

Leonard King, Jr.

Drums/Vocalist/Composer/Arranger/Proprietor

- 1948 Born February 14th in Detroit, MI.
- 1957-1960 Studied at Grinnell Brothers Studios, Lincoln Park, MI
- 1960 First professional performances with guitarist Ben Jones
- 1963-1973 Formed his first working group, The Jazz Sextet. Renamed Leonard King and the Soul Messengers in 1967. First recording at age 19 with this group.
- 1973-2008 Joined the Lyman Woodard Trio (later Organization). Performed with organist/pianist Woodard often for 35 years until his death in 2009.
- 1976 Toured with vocalist Eddie Kendricks during that year.
- 1976-1980 Hosted the Full Circle program on WDET-FM Radio, Detroit, MI.
- 1976-1988 Formed Strata Nova. Worked primarily in southeast Michigan.
- 1989-present Formed Proportioned Orchestra with bassist Rodney Whitaker. Hubie Crawford replaced Whitaker in 1992. Reformed in 2016 with Craig Kowalsky, Rocco Popielarski, and Sam Copperman.
- 1990-2008 Joined Young Audiences of Michigan performing at schools, libraries, etc.
- 1992-2009 Joined Omni Arts in Education performing at schools, libraries, etc.
- 1992-2000 Formed the Visger Road Drum Band.
- 1995-present Formed Oopapada with organist Chris Codish & guitarist Robert Tye.
- 1998-2014 Member of saxophonist/flautist James Carter's group.
- 2000-present Formed his record company, Uuquipleu Records yoo-kee-ploo
- 2001-Received a Presidential Scholastic Award from Union Institute & University
- 2005-2011 Joined the Southpaw Isle Steelband, Detroit, MI.

2007-2013 Joined Young Audiences of Minnesota.

2010-present Formed the Dr. Prof. Leonard King Orchestra

2011 Published an autobiography online: “Visger Road Playground: The Autobiography of Leonard King Jr. a/k/a Dr. Prof. Leonard King”.

2012-present Founded the Lyman Woodard Organization for the Arts in Detroit, MI with Colette Gilewicz.

2020-LWOA received the Jazz Organ Fellowship Achievement Award