



40TH LUNENBURG
FOLK HARBOUR
Festival
FESTIVAL GUIDE

**40 YEARS
OF MUSIC
BY THE SEA**



LUNENBURG FOLK HARBOUR FESTIVAL 2025

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GET TICKETS

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Pjila'si, bienvenue, welcome. We are thrilled to be presenting the 40th rendition of our iconic Festival in the beautiful UNESCO heritage town of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. We are proud to be a volunteer-run, family-friendly, not-for-profit, charitable organization that exists to present music, dance, and folklore in our community. The theme of this year's Festival is Celebrating 40 Years of Music by the Sea!, and certainly the talent that you will witness over this weekend

will be a true celebration of folk music. As always, we are very proud to present a gender-balanced and varied lineup.

Over 40 years ago, Jim Pittman and Bill Plaskett had an idea, imagining Lunenburg's harbour as Folk Harbour with musicians, dancers, story tellers, and folklorists sailing into our town from around the North Atlantic. In the spring of 1986, a small crew consisting of Ron Kelly, Bill Plaskett, Alma & John Houston, Val Meister, and Dorothy Read as witnessed by Ken Matheson formed the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society. This group, along with a handful of others—namely Earl Meister, Chris Anderson, Barbara Kehoe, Faye Armsworthy, John Thorpe, and Bruce Sarty—made sure the first handful of Festivals occurred.

The same is true today; a small crew of dedicated volunteers, aided by two part-time staff and a summer student, do the lion's share of year-round work required to ensure the Festival happens. This group is joined by a couple of hundred additional volunteers doing all the necessary work to make an event of this size "seamlessly" materialize. It is a testament to the dedication of our volunteers that we have been able to survive and thrive for the past 40 years. We are honouring 11 such volunteers this year as "Lifetime Friends of the Festival" who collectively have dedicated well over a century to this labour of love.

If you are a long time Festival attendee, you know exactly what to expect at Folk Harbour; if you are visiting us for the first time, you should start making plans to return soon. Our dedicated fan base is what keeps us all engaged and working for this slice of musical heaven by the sea. While in Lunenburg County please take advantage of all the amenities that the South Shore of Nova Scotia has to offer; this is a beautiful part of the world. While enjoying this year's fantastic lineup of entertainment, please take a minute to thank a volunteer.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Society's Board of Directors and all our Committee Chairs for their commitment to Folk Harbour. Thanks to all the sponsors 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 this celebration of our 40th year.

Louis Robitaille,

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



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For 40 years, the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival has proven that a small town can make a big impact!

Nova Scotia's longest running music festival will once again combine the best in Canadian folk music with the idyllic charms of this historic community, nestled between Lunenburg's front and back harbours. There's no better way to enjoy the summer than taking in the ocean breezes while enjoying some distinctly Canadian songs. Stories define who we are. They bring us together and make our country strong. That's why our government is proud to support this celebration.

As Minister of Canadian Identity and Culture and Minister responsible for Official Languages, I'd like to congratulate everyone involved on the festival's 40th anniversary.

Enjoy the music!

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault



On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, I am pleased to welcome you to the 40th Annual Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival.

For four decades, this festival has brought people together to celebrate the power of music, storytelling, and community. Set against the beautiful backdrop of Lunenburg's harbour and historic streets, the festival is a true showcase of Canadian folk culture—rich in history, creativity, and connection.

From daytime workshops and performances to evening concerts under the Main Stage tent, this festival offers something for everyone. It's a place to hear new voices, revisit familiar ones, and enjoy the energy that live music brings.

Thank you to the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society, the performers, and the volunteers who work so hard to bring this beloved festival to life. And thank you to all who attend—your support keeps Nova Scotia's cultural scene strong and thriving. Enjoy the music and the magic of Lunenburg.

Sincerely,

Dave Ritcey
Minister of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage

Welcome to Lunenburg, music lovers!

On behalf of the Town of Lunenburg, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2025 Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival!



For the past 40 years, summers in Lunenburg have seen our historic waterfront come alive with music, storytelling, and community spirit, and this year promises to be more vibrant than ever. We are proud to host this treasured event that celebrates not only folk music in all its forms but also the heart and soul of our town—its people, culture, and deep-rooted maritime traditions.

