Lifelong Learning Mississauga

One Hundred Years of Jazz
Spring 2013 Lecture Series
Thursdays, April 11 to June 6, 2013, 10:00 am to 12 noon
Mississauga Valley Community Centre
1275 Mississauga Valley Blvd, Mississauga, ON L5A 3R8

Presenter: Dr. Michael Daley, Musician, Broadcaster, Lecturer

From humble beginnings in turn-of-the-century New Orleans, jazz has become a respected form of art music, prompting more than one writer to call it "America's Classical Music." This course charts the course of jazz from down-and-dirty to high-faluting. The instructor uses vintage films and recordings, along with live musical demonstrations, to show how jazz grew over its century of history.

April 11 From Africa to the New World
We start by considering some of the musical and cultural origins of jazz, from the West African jungle and savannah to the scourge of slavery and some African-American idioms of the 19th and early 20th centuries, including cakewalks, ragtime and blues.

April 25 New Orleans – The Cradle of Jazz
The unique situation of New Orleans at the turn of the 20th century – its race politics, its gumbo of cultures – gave rise to the new music called "jass."

May 2 The Twenties – the “Jazz Age”
The newfound popularity of jazz was received with suspicion by some and welcomed by others. Innovators like Louis Armstrong, Fletcher Henderson and Duke Ellington were creating an artful language out of jazz, transforming popular music.

May 9 The Jazz Singers
While Al Jolson incorporated jazz-like phrasing into his vaudeville-styled singing, it was Louis Armstrong's inspired improvisations and Bing Crosby's jazz-influenced “cool” crooning style that defined jazz singing in the 1920s.

May 16 The Swing Era
The challenges of creating jazz for large dance bands were brilliantly answered by pioneers like Art Hickman and Fletcher Henderson, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller and Count Basie.

May 23 Bebop in the 1940s
The popularity of big-band swing created a great deal of employment for young musicians during the years between the wars. Musicians began to expand the musical parameters of jazz.

May 30 Cool jazz and Hard Bop in the 1950s
At the same time that bebop was being forged in New York nightclubs, a newly refined jazz style later to be called “cool jazz” was emerging.

June 6 The Future of Jazz
After summarizing free jazz, jazz-rock fusion and the classic jazz revival, we'll conclude the course by taking stock of jazz in the present.

Registration: $40.00 per person per series
For further information or to register, go to www.lifelong-learning-mississauga.com or phone 647-300-4878