tell you how your music inspires people to get better in whatever they are doing!” ~ Victor DiGiusseppe - Brunswick, Georgia

Dec. 12: “Such a pleasure talking to you and listening to your playing. I really appreciate your time….👏👏” ~ Cristina Pujol - Barcelona, Spain. See the interview HERE! (scroll down to #38)

“cool!” ~ Deke Sharon- San Francisco


Dec. 9: “Congratulations again. It's wonderful.” ~ Aamir Sindhu - Lahore, Pakistan

Dec. 5: “Awesome!” ~ Michelle Ingram - Cleveland, Ohio

Dec. 4: “awesome, congrats!” ~ Keith Clizark - Los Angeles

“Wow amazing!” ~ Ben Meigners, NYC

Dec. 3: “You have tremendous insight into worldwide Economic and Political Events; possibly as a result of Jazz for Peace work…” ~ David Sherman - Lake Tahoe, California
“This is very inspirational what you are doing with your life.” ~ Lynn Jenkins - Sundance, Utah


November 30, 2022: “Rick, “Worldwide Tours & Jazz for Peace” was powerful. Your spirit, passion & creative insight was inspiring. I appreciate your willingness to be a Contributor….Thank you again.” ~ Josh Porthouse, Host of The Transacting Valyou Podcast - Norfolk, VA

Nov. 29: “amazing!!!” ~ Todd McKnight - Winter Park, Florida

“I would love to hear about any recent update with your work and career and see if any of our work aligns and can support each other.” ~ Lisa Orloff - NYC

Nov. 28: “Rick does a awesome job on this foundation.” ~ Juanita Smith - Fayetteville, North Carolina

“would love to hear more about the opportunities regarding this amazing work at “Jazz for Peace“…..bringing awareness to this wonderful project.” ~ Francois Simon - NYC

“Thanks for this! I remember Rick! I was a drummer towards the end of the Tonic/ Knitting Factory era!” ~ Michael Fortune - Albany, NY

Nov. 22: “This is awesome, thank you! “ ~ Delicia Niami - Santa Paula, California

Nov. 20: “This is fantastic!” ~ Stephen (Kepano) Richter - Volcano, Hawaii

“Beautiful” ~ Tonderai Giftrice Magaya - McKinney, Texas

Nov. 18: “Great piece and beautiful gesture. “ ~ Ralph Burnett - Auburn, California

Nov. 16: “I am so encouraged by you & Jazzy for Let know if there is any I can do help you heroes!” ~ Taros Arts - NYC

Nov. 15: “Thank you…for the information on this amazing grant.” ~ Debra Pirolo - NYC
Nov. 14: “Wow” ~ Kimio Young - Atlanta

Nov. 13: “Wow cool” ~ Mumuzepaint Emilie - Pau

Nov. 10: “Wow! Looking great in that shirt from Africa, you should have said from Maasai land! Yes, the gazelle story is true and we have a lot to do to conserve them here in the savanna. It is sad to hear that Mississippi river is drying up. Am cooking ideas to help reverse these situations and hopefully contribute.” With regards, Teto Ole Tutuma - Kenya, Africa

Nov. 7: “You don’t cease to amaze me” ~ Kingsley Uchenna - Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria

“great interview as always!” ~ Hossein Martin Fazeli - Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada (commenting on the latest Rick DellaRatta performance/interview on The Purple Knights Podcast! [https://youtu.be/mW6GcUTwNBI])

“Great one, congrats!” ~ Hossein Martin Fazeli - Vancouver, British commenting on our Latest Print Article: [https://enterprisezone.cc/what-do-you-wish-your-prospects-would-understand-before-they-talk-to-you-by-rick-dellaratta/]

Nov. 5: “I enjoy the article” ~ SEKRANE NASREDDINE - Algeria (commenting on our NEW November Print Article: [https://enterprisezone.cc/what-do-you-wish-your-prospects-would-understand-before-they-talk-to-you-by-rick-dellaratta/])

Nov. 3: “Thanks for sharing….Beautiful” ~ Mohammed Nasir - Ethiopia

“Wonderful work you do! I enjoyed your performance. 🎵❤️🎵” ~ Deborah Peacock - Austin, Texas