Whether you're a first-time visitor or a returning friend, I encourage you to explore our UNESCO World Heritage town, enjoy the hospitality of our local businesses, and immerse yourself in the unforgettable performances that make this festival such an incredible experience.

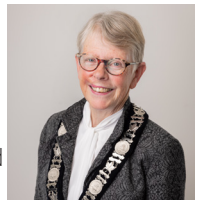
Thank you to the organizers, volunteers, and artists who bring this magic to life. We're thrilled to have you here and hope your time in Lunenburg is filled with joy, inspiration, and plenty of toe-tapping tunes,

I look forward to seeing you around town this week.

**Warmest regards,
Jamie Myra,
Mayor, Town of Lunenburg**

Welcome to the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival.

I have fond memories of attending my first Folk Harbour Festival in the late 1980s. I will never forget listening to Clary Croft singing "Blackbird" as the sunset filled the big tent with a glowing light that added warmth and atmosphere to the venue. The crowd was totally enraptured by his incredible voice sharing the songs of our famous folklorist, Dr. Helen Creighton.



Over the years I have shared time with family and friends at the festival and many people make the event an annual summer tradition. Over the years I have been introduced to so many talented local and Canadian folk musicians who were showcased on the festival stages.

Forty years of history is an incredible testament to those early founders - Jim Pittman, John and Alma Houston, Bill Plaskett, Ken Matheson, Val Meister, Earl Meister, Dorothy Read, Roger Pike, Chris Anderson, and Rosemary Richards, along with so many other volunteers. What we have enjoyed for 40 years was the result of their vision of what is possible when a dedicated group of volunteers says "We can do this!"

Enjoy everything about this great festival – the music, the people, the location and the time shared with others enjoying the talent that abounds in this province and those who travel here to be part of this great tradition.
See you at "Folk Harbour."

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

ALLISON DE GROOT & TATIANA HARGREAVES



Considered “two of the foremost old-time virtuosos on the scene today” (*The Bluegrass Situation*), Allison de Groot and Tatiana Hargreaves are leading lights in the young generation of roots musicians. Allison is noted for intricate clawhammer banjo playing while Tatiana provides powerhouse fiddling. The two met over a decade ago as teenagers at a camp focused on bluegrass and Appalachian music—traditions that have informed their music since then. They push the boundaries of old-time traditional music while remaining firmly rooted in its richness. The Canadian-American duo’s self-titled debut was released in 2019 with their sophomore recording, *Hurricane Clarice*, dropping in 2022. Described by *Bandcamp Daily* as “one living, breathing organism,” Allison and Tatiana create sounds that are adventurous, masterful, and original. This is their first Folk Harbour appearance.

Sponsored by Ocean Gear Inc.

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



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THE BARRA MACNEILS



The Barra MacNeils have been thrilling audiences of all ages, near and far, with their sparkling repertoire, engaging vocals, instrumental prowess, and vibrant showmanship. The sibling group is widely regarded as one of the greatest live concert acts in the Celtic world. Hailing from Sydney Mines, Cape Breton, the family group is deeply rooted in Celtic music, culture, dance, language, and history. Their critically acclaimed, 17-album discography includes original compositions as well as tried and true standards. The group's music features multiple lead vocalists, beautiful sibling harmonies, and impressive musicianship, with their live shows adding dancing and storytelling to take audiences on a journey through an ancient culture. They deliver the best in family entertainment. Their list of awards and nominations is extensive, and goes back to 1990 when they were named the ECMA Roots/Traditional Group of the Year. The Barra MacNeils have previously appeared at the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival in 1992, 1994, and 2010, and we are delighted to have them help us celebrate our 40th Festival.

