

The Legendary O'JAYS PRESS MANUAL

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Walter Williams, Sr., Eric Nolan Grant & Eddie Levert, Sr.

The O'Jays

The **O'Jays** are living legends...American treasures. The term "living legend" is often overused and abused, but with The O'Jays, well, there's little argument that the honorable tag truly applies. With their place in modern music secure, The **O'Jays** could have cruise-controlled to that comfy hammock on a sandy beach, umbrella-decorated drinks in hand. Why? (1) An ocean-wide body of work that spawned 24 Top Ten smashes and 59 total charted songs. (2) Incredibly energetic and dynamic live shows. (3) Mad respect for their Olympian vocals. And (4) their social and political impact on generations and nations.

But doing things slowly is not **Eddie Levert, Sr., Walter Williams, Sr. and Eric Nolan Grant's** modus operandi. After 40+ years making such international hits as "Back Stabbers," "For The Love Of Money," "Darlin' Darlin' Baby," "Love Train," "I Love Music," "Use Ta Be My Girl" and "Have You Had Your Love Today," The O'Jays are light years away from easing up on the gas. And like fine wine, The O'Jays just get better with time. Through the years, they were blessed to have had the late great choreographer Cholly Adkins around. Adkins taught them the importance of showmanship and how to execute their steps while still delivering their songs.

There have been “four faces” of the O’Jays. This vocal group from Canton, Ohio originated with Eddie Levert, Sr., Walter Williams, Sr., William Powell, Bobby Massey and Bill Isles and they were named after Cleveland DJ Eddie O’Jay. Isles left the group in 1965. Massey left to become a record producer in 1971 and Levert, Williams and Powell continued as a trio. Powell retired from touring due to illness in late 1975, passing at the age of 35 in 1977 and was replaced by Sammy Strain, formerly with Little Anthony & The Imperials. Strain returned to his former group in 1993 and was replaced by Nathaniel Best. After the departure in 1995 of Nathaniel Best, Eddie Levert, Sr. and Walter Williams, Sr. reached out to Eric Nolan Grant, a gifted vocalist who was already a part of the group's extended Cleveland-based musical family. Their chart-topping album “Love You To Tears” marked Grant’s first appearance with the group. Says Eddie "Eric was the ideal person for the O’Jays, because he was used to working within a group. He was really a shoe-in, and he fit perfectly. With his addition, we have been able to keep our performances at a level that we're used to having-stage-wise and in the studio." "Honestly speaking, being from Cleveland, the O'Jays were our heroes," Eric reminisces. "We all looked up to the O'Jays, patterned ourselves after them. So, Gerald called me to say they were holding auditions and I got the gig. Sometimes, I'll get caught up to where I'm on stage, and I'm watching Eddie and Walt like I'm in the audience! Every now and then, Eddie and Walt has to come over to me and say, 'Hey, sing!' After six years of being in the group, I am still a fan."

The stage, whether in America or on international soil, is where the O’Jays let it all out, they blow away the competition with their soulful singing and bring in “standing room” only audiences. On the road several months during a year, The O’Jays still enjoy the accolades and rave reviews of fans and media. All generations love the O’Jays, which is why their “For The Love” album, (released in 2001), was a chart-topper, and in 2002, that album was nominated for a Grammy Award. In addition to their many nominations each year for the past 43 years, The O’Jays continue to receive many awards from various shows and organizations, while still making guest appearances. Says Walter Williams, Sr., “We have three generations at our concerts...the kids, the moms and dads, and the grandmas and granddads.” “This popularity among generations is rare in music today, an exception rather than the rule and that is why The O’Jays are a phenomena”,

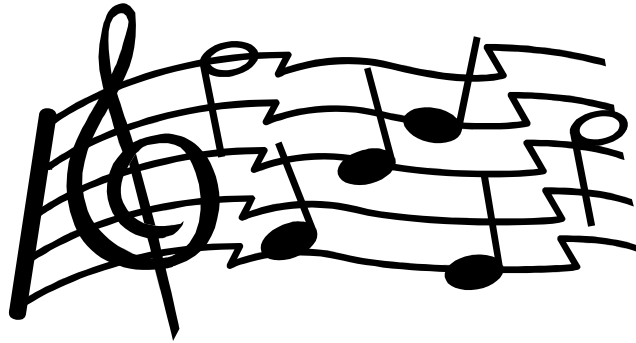
says the management team of Rosalind R. Ray, Esquire and Andy Gibson. Ray and Gibson add, "The O'Jays are more than legends. They are the architects of music that have proven timeless and priceless".

Eddie Levert, Sr., Walter Williams, Sr., Eric Nolan Grant...The O'Jays...have proven time and time again that the mixture of "ol' school" and contemporary is a winning formula...a formula which always reflects the O'Jays uncompromising stance on love and relationships.

