

MOTION

Gerald Wilson played for more than 75 years, a musician who delighted millions, all over the world, with his music. Wilson later served in the US Navy and while there he played with musicians like Clark Terry, Willie Smith and Jimmy Nottingham which would later be reunited as "The Great Lakes Experience Big Band."

In the 1940s, Gerald made his way out to Los Angeles and began working the club circuit along the famous South Central Avenue corridor, including famous musical venues like and the Dunbar Hotel.

It was along Central that Gerald solidified his musical career, providing guidance and assistance to a number of up and coming jazz musicians like Bobby Bryant, Harold Land Jr., Jack Wilkins and many others and helping to make Los Angeles the epicenter of Jazz on the west coast.

Over more than seven decades, Gerald played and arranged for a tremendous number of jazz legends including Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie, Nancy Wilson, Sarah Vaughan, Ray Charles, Julie London, Ella Fitzgerald and Dinah Washington, among many others.

But Gerald was driven to do more for his community. So he spent several years as a professor at California State University Los Angeles, California State University Northridge, Cal Arts and the University of California at Los Angeles, helping to train a new generation of jazz aficionados and musicians and where he was recognized several times by students and faculty as "teacher of the year."

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection of 42nd Place and S. Central Avenue be named as "Gerald Wilson Square" and that the Department of Transportation be directed to fabricate and install permanent ceremonial signs to this effect at this location, in consultation with Council District 9, in recognition of Gerald Wilson dedication to bringing music education to the Greater Los Angeles Community.

PRESENTED BY: _____

Curren D. Price
CURREN D. PRICE
Councilmember, 9th District

JUN 12 2015

SECONDED BY: _____

Jim Coates

ORIGINAL

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