Sponsored by Pat McGowan and Dennis Carter

Sunday	2:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
	10:00 pm	Main Stage

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CASSIE & MAGGIE



With over 17 combined Canadian Folk Music, East Coast Music, and Music Nova Scotia awards and nominations, the JUNO-nominated powerhouse duo, Cassie and Maggie, are an unstoppable force on the global folk stage. Unleashing a magnetic energy, they seamlessly weave their deep Celtic heritage with contemporary influences. Committed to not just preserving but also propelling Nova Scotia's folk traditions into new realms, Cassie and Maggie bring an exhilarating energy that is both timeless and irresistibly modern. The sisters have made many Folk Harbour appearances over the years, captivating audiences with their unparalleled unity of strings, voices, and fabulous percussive step dance. Their discography dates back to 2011 and includes the highly acclaimed recording, *The Willow Collection* (2016); the duo's most recent release, *Gold and Coal*, came out earlier this year.

Sponsored by Doug Cashin & Julie Lohnes-Cashin

Thursday	7:00 pm	Main Stage
Friday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
Saturday	10:00 am	Central United Church Hall (Val Meister Young Fiddlers Workshop)
	2:00 pm	Park Stage (with Young Fiddlers)
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	4:00 pm	Wharf Stage

CATHERINE MACLELLAN

Catherine MacLellan has been captivating audiences around the world with her music for over two decades. Born and raised on Prince Edward Island, Catherine's songs reflect her deep connection to the land and the people who call it home. While Catherine's music is based in folk and roots, her sound has evolved to embrace a wider range of influences over the course of her seven albums. From heart-wrenching ballads to uplifting anthems, her music has a universal appeal that speaks to the struggles, triumphs, and joys of life. With appearances at our concert series and Festival over the years, under her own name (2012, 2019, 2023) or with others (The Eastern Belles in 2016 and Saltwater Songs in 2021), Catherine has become a Folk Harbour treasure, with her heartfelt music and engaging stage presence.

Sponsored by Caico-Mae Clothiers

Thursday	3:45 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
	9:20 pm	Main Stage
Friday	1:00 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

CONNIE KALDOR



Connie Kaldor—singer-songwriter, entertainer, TV personality, and women’s music pioneer—is celebrating 45 years in show business with no signs of slowing down. She began her career in folk music as part of the Canadian wave alongside artists like Stan Rogers and Valdy. She is known for her enormous stage presence, her unforgettable melodies, and her emotional depth as a songwriter. Connie is a three-time JUNO Award winner, a member of the Order of Canada, and a Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal recipient; she holds an honorary doctorate from the University of Regina, and is the first songwriter to receive a Western Literature Association Award. Her 19th recording, *Wide Open Spaces*, is a celebration of the landscapes, culture, and stories of the Canadian prairies, and is scheduled to drop this fall. With nine previous Folk Harbour Festival appearances dating back to 1993, it would be hard to imagine a celebration of this year’s milestone anniversary without her incredible music and her often-hilarious stage presence. She will be joined by her husband, Paul Campagne, and their son, Gabriel Campagne.

Sponsored by Adams & Knickle Ltd.

Thursday	2:15 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Friday	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	10:00 pm	Main Stage
Saturday	2:00 pm	St. John’s Anglican Church
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House

DAVE GUNNING



With 14 albums to his credit, Dave Gunning's remarkable body of work marks him as a true luminary in the Canadian folk music scene. Influenced in his teenage years by John Allan Cameron, Stan Rogers, and others, Dave is continuing that troubadour tradition with his strong storytelling and melodic sincerity, often highlighting the lives of underdogs while also tackling significant social and environmental issues. Dave has never needed to look far beyond his Pictou County, NS, backyard for inspiration—that's where the characters live and that's where the stories come from. His writing abilities allow him to turn those stories into compelling songs that resonate deeply with his listeners. His abilities have also been noticed by critics, as Dave has an impressive list of awards and nominations, including numerous ECMAs, Canadian Folk Music, and Music NS Awards, and a JUNO nomination. Dave has been a frequent Folk Harbour Festival and concert series performer over the years; his presentation at our 2022 Folk Steps conference, "Songs of Peace, Protest, and Political Activism" was especially inspirational. An exceptional songwriter with a witty and self-effacing stage presence, Dave is one of the country's most engaging performers.

