

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

Queen: It's A Kinda Magic

Date and Time: Wednesday, June 5 8:00 pm

Address: 401 1st Street SE

Following the huge success of its 2023 Canadian national tour, Queen: It's a Kinda Magic is RETURNING IN 2024 by popular demand!

See the rock spectacular that everyone RAVED about, bringing their big sound, big screens, crazy lighting and outlandish costumes back for a night of non-stop rock anthems, including Bohemian Rhapsody, We Will Rock You, We Are the Champions, Radio GaGa, I Want to Break Free, Somebody to Love, Don't Stop Me Now, Another One Bites the Dust and so many more.

Featuring Dominic Warren reprising his role as 'Freddie Mercury' and performing vocals, piano and guitar all LIVE ON STAGE and in original key.

Don't miss the REAL ROCK EXPERIENCE, direct from Australia!

Dominic Warren

Born on the Eastern Cape of South Africa in 1992, Dominic Warren has spent his young life gathering musical experiences most young South Africans only dream of, commencing his vocal training as Head Chorister at Drakensberg Boys Choir, before continuing his training at Kearsney College and joining the prestigious South African Youth Choir.

This culminated in Warren's acute sense of musicality and a voice so warm, clear and mesmerizing that it was once described as "annoyingly good".

Career highlights include sharing stages with Luciano Pavarotti, Joshua Bell and the Soweto String Quartet, performing for Bishop Desmond Tutu, Bono and Saul Kerzner and touring to every corner of the globe from China, Japan and Taiwan to Germany, USA, Australia and New Zealand.

As of 2018, Warren now puts his extraordinary voice to epic use, singing some of the hardest vocal parts ever written, in his starring role as Freddie Mercury in Showtime Australia's long-running hit stage show Queen: It's a Kinda Magic.

Saturday, June 8, 2024

Energy In Motion

Date and Time: Saturday, June 8 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Join us on Saturday, June 8 from 10 - 2 p.m. at Towne Square and Riverside Veteran's Park for a fun, family-friendly event!

Interested in being a vendor? [Sign-up here!](#)

About: June is 'Parks and Recreation Month', and we're celebrating in style! Join us for a free, outdoor community event featuring local food trucks, an obstacle course bouncy castle, face painting, local vendors, and live fitness demonstrations and activities—all set in the beautiful park. Don't miss this chance to connect with the community and jumpstart a summer filled with health, happiness, and the great outdoors. See confirmed event details below...

'Stage Series' Event Schedule:

10:50 a.m. - 'Strength and Muscle' hosted by Big Marble Go Centre

11:30 a.m. - 'Family Yoga' hosted by YogaYou4ia

12:15 p.m. - 'Fast Fitness' hosted by Big Marble Go Centre

1:30 p.m. - 'Belly Dancing' hosted by Tone Fitness & Dance

Local Vendors include: Big Marble Go Centre, BIRD EScooters and EBikes, The Boarding House, Daniel's Dill Dip, Glow Volume Studio, The HOBBY House, Medicine Hat Disc Golf Club, Medicine Hat College Rattlers, Medicine Hat Mavericks, Redcliff Girl Guides, Studio Fore Golf, Soul Ignited, Sway Aerial Fitness, Tourism Medicine Hat, Yoga Revolution, YogaYou4ia, YMCA and more!

VENDOR FAQ

SIGN-UP TO BE A VENDOR

Complimentary Compost Giveaway

Date and Time: Saturday, June 8 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Address: Municipal Works shop parking lot at 188 Kipling Street SE

Load up on complimentary compost from the City while supplies last!

NEW LOCATION - Find us in the Municipal Works parking lot at 188 Kipling Street SE.

Bring a shovel and container to self-load and transport. There will be a limited quantity, so we'll only be able to provide 10 gallons of compost per household on a first come first served basis.

Did you know plants grown in soil amended with compost require less watering? This is important as we continue to face the risk of drought this year and water restrictions this year.

SureGrow Compost is an all-natural soil amendment produced by the City from the leaf and yard waste materials collected through our organics collection program.

Learn more about SureGrow compost at www.medicinehat.ca/suregrow.

Friday, June 14, 2024

Medicine Hat College Convocation Ceremony

Date and Time: Friday, June 14 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Address: Co-op Place, 2802 Box Springs Way NW

Celebrating Success

Congratulations class of 2024! We look forward to celebrating your achievements at our convocation ceremony at Co-op Place at 1:00 p.m. on June 14, 2024.