After many years of continued success, The O'Jays in addition to their music endeavors have embarked on acting careers and will begin writing a book sometime in the near future. In September 2003, they appeared in their debut film "The Fighting Temptations" starring Cuba Gooding, Jr., and Beyonce Knowles and other artists that include Angie Stone, L'il Zane, Melba Moore, and Montell Jordan.

Because of Eddie and Walter's lifelong relationship, there's a bond that keeps them in good stead and strengthens their business relationship. They met when Walter was 6 and Eddie was 7. They admit they had to grow on each other because they say "they were like two wild bulls when they first became friends". They continue and say, "After many years we appreciate our friendship, our dedication to each other and the group and our love for good music." Walter continues: "We probably could have had great solo careers, but I don't think either one of us could have ever have been as big as The O'Jays". Both Eddie and Walter enthusiastically say, "The O'Jays are our main love, and we never intend to leave that".

Now this storied trio adds yet another cornerstone to their impressive track record with **IMAGINATION...** their new CD recorded for **Music World Music Records**. **IMAGINATION...**will capture your inner thoughts and allow you to imagine that you are on the front row of a live O'Jays performance. In 2004, The O'JAYS were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame in Sharon, Pa. In March 14, 2005, **The O'Jays** were inducted into The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, OH. It's been a long journey; thanks to the fans the **LOVE TRAIN** is still going strong!



O' JAYS CHARITIES

- **Minority Golfers Association - Dr. Harry Stiggers - Assist with raising money to send kids to college on a golf tournament scholarship;**
- **The Communicative Disorders - Dr. Neil Cherian (The We Stand...as One World/We Stand ... in Jazz Project) - Donated a song, to Dr. Neil Cherian for this project to raise money for the victims of 911;**
- **E.G.O.S. (Education, Goals, Opportunities and Sports) - act as consultants to this non-profit organization as they continue to encourage those that have special talents in sports to continue their education;**
- **Tom Joyner Foundation - Participate in fund raisers which are structured to assist students to continue their educations at historically Black Colleges;**
- **Willie E. Gary Celebrity Golf Tournament - Participate in this event on a yearly basis. This fund raiser is intended to benefit those children who need financial assistance in their efforts to continue their educations;**
- **Tim Reid Celebrity Weekend (2005) - Participated in this event to benefit those children who need financial assistance in their efforts to continue their educations;**
- **O'JAYS Celebration Weekend – Began in 2005, this yearly event funds The O'JAYS Scholarship Fund which benefits Stark County students in Ohio.**



The O'JAYS AWARDS

- Nominated four times for a Grammy Award, last time being at the 44th Annual Grammy Awards; "Love Train"-1973; "For the Love of Money" - 1974 and "Use Ta Be My Girl" - 1978.
- Nominated four times for an American Music Award;
- Won an American Music Award in 1990 for "Best Duo" and "Best Group";
- NAACP Award for "Outstanding Vocal Group" in 1991
- Soul of America Award in 1993;
- Award for "Lifetime Commitment to the Community for service and beautiful sounds that continue to change the face of music" from 100 Black Men, October 20, 2001;
- Award for "Supporting the UNCF", given to The O'Jays at the 18th Annual Mayors Ball in Atlanta, Georgia (United Negro College Fund Mask Award)(12/15/01);
- Soul Train 2002 Quincy Jones Award for "Outstanding Career Achievement in the field of Entertainment";
- 2003 Wall of Fame Honor in Canton, Ohio;
- 2003 State of Ohio - for Outstanding Achievements; 2003 Mayors Citation from the City of Canton, Ohio; 2003 Honorary Sheriff conferred on The O'Jays by The city of New Orleans;
- 2004 Vocal Group Hall of Fame in Sharon, Pennsylvania.
- 2005 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio.
- 2005 City of Canton, Ohio rename Mahoning Road to O'JAYS Parkway
- 2006 The O'JAYS – Love Train (1973-Philadelphia International) elected to the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame



O ' JAYS GOLD ALBUMS

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. | Backstabbers | 1972 |
| 2. | Ship Ahoy | 1973 |
| 3. | Live in London | 1974 |
| 4. | Survival | 1975 |
| 5. | Family Reunion | 1975 |
| 6. | Message in The Music | 1976 |
| 7. | Travelin' at the Speed of Thought | 1977 |
| 8. | So Full of Love | 1978 |
| 9. | Identify Yourself | 1979 |
| 10. | Emotionally Yours | 1979 |

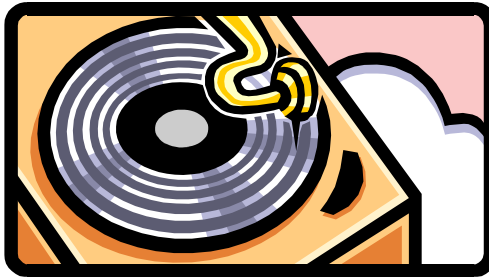
O ' JAYS PLATINUM ALBUMS

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|----|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. | Backstabbers | 1972 |
| 2. | Ship Ahoy | 1973 |
| 3. | Live in London | 1974 |
| 4. | Survival | 1975 |
| 5. | Family Reunion | 1975 |
| 6. | Message in The Music | 1976 |
| 7. | Travelin' at the Speed of Thought | 1977 |
| 8. | So Full of Love | 1978 |
| 9. | Identify Yourself | 1979 |