Sponsored by groundSOUND

Thursday	8:30 pm	Main Stage
Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	2:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
Saturday	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House

THE GILBERTS



The Gilberts first played a Folk Harbour event in 2018 as part of our “Young Folks” concert. We were so impressed that they were booked for our summer series that same year, and have since performed in our concert series and at our 2022 and 2023 Festivals. It has been a joy to watch the incredible career arc of these talented siblings. Frieden, Reuben, and Maisie Gilbert bring vibrant three-part harmonies, soulful lyricism, and diverse influences to their songs, performances, and recordings. The Gilbert family moved to Canada in 2003, and the kids soon found themselves on muddy folk festival fields, stepping up to open mics, performing at small events, and soon touring soft seat theatres and playing major festivals. They have released two albums, garnering a Canadian Folk Music Award, an East Coast Music Award, and a Music Nova Scotia Award.

Sponsored by Atlantic Lottery

Friday	4:30 pm	Park Stage
Saturday	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:30 pm	Park Stage
	7:00 pm	Main Stage



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GOOD LOVELIES



The Good Lovelies helped us celebrate the 25th annual Folk Harbour Festival with their first-ever Folk Harbour appearance and we are thrilled that they will be here for our 40th—especially since they are on hiatus this year but agreed to travel to Lunenburg anyway! Kerri Ough, Sue Passmore, and Caroline Marie Brooks make up the trio, known for compelling songs, glorious harmonies, and engaging stage presence. Their 12-album discography includes a live album, two beloved Christmas albums, and two JUNO-winning records: *Good Lovelies* (2010 Roots and Traditional Album of the Year – Group) and their collaboration with Raffi, *Penny Penguin* (2025 Children's Album of the Year). The Ontario-based group's 2023 release, *We Will Never Be the Same*, explores the rich complexity of life, with songs that ponder some of life's big questions. Naturally, the songs are delivered with the signature vocals that you would expect from one of the country's most accomplished and harmonious trios, always leaving audiences with a healthy dose of music, togetherness, and joy.

Sponsored by Mary Dillon

Saturday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
	10:00 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Central United Church
	4:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church

HANNAH RARITY



Hannah Rarity is a leading figure in the Scottish folk scene, celebrated for her exceptional voice and dynamic musical presence. Winner of the prestigious BBC Young Traditional Musician of the Year award in 2018, she has consistently impressed audiences and critics alike. Her albums, *Neath the Gloaming Star* (2018) and *To Have You Near* (2022), were both widely praised and shortlisted for Album of the Year at the BBC Alba Scots Trad Music Awards. Known for her hauntingly beautiful voice and, increasingly, her poignant self-penned songs, Hannah effortlessly blends folk, contemporary, and original material.

Sponsored by Deborah Trask

Thursday	3:45 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Friday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
Saturday	7:00 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	2:00 pm	Park Stage



HEATHER RANKIN

Heather Rankin is a singer, songwriter, actor, and member of the six-time JUNO-winning band, The Rankin Family. As a solo artist she has released two albums: *A Fine Line* (2016) and *Imagine* (2017); these recordings were critically acclaimed and garnered nominations from JUNOs, ECMAs, and Music NS. Heather has taken her solo show to venues across the country, including hosting Songwriters' Circles at ECMA Week, performing with the Cape Breton Orchestra, Symphony NS, and the Calgary Philharmonic. Since 2018 she has also performed with Nova Scotian powerhouses Bette MacDonald, Lucy MacNeil, and Jenn Sheppard in their fan favourite music and sketch comedy show, *Island Girls*. Heather is an Officer of the Order of Canada known for her deep love and passion for both her Gaelic heritage and her community. Heather previously performed with The Rankin Family at the 1989 Folk Harbour Festival and again as a solo performer in 2017. For this year's appearance, she will be joined by Lisa MacIsaac, Jamie Robinson, and Kim Dunn.

Sponsored by Smugglers Cove Inn

Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
	9:20 pm	Main Stage

THE HELLO CROWS



Emerging from the rich cultural landscape of their Wabanaki (New Brunswick) homeland, The Hello Crows are a powerful Indigenous collective, whose songs and stories are woven with the threads of personal experiences, resilience, and a deep connection to their communities and culture. With every note, lyric, and chant, The Hello Crows remind us of the strength of Indigenous identity, the importance of collective storytelling, and the unbreakable bond between music and culture. The group formed in 2022 when Judie Acquin, Dylan Ward, Mattie Comeau, and Quinn Bonnell found themselves in the same songwriters' circle; their styles meshed and they never looked back.

