



41ST LUNENBURG
FOLK HARBOUR
Festival
GUIDEBOOK

CELEBRATING
**GREAT
IDEAS**



August 6 to 9, 2026
folkharbour.ca

Music by the sea!

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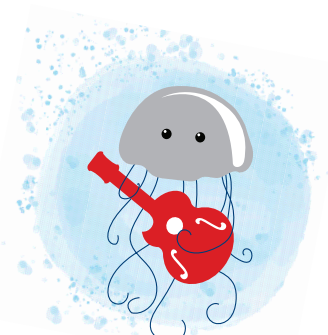


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GET TICKETS

1-888-311-9090
www.ticketpro.ca
www.folkharbour.ca



Pjila'si, bienvenue, and welcome everyone to the 41st rendition of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival in this beautiful UNESCO world heritage site of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. The harbour of this town and Folk Harbour are one and the same, a place where musicians from all over the world sail into town to perform. The theme of this year's Festival is *Celebrating Great IDEAs –Songs of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility*, and we are very proud to be presenting the most diverse lineup ever to take to our stages. We have always prided ourselves as being the festival that presents outstanding performers from across this fair country and beyond. This year is no different, as we welcome amazing artists from here and away to entertain you.

The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society is a volunteer-run, not-for-profit, charitable organization that exists to present music, dance, and folklore in our community. A small, dedicated crew of volunteer Board Members and Committee Chairs, aided by two part-time staff and three summer students, do the lion's share of work required to ensure the Festival happens. During the Festival we are joined by a couple of hundred volunteers that do everything from housing, feeding, and transporting our artists, to setting up stages and venues, to selling tickets and merchandise, and on and on. It is a testament to these hard-working volunteers that Folk Harbour continues to flourish. While enjoying this year's amazing lineup, please take a moment to thank a volunteer. Please be patient with us and be kind to each other.

While in Lunenburg County, please take advantage of all the amenities that this beautiful part of the world has to offer. The South Shore, and particularly Lunenburg, has some of the finest dining, tastiest beers and spirits, stunning art, that Nova Scotia has to offer. There is also much natural beauty and history that can be explored right here.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Society's Board of Directors and all of our Committee Chairs for their commitment to Folk Harbour. Thanks to all the sponsors, donors, and funders, without whom this event could not take place. Finally, thanks to all of you, our audience, for coming out to support live music in our community.

Please enjoy what is sure to be a wonderful weekend of *Music by the sea!*

Louis Robitaille,

**President, Program & Site Chair, and Lifetime Friend of the Festival,
Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society**



Canadian
Heritage

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canadien

Welcome to the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival!

Set against the breathtaking backdrop of Nova Scotia's South Shore, this beloved festival invites us to gather where music meets the sea. For a few unforgettable days, Lunenburg's streets, waterfront, and stages will come alive with performances that celebrate creativity and Nova Scotia's rich cultural heritage.

From inspiring workshops to unforgettable concerts, each gathering reminds us of music's power to bridge generations and to bring people together. As melodies drift across the harbour, they carry with them the stories, memories, and shared experiences that enrich our cultural life.

Thank you to the organizers, volunteers, artists, and supporters who make this event possible. I wish you all a wonderful festival filled with music, stories, and authentic connections. Enjoy the music!

The Honourable Marc Miller
Minister of Canadian Identity and Culture and
Minister responsible for Official Languages

Canada



On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, welcome to the 41st Annual Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival.

For more than 40 years, this festival has brought people together. It celebrates music's power to shape our lives and give voice to our stories. Set in the heart of historic Lunenburg — with its historic streets and vibrant waterfront — this event highlights the depth of Canadian folk culture that is rooted in tradition and bursting with creativity.

From hands-on workshops and daytime performances to evening concerts under the Main Stage tent, this festival invites everyone to feel the music. Whether it's tapping your foot to the beat or letting your hair down and hitting the dance floor, this festival will open your eyes to immense talent. It's a chance to discover new artists, reconnect with tried-and-true favourites and share in the energy of live music.

Thank you to the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society, the performers and the many volunteers who unite to make this festival a reality. And to everyone attending — thank you. Nova Scotia's cultural scene is stronger because of your support.

Enjoy the music.

Sincerely,

Dave Ritcey
Minister of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage

Welcome to the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival!

We are absolutely delighted to welcome you to our beautiful corner of the world for this legendary celebration of "music by the sea."



Nestled in one of the most stunning settings in the country, this festival is a proud showcase for both emerging talents and beloved, well-known musicians. Whether you are taking in a performance under the big tent on the hill, inside one of the historic local churches, or right at the water's edge on the wharf, each unique venue offers an unforgettable backdrop to the music.

Beyond the main stages, Folk Harbour is a place of learning. The organizers are dedicated to nurturing the next generation of musicians. Specialized workshops focusing on vocals and songwriting, vital spaces for artists to connect, create, and evolve their craft, are provided.

Over the years, so many beautiful traditions have woven themselves into the fabric of this weekend—none more cherished than the gathering of family and old friends. Whether you are joining for the first time or returning for time-honoured traditions like the uplifting Sunday Morning Gospel Concert, we are so glad you are here.

Thank you for being here to share the music, the traditions, and the memories. Enjoy the festival!

Elspeth McLean-Wile,
Mayor of the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

We did not receive a welcome message from the **Town of Lunenburg** by the deadline for printing the guidebook, but we thank them for providing logistical support for the Folk Harbour Festival.



St. John's Anglican Church, Festival 2025

David Baillieul photo

BEÒLACH



Beòlach started more than 20 years ago when some dynamic solo performers got together to jam at the Celtic Colours International Music Festival. Now, original members Wendy MacIsaac (fiddle, piano, stepdance), Mac Morin (piano, stepdance, accordion) and Màiri Rankin (fiddle, stepdance) have welcomed Matt MacIsaac (bagpipes, whistles, guitar) to form a quartet. The group's arrangements of traditional Cape Breton, Scottish, and Irish tunes are innovative and exciting, delivered with fiery energy and breathtaking musicianship. Beòlach has released three albums; their 2020 offering, *All Hands*, won two Canadian Folk Music Awards for Traditional Album of the Year and Instrumental Group of the Year and was nominated for a JUNO for Traditional Folk Album of the Year. With jaw-dropping virtuosity and phenomenal stage presence, Beòlach enralls audiences with lively reels, soulful airs, and just about everything in between. Beòlach previously appeared at our 2021 "mini-Festival."

Sponsored by Ocean Gear Inc.

Thursday	8:30 pm	Main Stage
Friday	1:00 pm	Central United Church
	4:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church

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BOREAL



Three Canadian singer-songwriters—Katherine Wheatley, Tannis Slimmon, and Angie Nussey—make up the powerhouse group, Boreal. Katherine brings warmth, colour, and rhythm on guitar, Tannis holds the heartbeat on percussion, mandolin, and guitar, while Angie adds rich textures on keyboard. With no designated lead singer, Boreal rotates the spotlight, offering a fresh approach to every song through thoughtful arrangements and harmonies. Their music weaves their three distinct voices that have elements of earthy folk, ethereal and improvisational soundscapes, and deep emotion. When they write and arrange their songs, they take advantage of these differences. The result is a unique sound that's as cohesive as it is surprising. With roots in Manitoba and the Ontario towns of Parry Sound and Sudbury, Boreal carries the stories of the places that shaped them, the people who touched their hearts, and the music that uplifts their spirits. Their most recent album, *Winterbirds* (2025), earned three Canadian Folk Music Award nominations. We warmly welcome Boreal to Folk Harbour for the first time.

Sponsored by Mary Dillon

Friday	10:00 am	St. John's Anglican Church
	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Saturday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	3:30 pm	Central United Church
	8:00 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	2:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church

CÉCILE DOO-KINGUÉ



Electrifying guitarist and award-winning singer songwriter Cécile Doo-Kingué embodies a luminous fusion of cultures and sounds where blues, soul, jazz, *chanson française*, and African rhythms meet, converse, and ignite. Born in New York City to Cameroonian parents and now based in Montréal, Cécile weaves bridges between continents, rhythms, languages, and emotions with a style that is both raw and refined, powerful and intimate. A veteran of the funk, soul, roots, and blues scenes, she is widely regarded as one of Canada's most versatile guitarists. A multiple Maple Blues Award nominee, Cécile has released four critically acclaimed albums and toured extensively across Canada and internationally, captivating audiences with her distinctive sound and magnetic stage presence. An engaged artist, in 2006, she co-founded Chick Pickin' Mondays, a weekly live performance space for women and genderqueer artists in Montreal. Cécile is currently the President of the Board of Folk Canada (formerly known as Folk Music Ontario). After a health hiatus, Cécile returns to the stage with her fiery fretwork, velvety vocals, incisive songwriting, and new tunes, delivering performances that are full of raw emotion, authenticity, and soulful intensity.

Sponsored by Louis Robitaille

Thursday	1:00 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Friday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
Saturday	1:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Central United Church
	9:20 pm	Main Stage

COLIN LINDEN



A touring musician for 50 years, Colin Linden's tale is the stuff of legend, the kind told by the Coen brothers in *O Brother Where Art Thou* or *Inside Llewyn Davis*, both of which featured his guitar playing on the soundtracks. As a singer/guitarist, he's accompanied everyone from Bruce Cockburn (as his producer and touring musician) to Bob Dylan, Greg Allman, Rhiannon Giddens, John Prine and more. He is a member of Blackie & The Rodeo Kings with Stephen Fearing and Tom Wilson and was the main contributor to the music for the television series, *Nashville*, and subsequent live tours. Along the way, Colin played on over 500 albums and produced 140, and received a 2020 Grammy for producing Keb Mo's, *Oklahoma*. He has also nabbed a staggering 25 JUNO Award nominations and nine wins. As an 11-year old, Colin met his musical idol, Howlin' Wolf, at a show in his native Toronto, accompanied by his mom, who took a picture of the two during a conversation before the gig. Wolf told young Colin that it was up to him to carry the torch. All these years later, Colin has indeed been carrying on the tradition of the blues along with that photo.

Sponsored by Jeremy Witikko

Saturday	3:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
Sunday	1:00 pm	Central United Church
	10:05 pm	Main Stage

DANNY MICHEL



It's difficult to know how to categorize the music of Danny Michel. It's part rock, pop, folk, world, and sometimes even classical. Danny's thoughtful lyrics and charming performances have earned him a devoted fan base, multiple JUNO and Polaris Prize nominations, CBC's Heart of Gold award, and wins for the Canadian Folk Music Award's Producer of the Year and Oliver Schroder Pushing the Boundaries awards. His adventurous musical spirit has led him on unique journeys, including recording an album aboard a Soviet-era icebreaker in the Arctic while on an expedition with astronaut Chris Hadfield. Albums like *Matadora* (2016) and *Khlebnikov* (2017) explore themes of human connection, the environment, and the cosmos. A musician who is passionate about social causes, his activism has led to memorable performances, including playing at birthday celebrations for Jane Goodall's 85th and David Suzuki's 75th. Danny's most recent recording, *Ghost Town* (2023), is a deeply personal and vulnerable collection of songs born from the pandemic, showcasing his most introspective work to date. Danny's previous Folk Harbour performance was at the 2022 Festival.