To celebrate your accomplishments, after you walk the stage you and your guests are invited for complimentary refreshments at the Alumni Social on the concourse immediately following your ceremony. Please plan to attend and enjoy the celebration with your fellow graduates, instructors, and college staff.

Alex Tells Jokes

Date and Time: Friday, June 14 8:00 pm - 9:45 pm

Address: 401 1st Street SE

In 2019 Mackenzie quit his six-figure job as a power engineer, sold his house and moved into an RV with his dog Finley to chase his stand-up dreams.

Since then, Mackenzie has become an international sensation, performing to sold-out crowds around the world. He has performed at Melbourne Comedy Festival and is the host of the popular Hungry for Laughs Comedy Tour. With his natural charisma and clever joke writing, he has gained a rapidly growing online following, with his videos reaching over 60 million views.

Mackenzie's style of comedy is upbeat and positive, focusing on spreading happiness and making people feel good. He'll make you feel like you're hanging out with your best friend as he takes you on a hilarious journey through his unique perspective on life. He has a talent for connecting with his audience and making them feel like they are part of the show.

Saturday, June 15, 2024

Coil and Create: A Basket Weaving Workshop

Date and Time: Saturday, June 15 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Address: Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre, 401 1 Street SE, Medicine Hat

Saturday, May 25 || Saturday, June 15 | 12-3 PM | in the Art Gallery

Coil and Create: A Basket Weaving Workshop (Ages 13+)

Get wrapped up in coiling with our immersive basket weaving workshop! Join Medicine Hat-based basketry expert, Reanna Kornelson, as she shares her knowledge of how to transform a handful of grass into a decorative yet functional work of art. With the artworks as the backdrop, participants are encouraged to draw inspiration by the exhibition surrounding them. In Our Nature features seven artists whose bond with the natural world informs and inspires their creative process. This three-hour workshop for ages 13+ is a basic introduction to coiling, which is one of the four basics of basketry. Working in rounds, Reanna will guide through the steps of weaving a coil of raffia with a wrap and stitch technique, forming a small decorative basket. Learn the timeless art of coiling baskets with expert guidance in a welcoming and creative space. All materials are provided, and there is no prior experience necessary.

About the Instructor

Reanna Kornelson is inspired by the natural world in Southern Alberta. After growing up playing and creating in the co

ules around Medicine Hat, her love of the natural elements carries over into her work. Primarily focusing on the mediums of plant materials and clay, she was inspired by sculptural work while attending Red Deer College and started to combine her horticultural background with traditional craft and art. Pottery, basketry and fibre arts merge into sculptural, functional and intuitive work. When she is not in her studio (Dreaming Coulee Studio), she can be found in the garden or roaming the prairies finding inspiration from the local native plants.

Towne Square Block Party

Date and Time: Saturday, June 15 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Address: 603 First Street SE



Discover the heart of our community at Towne Square's Block Party every Saturday this summer from noon to 4 p.m. It's where neighbours become friends, and the community comes alive.

Each event showcases a sample of our unique local organizations, businesses, and individuals. Come together to experience the energy at the heart of our community with a changing lineup of FREE activities and games for all ages! From yard games and mini golf to water fights and bounce houses, there's plenty to get you moving! Then get colourful and creative through activities like sensory play, face painting, glitter tattoos, chalk art and more!

Food brings people together, which is why we've invited a tasty selection of local food trucks to serve up mouthwatering bites that'll keep you fueled for the festivities.

Don't miss out on the ultimate community celebration at Towne Square this summer!

Themes:

- June 15 – Celebrating Nature
- June 22 – Celebrating Indigeneity
- June 29 – Celebrating Childhood
- July 6 – Celebrating Art & Creativity

- July 20 – Celebrating Sport and Movement
- August 3 – Celebrating Dance & Culture
- August 10 – Celebrating Car Culture
- August 17 – Celebrating Heritage
- August 24 – Celebrating Music
- August 31 – Celebrating our First Responders
- September 7 – Celebrating our Teens and Youth

Thursday, June 20, 2024

Magic Men

Date and Time: Thursday, June 20 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Address: 401 1 Street SE

WE'RE COMING BACK TO CANADA in 2024!!

Worldwide sensation - the **MAGIC MEN AUSTRALIA** are coming BACK your way!

Australia's most anticipated men are heating up the town Magic Men's "FEEL THE MAGIC" showcases it's most talented men in a heart-stopping live performance. Featuring Will Parfitt, this one-of-a-kind stage show tears up the stage with hot hunks, smooth moves and lighting spectacle guaranteed to make it a night out to remember. Voted Australia's BEST MALE DANCE GROUP, find out what makes these group of guys the talk of the town.