THE O'JAYS #1 HITS

July 8 th , 1972	Back Stabbers
January 20 th , 1973	Love Train
April 26 th , 1975	Give the People What They Want
November 1 st , 1975	I Love Music (Part 1)
March 3 rd , 1976	Livin' For the Weekend
September 4 th , 1976	Message in Our Music
November 27 th , 1976	Darlin' Darlin' Baby (Sweet, Tender, Love)
April 8 th , 1978	Use Ta Be My Girl
April 22 nd , 1987	Lovin' You
April 15 th , 1989	Have You Had Your Love Today



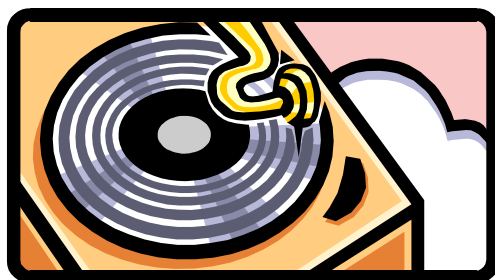
THE O' JAYS SINGLES

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Lonely Drift | 1963 |
| 2. Lipstick Traces | 1965 |
| 3. Let it All Out | 1965 |
| 4. Stand in For Love | 1966 |
| 5. I'll Be Sweeter Tomorrow | 1967 |
| 6. Look Over Your Shoulder | 1968 |
| 7. The Choice | 1968 |
| 8. One Night Affair | 1969 |
| 9. Branded Bad | 1969 |
| 10. Deeper (In Love w/You) | 1970 |
| 11. Looky Looky (Look at me Girl) | 1970 |
| 12. Back Stabbers | 1972 |
| 13. 992 Arguments | 1972 |
| 14. Love Train | 1973 |
| 15. Time To Get Down | 1973 |
| 16. Put Your Hands Together | 1973 |
| 17. For the Love of Money | 1974 |
| 18. Peace | 1974 |
| 19. Sunshine Part II | 1974 |
| 20. Give The People What They Want | 1975 |
| 21. Let Me Make Love To You | 1975 |
| 22. Survival | 1975 |
| 23. I Love Music (Part 1) | 1975 |
| 24. Livin' For the Weekend | 1976 |



THE O' JAYS SINGLES

25. Stairway to Heaven	1976
26. Family Reunion	1976
27. Message in Our Music	1976
28. Darlin'Darlin' Baby	1976
29. Work On Me	1977
30. Use Ta Be My Girl	1978
31. Brandy	1978
32. Sing A Happy Song	1979
33. I Want You Here With Me	1979
34. Forever Mine	1979
35. Girl, Don't Let it Get you Down	1980
36. Once is Not Enough	1980
37. I Just Want to Satisfy	1982
38. Your Body's Here With Me	1982
39. I Can't Stand The Pain	1983
40. Put Our Heads Together	1983
41. Extraordinary Girl	1984
42. Let Me Show You	1984
43. Just Another Lonely Night	1985
44. What A Woman	1985
45. Don't Take Your Love Away	1987
46. Lovin' You	1987
47. Let Me Touch You	1987
48. Have You Had Your Love Today	1989



THE O' JAYS SINGLES

49.	Out of My Mind	1989
50.	Serious Hold On Me	1989
51.	Friend of A Friend	1990
52.	Don't Let Me Down	1991
53.	Emotionally Yours	1991
54.	Keep On Lovin' Me	1991
55.	Somebody Else Will	1993
56.	Heartbreaker	1993
57.	Stairway To Heaven (Pure Soul featuring the O'Jays	1996
58.	What's Stopping You	1997
59.	Baby You Know	1997
60.	Let's Ride	2001
59.	Make Up	2004
60.	Imagination	2004



O' JAYS ALBUMS

VERY FIRST ALBUM-O'Jays Coming Through		1962
1.	The O'Jays in Philadelphia	1969/1994
2.	Backstabbers	1972
3.	Ship Ahoy	1973
4.	Live in London	1974
5.	Survival	1975
6.	Family Reunion	1975
7.	Message in The Music	1976
8.	Travelin' at the Speed of Thought	1977
9.	So Full of Love	1978
10.	Collector's Items	1978
11.	Identify Yourself	1979
12.	Emotionally Yours	1979
13.	Love Fever	1985
14.	Greatest Hits	1989
15.	Serious	1989
16.	Home For Christmas	1991
17.	Heartbreaker	1993
18.	Love Train (The Best of the O'Jays)	1994
19.	From The Beginning	1994
20.	Let Me Make Love To You	1995
21.	Give The People What They Want	1995
22.	In Bed With The O'Jays	1996
23.	Love You To Tears	1997
24.	For The Love...	2001
25.	Imagination	2004