Sponsored by Maggie Ostler

Friday	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Saturday	7:30 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	4:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church

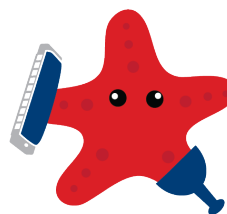
LE DIABLE À CINQ



Le Diable à Cinq is one of Quebec's most electrifying traditional bands, fusing roots music with raw rock energy. Blending time-honoured repertoire with bold original compositions, the JUNO-nominated quintet delivers high-octane performances that unite audiences and keep dance floors moving. With three albums and over 250 shows on three continents under their belt, the Five Devils are only gaining momentum. Their 2025 tour took them to six countries, including a standout appearance in Japan at the Osaka Expo. Le Diable à Cinq is set to launch their fourth album alongside a brand-new live show—more festive, more powerful, and more irresistible than ever. The Devils—three brothers, a cousin, and a friend (Éloi Sabourin, Samuel Sabourin, Félix Sabourin, André-Michel Dambremont, Guillaume Beaulieu)—are bringing their boundless energy and engaging stage presence to Folk Harbour for the first time.

Sponsored by Keller Williams Select Realty

Friday	10:00 am	St. John's Parish Hall
	1:00 pm	Central United Church
	8:30 pm	Main Stage
Saturday	4:00 pm	Wharf Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:00 pm	Park Stage



GORDIE MACKEEMAN AND HIS RHYTHM BOYS



Gordie MacKeeman and His Rhythm Boys is a roots quartet that features all-star pickers and singers whose sound includes everything from down-home country to reckless rockabilly to intricate bluegrass. Crowds all over the world stare in awe as Gordie plays with joyful abandonment. Nicknamed “Crazylegs” as he demonstrates his unique blend of Canadian clogging and step dancing, Gordie is the dancing and fiddling leader of the band; Peter Cann (acoustic and electric guitar, vocals), Thomas Webb (bass, banjo, guitar, vocals), and Jason Burbine (drums, bass, guitar, vocals) round out the PEI-based four-piece. The group’s latest album, *Dreamland* (2019), captures the versatility of the musicians and showcases their expansive talents. While their records are tremendous, it’s their exhilarating live show that keeps people coming back time and time again and leaving with wonder and amazement. Gordie MacKeeman and His Rhythm Boys last brought their high energy, fiddle-fuelled, old-time sound to our Festival stage in 2013.

Sponsored by BMR Lunenburg Hardware

Friday	1:00 pm	Central United Church
Saturday	10:00 am	St. John’s Parish Hall
	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	8:30 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	4:00 pm	Park Stage

GRACE PETRIE



For a decade-and-a-half, Grace Petrie has been one of the UK’s most urgent and passionate songwriters. Coming of age amidst the coalition government, her politically charged folk music quickly gained national attention and propelled her to the main stages of folk festivals from Cambridge to Vancouver to the Blue Mountains of Australia. Characterized by razor-sharp lyricism and the unmistakable passion of her stage presence, her live shows have become synonymous for fans with a unique atmosphere of hope and solidarity, while the LGBTQ anthem, “Black Tie,” has racked up 1.5 million streams and provided the soundtrack of expression for young queer folks all over the world. Folk Harbour presented Grace in our 2022 Fall Weekends at the Opera House series and we were so in awe of her talents that we have been working since then to get her back onto our stages. A musician who can have you laughing uproariously one minute and crying the next, Grace Petrie is a songwriter for these times.

Sponsored by Deb Trask

Friday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
Saturday	3:00 pm	Wharf Stage
	7:00 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House

JENNY WHITELEY



Jenny Whiteley got an early start playing music with her father and uncle, Chris and Ken Whiteley. Throughout her childhood, she and her brother Dan were along for the ride at countless concerts and festivals, and before long they were singing and playing washtub and washboard in The Junior Jug Band. In her early 20s, she taught herself to play guitar and began to pursue her songwriting career in earnest. In 2000, Jenny recorded and co-produced her first solo effort, a self-titled album that won the JUNO Award for Roots Traditional Album of the Year. Jenny's follow-up record, *Hopetown*, won the JUNO for Roots Album in 2005, making Jenny one of only a few artists to win JUNO Awards for their first and second records. She has released three more albums since: *Dear* (2006), *Forgive or Forget* (2010), and *The Original Jenny Whiteley* (2016); her last four records have been released through Black Hen Music. Jenny has made three previous Folk Harbour Festival appearances dating back to 2005. This year she will be joined by her musical and life partner, Joey Wright.

Sponsored by Caico-Mae Clothiers

Friday	1:00 pm	Park Stage
	7:00 pm	Main Stage
Saturday	10:00 am	St. John's Anglican Church
	1:00 pm	Central United Church
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:30 pm	Central United Church

JOE H HENRY



Red River Métis singer-songwriter Joe H Henry possesses a voice described as being "as powerful as a freight train," a potent instrument that delivers his blend of early rhythm and blues, soul, and alt-country, enriched by folk-inspired lyrical depth. Drawing from a life encompassing experiences from a homeless train-hopping youth to a homesteading father of five, Joe's songwriting is thoughtful and his storytelling captivating, forging a strong connection with audiences from all walks of life. This depth of experience resonates in every line he sings. His debut EP, *Keep the Fire Burning* (2023), garnered significant recognition, including multiple award nominations, and his EP, *Real Things* (2025), has received critical praise, reaching #1 on the Indigenous Music Countdown. Now based in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia, Joe has been on Folk Harbour Festival and concert series stages in recent years where it has been evident why he has a reputation as an absolute powerhouse performer.

Sponsored by CKBW & Country 100.7

Thursday	3:30 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
	7:30 pm	Main Stage
Friday	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Saturday	1:00 pm	Wharf Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:30 pm	Central United Church

KELLIE LODER



Kellie Loder is a gifted singer, songwriter, and storyteller. A captivating performer whose voice radiates both warmth and power, Kellie's lyrics are honest and vulnerable. Kellie crafts music that feels deeply personal—resonating through heartfelt songs, playful charm, and exhilarating live performances. Described as “a multi-genre marvel,” their sound blends Americana, folk, and indie-pop, reflecting the spirit and depth of their Newfoundland and Labrador roots. Kellie's latest album, *Transitions*, has propelled their artistry to new heights, earning a 2025 JUNO Award nomination, two East Coast Music Awards, two Music NL Awards, a #1 SOCAN Songwriter Award, and a #1 song on CBC Music's Top 20 and Year-End Chart with the hit single, “When It Comes to You.” Recently, Kellie was named Songwriter of the Year at the 2026 ECMAs. Anyone who saw Kellie's first Folk Harbour appearance in 2019 will not be surprised to see their impressive career continue to flourish, as they garner critical acclaim and amass fans across Canada, the UK, Denmark, Australia, and most recently, Japan. Kellie Loder is undoubtedly a dynamic performer whose music connects across cultures and continents.

Sponsored by Elaine Finlay

Thursday	1:45 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
	9:20 pm	Main Stage
Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	3:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
Saturday	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House

LLOYD SPIEGEL



Lloyd Spiegel first appeared on a Folk Harbour Festival stage in 2024 and was an immediate sensation. His combination of guitar wizardry, powerful lyrics, and hilarious storytelling demonstrated why he is a truly outstanding performer. The native of Melbourne, Australia has been touring the globe for over 30 years, honing his skills through his life on stage where he was able to learn from and tour with the founding fathers of modern blues. Whether performing original numbers or honouring those who have inspired him, Lloyd's deep connection to the blues and profound respect for its traditions are at the core of everything he does. A 14-time Australian Blues Award winner, he has studied the blues extensively and has created his own version of modern blues. His extensive discography dates back to 1997 and includes studio and live recordings; his most recent recording is 2023's *Bakehouse Dozen*. Be prepared for an emotional and visual roller coaster ride when Lloyd Spiegel takes the stage.

Sponsored by Robert Durovich

Friday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
Saturday	2:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
	10:05 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	1:00 pm	Central United Church

MACDOUGALL•MACISAAC• MACLELLAN



Two adored Folk Harbour performers—Catherine MacLellan and Lisa MacIsaac—return, this time bringing their musical friend, Sarah MacDougall. Born and raised on PEI, **Catherine MacLellan**’s songs reflect her deep connection to the land and the people that call it home. Her discography includes the JUNO-winning, *The Raven’s Sun*. Her songs range from heart-wrenching ballads to uplifting anthems, with a universal appeal that speaks to the struggles, triumphs, and joys of life. **Lisa MacIsaac** is one-half of the acclaimed folk-pop duo, Madison Violet (with Brenley MacEachern); this duo ended its remarkable 25-year run last year. With Madison Violet, Lisa had the opportunity to showcase her songwriting, musicianship, vocals, humour, and engaging stage presence. In 2024, Lisa created the “Small of My Heart Songwriters’ Circles” to celebrate women and non-binary artists and advance their place in the Canadian music industry. Born in Sweden and now based in Canada, **Sarah MacDougall** is known for her poetic songs and passionate performances. Sarah mixes folk, pop, and rock elements into her infectious, often epic songs. Together, the “Three Macs” combine their individual talents into a trio with a sound that is greater than the sum of its parts.

Sponsored by Ruth Anne Whicher in memory of her loving husband, John Whicher

Thursday	1:45 pm	Zion Lutheran Church (L Mac)
Friday	2:00 pm	St. John’s Anglican Church
	10:05 pm	Main Stage
Saturday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House (C Mac)
	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House (S Mac)
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House

MORGAN TONEY



Morgan Toney is on a roll. Already this year, he has won the JUNO for Traditional Roots Album of the Year (for *Heal the Divide*, 2025), and ECMAs for Indigenous Artist of the Year and Fusion Release of the Year. Clearly, the way he brilliantly combines the fiery fiddling of Cape Breton Island with the old songs of the Mi’kmaq is resonating with listeners. A member of We’koqma’q and Wagmatcook First Nations, Morgan has been able to reinvigorate both the Atlantic and Mi’kmaq music communities by bringing these styles together. Morgan’s ECMA-winning debut recording, *First Flight* (2022), celebrates his language and heritage while his 2023 EP, *Resilience*, focuses on the strength of the L’nu (Mi’kmaq). Morgan’s trio includes fellow Cape Bretoners Keith Mullins and Ryan Roberts. Keith is a multi-instrumentalist and the producer and engineer of *Resilience*, while Ryan adds virtuosic mandolin playing to round out the band’s sound. On stage, the Morgan Toney trio celebrates cultures and builds bridges.

Sponsored by Clearwater Seafoods

Saturday	10:00 am	Central United Church Hall (Val Meister Young Fiddlers Workshop)
	1:30 pm	Park Stage (with Young Fiddlers)
	3:30 pm	Central United Church
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:00 pm	St. John’s Anglican Church
	8:30 pm	Main Stage

NADINE ALTOUNJI



Nadine Altounji’s music lives somewhere between Aleppo, Lima, and Montreal, where the musical forms of maqam meet landó and where French *chanson* takes on Arabic hues. A singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist born in Montreal of Syrian origin, she carries the stories of memory, mixed identity and the wounds of the world and the heart that reveal our shared humanity. She learned to play the oud, the instrument her great-grandfather played in Aleppo, as a way to reconnect with her roots. Nadine sings in Arabic, French, English, and Spanish, four languages that mirror the territories her music crosses. A trained guitarist, she spent several years accompanying Montreal artists before launching her solo career in 2016. Research trips to Ecuador and Peru gave birth to the audiovisual EP, *The Stories That Tie Us to Trees, Vol. 1* (2022) and its French-language companion, *Enracinées dans l’histoire, Vol. 2* (2023). Two tracks from these projects, “No lo olviden” and “Dans la folie de nos temps”, were selected by Putumayo World Music for their compilations.