So, grab your girls and enjoy an epic GIRLS NIGHT OUT, and be treated like a queen and experience a night of fun, laughter and lots of eye-candy.

Presented by Forrest Jones Entertainment.

DOORS: 630 / SHOW 7:30

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Arrive early to avoid long lines.

The show is 18+.

Magic Men reserve the right to change the touring roster due to changing border conditions.

Friday, June 21, 2024

Convention of Jehovah's Witnesses

Date and Time: Friday, June 21 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Address: Co-op Place 2802 Box Springs Way NW

"Declare the Good News!" 2024 Convention of Jehovah's Witnesses

Free admission • No collections

Program Highlights

Friday: Consider evidence that the good news about Jesus in the Gospels is an accurate record of his life. Learn how these Bible accounts can benefit us today.

Saturday: What was prophesied about Jesus' birth and childhood, and did those prophecies really come true?

Sunday: In the Bible-based talk "Why We Don't Fear Bad News," learn why millions today have reasons to feel secure and confident despite worsening world conditions.

Saturday, June 22, 2024

Convention of Jehovah's Witnesses

Date and Time: Saturday, June 22 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Address: Co-op Place 2802 Box Springs Way NW

"Declare the Good News!" 2024 Convention of Jehovah's Witnesses

Free admission • No collections

Program Highlights

Friday: Consider evidence that the good news about Jesus in the Gospels is an accurate record of his life. Learn how these Bible accounts can benefit us today.

Saturday: What was prophesied about Jesus' birth and childhood, and did those prophecies really come true?

Sunday: In the Bible-based talk "Why We Don't Fear Bad News," learn why millions today have reasons to feel secure and confident despite worsening world conditions.

Historic First Street SE Walking Tours

Date and Time: Saturday, June 22 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Address: Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre, 401 1 Street SE, Medicine Hat

Historic First Street Walking Tours





Historic First Street SE Tour

June 22, June 29th, July 20, August 3, August 24, September 21st | 10 - 11 AM

Step into the past with our new immersive walking tour! Join us on select dates from June to September as we tour the city's history with the help of some of its most intriguing historical characters.

Walk the tree-lined boulevard of First Street SE, once known as the Esplanade, and discover the stories of Medicine Hat's earliest settlers. Marvel at the well-preserved architecture and delve into the lives of the people who once called this area home. Each tour is unique, with our guides sharing their own anecdotes and memories, offering you a true sense of the neighborhood's past.

Don't miss this chance to step back in time and experience Medicine Hat's history in a whole new way!

The Historic First Street SE Walking Tour starts OUTSIDE the Esplanade. Please note that the Esplanade does not open to the public until noon.

About your tour guide Sally (McGee) Sehn

Sally was born and raised in Medicine Hat. A frequent patron of the Esplanade Archives, she was a driving force behind this most recent rendition of historical First Street walking tours, created by the Heritage Resources Committee (now Heritage Resources Working Group).

Sally was born and raised in Medicine Hat. She is a past member of the Historic Resources Committee and an impassioned researcher turned tour guide.

A purveyor of historical facts, stories, and forgotten details, she pulls from both her research and memories, to weave a walking experience that will keep the stories of our neighbourhoods alive and well.

Please Note:

A complimentary walking tour guide will be provided for all tours.

Tours are approximately 1 hour in length.

Be ready to be outside in the sun (hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, water bottle, etc.).

These events are weather dependent – if raining, the event will be rescheduled.

Space is limited so please book in advance.

Low registration numbers may result in tours being rescheduled. Minimum of 6 participants required.

Towne Square Block Party

Date and Time: Saturday, June 22 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Address: 603 First Street SE



block PARTY

Starting June 15!

SATURDAYS
at Towne Square

12 - 4 PM

Discover the heart of our community at Towne Square's Block Party every Saturday this summer from noon to 4 p.m. It's where neighbours become friends, and the community comes alive.

Each event showcases a sample of our unique local organizations, businesses, and individuals. Come together to experience the energy at the heart of our community with a changing lineup of FREE activities and games for all ages! From yard games and mini golf to water fights and bounce houses, there's plenty to get you moving! Then get colourful and creative through activities like sensory play, face painting, glitter tattoos, chalk art and more!

