

Date: 4/29/2019

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**National Museum of African American Music Hosts
Advanced Screening of Buddy Bolden Film**
Film Chronicles the Life of the “Father of Jazz” Buddy Bolden

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (April 29, 2019) – The National Museum of African American Music (NMAAM) will present an advanced public screening and panel discussion of “Buddy Bolden: The Man Behind the Music,” a film inspired by the life of Buddy Bolden, at Belmont University’s Johnson Center, on Monday, April 29, at 6:30 p.m.

“Very little is known about Buddy Bolden, so we are thrilled to have the opportunity to shed light on his story,” said NMAAM curator Dr. Steven Lewis. “We know that Bolden’s career lasted only from around 1895 to 1907, but what he did for jazz music in that time laid the foundation for musical greats to come.”

Buddy Bolden has been called the “father of jazz” and the “first King of New Orleans” because of his pivotal role in inspiring a new generation of musicians and developing the style that would come to be known as jazz music. Directed by Dan Pritzker, “Bolden” (in theaters May 3) reimagines the life, music and passions of the influential instrumentalist against the social backdrop of turn-of-the-20th-century America.

“It is extremely important to tell the stories of musical pioneers like Buddy Bolden,” Lewis said. “The birth of jazz started a new era in American popular culture, and Bolden’s career foreshadowed artists from Louis Armstrong to Jimi Hendrix, The Rolling Stones, The Fugees and Dr. Dre. His contributions have long been overlooked, but Bolden is where it all began.”

A panel discussion will follow the screening, featuring jazz music icon Delfeayo Marsalis.

The screening and panel discussion are free to the public. To register, click [here](#). A cocktail hour at Cucina Moto Entoneca will precede the event from 5 to 6 p.m.

About NMAAM

The National Museum of African American Music, set to open in early 2020, will be the only museum dedicated solely to preserving African American music traditions and celebrating the influence African Americans have had on music. Based in Nashville, Tenn., the museum will share the story of the American soundtrack by integrating history and interactive technology to bring musical heroes of the past into the present. For more information, please visit www.nmaam.org.