Sponsored by Michael Pittman

Thursday	3:30 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Friday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
Saturday	4:00 pm	Park Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	8:00 pm	Main Stage

NDIDI O



Ndidi Onukwulu, professionally known as Ndidi O, is a singer-songwriter who invites us into a musical universe filled with waves of blues, folk, rock, Americana, and country that results in a journey that starts and ends in the soul. A force of nature from the wilds of British Columbia where she grew up, Ndidi is the daughter of a Nigerian father and a German mother. She represents a distinctly Canadian experience – standing astride lines blurred between contrasting cultures and heritages. Once she discovered her voice and collected a diverse range of sounds and styles, her talents took her away from home to New York City, Toronto, Paris, and Los Angeles. Her music, like her lineage, explores the globe while keeping “home” at the centre of it all. A two-time JUNO award nominee and the 2019 Western Canadian Music Awards winner for Blues Artist of the Year, Ndidi has released seven solo albums to date, the most recent being *Simple Songs for Complicated Times* (2024), produced by Steve Dawson.

Sponsored by the Nova Scotia Association of Realtors

Friday	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	8:00 pm	Main Stage
Saturday	1:00 pm	Central United Church
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Wharf Stage

NOAH MALCOLM



Noah Malcolm is a rising, queer singer-songwriter from Prince Edward Island who has won four Music PEI Awards and a 2025 East Coast Music Award for Pop Release of the Year (for “January”). Noah’s diverse musical background—from self-taught ear training to classical training—has clearly influenced his ability to write and produce music across various genres, from folk, to pop, to short film scores. Throughout 2025, he toured coast-to-coast playing his second JUNOfest, second ECMAs, and first Folk Music Ontario conference. He released singles, “Goin’ Thru It” and “This Kind of Love,” the latter of which was placed in a Hallmark film. In 2026, he is launching his folk-and-roots-oriented *God Man* album. Noah was a participant in Folk Harbour’s first Songwriters’ Camp in 2022, and we are thrilled to have him back at the Festival as a Main Stage performer.

Sponsored by Payless Fuels

Thursday	1:45 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Friday	3:30 pm	Park Stage
Saturday	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	2:00 pm	Wharf Stage
	7:00 pm	Main Stage



O’SOUND



O’Sound (aka Owen Lee) is an artist, musician, songwriter, vocal arranger, and producer from Toronto, Ontario. In 2014, Owen relocated to Halifax, Nova Scotia. He is currently the Minister of Music at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Upper Hammonds Plains, the former Program Coordinator of the African Nova Scotian Music Association (2018-2023), and the former Musical Director of the Nova Scotia Mass Choir (2014-2019). A hugely respected vocalist, singer, and industry professional, Owen has worked to raise awareness about racial discrimination in Nova Scotia. In 2022, he was awarded the late Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee Medal for exceptional service in Arts, Community Service and Volunteerism in Nova Scotia. Owen studied Jazz Theory/Vocal Performance at York University and his music spans jazz, gospel, R&B, soul, hip-hop, and blues. Owen has toured and shared stages with numerous critically-acclaimed musicians and is a model for collaboration in the music industry. Owen was named the 2022 Songwriter of the Year by the African Nova Scotian Music Association and was awarded the 2023 Album of the Year title by the same association. *Father Song - The Book* (2022) is a beautiful and captivating children’s book based on Owen’s song of the same name.

Sponsored by groundSOUND

Thursday	3:30 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Saturday	10:00 am	St. John’s Anglican Church
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	7:30 pm	Main Stage

PILLOW FITE



Pillow Fite is made up of Art Ross (they/them/Pisces) and Aaron Green (he/him/Virgo). They offer their respective gifts of reflection and melody to create moody, slow-burning indie-folk aimed straight at the heart. With the release of their full-length album, *Hard Feelings, Soft Promises* (2024), paired with extensive touring in Canada, the UK, Europe, and the US, the duo is garnering fans, critical acclaim, and awards. They have been steadily carving out their place in Canada’s indie scene with a string of CBC Top 20 hits, with the single, “Laundromats,” reaching the #5 spot. They were awarded Music Nova Scotia’s Pop Recording of the Year in 2025. Pillow Fite’s sound is the result of a gently but perpetually evolving creative partnership, a mash-up of genres that arrives at something as singular as it is queer. The band is currently finishing production on its next album. Art participated in Folk Harbour’s Songwriters’ Camp in 2024 and appeared with Aaron as Pillow Fite at the 2024 Festival and in our 2023 and 2025 concert series.

Sponsored by Ticketpro

Thursday	1:45 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
	7:00 pm	Main Stage
Friday	1:30 pm	Wharf Stage
	3:30 pm	Park Stage
Saturday	3:30 pm	Central United Church

SARAH HARMER



Steph Montani photo

Sarah Harmer is a multiple award-winning, platinum-selling singer-songwriter and environmental activist. Her solo music career launched with the now classic debut, *You Were Here* (2000), and includes six critically acclaimed albums, including her latest, *Are You Gone* (2020). This recent release is a deeply personal and political collection of songs motivated by the beauty of life, the urgency of the climate crisis, and the question of loss. The Burlington, ON native has received numerous awards, including two JUNOs (2005 best Adult Alternative Album for *All of Our Names* and 2007 Best Music DVD for *Escarpment Blues*) along with nominations for the prestigious Polaris Prize. Her activism saw her co-founding the citizens’ organization, PERL (Protecting Escarpment Rural Land) and leading the successful effort to prevent an open-pit gravel mine in a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve on the Niagara Escarpment. Sarah was awarded the 2025 Juno Humanitarian Award, presented by Dr. David Suzuki, for her outstanding human rights and advocacy work. This is Sarah’s first-ever appearance on a Folk Harbour stage.

Sponsored by TD Bank Group

Thursday	10:05 pm	Main Stage
Friday	1:00 pm	St. John’s Anglican Church

SECHILE SEDARE



Sechile Sedare is a contemporary roots duo featuring sibling songwriters Leela Gilday and Jay Gilday. This musical collaboration sees Jay and Leela co-write and co-create new repertoire together, harnessing their talents as deeply insightful and genuine storytellers. Sechile Sedare is on a musical journey that bridges the past and the present, the personal and the universal. This duo transcends genres and resonates deeply with the spirit of the land they come from. Sechile Sedare—meaning “my younger brother, my older sister” in the Dene language—represents the powerful connection of family, culture, and storytelling. Born and raised in the Northwest Territories, Leela and Jay draw from their Dene heritage and a lifetime of shared experiences. Leela, a JUNO Award-winning artist, brings her soaring vocals and heartfelt lyrics, and Jay brings his passionate voice, textured guitar chops, and captivating storytelling. Together, they harmonize in a way only siblings can—capturing nostalgia, humour, and reflection in every note. Sechile Sedare previously captivated our Festival audience in 2024 with their stories of family, land, and fate.

Sponsored by Adams & Knickle Ltd.

Thursday	3:30 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Friday	4:00 pm	Wharf Stage
	9:20 pm	Main Stage
Saturday	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church

STEVE DAWSON



A native of Vancouver, BC, currently residing in Nashville, Steve Dawson is a versatile solo artist, sideman, and record producer. Mostly known as a slide, steel, and pedal steel player, Steve has developed a style and voice on those instruments that can only come from years of touring and working in the studio. Considered one of the hardest-working musicians to come from Canada, Steve has produced and/or played on more than 300 albums. That body of work has resulted in shelves full of awards: seven JUNOs (18 nominations), seven Producer of the Year titles from the Canadian Folk and Western Canadian Music Awards, several Maple Blues Awards, among others. Whether he's turning heads on the concert circuit with his incendiary guitar playing, or pulling the best possible performances out of the many artists that he works with in the studio, Steve is always striving to take things to the next level. Steve started Black Hen Music in 1998 with the goal of producing music that is diverse, eclectic, and that has connections to roots music forms. Steve was previously on our Festival stage in 2009.

Sponsored by Commercial Tent

Friday	7:30 pm	Main Stage
Saturday	1:00 pm	Central United Church
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	4:00 pm	Wharf Stage

SUZIE VINNICK



A Saskatoon native transplanted to the Niagara Region of Ontario, Suzie Vinnick is the proud owner of a gorgeous voice, impressive guitar and bass chops, and an engagingly candid performance style. Her career has seen triumph after triumph. Some of her recent successes include the 2024 Canadian Folk Music Award for Contemporary Singer of the Year, a 2024 ECMA for Blues Album of the Year (for her project, *A Court, Spiegel and Vinnick*), the 2023 Maple Blues Acoustic Act of the Year, and the 2019 Saskatchewan Jazz Festival Special Recognition Award. In addition to a dozen Maple Blues Awards and her two Canadian Folk Music Awards, Suzie is also a three-time JUNO nominee. Fans of Folk Harbour don't need the list of awards to appreciate her talents, as we have been able to see Suzie on our Festival stages dating back to 2004. She has performed solo, as a duo with Rick Fines, and as part of the vocal trio, The Marigolds, always displaying her engaging stage presence and her prowess in the blues, folk, and roots worlds. Her most recent recording is *Fall Back Home* (2022).

Sponsored by Garry and Sheila Woodcock

Friday	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Saturday	4:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
	9:20 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Central United Church

YOUNGTREE & CAROLE BEE



Two bright stars of Newfoundland's music scene, Peter Youngtree and Carole Bestvater ("Carole Bee"), have been playing music together since 2015, developing a close musical and creative partnership through their original touring band, Youngtree & The Blooms. As a duo, they have one rule: "Only play music we love." This results in an eclectic mixture of traditional and modern folk music, well-crafted original songs and instrumentals, and a joyous, intimate energy shared with audiences. The duo has performed to crowds of five and five thousand while touring in Atlantic Canada and Ontario, with performances at festivals and a showcase at Folk Alliance International in 2025. Youngtree & Carole Bee have become a regionally sought-after act for their exuberant energy, musical skill, and onstage chemistry. Their first EP, *An Introduction* (2025), was recorded primarily using a single antique RCA microphone and a Studer tape machine. Youngtree & Carole Bee previously performed at the 2023 Folk Harbour Festival where they charmed audiences with their musicianship and their infectious joy of performing.

Sponsored by George and Rosalie Case

Thursday	8:00 pm	Main Stage
Friday	2:00 pm	Wharf Stage
Saturday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:30 pm	Central United Church

SONGWRITERS' CAMP

The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society is pleased to be offering the fifth annual Folk Harbour Songwriters' Camp to help emerging musicians hone their skills and advance their careers. This year, nine emerging singer-songwriters will work with two established, Festival headline artists, **O'Sound** and **Kellie Loder**, in the week leading up to the Festival.

We are grateful to our private funders, **Melitta Smole and Kerry Jarvis**, for their continuing belief in and support of the Songwriters' Camp, and for being the sponsors of these nine emerging artists.

KEN MATHESON PROGRAM

The Ken Matheson Program is dedicated to highlighting home-grown talent featuring rising stars of all ages from the local area and across Atlantic Canada. We are pleased to present these Songwriters' Camp musicians as this year's Ken Matheson Program. The Ken Matheson performers are presented in partnership with Lightship Brewery.

The program was created in 2005 and is named for **Ken Matheson**. Ken was Chair of the Festival for its first 10 years, and he was a beloved community member, teacher, musician, and great promoter of young area musicians. Ken passed away in 1999.