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- August 17 – Celebrating Heritage
- August 24 – Celebrating Music
- August 31 – Celebrating our First Responders
- September 7 – Celebrating our Teens and Youth

Sunday, June 23, 2024

Convention of Jehovah's Witnesses

Date and Time: Sunday, June 23 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

"Declare the Good News!" 2024 Convention of Jehovah's Witnesses

Free admission • No collections

Program Highlights

Friday: Consider evidence that the good news about Jesus in the Gospels is an accurate record of his life. Learn how these Bible accounts can benefit us today.

Saturday: What was prophesied about Jesus' birth and childhood, and did those prophecies really come true?

Sunday: In the Bible-based talk "Why We Don't Fear Bad News," learn why millions today have reasons to feel secure and confident despite worsening world conditions.

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

JazzFest 2024: The Anthony Fung Quartet with Dayna Stephens Double Bill with Eliana Cuevas and Jeremy Ledbetter

Date and Time: Tuesday, June 25 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Address: 401 1st Street SE

Anthony Fung is a Canadian-born drummer, composer, producer, and bandleader currently based in Los Angeles, CA. He has established himself as an accomplished musician, earning multiple degrees and performing at renowned festivals and venues worldwide.

Anthony is an alumnus of the prestigious Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Performance where he earned a Master of Music degree while studying and performing with Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Chris Potter, Billy Childs, and many others. Previously, Anthony also earned both his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from the Berklee College of Music and the Berklee Global Jazz Institute under the tutelage of Danilo Pérez.

Having performed at festivals and other venues worldwide, Anthony has appeared at International Jazz Day (St. Petersburg, Russia and Havana, Cuba), Panama Jazz Festival, Panama Percussion Festival, Sitka Jazz Festival, Monterey Jazz Festival, Toronto Jazz Festival, and the Montréal Jazz Festival. He has performed alongside Danilo Pérez, Wayne Shorter, Herbie Hancock, John Patitucci, Joe Lovano, Miguel Zenón, Esperanza Spalding, Dave Douglas, Jerry Bergonzi, Rubén Blades, and Ingrid Jensen, among others.

As a bandleader, Anthony released his debut album, *Chronicles* (2014) with the Anthony Fung Quintet. He released his second album, *Flashpoint* in (2018) which received a "Best Albums of 2019 & 2020" 4-star review in *Downbeat Magazine* and a feature on WBGO's "New Music by Five Composers Behind the Drums." What Does it Mean to be Free? In May 2022 and most recently FO(U)RTH which is set to release on September 29th featuring master saxophonist Mark Turner.

Aside from performing, he is an accomplished composer and producer. Fung's composition work can be heard on the feature documentary "The Last Tourist" on Apple TV, Season 3 of Craig Robinson's Hulu special "Your Attention Please" as well as a commissioned work for the Los Angeles Jazz Society in 2020 entitled *The Chinese Immigration Suite*.

Currently, Anthony is a faculty member at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, where he shares his knowledge and passion for music with the next generation of musicians.

Joining Anthony will be **Dayna Stephens** on saxophone, **Luca Alemanno** on bass and **Michael Ragonese** on piano.

Tuesday, June 25 7:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$46.25

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and [tixx.ca](https://www.tixx.ca)

Eliana Cuevas and **Jeremy Ledbetter** are well-known for composing and performing as bandleaders of their own Latin Jazz projects and as side musicians for some of the best musical acts in Canada. A married couple with two children together, their joint work includes Eliana's last three albums which earned them two Independent Music Awards for Best World Music Album and Best World Music Producer in New York, plus a Canadian Folk Music Award for Best World Music Album. Eliana and Jeremy have been performing together in various configurations for over 15 years. Now they have created a new duo project that unveils their musical chemistry in a more intimate way. They feature a unique and soulful take on Latin American music with a focus on Venezuelan folkloric repertoire.

Their music is jazz-infused, acoustic, and showcases original compositions plus some of the most beloved, traditional Venezuelan songs. Their performances are playful, adventurous, spontaneous, and very moving, allowing their audiences to experience a wide range of emotions. On stage they open a window into their lives, creating a display of their experiences together through music, taking advantage of their personal connection to make their songs come to life.

Tuesday, June 25 7:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$46.25

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and [tixx.ca](https://www.tixx.ca)

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

JazzFest 2024: Laura Anglade Double Bill with Audrey Ochoa

Date and Time: Wednesday, June 26 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Address: 401 1st Street SE

Recognized by Radio Canada's Ici Musique as one of the top 5 female jazz musicians to watch out for, Toronto based French/American Jazz singer **Laura Anglade** is making a name for herself in the jazz world. Laura's singing is reminiscent of many of the great vocal stylists of the 20th century including Anita O'Day, Shirley Horn, and Blossom Dearie, but her voice is uniquely her own. She digs emotionally and eloquently into a standard, her story-telling abilities portray a soul beyond her years.