Sponsored by Clearwater Seafoods

Thursday	8:00 pm	Main Stage
Friday	4:00 pm	Wharf Stage
Saturday	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Sunday	1:00 pm	Central United Church



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IAN SHERWOOD



Guitar, saxophone, stellar songwriting, and a voice that won him a Canadian Folk Music Award for Contemporary Singer of the Year (2013), Ian Sherwood brings the light to every stage he stands on. A born storyteller and a constant creator, his music dances the line between folk and pop. His live performances thrive on intimacy. Whether it's a theatre show or large festival stage, his persona is irresistible. When not touring the UK, US, or all across Canada, Ian produces for other artists as well as for theatre, film, and television. He was named Best Male Artist of the Year by the International Acoustic Music Awards (2011) and was twice named the Music NS Musician of the Year (2008 and 2010). He has seven albums, including 2017's *Bring the Light*, with *Broken Little Heart* (2024) being his most recent release. Ian previously appeared at the Folk Harbour Festival in 2014 and 2018.

Sponsored by Saltbox Brewing Company

Friday	2:00 pm	Wharf Stage
Saturday	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	8:00 pm	Main Stage



JOCE REYOME



Hailing from Attleboro, Massachusetts, Jocie Reyome has been living and making music on Prince Edward Island since moving there in 2016 to study music at Holland College. It took no time at all for Jocie to become an in-demand vocalist and session musician. Jocie uses their powerhouse vocals, deeply soulful sounds, and dazzling guitar playing to deliver their blues-rock songs. Their debut single, "Cross My Heart," written with and produced by Erin Costello, is a catchy song that makes people stop in their tracks to listen. Jocie is having a great year so far, with a first place finish in the solo/duo category at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tenn., and a win for R&B/Soul Recording of the Year at the Music PEI Awards. Jocie was a participant in Folk Harbour's 2023 Songwriters' Camp and we are thrilled to have them back as a Main Stage artist at this year's Festival.

Sponsored by Christophe Herbinger & Beddy Vercaemer

Thursday	3:45 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Friday	3:30 pm	Park Stage
Saturday	3:30 pm	Wharf Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:30 pm	Central United Church
	7:30 pm	Main Stage

JOHN WORT HANNAM TRIO

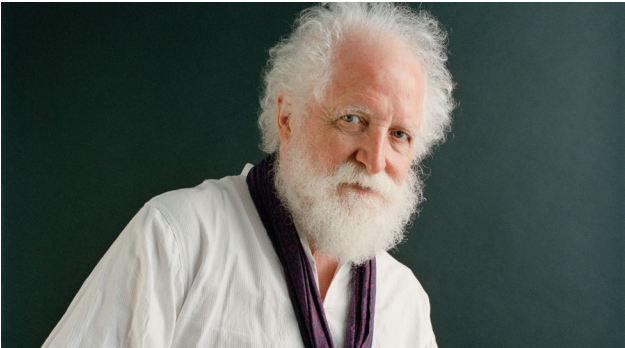


John Wort Hannam was working as a school teacher when he decided to try his hand at writing songs until his unemployment insurance ran out. That collection of songs became his first recording, *Pocket Full of Holes* (2003). Decades on, John has become known as one of the best folk-roots songwriters in Alberta. His eight full-length albums demonstrate his ability to spin songwriting gold from the chaff of the lives he has encountered on his extensive travels. With his mixture of rich and clear vocals with lyrics that tug at the heart, his sound is both unique and familiar. His songs resonate deeply with audiences, and critics appreciate his narrative and lyrically driven songs; he has a host of awards that span his career, from the New Folk Winner title from Kerrville Folk Festival in 2007 to two Canadian Folk Music Awards in 2023. John has made three previous Folk Harbour Festival appearances dating back to 2006. This year, Jason Valleau and Scott Duncan will round out the trio.

