

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Jazz on the Lawn a Big Success

Once Again, Asylum Hill Congregational Church hosted *Jazz on the Lawn*, their mid-summer outdoor music, food & fun event. Several things made this year's edition notable.

First of all, the weather was beautiful; clear skies, low 80's light breeze. There was also the food truck with an assortment of flavorful offerings as well as the new "Ice Cream for a

Dream" Truck that Abdul Rahmaan Muhammad at My People Clinical Services has been using to engage young people to both dream for their future and put it into words. New this year was also The Hartford Symphony Jazz Ensemble. Yes they play jazz as well, and very well.

There was a Bouncy House, bubbles and crafts for the kids, music for the adults and food & drink for everyone.



The musicians were under an awning with their back to the street, and most of the audience was in the area between the main sanctuary and the chapel so they were mostly in the shade, especially those who came early.

The featured band was again Conga Bop, a well-known Jazz ensemble organized by drummer Ed Fast and including Jorge Fuentes, the Sexton at AHCC playing the congas.

However Jorge was not the only staff to contribute to the music. After Conga Bop had played a few numbers, Rev. Mia Douglas was brought up to the mic. Anyone who's heard her speak should know that she has a very pleasant voice, but

what you discover when she sings is that this gift she was given has been trained at the Hartt School to be a fine musical instrument. I'm not aware of any recording that was done at this event, but she did preach at Partnership Sunday on April 15<sup>th</sup> and that sermon included a hymn that can be heard on their website at

<https://www.ahcc.org/media/moving-toward-the-margins> .

For more photos go to : <https://photos.app.goo.gl/UZk9egeUq6qDrUQP6>