ABIGAIL JOAN



Abigail Joan is a NB musician whose music is steeped in memory, experience, and the people she holds close. Her storytelling blends nostalgic reflections with heartfelt honesty, creating songs that feel both intimate and timeless.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	5:00 pm	Lightship Stage
Saturday	2:30 pm	Wharf Stage
Sunday	2:30 pm	Park Stage

ALI ENRIQUEZ



Ali Enriquez is a Halifax based multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, and arranger from Havana, Cuba. Trained in classical and jazz traditions, she has performed internationally as a violinist, vocalist, and composer with orchestras

and ensembles. Her work has appeared at festivals including the Halifax Jazz Festival and Ravello Music Festival in Italy.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	3:30 pm	Wharf Stage
Saturday	3:30 pm	Park Stage
Sunday	5:45 pm	Lightship Stage

ELLA GUNNING PARKER



Ella Gunning Parker is a singer-songwriter from Halifax, NS. She was a semi-finalist in the teen category of the prestigious International Songwriting Competition in 2023, 2024, and 2025. The Youth Musician Commission of Massey Hall and Roy Thompson Hall recognized her single, "Look Alive," as

the first place winner in their 2025 Youth Composition Competition. She is planning to release a full-length album this year.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	3:00 pm	Park Stage
	6:30 pm	Lightship Stage
Saturday	1:30 pm	Wharf Stage

CONNOR FOX



Connor Fox is a rising force in roots and blues rock, blending soulful guitar mastery with dynamic live performances. After gaining acclaim with powerhouse NB band, The Hypochondriacs, he launched his debut solo album, *Music Room*, in 2023. His genre-spanning style

and incredible guitar playing marks him as a generational talent destined for a bright future in music.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	5:45 pm	Lightship Stage
Saturday	2:00 pm	Wharf Stage
Sunday	2:00 pm	Park Stage

HANNAH GREEN



Hannah Green is a singer-songwriter who blends folk, indie, and ambient elements to craft captivating, atmospheric sounds. Her debut full-length album, *Moving Fast In Slow Motion* (2024), earned her nominations for Music NL's Alternative Artist of the Year and Rising Star of the Year, as well as a 2025 nomination for Folk Artist of the Year.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	2:00 pm	Park Stage
Saturday	5:00 pm	Lightship Stage
Sunday	2:30 pm	Wharf Stage

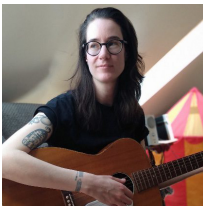
MICHELLE BOUEY



Hailing from Charlottetown, PEI, Michelle Bouey is a JUNO and Music PEI nominee who has captivated audiences across Canada in music, television, and major theatre productions. She is appearing in the new Tragically Hip musical, *It's a Good Life If You Don't Weaken*, with Theatre Aquarius in Hamilton, ON. Michelle's debut EP, *I'm fine!*, was released earlier this year.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	3:00 pm	Wharf Stage
Saturday	3:00 pm	Park Stage
Sunday	5:00 pm	Lightship Stage

REBECCA FAIRLESS



Rebecca Fairless is a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. She studied music therapy at Acadia University and has been a certified music therapist since 2018. She teaches private music lessons and leads after-school music groups for kids. Rebecca is also half of the Halifax-based group, **The Dusty Halos**, with Gabriella Ciurcovich. This duo combines the textures of old time acoustic music with original songwriting, delivered with warmly-sung harmonies, intricate fingerstyle guitar, sonorous upright bass, and raw emotion.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
Sunday	1:30 pm	Park Stage (The Dusty Halos)
	3:30 pm	Wharf Stage (The Dusty Halos)
	6:30 pm	Lightship Stage (The Dusty Halos)

RUTES



Rutes is a Halifax-based indie-folk artist whose music blends honest storytelling with soulful vocals to create a warm, stripped-back sound. Her songs feel deeply personal yet universally relatable, drawing listeners in with raw emotion, quiet strength, and a genuine connection to the stories she tells.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	2:30 pm	Wharf Stage
Saturday	2:30 pm	Park Stage
	6:30 pm	Lightship Stage

ZAY NOVA



Zay Nova is an Indonesian-born singer-songwriter and TV producer based in St. John's, NL. He released his debut album, *Head Above the Water*, in 2024. He received nominations from Music NL in the Country Artist of the Year and Global Artist of the Year categories, and from ECMAs in 2025 for Release of the Year for his anthem, "Keep your Head Above Water." Zay has four new singles that are available on his website, zaynovamusic.com.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	2:30 pm	Park Stage
Saturday	5:45 pm	Lightship Stage
Sunday	3:00 pm	Wharf Stage



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ANDREW SNEDDON



Andrew Sneddon is a multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, and songwriter. Primarily noted for his work on the resophonic guitar, Andrew has been a member of some of the best folk-rock-trad-bluegrass bands in the region, including The Moonshine Ramblers and the Music NS-nominated group, The Modern Grass.

Sponsored by Laughing Whale Coffee

Sunday **10:00 am** **Gospel Concert, Main Stage**
 3:30 pm **Central United Church**

BLESSING TANGBAN

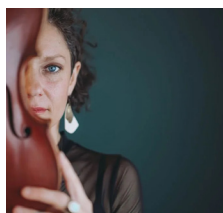


Blessing Tangban is a Nigerian singer-songwriter and guitarist, currently based in Halifax, NS. Her sound is a blend of raw and emotionally stirring Afro-folk melodies fused with lyrics that are introspective and vulnerable. Blessing previously brought her evocative storytelling and ethereal finger-picked acoustic guitar sounds to Folk Harbour's spring and summer concert series stages.

Sponsored by Frank's Corner Automotive

Sunday **10:00 am** **Gospel Concert, Main Stage**
 1:00 pm **Park Stage**

GINA BURGESS



Gina Burgess is a violinist, composer, and internationally recognized artist. She was a member of the Iqaluit-based rock band, The Jerry Cans, and has collaborated with numerous ensembles. Her latest album, *ISNOW*, won an ECMA for fusion recording of the year. *ISNOW* mixes classical, Celtic,

contemporary Inuit throat singing, and elements of jazz. Gina's original music has been described as ethereal and genre-bending.

Sponsored by Halifax Stanfield International Airport

Saturday **1:00 pm** **Park Stage**
 3:30 pm **Lunenburg Opera House**

JOCE REYOME



With a voice that radiates equal parts power and vulnerability, Joce Reyome has carved out a sound that blends classic blues grit, raw emotion, and the untamed spirit of early rock and roll. Originally from Massachusetts, Joce moved to PEI in 2016 and has since become

one of Atlantic Canada's most sought-after vocalists and session musicians. Joce brought their powerhouse vocals and incredible guitar playing to previous Folk Harbour Festivals, making it clear why they earned a first-place finish in the International Blues Challenge in Memphis last year.

Sponsored by The Knot Pub

Friday **1:00 pm** **Lunenburg Opera House**
 3:30 pm **Park Stage**

KIM DUNN



Producer, arranger, singer, and songwriter, Kim Dunn is a dynamic, engaging, and versatile performer. He offers a blend of well-crafted tunes, with elements of blues, folk, pop, country, and gospel, anchored by soulful vocals and incomparable musicianship. Kim has made frequent appearances on Folk Harbour stages over

the years, where his talent, collaborative nature, and sense of joy always shine.

Sponsored by Saunders Motor Company

Sunday **10:00 am** **Gospel Concert, Main Stage**
 3:30 pm **Lunenburg Opera House**

MOIRA & CLAIRE



The intricate harmonies of sisters Moira and Claire first rang out from the backseat of the family car on cross-country road trips when they were kids. They've come a long way since, but the strong sibling bond of their musical chemistry remains the same. Their songwriting is full of subtle sophistication, perfectly unexpected moments, and hard-won lyrical wisdom. Their sophomore album, *it's all a mess*, recently dropped.

Sponsored by The Water Market

Friday **1:00 pm** **Wharf Stage**
 3:30 pm **Park Stage**



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FOLK STEPS

CELEBRATING GREAT IDEAS!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

DOORS OPEN AT 12:30PM | EVENT 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Since 2010, the Festival weekend has started with Folk Steps, an event designed to foster and to stimulate interest in traditional folk music. The program includes expert presentations and opportunities for interaction — with plenty of music thrown in. The format is relaxed and audience participation is encouraged. This year, the Folk Steps theme is **"Celebrating Great IDEAS: Songs of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility"**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Cécile Doo-Kingué



Cécile Doo-Kingué is an electrifying guitarist and award-winning singer-songwriter. Born in New York City to Cameroonian parents and now based in Montréal, Cécile weaves bridges between continents, rhythms, languages, and emotions. Cécile has released four critically acclaimed albums and toured extensively across Canada and internationally. An engaged artist, in 2006 she co-founded Chick Pickin' Mondays, a weekly live performance space for women and genderqueer artists. Cécile is currently the President of the Board of Folk Canada.

See full biography on Page 10

Thursday



JOIN US ON AUGUST 6

TIME	ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH — FOLK STEPS
HOST	Patricia Watson
1:00 pm	Keynote - Cécile Doo-Kingué
1:45 pm	Panel 1: Telling our story in conversation and song moderated by Lisa MacIsaac with Kellie Loder , Pillow Fite , and Noah Malcolm
3:30 pm	Panel 2: Telling our story in conversation and song moderated by O'Sound with Nadine Altounji , Sechile Sedare , and Joe H Henry

Main Stage

JOIN US ON AUGUST 6 to 9

	THURSDAY, AUGUST 6
Emcee	Jonathan Crouse
7:00 pm to 11:00 pm	Pillow Fite, Joe H Henry, Youngtree & Carole Bee, Beòlach <i>Intermission</i> Kellie Loder, Sarah Harmer
	FRIDAY, AUGUST 7
Emcee	Darrin Harvey
7:00 pm to 11:00 pm	Jenny Whiteley, Steve Dawson, Ndidi O, Le Diable à Cinq, <i>Intermission</i> Sechile Sedare, MacDougall•MacIsaac•MacLellan
	SATURDAY, AUGUST 8
Emcee	Joella Foulds
7:00 pm to 11:00 pm	Grace Petrie, Danny Michel, Boreal, Gordie MacKeeman and His Rhythm Boys <i>Intermission</i> Suzie Vinnick, Lloyd Spiegel
	SUNDAY, AUGUST 9
Emcee	Lisa Gleave
7:00 pm to 11:00 pm	Noah Malcolm, O'Sound, Nadine Altounji, Morgan Toney <i>Intermission</i> Cécile Doo-Kingué, Colin Linden

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!
FOLK HARBOUR 2027: AUGUST 5 TO 8

Friday

JOIN US ON AUGUST 7

TIME	ST. JOHN'S PARISH HALL DANCE WORKSHOP	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH VOCAL WORKSHOP	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH ALMA HOUSTON TALKS
Host	Christina Palao	Louis Robitaille	Shelah Allen
10:00 am to 11:30 am	QUÉBÉCOIS Le Diable à Cinq	HARMONY Boreal	THE CRAFT OF THE SONG Kellie Loder O'Sound Songwriters' Camp musicians



RAIN VENUES: Park Stage moves to St. John's Parish Hall | Wharf Stage moves to Zion Lutheran Church

TIME	PARK STAGE CONCERTS	WHARF STAGE CONCERTS	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CONCERTS	LUNENBURG OPERA HOUSE CIRCLES	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH CIRCLES			
Emcee	Alex Grabowski	Amy Russell	Roxanna John	Darrin Harvey	Stephanie Beaumont			
1:00 pm	Jenny Whiteley	Moira & Claire	Sarah Harmer	EASING INTO THE BLUES Suzie Vinnick O'Sound Ndidi O Joce Reyome	FIDDLING AROUND Beòlach Gordie MacKeeman and His Rhythm Boys Le Diable à Cinq			
1:30 pm		Pillow Fite						
2:00 pm	Hannah Green	Youngtree & Carolee Bee	MacDougall•MacIsaac• MacLellan					
2:30 pm	Zay Nova	Rutes						
3:00 pm	Ella Gunning Parker	Michelle Bouey	Kellie Loder	STAGE CHANGEOVER				
3:30 pm	SONGWRITERS' CAMP ALUMNI Noah Malcolm Pillow Fite Joce Reyome Moira & Claire	Ali Enriquez						
4:00 pm		Sechile Sedare	Beòlach	THE STORY IN THE SONG Danny Michel Joe H Henry Boreal	A GLOBAL VIEW Cécile Doo-Kingué Nadine Altounji Lloyd Spiegel Grace Petrie			
4:30 pm								
LIGHTSHIP STAGE - CONCERTS		Emcee: Shelah Allen	5:00 pm	Abigail Joan	5:45 pm	Connor Fox	6:30 pm	Ella Gunning Parker