Sponsored by Nova Scotia Association of Realtors

Friday	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	8:30 pm	Main Stage
Saturday	3:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Central United Church

KEN WHITELEY



Ken Whiteley is one of Canada’s most respected roots musicians. With an incredibly rich background in blues, gospel, and folk styles, this seven-time JUNO nominee shares songs with themes of freedom, love, spiritual aspiration, and social comment. His performances are presented with humour, grace, and energy. Ken has played at virtually every major folk festival in Canada and has had a huge impact on the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival, where his performances date back to 1995. He has appeared solo and with Mose Scarlett and Jackie Washington in 1996 and the Beulah Band in 2016. Notably, he was a key player in establishing the Sunday morning gospel concerts—a much-loved feature of the Festival—with his performances at the first two gospel concerts in 1995 and 1996. It is therefore highly appropriate that he will be a co-host of the gospel concert and a participant in this year’s Folk Steps, “Celebrating 40 Years of Music by the Sea!”

Sponsored by Jordis Asbell-Clarke

Thursday	2:15 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Friday	4:00 pm	Park Stage
Saturday	10:00 am	St. John’s Anglican Church
	7:30 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:30 pm	Central United Church

KIM & REGGIE HARRIS



Kim R. Harris is the Associate Professor of African American Religious Thought and Practice in the Department of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. In addition to teaching, Kim is a liturgist, composer, and recording artist, presenting lectures on the music of the Black Catholic experience, the historic Negro Spirituals, and the freedom song of the modern Civil Rights Movement. Reggie Harris is an innovative guitarist, a fearlessly creative vocalist, and an engaging storyteller whose concert performances are infused with joy. Uniquely committed to “music as a community building vehicle,” Reggie’s music shares insightful perspectives on issues of life, history, education, and human rights. On stage, Kim & Reggie have an astonishing ability to entertain audiences of any age and background as they blend their talents as singers, songwriters, educators, interpreters of history, and cultural advocates. They have made four previous Folk Harbour Festival appearances dating back to 2010.

Sponsored by Robert Durovich

Friday	1:30 pm	Wharf Stage
	7:30 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

LE WINSTON BAND



Le Winston Band brought its unique blend of French-Canadian, Zydeco, and Cajun music to the Folk harbour Festival in 2023 and infused the Festival with their *joie de vivre*. We enthusiastically welcome this one-of-a-kind Montreal-based ensemble back this year. Band members Antoine Fallu, Andrew Duquette-Boyte, Vincent Fillion, Antoine Larocque, and Noam Guerrier Freud are united by their shared passion for Zydeco music; they intermingle sassy compositions and their own take on well known traditional songs from Quebec and Louisiana. The powerful sound of the diatonic accordion supported by a typical “modern zydeco” lineup electrifies listeners and gets audience members on their feet and dancing. They recorded *Zig Zag Zydeco Zoo* in 2019 and received nominations from ADISQ and GAMIQ (organizations that support the independent music industry in Quebec) for the best album of the year in the world music category.

Sponsored by Frank's Corner Automotive

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



LENNIE GALLANT



It's difficult to imagine a milestone Folk Harbour Festival without having Lennie Gallant in the lineup. Lennie's involvement with the Festival goes back to the second annual event in 1987 where he performed with Tailor's Twist, with about a dozen more appearances under his own name. As most Folk Harbour fans know, Lennie is an acclaimed and beloved songwriter from Rustico, PEI. He has 16 albums of original material, in both English and French, with *Shelter from the Storms*, his first English-language album in seven years, released earlier this year. His iconic song, "Peter's Dream" was inducted into the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame and his music has gone to the International Space Station. He has created two acclaimed multi-media productions: *Searching for Abegweit: The Island Songs and Stories of Lennie Gallant* and *The Innkeeper's Christmas*. A celebrated humanitarian and storyteller, Lennie was appointed to the Order of Canada, where he was honoured for songs described as "true slices of life delivered with a poet's flair and a rugged emotional sensibility." He will be joined by his stellar band: Patricia Richard, Julien Robichaud, and Keelin Wedge.

