

Celebrating 15 years of

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“American Routes,” the weekly nationally-syndicated public radio program devoted to music and musicians along with stories and cultures from New Orleans, the Gulf South and beyond in America, is celebrating its 15th anniversary with a concert and dance at [Rock 'n' Bowl](#) in New Orleans on April 19 at 8 p.m. The weekly, two-hour radio program is produced at Tulane University and distributed by PRX (Public Radio Exchange).



The event, presented by [“American Routes”](#) host Nick Spitzer, a professor of anthropology and American studies at Tulane University, will be recorded for later network broadcast the week of July 4. The show will feature the Tremol Brass Band, the Lost Bayou Ramblers Cajun band, Irma Thomas, Robert “Barefootin’” Parker and Walter “Wolfman” Washington and Ivan Neville. Pianist Jon Cleary and his band will anchor the evening.

The event is a fundraiser for “American Routes,” which started modestly in 1998 and was carried on only seven stations. The program now reaches up to a half million listeners each week on over 270 stations nationwide and many more streaming on the web.

“Doing something as intangible as radio for 15 years, with our eclectic mix of sounds, it seemed like a good time to remember all the music and conversations we've had, from Cajun fiddlers and Mardi Gras Indians to Allen Toussaint, George Jones and Nina Simone,” Spitzer says. “Having this musical lineup with family, friends and fans in the house for a big show and dance at one of our favorite clubs is even better.”

[Advance tickets](#) for the benefit concert are available for \$20 or at the door for \$25. A VIP event ticket with food, drink and a preconcert meet-and-greet with the artists is available for \$100.

“American Routes” is heard in New Orleans Saturday nights at 7 p.m. and Sunday nights at 6 p.m. on WWNO-FM 89.9.