

Join Us!  
Friday  
September 19  
8:00 pm



Tickets online or at the door  
Doors open at 7:30 pm  
Show begins at 8:00 pm  
Ample free parking

## The Ebony Hillbillies

### The Princeton Folk Music Society

presents The Ebony Hillbillies - the last African-American String Band in America - playing pop, country, bluegrass, folk, jazz.

The 1930's recordings of The Mississippi Sheiks and the *Altamont: Recordings of Black Stringband Music* inspired Henrique Prince - classical violinist/vocalist and Norris Washington Bennett - string instrumentalist and vocalist. String band music became a mission. They began playing on street corners and soon were joined by others to form a band.

String band music is both melancholic, born of deprivation and disappointment, and joyful. In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, African American string bands were an essential part of daily life - playing for pleasure, for church, to relieve the enormous stresses of plantation life. And they played for dances.

"If you often take the shuttle from Central Park, you've probably stopped to listen to an African-American string band called the Ebony Hillbillies and wished you didn't have to go to work!" –*The New Yorker*