Sponsored by TD Bank Group

Thursday	10:00 pm	Main Stage
Friday	1:00 pm	Central United Church
	4:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church

MATTHEW BYRNE



Since releasing his debut album, *Ballads*, in 2010, Matthew Byrne has established himself as one of Canada's foremost traditional singers. His rich and powerful vocals, refined guitar style, and compelling interpretations of unique traditional songs have made him a favourite of folk audiences at home in Newfoundland and beyond. Indeed, Matthew was a huge hit at the 2018 Folk Harbour Festival, where his obvious love of traditional songs resonated deeply. After a long hiatus from the studio and the road, Matthew released his album, *Stealing Time*, earlier this year. With nominations and awards in Canadian Folk Music's Traditional Album and Traditional Singer categories and accolades from critics and colleagues alike, Matthew is widely considered to be the finest interpreter of traditional songs in Canada.

Sponsored by Jackie Manthorne

Thursday	3:45 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
	7:30 pm	Main Stage
Friday	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Saturday	1:00 pm	Wharf Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	4:00 pm	Park Stage



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MIA KELLY AND NICK LOYER



Mia Kelly and Nick Loyer were scheduled to perform at the 2024 Folk Harbour Festival. While Nick appeared and charmed our audiences, Mia was unable to make it, so we are happy to have the longtime collaborators and friends at the Festival this year. Hailing from Gatineau, QC, Mia and Nick share an electric musical chemistry. With voices that intertwine seamlessly and a mutual love for storytelling through song, their collaboration brings an undeniable energy and emotional depth to every performance. Whether harmonizing over quiet ballads or trading lines in high-energy folk anthems, their connection is palpable—and unforgettable.

Sponsored by HB Studios

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

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QUOTE THE RAVEN



Jordan Coaker and Kirsten Rodden-Clarke are Quote the Raven, a folk-pop-roots duo from NL. Jordan and Kirsten have an almost magical harmonious blend, where two voices are combined into one. Their Americana-meets-East Coast approach to songwriting and their irresistibly charming stage presence make Quote the Raven favourites wherever they perform. To date, their music has been streamed over one-and-a-half million times across various platforms. The duo's first full-length album, *Golden Hour*, was released in 2018 while their sophomore offering, *Can't Hold the Light*, was released in 2021 after an impromptu trip to Nashville. The duo's most recent recording, *Map the Dark*, was released earlier this year and earned a 2025 ECMA nomination for Album of the Year and a win for Roots Release of the Year for the album's track, "Already Gone." Jordan and Kirsten previously brought their catchy tunes and engaging personalities to the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival in 2019 and 2022.

Sponsored by Colin Finlay

Saturday	1:00 pm	Central United Church
	4:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
	8:00 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage

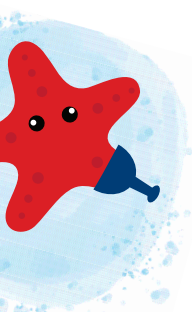
RED MOON ROAD



Red Moon Road is a Winnipeg-based trio consisting of Sheena Rattai (vocals, percussion, keys), Daniel Jordan (vocals, guitar, mandolin), and Daniel Péloquin-Hopfner (vocals, mandolin, banjo, lap steel, keys, and synthesizers). Born in a storm on a wild Canadian lake, Red Moon Road has come into its own on trails between coasts and journeys overseas. From living rooms to folk festival stages, the trio has performed more than 1000 shows since 2012. Evolving from acoustic folk roots, their sound currently integrates Sheena's powerful vocals with lush pop harmonies and nuanced arrangements that combine percussion, banjo, slide guitar, and synths. Their 2015 release, *Sorrows and Glories*, earned the group a spot on the prestigious Polaris long-list. Red Moon Road has three previous Folk Harbour Festival appearances, during which they demonstrated their enormous musical talent and their natural ability to collaborate with others in song circles.

Sponsored by Kinley Drug Co.

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



TERRA SPENCER



Bad ideas, VCRs, crumbling factories, hairy dogs, questionable tattoos...all are fair game for Nova Scotian funeral director-turned-songwriter, Terra Spencer. And the songs are good ones, judging from the stack of awards her music has received. After being awarded first place in the 2023 Commonwealth Song contest for "Bricks and Mortar" and winning as a Finalist in the 2024 John Lennon Songwriting Contest for "At Your Service," Terra's fourth solo album, *Sunset* (2024), was named the *Penguin Eggs* Album of the Year (alongside Julian Taylor's *Pathways*). Terra has performed at Folk Harbour Festivals in 2022 and 2023, at our greatly scaled down "mini-Festival" in 2020, plus several concert series besides. Her music, humour, warmth, and incredible collaborative skills (Why did the chicken cross the road? To do a co-write with Terra Spencer!) have made her an indispensable part of the Folk Harbour family.