TIME	ST. JOHN'S PARISH HALL DANCE WORKSHOP	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH VOCAL WORKSHOP	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH ALMA HOUSTON TALKS
Host	Christina Palao	Louis Robitaille	Shelah Allen
10:00 am to 11:30 am	DANCING WITH CRAZY LEGS Gordie MacKeeman and His Rhythm Boys	GOSPEL O'Sound Jenny Whiteley	WOMEN IN SONG MacDougall•MacIsaac•MacLellan Boreal



RAIN VENUES: Park Stage moves to St. John's Parish Hall | Wharf Stage moves to Zion Lutheran Church

TIME	PARK STAGE CONCERTS	WHARF STAGE CONCERTS	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CONCERTS	LUNenburg OPERA HOUSE CIRCLES	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH CIRCLES
Emcee	Alex Grabowski	Amy Russell	Roxanna John	Darrin Harvey	Stephanie Beaumont
1:00 pm	Gina Burgess	Joe H Henry	Cécile Doo-Kingué	SONGS FROM THE RED CLAY ISLE Catherine MacLellan Gordie MacKeeman and His Rhythm Boys Noah Malcolm	BLACK HEN MUSIC Steve Dawson Jenny Whiteley Ndidi O
1:30 pm	Morgan Toney with Val Meister Young Fiddlers	Ella Gunning Parker			
2:00 pm	Thea Cavicchi Saryn Bezeau	Connor Fox	Lloyd Spiegel		
2:30 pm	Rutes	Abigail Joan			
3:00 pm	Michelle Bouey	Grace Petrie	Colin Linden		
3:30 pm	Ali Enriquez				
4:00 pm	Nadine Altounij	Le Diable à Cinq	Suzie Vinnick		
4:30 pm					
LIGHTSHIP STAGE - CONCERTS		Emcee: Shelah Allen	5:00 Hannah Green	5:45 Zay Nova	6:30 Rutes

Sunday

JOIN US ON AUGUST 9

TIME	MAIN STAGE GOSPEL CONCERT
Hosts	O'Sound & Jenny Whiteley
10:00 am to 12:00 pm	Andrew Sneddon, Blessing Tangban, Boreal, Cécile Doo-Kingué and Nadine Altounji, Danny Michel, Le Diable à Cinq, Joe H Henry, Gordie MacKeeman, Grace Petrie, Kellie Loder, Kim Dunn, Morgan Toney, Ndidi O, Noah Malcolin, Sechile Sedare, Steve Dawson, Suzie Vinnick, MacDougall-MacIsaac-MacLellan, and Youngtree & Carole Bee



RAIN VENUES: Park Stage moves to St. John's Parish Hall | Wharf Stage moves to Zion Lutheran Church

TIME	PARK STAGE CONCERTS	WHARF STAGE CONCERTS	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CONCERTS	LUNENBURG OPERA HOUSE CIRCLES	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH CIRCLES
Emcee	Alex Grabowski	Amy Russell	Roxanna John	Darrin Harvey	Stephanie Beaumont
1:00 pm	Blessing Tangban	Ndidi O	Sechile Sedare	CHANGING THE WORLD ONE SONG AT A TIME Grace Petrie Kellie Loder Danny Michel Nadine Altounji	SUNDAY AFTERNOON BLUES Colin Linden Suzie Vinnick Lloyd Spiegel Cécile Doo-Kingué
1:30 pm	The Dusty Halos				
2:00 pm	Connor Fox	Noah Malcolm	Boreal	STAGE CHANGEOVER	
2:30 pm	Abigail Joan	Hannah Green			
3:00 pm	Le Diable à Cinq	Zay Nova	Morgan Toney		
3:30 pm		The Dusty Halos			
4:00 pm	Gordie MacKeeman and His Rhythm Boys	Steve Dawson	Danny Michel	AT HOME IN THE MARITIMES MacDougall•MacIsaac• MacLellan O'Sound Kim Dunn	GRAVEL ROADS AND DUSTY OLD BOOTS Jenny Whiteley Joe H Henry Youngtree & Carole Bee Andrew Sneddon
4:30 pm					
LIGHTSHIP STAGE - CONCERTS		Emcee: Shelah Allen	5:00 Michelle Bouey	5:45 Ali Enriquez	6:30 The Dusty Halos

ALEX GRABOWSKI



To relax from his busy life of working internationally, German-born chemist Alexander Grabowski has been coming to the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival for more than a decade. Since moving here after retirement, he has become a perennial volunteer for the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society. Alex will be the emcee at the Park Stage each afternoon.

AMY RUSSELL



Amy Russell is a species at risk and biodiversity project coordinator at Coastal Action. Despite often being in the field for her job, Amy is an active volunteer with the Folk Harbour Society. She is a member of the Program Committee and frequently emcees our concert series and Festival stages. Amy will be the emcee at the Wharf Stage each afternoon.

DARRIN HARVEY



Darrin Harvey is a veteran broadcaster who has worked for over 30 years in radio and television. His radio career takes place in the Annapolis Valley, where he is the morning show host at Rewind 89.3. He is also the host and co-producer of *East Coast Music Unplugged* on Eastlink community TV. Darrin sings and plays guitar and is a singer/harmonica player in the 15-piece dance band, Bluesmobile. Darrin will be the emcee at the Opera House each afternoon and will host the Main Stage on Friday.

JOELLA FOULDS



Joella Foulds is an active community volunteer and tireless supporter of the arts. After working as a journalist, radio host, and documentary producer for the CBC, Joella's passion for the arts led her to becoming a co-founder and Artistic Director of the Celtic Colours International Festival. In 2011, she was named a Member of the Order of Canada. Joella will be the emcee on the Main Stage on Saturday.



JONATHAN CROUSE



Jonathan Crouse was born and raised on Nova Scotia's South Shore. He grew up just outside Bridgewater on the family farm, which he still operates, making him a radio announcer by day and a beef farmer by night. The morning man for Country 100.7 FM, he is an avid promoter of local talent. Jonathan returns to Folk Harbour again this year to be the Main Stage emcee on Thursday.

LISA GLEAVE



Lisa Gleave (she/her) lives in Rose Bay with her partner and son, two dogs, two cats, and an array of feathered friends. She is the Director of Operations and Programs for the Atlantic Presenters Association, a non-profit arts service organization for performing arts presenters in the four Atlantic Provinces. Lisa has also just about completed her master's degree in counselling psychology and is currently completing her practicum as a support counsellor with Second Story Women's Centre in Lunenburg. Lisa is grateful to live and work in Mi'kma'ki, the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. Lisa will be the Main Stage emcee on Sunday.

LOUIS ROBITAILLE



Louis Robitaille is the President of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society and a Lifetime Friend of the Festival; he is also the Society's longest-serving Program Committee member, having been involved in over half of the Festivals in Folk Harbour's history. He is passionate about bringing a wide and gender-balanced offering of music to Folk Harbour stages. Professionally, he is an educator who works with the Nova Scotia Teachers Union. Louis will host the vocal workshops on Friday and Saturday mornings.

PATRICIA WATSON



Winner of the African Nova Scotian Music Association's 2009 Rising Star award, Patricia Watson has been singing gospel music and jazz most of her life. She has performed at the Halifax Jazz Festival, Tucson Jazz Festival, Harmony Bazaar Women's Festival, Lunenburg Folk

Harbour Festival, and various churches. Patricia was honoured to receive the 2021 Volunteer of the Year Award from the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg. She released a music video titled, "You Got the Power," which inspires people to go beyond circumstances and obstacles in their lives. Patricia will host Folk Steps on Thursday afternoon.

ROXANNA JOHN



Roxanna John is an elementary school teacher who enjoys incorporating music and dancing into her lessons. She was born and raised on the island of Grenada in the Caribbean where she was exposed to various genres of music such as Soca, Calypso, Country, Reggae, and Steel Pan. Living in Nova Scotia has allowed Roxanna to expand her musical tastes into

Indie, Classical and of course, Folk music. Roxanna will be emceeing at the St. John's Anglican Church Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons.

SHELAH ALLEN



Shelah is thrilled to be hosting both the Lightship and Alma Houston Talks stages as well as greeting old friends and new at the Main Stage box office. Her experience and knowledge both as a long-time volunteer (she's been kicking around Folk Harbour since the very beginning

and was named a Lifetime Friend in 2012) and the now-retired former operator of Lunenburg Walking Tours, plus her genuine love of a good story and a good conversation, make Shelah the perfect person to intercept if you have questions about... well, almost anything!

STEPHANIE BEAUMONT



From her days as a world-touring artist to her broadcast career in TV and Radio across the country to her online, on-camera, and on-air celebration of Canada's East Coast with SEA AND BE SCENE, Stephanie Beaumont has always enjoyed entertaining and engaging an audience. This affinity translates ever so nicely

into the many marketing projects she manages through her Nova Scotia-based communications company, Rae of Hope Productions. And while that might seem like a lot of hats, at the heart of it all, she's a storyteller who thrives on meeting great people and shining a spotlight on all that they do. For more information visit stephaniebeaumont.com and follow her on Insta @therealstephaniebeaumont

Stephanie will be handling hosting duties at the Central United Church on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons.

Beach Pea Kitchen & Bar
128 Montague St, Lunenburg

Reserve your table online at beachpeakitchen.com

ALMA HOUSTON TALKS

These talks are named in honour of one of our founding members, **Alma Houston**. Alma's passion for music and other artistic endeavours led her to work tirelessly to provide opportunities for Indigenous artists to celebrate their talents. We remember her each year by gathering Festival performers together to talk about different aspects of their art. These interesting and informative discussions are a tribute to Alma's vision.

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH

10:00 am - 11:30 am | GOODWILL DONATION

THE CRAFT OF THE SONG

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

Artists: Kellie Loder, O'Sound, Songwriters' Camp musicians

WOMEN IN SONG

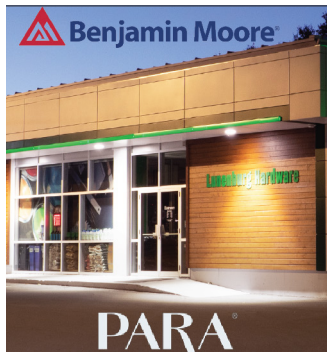
SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

Artists: MacDougall•MacIsaac•MacLellan and Boreal



2025 Alma Houston Talk, "The Craft of the Song" with Dave Gunning (L), Terra Spencer (R), and Songwriters' Camp participant, Christian Kirby, centre

Kerry Jarvis photo



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WORKSHOPS FOR ALL AGES

VOCAL WORKSHOPS

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

10:00 am - 11:30 am | GOODWILL DONATION

No experience necessary for these singing workshops, just a desire to be part of the choir.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7 - HARMONY

Artists: Boreal

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8 - GOSPEL

Artists: O'Sound and Jenny Whiteley

DANCE WORKSHOPS

ST. JOHN'S PARISH HALL

10:00 am - 11:30 am | GOODWILL DONATION

Comfortable loose clothing and shoes that slide on a wooden floor are recommended. No experience necessary

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7 - QUÉBÉCOIS

Artists: Le Diable à Cinq

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8 - DANCING WITH CRAZYLEGS

Artists: Gordie MacKeeman and His Rhythm Boys

CHRISTINA PALAO: DANCE WORKSHOPS FACILITATOR



With a lifelong love of dance and music, Christina brings enthusiasm, energy, and a passion for movement to every workshop. Her dance background includes formal ballroom dance training and 15 years as a Zumba instructor, where she explores rhythms and styles from around the world. Christina enjoys helping others connect with music, build confidence, and experience the joy of movement. She will facilitate dance

workshops on Friday and Saturday mornings.