Her debut release, *I've Got Just About Everything* saw the vocalist and composer, along with her quintet, fearlessly plunging headlong into a wide range of material, drawn from both the Broadway stage as well as the Great American Songbook. On her sophomore recording, *Venez Donc Chez Moi*, Laura teamed up with Montréal guitarist Sam Kirmayer (and

New York based accordionist Benjamin Rosenblum on two tracks). It's an homage of sorts and a nod to Laura's beloved France. It features jazz versions of French classics made famous by Maurice Chevalier, Boris Vian, Édith Piaf, and Jacques Brel to name a few. Laura leads an active international touring schedule and has performed at venues including Town Hall (New York City), the Ace Theatre Hotel (Los Angeles), l'Olympia (Paris), Royal Festival Hall (London), and the ma

in stage at the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal among others. She opened for Gregory Porter at the Victoria Jazz Festival (summer 2022), and Melody Gardot (fall 2022), joining her across the east and west coasts of the US and Europe. Laura's brand-new release entitled, *Get Out of Town*, will start releasing singles in the Summer and Fall of 2024.

Joining Laura will be **John Chapman** on bass, **Valérie Lacombe** on drums and **Sam Kirmayer** on guitar.

Wednesday, June 26 7:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$46.25

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and [tixx.ca](https://www.tixx.ca)

Workshop

Wednesday, June 26 2:00 PM

Esplanade Front Lawn FREE

(Bring a blanket or lawn chair.

We will have some chairs on hand.)

Classically trained but with a voracious appetite for honing her craft in any genre, **Audrey Ochoa** has shared stages with the Dave Matthews Band, Hilario Durán, PJ Perry, and Tommy Banks; and with international greats Lew Tabackin, Marcus Miller and Chris Potter. A rising star in her own right and a fixture of the Canadian music scene, she is decidedly captivating and original, and her compositional skill and talent on her instrument are spectacular.

Her debut album, *Trombone and Other Delights* (2013), spent three consecutive weeks as the number-one Jazz album on the Canadian charts. Ochoa's sophomore release, *Afterthought* (2017), found its way to a #1 position on the Canadian jazz charts and broke top 20 in the US. She is a decorated award nominee, having earned recognition at the Western Canadian Music Awards, the Global Music Awards, and a recent recipient of the Edmonton Music Prize, noting an outstanding musical contribution to the local arts scene.

Her next release, *Frankenhorn* (2020), is an ambitious project that introduced strings into her previous configuration of trombone, piano, bass and drums, a mix of chamber music with contemporary and Latin jazz. Focused on unique arrangements, the album features electronic remixes alongside this harmonious combination of genres and ideals. It caught the attention of jazz media, with the album peaking at #2 on the Canadian national jazz radio chart, and reaching #23 on the JazzWeek Top 50 chart in the U.S. She also received airplay on UK's JazzFM London, and had features in *Neon Jazz*, *Sounds Visual*, *Voice of America* (nationally syndicated). The album received reviews in *Rhythm of Study*, *The WholeNote Magazine*, *Take Effect*, the *Edmonton Journal*, and many other jazz publications. This release also led to Audrey's selection as the 2020 Jazz Artist of the Year at the Western Canadian Music Awards.

Exhilarating and exuberant, Audrey Ochoa exemplifies an artist who has dedicated herself to expertise while remaining relevant and light-hearted.

Joining Audrey will be **Jim Head** on guitar, **Esteban Herrera** on piano, **Dan Churchill** on bass and **Jon May** on drums.

Wednesday, June 26 7:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$46.25

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and [tixx.ca](https://www.tixx.ca)

Medicine Hat High School Graduation Ceremony

Date and Time: Wednesday, June 26 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Address: Co-op Place, 2802 Box Springs Way NW

Congratulations to this year's 2024 graduating class!

Doors open at 6PM.

Thursday, June 27, 2024

JazzFest 2024: Pasquale Grasso Double Bill with Avataar

Date and Time: Thursday, June 27 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Address: 401 1st Street SE

Born in Italy and now based in New York City, 30-year-old guitarist **Pasquale Grasso** has developed an astounding technique and concept informed not by jazz guitarists so much as by bebop pioneers like Bud Powell, Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie and the classical-guitar tradition. Hailed by guitar legend Pat Metheny as, “The best guitar player I’ve heard in my maybe my entire life,” Grasso is catching the attention of the jazz world in an astounding way.

