

Government of the District of Columbia

**OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION  
FILM, MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT**



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**OCTFME CELEBRATES THE 6TH ANNUAL KEEP THE BEAT  
WEEK AND THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GO-GO MUSIC**

WASHINGTON, DC — The award-winning DC Office of Cable Television, Film, Music, and Entertainment (OCTFME) proudly presents the *Sixth Annual Keep The Beat Week*, February 16–20, honoring the 50th Anniversary of Go-Go Music, the official sound of the District of Columbia. This year’s celebration also marks six years since Mayor Muriel Bowser signed the bill to designate Go-Go as the Official Music of the District, cementing Go-Go’s place as the heartbeat of DC culture.

This year's Keep The Beat Week is a citywide celebration of Go-Go’s legacy and future, featuring live concerts, wellness activations, sports collaborations, film programming, and original content that showcase the genre’s enduring influence.

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“Keep The Beat Week celebrates the culture, creativity, and resilience that defines Washington, DC,” said LaToya Foster, Director of OCTFME. “As we honor 50 years of Go-Go and 100 years of Black History commemorations, we’re proud to present experiences that uplift our community, showcase local talent, and preserve the sounds and stories that make our city unique.”

**KEEP THE BEAT 2026 WEEK HIGHLIGHTS**

**Roll Call Volume 3: Live at The Howard Theatre**

Monday, February 16 | 2:00 PM | Howard Theatre | Free Admission (SOLD OUT)

The week kicks off with Roll Call Volume 3, celebrating 50 years of Go-Go with electrifying performances by Mature Clientele Band, Sirius Company ft. Scooby DaGodSon, Push Play ft. D.

Floyd, and DC Vybe ft. D. Holmes.

### **Jazz Jam in the District**

Every Wednesday in February | 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM | Union Station (Mezzanine Level)

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Celebrate the legacy of African American jazz legends while supporting local jazz talent during this weekly live performance series. This week Elijah **Jamal Balbed, educator, saxophonist and founder of** jazz-infused Go-Go band JoGo Project is performing. For full line-up, visit Union Station DC click [HERE](#).

### **2026 Go-Go Awards Broadcast on DCN**

Thursday, February 19 | 8:00 PM ET | District of Columbia Network (Channel 16 & [Online](#))

Taped at DC's historic Lincoln Theatre, the sold-out Go-Go Awards featured performances by Chuck Brown Band, Kurtis Blow, Doug E. Fresh, and a multi-generational lineup of Go-Go and hip-hop pioneers. Honorees included Hurby "Luv Bug" Azor, Cathy Hughes, Dr. Natalie Hopkinson, Mayor Muriel Bowser, and other cultural leaders.

### **Capital City Go-Go Game Featuring Live Go-Go Performances**

Thursday, February 19 | 7:00 PM | CareFirst Arena

In partnership with Monumental Sports, OCTFME bring DC youth Go-Go performances to the court during the Capital City Go-Go game on Thursday. DC Public Schools (DCPS) "Let's Go-Go Band" will be featured along with special highlights celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Go-Go. The sporting event will be broadcast on ESPN+. For more click [HERE](#).

### **Go-Go Then and Now: A 50-Year Legacy Panel Discussion**

Friday, February 20 | 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM | OCTFME Studio A

Three thought-provoking FREE panels and a Fireside Chat trace Go-Go's journey from Chuck Brown's original groove to the digital era and #DontMuteDC movement. Topics include the business ecosystem built by producers and promoters, generations of artists shaping the sound, and resources from government and community partners to sustain Go-Go's future. For more information and to RSVP, visit [www.creativeaffairsdc.com](http://www.creativeaffairsdc.com).

### **Black History Film Festival (BHFF)**

Friday, February 20 | 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM | Lincoln Theatre

A day-long FREE celebration of Black storytelling in cinema featuring documentaries, classics, contemporary works, and films by local DC filmmakers. Enjoy a dynamic panel, a lively reception, special performances, and a live Go-Go set as part of the evening program.

Featured films include DC's own *I Was the Weirdo* by Larry Ware II and Howard University filmmaker Serenity Owens with *Strut the Yard: The Documentary*. Plus, powerful stories of Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Nat Turner, and more...Black history told like never

before. For more information and to reserve your spot, visit [www.BlackHistoryFilmFestival.com](http://www.BlackHistoryFilmFestival.com).

**So You Wanna Film in DC Panel Hosted by the DC Film Office**

Friday, February 20 | 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM | Lincoln Theatre

As part of the BHFF, this FREE panel hosted by OCTFME’s DC Film Division features local filmmakers, casting professionals, entertainment attorneys, and production experts providing insight into filming in the nation’s capital, navigating permitting, legal considerations, and building a sustainable creative career in DC. Reserve your spot now at [www.BlackHistoryFilmFestival.com](http://www.BlackHistoryFilmFestival.com).

Residents are encouraged to attend events, and tune-in to OCTFME Channels throughout the month. OCTFME will air special programming on [DCN](#), [DKN](#), and [DCE](#) during Keep The Beat Week. For more information, visit [www.creativeaffairsdc.com](http://www.creativeaffairsdc.com) and follow us on social media at [@Entertain\\_DC](#).

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