

NINA SIMONE ARCHIVE

The **Nina Simone Project (NSP)** is pleased to announce a \$2M Capital Fund Campaign to underwrite construction of the **Nina Simone Archive**.

The NSP has been fortunate to acquire a building site at **65 South Trade Street** upon which to construct the Nina Simone Archive, directly across from the Nina Simone Plaza at 54 South Trade Street in downtown Tryon, NC.

The ancillary Nina Simone Plaza itself centrally features the 2010 monumental bronze sculpture of Nina Simone, by globally-acclaimed, Philadelphia-based sculptor Zenos Frudakis. See <https://www.zenosfrudakis.com>. The Plaza further features a state-of-the-art, museum-quality, interactive, Meridian Kiosk to round out the destination visitors' experience, allowing visitors not only to play Simone's music and videos, but also to gain a contextualized history of Simone in the broader North Carolina and American music scenes, especially in relation to the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area and the Blue Ridge Music Trails, in both of which the NSP plays an active membership role.



Our project architect-of-record is **Dean Trakas** of the Tryon-based firm Brady/Trakas, which produced the included conceptual design of the proposed structure. The building itself is comprised of a two-story fronting structure, topped by a open, rooftop performance stage, with gallery space on the whole of the ground level, and two residential spaces on the second floor for visiting artists. The rear elevation, because of the eccentric topographical features of the building lot, will allow for four stories and the rooftop stage, the lower two stories of which are designated for offices and archival storage space.

The Nina Simone Project is excited to be at this important juncture in our corporate organizational life. We look forward to the new individual and corporate partnerships and opportunities that will develop from the Nina Simone Archive initiative. Further, we thank you and your organization for your time to consider joining with the Nina Simone Project in our Place Making endeavor to memorialize in bricks and mortar the incomparable "High Priestess of Soul," Nina Simone.



NINA SIMONE PROJECT



PO Box 1087
Tryon, NC 28782

Dr. Crys Armbrust, Founder & Chair
<https://www.ninasimoneproject.org>
828.817.4773
Federal Tax ID: 45-2888879



The **Nina Simone Project (NSP)** exists to honor the remarkable life and legacy of a native Tryon, North Carolina daughter, who achieved international recognition for her unique talent and her formidable contributions both to the musical arts and to civil rights activism.

Nina Simone's unique musical style merged a strong classical training with an exceptionally broad range of musical genres, which run the gamut from classical, gospel and jazz to pop, folk and spiritual. That Simone asserted a powerful artistic impact upon late-twentieth-century American popular culture is evident in her expansive discography, her musical arrangements, her original compositions, and even to such posthumous memorial recognitions as her recent induction into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and the 2018 designation of her Tryon, NC birthplace as a National Treasure by our partnering organization the National Trust.

Nina Simone was and is a powerful musical force in a global theatre.

NSP VISION STATEMENT

The Nina Simone Project exists to honor the remarkable life, musical legacy and civil rights activism of Nina Simone, and to inspire and support talented youth to reach their full potential.

NSP MISSION STATEMENT

The Nina Simone Project purposes: 1) to establish and promote educational scholarship, 2) to commission a Nina Simone sculpture, and 3) to establish an international music festival in Tryon, North Carolina in the name of Nina Simone, with supplemental venues in the broader North Carolina regions.

NSP GOALS

The Nina Simone Project undertakes to accomplish four related goals by:

Supporting a broad-based education program, including:

- a. the creation of an endowed Nina Simone scholarship,
- b. the development of an educational jazz curriculum highlighting the musical contributions of prominent North Carolinians to the songbook of American popular music,
- c. the archival preservation of Simone's material record (e.g., recordings, photos, letters, contracts, associated materials etc.) in a dedicated museum archive and gallery space, and
- d. the promotion of Simone as an important Tryon and Polk County, North Carolina, and American cultural and heritage resource,

Commissioning a life-sized, memorial, bronze sculpture for a public art installation at the Nina Simone Plaza (54 S. Trade Street, Tryon, NC),

Developing a Trans-World Music Festival in the name of Nina Simone as a signature Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina event,

Providing outreach partnering opportunities for Simone's designated charities:

- a. Cancer research in under-served communities,
- b. Arts programming in public education,
- c. Prevention of abuse against women, and
- d. AIDS research, education, and care.

Ancillary Support Photos

