

We Asked Victor & Marcella...

Where did you grow up?

Victor was born in Florida but raised in Memphis, TN, where he lives today. Marcella was born and raised in Lafayette, LA and is an 8th generation Louisiana Creole.

How did you meet each other?

We met through the rich and vibrant Memphis music community. We heard each other playing and just started jamming. We could "talk" to each other through the music, and then we spoke together and realized we had lots in common, and lots of things to learn from each other. We now play together whenever we can!

What instruments do you play?

Victor plays tuba (or sousaphone if you're wearing it!), trombone, and a little bit of bass and drums. For Marcella, her voice is her main instrument but she also plays piano, accordion, frottoir (the Creole French term for the washboard or rubboard), guitar, and percussion.

What are some of your favorite things about New Orleans Jazz?

We both love how much NOLA jazz communicates about the city's history. For Marcella, this music is like hearing the sound of her ancestors: the joy, pain, sorrow, and jubilation of being a person of color from the south. Victor appreciates how there is something for everyone in NOLA jazz through its unique sounds and rhythms that mix together to create its own "flavor."

What do you like to do for fun?

Marcella is a recently certified yoga instructor! Victor enjoys being active through skateboarding and boxing classes.