November 1: “very cool!” ~ John Heinrich - Nashville

October 30: “Beautiful” ~ Asoh Vincentel - Sheridan, Wyoming
Oct. 26: “Thank you! How wonderful.” ~ Ronda Cobb - Toledo, Ohio
(commenting on this new interview that just came out on LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/follow-your-true-azimuth-micro-podcast_rick-dellaratta-follows-his-true-azimuth-activity-6990359963797704704-awS9/)

Oct. 23: “This is very clear and helpful. I will share this information with my Interdisciplinary Artists Aggregation board of directors at our next meeting and get back to you.” ~ Karlton Hester - Santa Cruz, California

“Very beautiful and very beautiful” ~ REDA MHDE HASSAN - Al Kut, Wasit, Iraq

Oct. 21: “Congratulations Mr. DellaRatta! A prestigious award. Hope many more awards will follow in the service of humanity and promotion of human rights.” ~ CS Joseph C. F. Sequeira - Goa, India

Oct. 20: “Awesome” ~ Terrance Robinson - Plano, Texas

Oct. 19: “Oh woww, that's nice!” ~ Remy Chukwunyere - Abuja, Nigeria

Oct. 14: “Hello Brother RICK, your passion, your tenacity, your heart, your incredible professional skill, are an incredible mix to promote a Culture of Peace and MUSIC….God bless you” ~ www.booksforpeace.org - Rome, Italy

Oct. 13: “Nice work” ~ Anirudh Singh - Melbourne, Victoria, Australia


Oct. 11: “You are the best…..Congratulations on your music and jazz for peace projects” ~ Darrell Hollinquest - Manhattan Beach, California

“Please thank Rick so much for being a guest on our podcast. We are thrilled about this episode, and know that our community will cherish it as much as we do!” ~ Shannon Arner - Beaufort, North Carolina (Commenting on THIS podcast: https://arneradventures.com/episode-43-spark-in-our-lives-rick-dellaratta)
Oct. 10: “Wonderful, Rick!” ~ Mark Schwartz - Scottsdale, Arizona

Oct. 6: “Amazing! Congratulations for him!” ~ José Mª Menendez Menchaca - Madrid, Spain

Oct. 5: “Love your work mate. “ ~ Jake Pearson - Melbourne, Australia
(commenting on this latest print article: https://www.whatmakesyouhappypodcast.com/blog/5-things-that-bring-this-jazz-pianist-happiness/)

Oct. 4: “very cool video!” ~ Ellen Rowe - Ann Arbor, Michigan

September 30: “I’ve been listening to your music since the episode, quality stuff, it was an honor” ~ Raul Hernandez, Host - Cut Talk Podcast - South Central Los Angeles, California

“It was awesome spending time with you Rick!” ~ Tyrone Corbett, Host - The Corbett Report

Sept. 25: “congrats for your amazing vocation!!!…what should I do to ensure a date of Jazz for Peace…here in Argentina..?” ~ Fernando Angel Carranza - Argentina

Sept. 24: “Awesome” ~ Sixtine Crutchfield - Geneva

“Congratulations Rick…..may your star shine brighter as you achieve even greater accomplishments!” ~ Carl Anthony - Miami, Florida

Sept. 23: “By definition you are a mover and a shaker” ~ Callum Laing - Singapore

Sept. 19: “Nice interview.” ~ Dr. Nelson Harrison - Pittsburgh, PA (commenting on this Brand New Interview with Eric McCoy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qtot5oEM_Ns)

“Cool” ~ Joann Pierdomenico - Philadelphia, PA

“Beautiful…I love it” ~ Janet Irene Thomas - Alexandria, Virginia
Below are 7 possible VIP Guests of Honor as we make progress towards confirmation of what we hope will be a very exciting JAZZforPEACE event:

1. "What a treat! Rick recalling Gillespie is a great piece of history itself. I love that there is always something to learn about Jazz music and its diverse community. Furthermore, allowing other musicians the opportunity to be heard through the Jazz for Peace program, regardless of genre, is a fantastic and highly commendable gesture." ~ Dana Lyons Exec. Assistant Publicist / RSTE Record Label