Sponsored by Kinley Drug Co.

VAL MEISTER YOUNG FIDDLERS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH HALL

10:00 am - 12:00 pm | GOODWILL DONATION

Artists: Morgan Toney with facilitators Bev Shaw, Eilidh Campbell, Liam Britten

The Val Meister Young Fiddlers workshop is a long-standing tradition of the Festival. Each year, local music teachers are joined by guest artists to provide instruction for young musicians at all skill levels. Even those who don't play the fiddle can receive instruction on techniques for accompanists. Participants are invited to perform with their instructors at the Park Stage on Saturday at 1:30 pm.

Val Meister was a founder of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society, a Lifetime Friend of the Festival, a former member of the executive of the Society, and a fervent supporter of Folk Harbour. We are grateful to Val for her years of commitment to Folk Harbour and happy in the knowledge that her contributions will be remembered. Val Meister passed away on September 9, 2020, at age 91 years.

FACILITATORS: BEV SHAW, EILIDH CAMPBELL, LIAM BRITTEN



Bev Shaw has been a Suzuki violin, fiddle, and classroom music teacher on the South Shore for over 15 years. She performs locally in the trio, Trillium. Eilidh Campbell began playing fiddle at the age of eight years in her hometown of Aberfoyle, Scotland. She has a music degree from the University of Strathclyde and has performed worldwide. Eilidh has joined the faculty at Acadia University and will begin teaching in the Applied Fiddle course in September. Liam Britten is a multi-instrumentalist, performer, and composer. Liam graduated with a diploma in Music Arts from the Nova Scotia Community College in 2016 and has been teaching privately ever since.

We gratefully acknowledge The Leanne Children's Foundation for providing funding for the Val Meister Young Fiddlers Workshop.

Leanne's family created the **Leanne Children's Foundation** to honour the memory of a cherished daughter and sister, dear friend, and creative fun-loving child. The goal of the foundation is to assist children to reach their full potential, to encourage them to reach for their dreams, and in striving to achieve these goals, to take nothing for granted.

JIM PITTMAN SCHOLARSHIPS



Jim Pittman was a poet and songwriter and called himself the "Singing Cook." The son of a sea captain, Jim loved to sing folk songs and sea shanties. In 1983, Jim and Bill Plaskett became friends and began writing songs together and ultimately started the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival in 1986. Jim died in 1996, at the age of 59. The Jim Pittman Music Scholarships are named in his honour and support young musicians and music teachers in Lunenburg County. This year's recipients are **Adriana Palao, Audrey Quill, Emery Pickens, Evelyn Long, and Maya Lojek-Graves.**

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the Pittman family, in memory of Jim and his wife, Audrey, for funding these awards.

LUNENBURG & DISTRICT MUSIC FESTIVAL AWARD WINNERS

We are pleased to present these award winners from the **Lunenburg and District Music Festival.**

Junior Winner: THEA CAVICCHI



Thea Cavicchi has always been a music enthusiast who loves singing folk songs. She has been a part of the Lunenburg County Music Festival for four years, in classes such as folk, classical, and musical theatre.

Saturday: 2:00 pm Park Stage

Senior Winner: Saryn Bezeau



Hailing from Chester Basin, NS, Saryn Bezeau began her musical journey at the age of six. She has continued to develop her talents in voice and piano under the guidance of Leslee Barry and performs annually at the Lunenburg County Music Festival.

Saturday: 2:15 pm Park Stage



**Leanne
Children's
Foundation**

helping children to
achieve their dreams

leannechildrensfoundation.ca

TICKET PRICING INFORMATION

FESTIVAL PASS | AUG 6 - 9

Admission to the entire weekend including all paid venues.

\$190 - 26 and Over | \$95.00 - 25 and Under

FOLK STEPS | AUG 6

One admission to the event, *Celebrating Great IDEAs*, featuring speakers, stories, and songs.

\$45 - 26 and Over | \$22.50 - 25 and Under

DAY PASS | AUG 6, 7, 8, or 9

Admission to all afternoon venues and the evening Main Stage for one day.

\$90 - 26 and Over | \$45.00 - 25 and Under

MORNING WORKSHOP | AUG 7 or 8

Dance, vocal, and youth workshop or Alma Houston Talks on Friday and Saturday.

GOODWILL DONATION

AFTERNOON TICKET | AUG 7, 8, or 9

Admission to all afternoon venues for one day.

\$55 - 26 and Over | \$27.50 - 25 and Under

EVENING MAIN STAGE | AUG 6, 7, 8, or 9

Admission to one evening Main Stage.

\$55 - 26 and Over | \$27.50 - 25 and Under

SUNDAY MORNING GOSPEL CONCERT | AUG 9

Admission to the Sunday morning gospel concert at the Main Stage. Food Bank donations are encouraged.

\$35 - 26 and Over | \$17.50 - 25 and Under

PARK, WHARF & LIGHTSHIP STAGE CONCERTS | AUG 7, 8, or 9

The Park Stage is an outdoor venue at the Heritage Bandstand in the heart of Old Town. The Wharf stage is on the Adams & Knickle Wharf on the Lunenburg Waterfront. The Lightship Stage is at Lightship Brewery, 93 Tannery Road, Lunenburg.

GOODWILL DONATION

CHILDREN 12 YEARS AND UNDER

Children 12 and under are admitted to all performances free of charge with an adult who holds a ticket to that event. If an event is sold out, we cannot guarantee seating inside the venue.

BOX OFFICE

WHERE AND HOW TO GET TICKETS

Online: ticketpro.ca (\$1 surcharge)

Phone: TicketPro | 1-888-311-9090
Folk Harbour | (902) 634-3180

In Person: Any Ticketpro location
Daytime Box Office | 6 King St., Lunenburg
Main Stage Box Office | Blockhouse Hill

ACCEPTED METHODS OF PAYMENT

Online: Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Interac Online

Phone: Visa, MasterCard

In Person: Cash, Visa, MasterCard, and Debit

BOX OFFICE HOURS: DAYTIME AND MAIN STAGE

The Daytime Box Office at 6 King Street is open 9:00 am until 5:00 pm daily, from Tuesday, August 4 to Saturday, August 8. On Sunday, August 9, the Box Office at the Main Stage is open from 9 am to noon for the gospel concert, with the Box office at 6 King St. opening at noon on Sunday.

The Main Stage Box Office on Blockhouse Hill opens at 5:30 pm each evening. Online and telephone sales are cut off each day at 7:00 am for Full Day Passes and 1:00 pm for evening tickets. After these times, if seating is available, tickets can be purchased at the Daytime Box Office or the Main Stage Box Office.

REMINDER: The Folk Harbour office is NOT a Box Office location as of August 4.

THE FINE PRINT

All ticket sales are final and non-refundable, unless the event is cancelled by the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society. Partial refunds for a Day Pass or a Festival Pass are not permitted. The Sunday Day Pass does not include the Sunday morning gospel concert.

SEATING

Seating is general admission at all our venues. Please do not save seats after the first act. Due to Fire Marshal capacity limits, ticket holders may not be admitted to venues that are full. Arrive early to secure your seats!



VENDORS

Our Festival offers food vendors inside the grounds of our Main Stage site each evening, beginning at 5:30 pm until the end of the night and Sunday morning from 8:30 am until noon.

FLIPPIN' MIKE'S - offering gourmet burgers and fries made with fresh, locally sourced ingredients

LOCO LEMONADE - refreshing, fresh-pressed lemonade, naturally sweetened with their very own sugar cane

MAMA PITA - fast healthy food made your way, Mama Pita specializes in pitas, salads, samosas, sweet potato fries and more!

ROLL ON TWO CHIMNEY CAKES - since 2019, this food truck has specialized in making traditional Chimney Cakes (Hungarian Kürtöskalács)

SHORE LUNCH - diverse and healthy sushi bowls filled with fresh, local ingredients and creative flavors, their offerings are always fresh, delicious, and gluten- and dairy-free

TASTYLICIOUS TREATS - offering poutine, Masala fries, fish & chips, plus sweets such as ice cream and signature fusion sundaes



Food vendors at the 2025 Folk Harbour Festival.

Dream Imagine Believe photography



Hon. Susan Corkum-Greek
MLA for Lunenburg

97 Kaulbach St, Lunenburg
902-634-8708
suscorkumgreekmla@gmail.com



CONCESSIONS

You can purchase merchandise at the Wharf Stage Concessions tent on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons, and at the Blockhouse Hill Concessions tent during the evening concerts and the Sunday morning gospel concert. This is where you'll find performer merchandise as well as a large selection of Lunenburg Folk Harbour merchandise designed by Jay Hiltz of Nor'easter Apparel: fleece hoodies, sweatshirts, short- and long-sleeved shirts, ball caps, toques, and tote bags.



Support Folk Harbour by purchasing some of our high-quality items!

David Baillieul photo

NOR[°]EASTER

APPAREL



Proud supporters of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

VENUES

Seats are provided at all of our ticketed venues.

Church pews can be hard on the backside; bring a cushion if you plan to stay the whole afternoon.

Bleachers are provided at our outdoor Wharf Stage; because these seats can fill up quickly, many people bring their own lawn chairs to this venue. The Wharf stage is in full sun – a wide brimmed hat, sunscreen, and water bottles are recommended.

The Park Stage is located in a municipal park with only a few benches. Most people bring their own lawn chairs or a blanket to enjoy the music at this location. Sunscreen and a water bottle are also good ideas.

As much as possible, the Folk Harbour Society plans to have the tent flaps open at the Main Stage. This is to allow for plenty of air flow and to allow more spacing of our audience members (for those who want to watch the shows from outside the tent). If you sit near the open edge of the tent, you should be prepared for this, as we will not be closing the flaps because of cool evening temperatures – bring a blanket or plan to buy a toque or a sweatshirt!

WEATHER PREPARATION

Normally, Folk Harbour is blessed with fine weather, but it is always wise to be prepared.

In case of stormy weather, rain venues are provided for our outdoor venues. **The Wharf Stage moves to the Zion Lutheran Church and the Park Stage moves to St. John's Parish Hall.** We've literally got you covered!

Lunenburg is a place where weather conditions can change dramatically during the day. Afternoons can be blisteringly hot, while evenings can be chilly. Sunscreen, water bottles, travel mugs, sweaters, umbrellas, and raincoats are all useful to have on hand during the weekend.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found items will be kept at the venues' Box Office during any given day and will be collected at the Lunenburg Folk Harbour office at the end of each day.

If you misplace something please check with the volunteers at the Box Office where you think you last had the item.

COURTESY PLEASE!

The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival has a reputation among musicians as having just about the best listening audience anywhere! We are proud that people listen attentively; please help us continue this reputation by turning off cell phones and by speaking softly if necessary while inside venues.

Please remember that the Folk Harbour Festival is powered by volunteer efforts. Volunteers contribute their time for the love of music. We ask everyone to be kind to volunteers and to fellow audience members.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society has official photographers assigned to cover the Festival. They will need to move throughout venues to capture the necessary shots, but will be as unobtrusive as possible.

Please be advised that still and video photography will be going on at all venues during the Festival weekend and images of audience members may be visible in some still and video recordings.

We ask that audience members avoid all flash photography and to remember that musicians are under contracts and that recording and broadcasting their performances may violate their rights. Please turn off all mobile devices during the show.

FIRST AID

For basic first aid please visit the Folk Harbour office. Volunteers from St. John's Ambulance will be on site each evening at the Main Stage.