Grasso’s playing might be thought to evoke the likes of guitarist Joe Pass, but on deeper listening, his virtuosic playing is equally akin to piano titan Art Tatum, so astounding are his technique and rhythm.

Grasso was born and raised in Ariano Irpino in Italy’s Campania region. Along with his older brother Luigi, a gifted alto saxophonist, they grew up hearing their parent’s jazz and classical recordings, and being taken to events like Umbria Jazz, rather than watching TV at night.

Pasquale has already won several awards and spends his time now teaching and gigging around New York, including frequent solo performances at the popular Greenwich Village haunt, Mezzrow.

It is an honour to have Pasquale at JazzFest this year. Joining Pasquale will be **Paul Johnston** on bass and **Jonathan McCaslin** on drums.

Thursday, June 27 7:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$46.25

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and [tixx.ca](https://www.tixx.ca)

Avataar is a world-jazz group led by saxophonist/flutist/vocalist **Sundar Viswanathan**. Earmarked by JAZZFM91 as one of the ‘Best 25 Albums of 2021’, the band’s sophomore album *Worldview* won the 2022 JUNO Award for Best Jazz Album (Group). The music is inspired by the deep musical traditions of India, Africa and Brazil, rooted within the framework of modern jazz. In an innovative marriage of ancient and modern, driving grooves intersect with cinematic atmospheres and soaring melodies, creating a fresh, emotive sonic experience. Band members share an eclectic range of musical expertise – hardbop, pop, rock, electronica, free improvisation, world and R&B/Soul filter into the interpretations of the tunes. Both *Worldview* and *Petal* (Avataar’s debut CD (2016)) received critical acclaim internationally from publications including *DOWNBEAT*, *JAZZIZ*, *allaboutjazz*, *Jazz Weekly*, and *worldmusiccentral.com*.

The band’s original compositions are informed by artists including Shakti, Jarrett, Oregon, Jan Garbarek, AC Jobim, Rob

ert Glasper, Snarky Puppy, Kenny Garrett and Ornette Coleman, and at their core are imbued with an intent toward political and social change and a spiritual focus that transcends the sound.

Other members of Avataar are, **Laura Swankey** on vocals, **Michael Occhipinti** on guitar, **Rich Brown** on bass, **Max Se nitt** on drums and **Ravi Naimpally** on tabla.

Thursday, June 27 7:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$46.25

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and [tixx.ca](https://www.tixx.ca)

Friday, June 28, 2024

JazzFest 2024: Kjetil Mulelid Trio Double Bill with André Wickenheiser

Date and Time: Friday, June 28 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Address: 401 1st Street SE

Since its debut in 2017, the Kjetil Mulelid Trio has distinguished itself as one of Norway's leading piano trios while playing the world's nooks and crannies, and with two acclaimed follow-up albums in 2019 and 2022. The albums have made a strong impression and have been praised by media from around the world. Jazz Journal gave their last two albums 5/5 and stated, "the most captivating music we've heard in a long time." The Wire thought the music was "magical", Jazzwise thought it was "impressive." Their third album *Who Do You Love the Most?*, has become a small hit on Spotify, and received tons of great reviews, like International Piano Magazine naming it "a beautiful and refreshing release".

Indeed, this piano trio consists of some of Norway's most exciting young jazz musicians, whose members are heavily involved in projects such as Norwegian Spellemann winners Morgonrode and nominee Wako among other projects from the creative milieu in Norway. In the trio though, the focus is pared back to the classic acoustic piano trio featuring, predominantly, **Kjetil Mulelid's** beguiling compositions expertly balancing energetic, rhythmically complex and harmonically rich music with beautiful evocative melodies. While the trio incorporates that sense of calm, unhurried yet constantly unfolding sound world which is distinctively Scandinavian, Mulelid, in concert with bassist **Rune Nergaard** and drummer **Andreas Winther**, effortlessly conjure additional layers, tones and textures, based upon group improvisations, and informed, in large part, by each other's diverse musical experiences.

Friday, June 28 7:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$46.25

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and [tixx.ca](https://www.tixx.ca)

André Wickenheiser is back with new material and a new band! André's sound is all his own. Whether it's the sound of his trumpet or his compositional style, it is immediately recognizable.