2. "Thanks for letting me know about JAZZ FOR PEACE-it goes a long way to see how music is lifting people around the world and I am so glad your talents are recognized through this organization. Your friend, -and best wishes !" ~ Kathy Romano

3. "Thank you so much for sending me this video of Jazz for Peace with Rick Delarotta performing Jazz Man. He is an amazing Jazz pianist/singer and I thoroughly enjoyed his performance. Thank you." Elena Brokus

4. "It’s good to see so many people coming together all over the world and helping with all these causes and using music as a platform. This is a great cause and a way to help others that are in need." ~ Rick Warner ERC Executive Director

5. “Music has always been able to soothe the soul… The Performing Arts has always included Music to initialize the mood of every setting. As they say, "Music does make the world turn around". Our present day music holds the true essence of the mood of our violence, hatred, bullying i.e, As it always has, through Elections, Kent State Revolutions, Tiananmen Square, Bonos' Sunday Bloody Sunday" & more, music has been the platform for our next generations diverse issues to acknowledge. Jazz, my opinion, can touch the human soul close to heart. Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion…” ~ Donna Sgambato

6. "In this day and age, there’s no shortage of causes and it all becomes just white noise. It’s overwhelming sometimes, but Jazz for Peace is one of the few that rises to the top as one of those that let’s other people talk while the organization walks the walk! Just outstanding work globally, and we all need
to do everything we can to help promote this vital mission, to help struggling artists bring peace to the rest of the world!” ~ Rick Allen

7. "Finally there is “Jazz For Peace” to help out struggling musicians ready to tour! “Jazz For Peace” finally there is help for struggling musicians!! Bravo!!” ~ Bob Dee

Sept. 18: “Awesome” ~ Richy Stano - Hawthorne, FL

“Very cool” ~ Manny Gonzalez - Boynton Beach, Florida

“Awesome” ~ Anelca Fairbairn - Netherlands

“Awesome” ~ Cheryl Brauner - Covington, Louisiana

Sept. 13: “I enjoyed the music” ~ John P. Louis - Cumming, Georgia

1. “I think Jazz for Peace is an absolute dream come true for musicians in helping the struggling talented artists of all genres giving them a chance to live their dream through playing and performing music. It’s a wonderful organization for the musician and everyone involved!” 2. “Hey Debra, Thank You for the approval of my letter and I will be putting together a list of good candidates for supporting me here and start sending out the emails asap!!!” Thank You!!” ~ Mark "MarkyZ" Sgambato/RSTE-Rock Solid Talent Entertainment - Philadelphia, PA


“Very cool” ~ Harry Kaplan - Portland, Oregon

Sept. 11: “Super emotional this morning..... thinking of all the innocent lost ... thanks for all you do to promote Peace around the world” ~ CS Whipple (AKA “Whiskey”) ~ Salt Lake City, Utah

“Wonderful initiative indeed! May the peace reign all over” ~ Suzanne Mansour - Sydney, Australia
Sept. 10: “Wow that’s a lot of awesomeness 🥃” ~ Joseph Edward Storzinger - Holbrook, New York

Sept. 9: “This is great👍! Thanks for sharing it Debra. Rick brought us a wonderful time in Michigan many years ago as AOOF sought to raise funds for our annual community services in Nigeria. Amazing to see him there and wish I could have been there as well. Regards to Rick and the rest of the team! God bless.” ~ Roland Odeleye - Salt Lake City, Utah (Commenting on this NEW video from Jazz for Peace Nigeria: Rick DellaRatta - Jazzman: https://vimeo.com/747523725)

Sept. 8: “Wow, what you are doing is fantastic !!; I congratulate you, it is a great thing, and you are a great musician; I would be honored to participate. If there are some possibilities, I will be happy to know how we can take part” ~ Rafael Pareja Ibanez - Kearny, New Jersey

“Very cool Rick! Thank you” ~ Patrick Yandall - San Diego, California

Sept. 7: “Wow! Jazz For Peace looks amazing!! That’s fantastic to see where your music has taken you and the the lives you have touched. How beautiful!” ~ Amanda Scalici - NYC