FOLK HARBOUR OFFICE HOURS

The Folk Harbour Office (125 Montague St.) will be open from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm each day. Once the office closes, please see volunteers at the Box Office at the Main Stage tent.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Please help us limit the amount of waste produced during the Festival. Bring your own coffee mug and refillable water bottle. Sort waste into three collection streams: **compost, recycling, and garbage.** Bins are clearly marked. Remember to take waste with you when you leave a venue. A hard-working volunteer will thank you for that!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Most of our volunteers will be prepared to answer basic questions. For detailed responses please visit the **Folk Harbour office** or the **Festival Box Offices** at 6 King St. and the front of the Main Stage tent.



Folk Harbour Board member, Publicity and Marketing Chair, and Wharf Stage site manager, Dana Allen, at the 2025 Festival.

Dream Imagine Believe photography

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AUDIENCE SURVEY

AUDIENCE MEMBERS! We need your help.

As funding gets increasingly difficult to secure, the more we can tell potential funders about Folk Harbour's amazing, loyal attendees, the better.



We are asking you to help us with an audience survey. It would be very helpful to us to know our current audience demographics and the economic impact our event has on businesses in and around Lunenburg; it's also a chance to let us know what you value about Folk Harbour and what changes you might like to see. We read and consider suggestions but cannot guarantee their implementation.

This survey should only take about 10 minutes to complete.

You can access the survey by scanning the QR code here.



Wharf Stage, 2025 Festival.

Dream Imagine Believe photography



LUNENBURG FOLK HARBOUR SOCIETY 2026

THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN

The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society is a not-for-profit, volunteer-run, charitable organization with the sole purpose of promoting, preserving, and celebrating folk music and traditions. Every dollar earned is re-invested in this goal. The main operations are conducted through a volunteer Board of Directors. A small staff is engaged to support financial, administrative, and compliance activities.



Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society Board, Committee Chairs, and Staff

L-R: Johanna Patrick, Mary Dillon, Louis Robitaille, Marilyn Zinowki, Eilidh Campbell, Samuel Bonney, James Hirtle

Garry Woodcock photo

Several Board members, Committee Chairs, and staff members are not in this photo. See below for a list of Board Directors and staff, and page 65 for a list of Committee Chairs.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

President: Louis Robitaille
Vice-President: Tom McFall
Treasurer: Michael Pittman
Secretary: Heather Joudrey



Executive Directors

DIRECTORS

Dana Allen, Mary Dillon, Mary Gilson, Johanna Patrick, and Kandace Clark Westin
 Director Emeritus: Chris Anderson

OFFICE STAFF

Administrative Services Coordinator: Nancy French
Financial Services Coordinator: Eilidh Campbell
Contract Accounting: Marilyn Zinowki
Festival Support Staff: Samuel Bonney, Molly MacDonald, and Harrison Olivella

HISTORY OF FOLK HARBOUR

Jim Pittman's vision, according to Bill Plaskett, was that "there would be a festival where fishing boats from all across the Atlantic would fill the harbour. Lunenburg would be at the centre of this new geographical area, not restricted by political boundaries." John Houston pictured this on a map that he doodled one day, showing "more courses across the oceans than pathways over the land. Folk Harbour can only be found on such a map. It is situated at the head of the bay that is the Great North Atlantic Ocean... People would come to the head of the bay, this little place called Lunenburg, and it would be Folk Harbour. Everybody would be at home there."

OUR MISSION

The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society is a non-profit, volunteer-based, family-focused community organization that strives to celebrate the joy of traditional and contemporary folk music, dance, and oral history through an annual festival and other events during the year.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Our committee chairs are the volunteers who take on larger workloads to make the Festival and our year-round activities happen.

Billeting:	Kandace Clark Westin
Box Office:	Maggie Ostler
Concessions:	Heather Joudrey
Festival Guide & Newsletter:	Mary Dillon
Finance:	Michael Pittman
Grant writing:	Mary Dillon
Hospitality:	Heather Joudrey
Opera House:	Tom McFall
Personnel:	Tom McFall
Program:	Louis Robitaille
Publicity and Marketing:	Dana Allen
50/50 Draw:	Tom McFall
Site:	Louis Robitaille
Transportation:	James Hirtle and Mary Gilson
Youth and Education:	Mary Dillon

The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society acknowledges that we live, work, and play on unceded Mi'kmaw territory, that we are privileged to be gathered here in Mi'kma'ki, that we are all treaty people, and we endeavour to walk in peace and friendship.

BILLETING

One thing that makes the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival unique is the fact that performers stay in homes in the community. The hosts provide accommodation, food, and often transportation. This is a huge commitment and a big part of making our Festival a special experience for all of us. Thank you to the following generous volunteers for opening their homes to host our performers this year.

Bob Ardern
Honas & Maer Brinkman
Steve & Nicky Burke
George & Rosalie Case
Teri-Lynn Dempsey
Rosemary Fleming-Featherstone
Ariane & Dimitri Gleize
Kelly & Patricia Jamieson
Annette Jones-Diller & Chris Diller
Barb & Andy Kehoe
Sonya Kobes
Helen & Keith Lathier
Michael & Carol Lord
Kate Lum-Potvin & Brian Potvin
Anne Macleod-Weeks
& James Weeks
Ryan McCarthy

Sarah & Jonathan Miesner
Maureen Moffat & David Friendly
Graham & Lynn Mowbray
Susan Otto-Bain & Rick Bain
George & Janet Palmer
Mark Powell
Liz Powers
Lisa Bozek & Elvis Pye
Trish & Chris Pye
Peggy Richardson
Paula & Matt Schwindt
Theresa Seguin & Robert Keene
Karen Simpson
Joel & Kandace Westin
Ruth Anne Whicher
Lynn Yoshikawa & Ali Riazzi

VOLUNTEERS

The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society is a volunteer-driven organization, and our Festival would not happen without dedicated workers. Dozens of volunteers give their time year-round to help entertain, educate, and enrich our community, and the team swells to hundreds leading up to and during the Festival. This is the list of volunteers that was available at the time of printing, and we apologize to those whose names were left out. To all of our volunteers, we thank you most sincerely. We simply could not do this without you!!

Lisa Aiken
Dana Allen
Shelah Allen
Kathy Armstrong
Darlene Awalt
Trevor Awalt
David Baillieul
Freda Baillieul
Cheryl Barr
Karen Bates
Sarah Beveridge
Doug Campbell

George Case
Doug Cashin
Cynthia Clark
Kandace Clark Westin
Eva Comstock
Derek Couch
Mark Currie
Shelley Currie
Dawn Curry
Sharon de Souza
Hillary Dexter

Mary Dillon
Stephen Drahos
Bob Durovich
Keegan Durovich
Graeme Durovich
Barry Fader
Karen Ferguson
Barbara Flowers
Mary Anne Fox
David Friendly
Dave Gass

Peter Glenister
Mary Gilson
Lisa Golden
Peggie Graham
Cindy Hammon-Hill
Deborah Hawkes
Chris Heide
James Hirtle
Anke Holm
Kerry Jarvis
Cecil Joudrey
Jutta Juraschek
Robert Keene
Barb Kehoe
Georgia Kelley
Deborah Kiceniuk
Diana Komejan
Duncan Kroll
Liz Lane
Ambuj Laroia
Terry Lavender
Jamie Lippay
Linda Lippay
Susan Little
Kevin Lohnes
Carmen Lohnes
Jen Lohnes
Julie Lohnes-Cashin
Mikayla Lojek-Graves
Heather Joudrey
John MacCormack
Patsy MacDonald
Ewan MacDougall
Anne Macleod-Weeks
Hannah Main
Janet Mason
Les Mason

Ryan McCarthy
Letty McFall
Tom McFall
Sheri McGill Kathryn McNally
Shelagh Meagher
Sarah Miesner
Marion Moore
Drew Moores
Graham Mowbray
Lynn Myra
Danielle Noble
Paul Nodwell
Cullen Olivella
Eilish Olivella
Barry Olivella
Joanie Olivella
Mark Olivella
Mary Olivella
Scherri Olivella
Maggie Ostler
Robert Parkinson
Cindy Parons
Renee Patrick
Johanna Patrick
David Patrick
Rhonda Penney
John Penney
Dick Pentz
Linda Pentz
Ian Pineau
Shannon Pittman
Natalie Pittman
Mary Jane Pittman
Michael Pittman
Gerry Porrier
Danica Porrier

Judith Purcell
Carrie Read
Donelda Richard
Susan Robertson
Sue Robinsons
Louis Robitaille
Nancy Rogers
Kelly Schnare
Jim Shatford
Elaine Shaw
Dave Shaw
Silas Sheppard
Heather Sinclair
Darryl Sloght
Melitta Smole
Jon Soehi
Daphne Strowbridge
Barbara Sturrock
Emma Swinimer
Abbie Swinimer
Meridyth Tayor
Ali Thompson
Renee Tougas
Rebecca Verduzco
Avery Verduzco
Daniel Vokey
Ron Wall
Jeffrey Wayne
Erin Wells
Nancy Wilson
Sherry Wilson
Barry Wootten
Jamie Young
Scott Young
Marilyn Zinowki



Some of the volunteers who make Folk Harbour happen!
Kerry Jarvis photo

FRIENDS OF THE FOLK HARBOUR SOCIETY

Approximately 10% of our funding comes from our Members and Friends. As arts and culture organizations in Nova Scotia are under pressure due to cuts in provincial funding, these donations are increasingly important. Every dollar helps and we are so grateful to all who donated. At the time of printing, our list of Friends included the following:

\$20,000+

Anonymous *in honour of*
Val and Earl Meister
Kerry Jarvis and Melitta Smole

\$5,000+

Ruth Anne Whicher *in memory of her*
loving husband, John Whicher

\$1,000+

George and Rosalie Case
Mary Dillon
Elaine Finlay *in loving memory*
of Colin Finlay
Michael Pittman
Louis Robitaille
Deborah Trask

\$500+

Robert Durovich
Jeremy Witikko
Garry and Sheila Woodcock

\$100+

Dana Allen
Jim and Debbie Breeze
Deborah Glassman
Peter Glenister
Fern Jordan
Philip Kolvin
Ed Macosky *in honour of Pat Gladman*
Kathy Mutch
Maggie Ostler
Anita Peng
Christina Peppiat
Garth Vickers
Martha Vowles and William Toner
Mary Anne White



John and Ruth Anne Whicher receiving their Lifetime Friends of the Festival awards from Folk Harbour president, Louis Robitaille, in 2024

LIFETIME FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL

Over the years, the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society has named key founding and contributing volunteers "Lifetime Friends of the Festival," who have our deep appreciation for contributing to our long-term success. This year we are happy to add the **Lohnes Family (Carmen, Kevin, Julie Lohnes-Cashin, Jen, and Jeff)** and **Janet and Les Mason** to the list. We thank these long-time volunteers for their work over the years that has helped us get to our 41st Folk Harbour Festival!

2001:	Clary Croft Jeff Davis Bill Plaskett	2017:	Garry Woodcock
2002:	Gordon Stobbe	2022:	Deborah Trask
2003:	Val ^D & Earl ^D Meister Don & Anna Osburn	2023:	Barbara ^D & Barry Olivella
2005:	Chris Anderson	2024:	Ruth Anne & John ^D Whicher
2008:	Bev Lamb	2025:	Karen Bates Durovich Family (Bob, Colyer, Graeme, and Keegan)
2009:	Stephen Pedersen ^D		David Friendly
2010:	John Houston		Barry Gradwohl ^D
2012:	Shelah Allen		James Hirtle
2015:	Greg Simm Mary ^D & Roy ^D Landis		Marilyn Keddy
2016:	Ron Word		Barb Kehoe
2017:	Dillon/Robitaille Family (Mary, Louis, Marcel and Madeleine)		Barry Wotten
		2026:	Lohnes Family (Carmen, Kevin, Julie Lohnes- Cashin, Jen, and Jeff) Janet and Les Mason

D = deceased



Three of the Lifetime Friends of the Festival named in 2025: L to R – James Hirtle, Marilyn Keddy, and David Friendly

Kerry Jarvis photo

FUNDERS

Every year Folk Harbour is fortunate to receive funding from various levels of government and local businesses, both large and small. Without each of these funders, the work of the Society would not be possible. These generous funders allow us to offer both free and affordable ticket options to our audiences. The funders who supported Folk Harbour this year are:

GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND FOUNDATIONS



Canadian Heritage - The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival is funded in part by the Government of Canada.