This Calgary based trumpeter began his musical studies at Mount Royal University where he completed an Artist Diploma in jazz performance. From there, he went on to finish both a bachelor's degree, and a Masters Degree in jazz performance at McGill University in Montréal.

André is quickly making a name for himself as one of the top jazz trumpet players in Calgary and Alberta. He is an enthusiastic educator on the music faculty as a trumpet instructor at the University of Calgary, Ambrose University, and the Mo

unt Royal Conservatory. You can find André performing with groups including the Canadian National Jazz Orchestra, Decidedly Jazz Danceworks, Esteban Hererra quintet/septet, and Volk.

Joining André are **Sanah Kadoura** on drums, **Jon Day** on piano, **Daniel Nava** on bass and **Aaron Schorr** on guitar.

Friday, June 28 7:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$46.25

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and tixx.ca

Workshop

Friday, June 28 2:00 PM

Esplanade Front Lawn FREE

(Bring a blanket or lawn chair. We will have some chairs on hand.)

Saturday, June 29, 2024

Historic First Street SE Walking Tours

Date and Time: Saturday, June 29 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Address: Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre, 401 1 Street SE, Medicine Hat

Historic First Street Walking Tours



Historic First Street SE Tour

June 22, June 29th, July 20, August 3, August 24, September 21st | 10 - 11 AM

Step into the past with our new immersive walking tour! Join us on select dates from June to September as we tour the city's history with the help of some of its most intriguing historical characters.

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About your tour guide Sally (McGee) Sehn

Sally was born and raised in Medicine Hat. A frequent patron of the Esplanade Archives, she was a driving force behind this most recent rendition of historical First Street walking tours, created by the Heritage Resources Committee (now Heritage Resources Working Group).

Sally was born and raised in Medicine Hat. She is a past member of the Historic Resources Committee and an impassioned researcher turned tour guide.

A purveyor of historical facts, stories, and forgotten details, she pulls from both her research and memories, to weave a walking experience that will keep the stories of our neighbourhoods alive and well.

Please Note:

A complimentary walking tour guide will be provided for all tours.

Tours are approximately 1 hour in length.

Be ready to be outside in the sun (hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, water bottle, etc.).

These events are weather dependent – if raining, the event will be rescheduled.

Space is limited so please book in advance.

Low registration numbers may result in tours being rescheduled. Minimum of 6 participants required.

Towne Square Block Party

Date and Time: Saturday, June 29 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Address: 603 First Street SE



Discover the heart of our community at Towne Square's Block Party every Saturday this summer from noon to 4 p.m. It's

where neighbours become friends, and the community comes alive.

Each event showcases a sample of our unique local organizations, businesses, and individuals. Come together to experience the energy at the heart of our community with a changing lineup of FREE activities and games for all ages! From yard games and mini golf to water fights and bounce houses, there's plenty to get you moving! Then get colourful and creative through activities like sensory play, face painting, glitter tattoos, chalk art and more!

Food brings people together, which is why we've invited a tasty selection of local food trucks to serve up mouthwatering bites that'll keep you fueled for the festivities.

Don't miss out on the ultimate community celebration at Towne Square this summer!

Themes:

- June 15 – Celebrating Nature
- June 22 – Celebrating Indigeneity
- June 29 – Celebrating Childhood
- July 6 – Celebrating Art & Creativity
- July 20 – Celebrating Sport and Movement
- August 3 – Celebrating Dance & Culture
- August 10 – Celebrating Car Culture
- August 17 – Celebrating Heritage
- August 24 – Celebrating Music
- August 31 – Celebrating our First Responders
- September 7 – Celebrating our Teens and Youth

JazzFest 2024: Sabor a Cuba Latin Band Double Bill with The Hip Katz

Date and Time: Saturday, June 29 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Address: Hanger 7, Medicine Hat Airport

Sabor a Cuba Latin Band was founded in Calgary in 2012. With a repertoire mostly based in Cuban Traditional Music, the band mixes this Cuban flavour with other styles such as Latin Jazz and Latin Folk Music. Most of the songs are in Spanish, but the band also performs some English songs adapted to Latin rhythms.

Previous performances include, Fiestaval, Expolatino, as well as many other public and private events inside and around Calgary.

The band is made up of leader **Jorge Nuñez** on guitar and lead vocals, **Yoanna Mesa** on vocals, **Raul Gomez Tabera** and **William Henriquez** on percussions, **Mario Ochoa** on bass and **Stephen Williams** on saxophone and flute.