“Excelente” ~ Carlos Alberto Laguilón - Argentina

Sept. 6: “This is beautiful” ~ opeyemi oladejo - Lagos, Nigeria

Sept. 2: “LOVE this!!!!” ~ Jeff Fajans - Denver, CO

“Wow, thank you for sharing! We have the same mission here in metro KC - it's taking a lot of time and effort, but it is worth it! ~ Michael Parkinson - Kansas City

August 31: “Powerful” ~ Moses - Nairobi, Kenya

“Great Wisdom” ~ Danger - Nairobi, Kenya

Aug. 29: “Featured Podcast Testimonial of the Month for September: “we are so thankful…There were so many WOW moments, and key takeaways that I know our audience will love, because we loved them! We value Rick and his journey so
very much and are thrilled that our paths crossed. We THANK YOU again for lining this up!” ~Shannon ~ Arner Adventures Podcast (This show is set for release on 10/11/22)

“I love what you are doing with your efforts in Africa. I spent quite a bit of time in South Africa when I was in Abdullah Ibrahim’s band and the mutual impact of playing music there has informed my actions since the ’90s. Bravo!” ~ Horace Alexander Young - Houston, Texas

Aug. 27: “Amazing, Jazz for peace is still doing great things in this small world!!!!…you are doing great work….I wish to have an event one day” ~ Jean Claude Kamwenubusa - Canada

Aug. 25: “Rick is doing what he does, very well…. I wish you continued success and good work..” ~ Aldo Mazza - Montreal, Canada

Aug. 23: “I love the idea.” ~ Prof Ian C E Hale - Rhyl, Wales, United Kingdom

Aug. 22: “I enjoyed Rick's presentation in Africa...he is very good and great work…” ~ Aldo Mazza - Montreal, Quebec

Aug. 21: “Big, huge congratulations on your amazing videos and event planning!” ~ Laara WilliamSen - Vancouver, Canada

Aug. 20: “These are all really great videos Rick!.... That was a fantastic speech that you made in the beginning, followed up by equally incredible music. It's a noble cause and your grants have done wonders to help many groups similar to yours. Please keep up the good work that you and your organization do.” ~ Giovanni Vittozzi - Queens, NY (commenting on our Second video from Jazz for Peace Nigeria: Jazz for Peace™ feat. Rick DellaRatta plays “Free J A”, “Ruby My Dear”, “Stop & Smell The Roses”. https://youtu.be/HXTw0lPG0Ow)

Aug. 19: “please tell Rick I said hello, congratulations and keep spreading the LOVE!!! 🙏❤️” ~ Stephen Clarke - Toronto, Ontario

Aug. 18: “Awesome” ~ Rachel Delgado - Wichita Falls, Texas

Aug. 17: “Wow! Listened to the first two so far. Super impressive. Good and important work!” ~ EB Weiss - NYC
Aug. 16: “Great!!!” ~ Wesley McCoy - Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

“WOW!” ~ Darin Tolliver - Philadelphia

Aug. 12: “Hell yeah! These are great, Debra!!!!!” ~ Jeff Fajans, PhD, ACE - Creative Leadership Coach | LinkedIn Learning Instructor | ~ Denver
(Commenting on Breaking News for August)

Aug. 11: “Man, your videos are fantastic. Loved your performance and your songs. I’ll definitely share it with my friend from Nigeria. Wishing Jazz for Peace tons of more success.” ~ Bobby Harden - NYC

“Jazz for Peace has brought such an important message everywhere they bring their talents. Sharing the awareness of what they have accomplished and the passion they bring to each performance portrays the love of their project and intensifies the integrity of their mission and all individuals that have been so deeply touched. Jazz for Peace is the cog in this mission with Rick DellaRatta at the helm and the world should sing the highest praises for sharing their talents to promote, a kinder, more peaceful world.” ~ Lori LeDonne - Sherborn, Ct.

August 9: “👍” ~ Todd Barkan - Baltimore, Md.