The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society recognizes the support of the **Province of Nova Scotia**. We are pleased to work in partnership with the **Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage** to develop and promote our cultural resources for all Nova Scotians.



The **Municipality of the District of Lunenburg** is a sponsor of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival and our summer series, Saturdays in the Park.



The **Town of Lunenburg** provided logistical support.



The goal of the **Leanne Children's Foundation** is to assist children to reach their full potential, to encourage them to reach for their dreams, and in striving to achieve these goals, to take nothing for granted.



Music Nova Scotia is a non-profit organization that has worked since 1989 with a mandate to encourage the creation, development, growth, and promotion of Nova Scotia's music industry.

We received generous financial support from a foundation that wishes to remain anonymous.

CORPORATE SPONSORS

GOLD SPONSOR

(+\$15,000)



TD Bank Group is a proud sponsor of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society. It's part of our commitment towards making an inclusive tomorrow. Learn more at TDMusic.com.

SILVER SPONSORS

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)



Lightship Brewing Co., located at 93 Tannery Road, Lunenburg, offers the best craft beer and cider the South Shore has to offer with the best view of Lunenburg! Folk Harbour musicians will be performing at Lightship from 5:00 to 7:15 pm on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings during the Folk Harbour Festival.

BRONZE SPONSORS

(\$1,000 - \$4,999)



Adams & Knickle Ltd. is a Canadian fishing company located in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. In its early years, the company was an exporter of salt fish. It presently fishes for deep-sea scallops.



BMR Lunenburg Hardware prides themselves on providing the people of Lunenburg with quality hardware and marine supplies. BMR has provided personnel, vehicles, products, and cash contributions to the Festival for many years.



Caico-Mae Clothiers is a unique ladies fashion boutique located at 138 Montague St., Lunenburg, NS. Caico-Mae offers current trends and styles and exceptional customer service.



CKBW first signed on to the air during a snowstorm on Christmas Eve in 1947. Since that memorable start, they have grown to cover Lunenburg, Queens, and Shelburne Counties. **Country 100.7** is "The South Shore's Home for Country".



Clearwater Seafoods was founded in 1976 and has grown to become one of North America's largest vertically-integrated seafood companies. It is recognized globally for its superior quality, food safety, diversity of species, and reliable worldwide delivery of premium seafood.



With over 25 years of tenting experience, **Commercial Tent** is proud to be the largest tent rental company in the Maritimes. Not only do they supply top quality, clean tents for many events, but they also strive to maintain excellence in customer satisfaction.



For over 15 years, **groundSOUND** has been providing sound, lighting, and staging solutions for countless events and festivals all across the Maritimes. Contact us at

info@groundsound.ca to take your event's production to the next level.



Keller Williams Select Realty is located at 6 King St, Lunenburg, NS B0J 2C0, (902) 634-4040. They are able to help you with all your real estate needs.



For over 100 years, **Kinley Drug Co.** has served the drug store needs of Lunenburg and surrounding areas, including providing professional pharmacy services. Kinley Drug Co. is proud to support the community as a contributor to arts, music, sports events, and the Fishermen's Memorial Hospital.



Laughing Whale Coffee is inspired by quality, playfulness, and fairness. Our certified organic, fair trade coffees are produced using a combination of the best traditional techniques and the latest low-emission, heat-recycling roasting technology. Shared with others, a great cup of coffee invites conversation, collaboration and community.



Nova Scotia Association of Realtors is the professional association for REALTORS in Nova Scotia. Founded in 2000, its members are professionals who adhere to high service standards and a strict code of ethics.



Located at 160 Bluenose Dr., Lunenburg, **Ocean Gear Inc.** offers welding, machining, hydraulics, ship repair, wharf services, and marine supplies. oceangear.ca



The independent oil company, **Payless Fuels**, is locally owned and operated along the South Shore. Not only will your money stay in Nova Scotia, but you will be talking to local people, providing you with friendly service.



Ticketpro Inc. is a leading supplier of ticketing solutions in Canada since 2003.

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TD Bank Group is not only a Gold Sponsor of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival but also supplies enthusiastic volunteers—the "TD Crew"! We extend our deepest gratitude to TD for doing so much to ensure the success of the Folk Harbour Festival.

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Thank you for attending the 41st annual Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival!

We hope you have a great time. If you believe in Folk Harbour's mission, please consider supporting us in other ways, too.

Donations in any amount are always welcome, and we can issue receipts for tax purposes. There is a Donate button on the website (folkharbour.ca) or you can e-transfer to accounts@folkharbour.com

Memberships provide direct support and also strengthen our applications for funding. More members demonstrate greater support!! There is a button on the website and memberships can be purchased during the Festival. Memberships are only \$20 (\$10 for those 25 and under).

50-50 tickets will be on sale at the Main Stage each evening.

We accept **Goodwill offerings** in cash or by card ("Tap to Give") at our non-ticketed stages. Although there is no charge to get into those venues, we pay musicians and technicians fair wages and sound production is high quality. Please consider supporting these stages.



SHUTTLE SERVICE

Visitors to the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival are invited to use a complimentary shuttle service. Venues will be serviced from 12:00 noon to 11:30 pm throughout the weekend, with service at each venue approximately every 10 minutes. **Shuttle stops are located at 1, 2, 4, 5/6, 7/8, 10 and 11** on the **map on pages 78-79**. The Lunenburg Community Centre is located at 15 Green St., where there is plenty of free parking (**10**). The shuttle will go to the Main Stage when there are events there (evenings and Sunday morning). In the evening, the shuttle will go between the Main Stage and the Community Centre, with other stops on demand.

If you need to access one of the shuttles, flag down a van that has the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival logo on the side of the vehicle. We welcome donations to help with the cost of the shuttles to allow this service to continue for years to come.

Thanks to Payless Fuels and Saunders Motors for helping us to provide the Shuttle Service.

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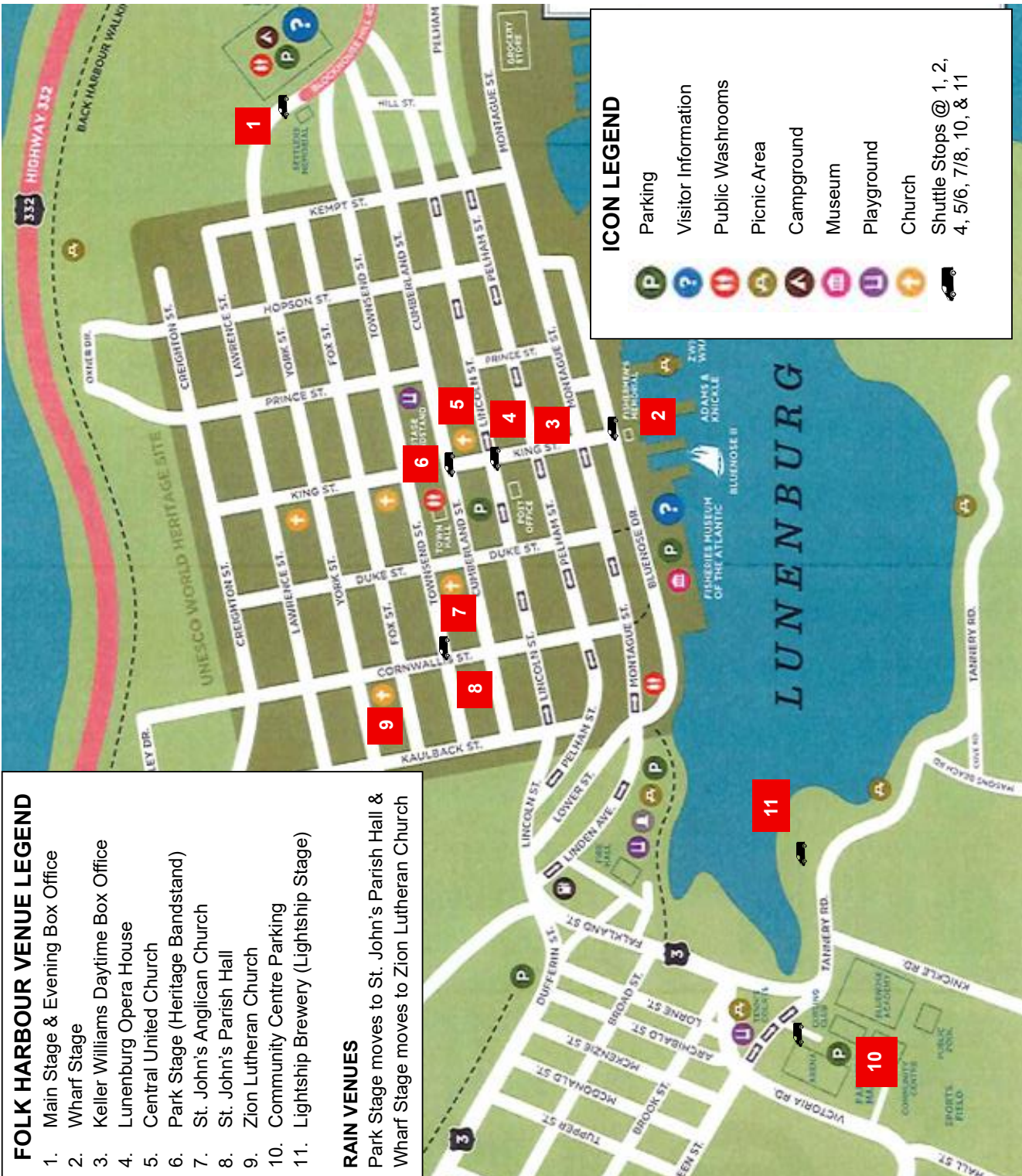
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FOLK HARBOUR VENUE LEGEND

- 1. Main Stage & Evening Box Office
- 2. Wharf Stage
- 3. Keller Williams Daytime Box Office
- 4. Lunenburg Opera House
- 5. Central United Church
- 6. Park Stage (Heritage Bandstand)
- 7. St. John's Anglican Church
- 8. St. John's Parish Hall
- 9. Zion Lutheran Church
- 10. Community Centre Parking
- 11. Lightship Brewery (Lightship Stage)

RAIN VENUES

Park Stage moves to St. John's Parish Hall & Wharf Stage moves to Zion Lutheran Church



ICON LEGEND

- Parking
- Visitor Information
- Public Washrooms
- Picnic Area
- Campground
- Museum
- Playground
- Church
- Shuttle Stops @ 1, 2, 4, 5/6, 7/8, 10, & 11

See page 77 for more information about the Shuttle Service.

Map credit: Lunenburg Board of Trade / Town of Lunenburg

LUNENBURG
FOLK HARBOUR

*Weekends at the
Opera House*

FALL 2026 - SAVE THE DATE!

Oct. 2 Aquakultre
7:30pm

Oct. 4 David Francey
3:00pm

Oct. 16 Rose Cousins
7:30pm

Oct. 18 Garnet Rogers
3:00pm

Nov. 6 Jah'Mila
7:30pm

Nov. 8 Rachel & Darren
3:00pm

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