

2009 Austin Music Memorial Nominations

Elmer Akins (1911 – 1998) Mr. Akins was a singing tenor and formed the Austin Quartet Association in the 1940s. With an outstanding career as a gospel announcer, he had the longest running gospel music radio program in the United States.

T.D. Bell (1922-1999) An Austin Blues Godfather during the twentieth century. “Little T Bone played” with The Cadillacs at Victory Grill making East Austin a blues hotbed. He mentored a generation of blues musicians, who would expand his legacy to a national and broader scope.

Camilo Cantu (1907-1998) A great accordion player of the 1930s and 1940s, “El Azote de Austin” had a distinct sound due to the unique way he tuned his instrument. An original conjunto artist, he has influenced a long line of local accordionists.

Michael David Fuller (1949-1989) Blaze Foley moved to Austin in 1980, performing and encouraging others to perform on the stages of Austin music clubs. Known for having a heart of gold, he held over sixty songs credits.

Lonnie Guerrero (1917-1994) A self taught musician, Mr. Guerrero became a troubadour in the 1930s. His music performances and compositions made him known as the maker of corridos in the Austin community.

Bill Neely (1916-1990) Austin’s staple country blues singer and guitarist, Mr. Neely was an early player at the original Threadgill’s. His music inspired generations.

Gene Ramey (1913-1984) One of the most influential players in jazz history, he performed throughout Austin in the 1930s before joining some of the most prominent bandleaders in the nation. He returned to Austin at the end of his career, mentoring many young jazz musicians.

Robert Shaw (1908-1985) “Fud” brought a new sound to Austin in the 1930s, preserving the purity of boogie woogie and eliciting fans. He played for over a decade at the annual Kerrville Folk Festival.

C.B. Stubblefield (1931-1995) Restaurateur and proprietor of a famous Austin Bar-B-Que joint, “Stubb” was legendary for bringing food and music together. He created a venue for a diversity of players.

Damita Jo De Blanc Wood (1930-1998) A native Austinite, Mrs. De Blanc Wood had a long career as a jazz, pop and soul singer in international supper clubs, in television and as a recording star.