Saturday, June 29 5:00 PM

Super T Aviation \$46.25

Hanger 7, Medicine Hat Airport

Bring your lawn chairs

Tickets available at the Esplanade and [tixx.ca](https://www.tixx.ca)

(Note: there is no ATM available at this venue. Cash only at the door.)

Formed in 2006, the Hip Katz is an exciting show band with music that spans over half a century. Their catalogue features top hits from the fifties to the present, with an emphasis on horn-oriented arrangements. The group features a full rhythm

m section, horn section and powerhouse male and female vocals that are guaranteed to pack the dance floor.

The Hip Katz are, “**Kool**” **Ray Martens** on keys, **James Evangelos** on drums, **Peter Mueller** on guitar, **Al Bader** on bass, **Teague Bates** on trombone, **Will Nickel** on trumpet, **Erika Bodnaruk** on sax and vocals, and **Mark Ward** on trumpet and vocals.

Saturday, June 29 5:00 PM

Super T Aviation \$46.25

Hanger 7, Medicine Hat Airport

Bring your lawn chairs

Tickets available at the Esplanade and tixx.ca

(Note: there is no ATM available at this venue. Cash only at the door.)

JazzFest 2024: Mary Ancheta

Date and Time: Saturday, June 29 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Address: 401 1st Street SE

Keyboardist **Mary Ancheta** is a Canadian/Filipina artist who steps into the spotlight with her genre-bending organic, modern take on jazz and electro-funk. Inspired by the likes of Squarepusher, The Meters, John Scofield, and Prince, Ancheta knows what’s up when it comes to arresting melodies and irresistible grooves with **Shaquille Headley** on drums, **Dominic Conway** on sax and **JeanSe Le Doujet** on bass. Encompassing her experience in film scoring Ancheta seeks to tap into raw fuelled moments favouring grittiness over perfection.

Last summer they opened for BADBADNOTGOOD and played the MainStage on Jazz Festivals from coast to coast. From Vancouver to Toronto, to the renowned Montréal Jazz Festival, and from Ottawa to Halifax. The Mary Ancheta Quartet have also played on bills alongside Herbie Hancock, Louis Cole Big Band, Ghost Note, George Benson, Domi & JD Beck, and more.

Saturday, June 29 9:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$32.25

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and tixx.ca

Sunday, June 30, 2024

JazzFest 2024: PJ Perry Quintet featuring Al Muirhead

Date and Time: Sunday, June 30 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Address: 401 1st Street SE

PJ Perry has a long history with the Medicine Hat JazzFest, as does Calgary trumpet legend, **Al Muirhead**, and it is an honour to have these musicians closing JazzFest for us this year.

PJ has shared the stage with countless jazz greats such as Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Shaw, Michel Legrand, Pepper Adams, Kenny Wheeler, Tom Harrell, Rob McConnell, Slide Hampton, Herb Spanier, Bobby Shew, Fraser MacPherson, Tommy Banks, Joe LaBarbera, Clarence “Big” Miller, Red Rodney and many more talented artists, too numerous to list here. Recently, he was a featured soloist on the hit 2010 Broadway production of Come Fly Away, highlighting the songs of Frank Sinatra and the choreography of Twyla Tharpe.

In 2007, PJ was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Alberta. In autumn of 1999, Justin Time Records released a JUNO-nominated recording of PJ and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. PJ Perry has become recognized by critics, colleagues and listeners as being one of North America's premier saxophonists.

Winner of a 1993 JUNO Award for Best Jazz Recording for his album My Ideal, PJ has received Jazz Report magazine's Critic's Choice Award for Best Alto Sax for a record-breaking seven years; from 1993 to 1999.

In 2016, PJ Perry was awarded the Order of Canada by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada.

Trumpeter **Al Muirhead** has long been an iconic figure on the Canadian jazz scene. Muirhead has worked with legends such as Diana Krall, Paul Anka, Rosemary Clooney, Frank Mills and Dizzy Gillespie. In recent years, Al has been honoured with the American Federation of Musicians' Citation Award and the Western Canadian Music Alliance's Heritage Award for his mentorship and industry-building. He's also earned the Saskatchewan Jazz Festival's Special Recognition Award, a YYC Music Award, a 2016 JUNO nomination, and has charted #1 in Canada and in the top 20 in the US.

Joining PJ and Al are **Jim Head** on guitar, **Paul Johnston** on bass and **Jonathan McCaslin** on drums.

Sunday, June 30 7:00 PM

Esplanade Terrace \$37.75

(Lobby as back-up)

Tickets available at the Esplanade and tixx.ca

<https://calendar.medicinehat.ca>