August 8, 2022: “Dear Debra, the concert was successful...Hearty thanks, Rick, Debra, and Jazz for Peace, for the successful 20th anniversary Jazz for Peace United Nations Concert in Nigeria.....Many thanks, Congratulations, and well done! It was great to welcome you to Nigeria. It will be nice to build on the connections created from the event in Nigeria. I’ve been requested to organize it again. Some persons who knew about the event few days to the event and also after the event...expressed their interest to participate in the future.” ~ Ukpeme Okon - Abuja, Nigeria

*** Above is the comment received from this Empowerment Grant recipient following the completion of our Empowerment Tree and below is her initial comment which was the tiny seedling which started it all: ***

Received October 2019:
“I enjoyed the video — “The Making of Let’s Send an Email to Local 802” by Rick DellaRatta, a jazz singer and pianist, peace activist, and advocate of the common
interests of professional musicians, through the American Federation of Musicians Local 802. The video commenced with an impressive historical introduction, and highlighted lofty issues such as: environmental harmony for peace, youth empowerment, fair representation, helping helpers, accountability, among others. Rick DellaRatta’s advocacy, as seen in other videos extends the essence of goodwill, and leaving a legacy of good works by planting the seed of one, which yields roots of many. I will be happy to obtain this funding.” ~ With thanks, regards, and peace. Ukpeme Akpan Okon, Abuja, Nigeria Founder - Guild of Adjudicators in Nigeria (GAIN), Ambassador for Peace, and Author of award-winning The Values String: A book on Transitional Life, Compelling Fulfillment, and Profound Peace.

August 7: “Super” ~ Duke Tshibuyi - Congo, Africa

August 4: “This Show is wonderful! The best among those I saw.” ~ Hugo Braule - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (commenting on THIS video ~ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fv-Lr41vdj4 You are AMAZING!....and the show was incredible. Thanks, Rick!” ~ Caffe Lena)


“You’re awesome, bro !” ~ Leo Traversa - NYC

July 30: “i love your Video content. this is absolutely awesome video.” ~ Mohammad Khan -

July 29: “It is great.” ~ Mikhail (Michael) Zorich - Philadelphia

Jul 28: From a thread: “Jazzman is a great song, i love it” ~ Rommy Wuhe - Nigeria / “Yes, it is” ~ Oliver Brown - Los Angeles, California


“Fantastic!” ~ Paris Hairston - Los Angeles
July 26: “Great presentation Rick. You have a serious gift and I am so glad you get to share it so far and wide and inspire so many wherever you go. Thanks for skiing!!” ~ GURU Dave Powers - Salt Lake City

July 24: “a top non-profit organization…..should take full advantage of the great opportunity you are helping them to benefit from…..and they would gain larger success in all their endeavors.” ~ Erick DeLoach - Athens, Georgia


July 19: “Awesome….This is really really nice.” ~ Cathy Segal-Garcia - Los Angeles (commenting on this Nigerian Armed Forces radio interview Live from Abuja! https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=730943148119571&id=958495544209762&m_entstream_source=timeline&anchor_composer)

July 18: “I am very grateful for the immense support for the successful, historic, Jazz for Peace Concert Nigeria.” ~ Ukpeme Akpan Okon

July 15: “I’m glad to learn about this. We need to continually develop critical mass aimed toward planetary peace. I also like the image of Star Beer in the background. It reminds me of my trip to Nigeria decades ago.” ~ Karlton Hester - Santa Cruz, California

“Excelente!!!” ~ Onel Mulet - Queens, NY

July 10: “Many thanks for the successful 20th anniversary Jazz for Peace United Nations Concert in Nigeria. Congratulations, and well done!” ~ Ukpeme Akpan Okon - Abuja, Nigeria

July 7: “you are very eclectic!” ~ Candice Ann Moraga - Rochester, NY

July 5, 2022: “First, I must thank Rick for his performance at the Jazz Forum Jam Session on July 3, playing Lazy Bird by John Coltrane. Very few musicians play
this composition, especially at jam sessions due to its harmonic structure. Rick also adds lyrics which enhances the experience of the music.

Reading through the Jazz For Peace material and the funding guidelines it is obvious that Jazz for Peace is participating in a unifying world wide healing process. Sadly, the United States is now in greater need than ever for the Jazz for Peace efforts given the horrific July 4, 2022 events, the assault on voting rights, women's rights, climate change legislation and of course the attempted and evidently ongoing overthrow of American democracy. How do we channel Jazz for Peace to address these issues threatening America? I think tackling one of these issues at a time, such as voting rights, might be a way to begin.” ~ - Craig Purpura - Westchester, NY