Sponsored by Sheila & Garry Woodcock

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
	3:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
Saturday	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	8:30 pm	Main Stage

THE YOUNG'UNS



The Young'uns deliver live shows that are like roller coaster rides. With heart-on-the-sleeve storytelling, beautiful lyrics, warm harmonies, and relentless repartee, Sean Cooney, Michael Hughes, and David Eagle (an award-winning stand-up comedian) write and sing folk songs for today. Born from empathy, crafted with care, fired by hope, and shared with joy, their songs have been described by *The Scotsman* as a "heartfelt secular hymnary for these troubled times and a rallying call for humanity." Winners of three BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, including Best Album in 2018, these three thirtysomething friends from Stockton and Hartlepool, England, have never lost the joy of their first night of singing together almost 20 years ago after accidentally stumbling into the world of folk clubs.

Sponsored by Louis Robitaille

Saturday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
	9:20 pm	Main Stage
Sunday	1:00 pm	St. John's Anglican Church
	3:30 pm	Lunenburg Opera House

SONGWRITERS' CAMP

The Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society is pleased to be offering the fourth annual 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, **Dave Gunning** and **Terra Spencer**, 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.

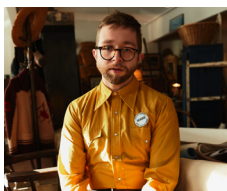
We also received funding from the **Province of Nova Scotia**, Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage.

KEN MATHESON PROGRAM

The Ken Matheson Program is dedicated to highlighting home-grown talent and features 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 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.

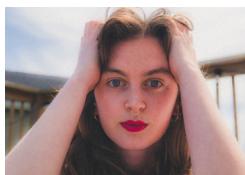
BEN VALLEE



timeless feel.

Ben Vallee is a Montreal-based singer-songwriter and steel guitarist. A young man with an old soul, his debut recording, *Introducing* (2024), says that his music is "something so old it sounds new." His country-infused songs are filled with strong lyrics, stellar playing, and a

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

CATHERINE KENNEDY

New Brunswick musician, Catherine Kennedy, uses her soulful lyrics and bluesy tones to transport listeners into her world of rich storytelling. Catherine released her EP, *Fifty-Fifty*, in 2018 and followed that with her full-length, self-titled album in 2022—a recording that saw her take the title of Breakthrough Artist of the Year from Music NB.

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

CHRISTIAN KIRBY

Christian Kirby is an Irish singer-songwriter based in Nova Scotia. The 21-year-old artist has a profound connection to music. His sound blends alternative-rock with indie-folk, delivered with a rich voice that grabs you like the fog of the Atlantic. Christian's reflective, poetic lyrics are layered with a percussive guitar style, creating a unique musical experience.

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

DANE PEDERSEN

Dane Pedersen is a singer-songwriter and actor from Cape Breton, NS. He has been performing since age eight in cafes, professional theatrical productions, and folk festivals. A recent graduate in jazz studies at St. Francis Xavier University, Dane uses virtuosic playing in service of his love for story and song. His debut EP, *Travelling Alone*, was released earlier this year.

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

ELIZA RHINELANDER



Eliza Rhinelanders is a 19 year old singer-songwriter born and raised in Halifax, NS. The daughter of a fiddler and a sailor, she grew up with one foot in the sea and one on the shore. Whether aboard a wooden schooner or singing around a bonfire, she was always surrounded by stories. It wasn't long before she started telling her own. Her 2025 album, *The Precipice*, shares stories of coming of age, with songs written between high school and first year university.

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

EVELYN JESS



Evelyn Jess is a singer-songwriter from Ragged Harbour, NL. Her quirky, heartfelt songs explore her home province's landscape, history, and culture, and focus on themes of family, love, and mental health, while also celebrating the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Evelyn won the 2018 Amelia Earhart Songwriting Competition and has been nominated as Folk Artist of the Year by Music NL in both 2022 and 2023.

Friday	10:00 am	Central United Church
Saturday	1:30 pm	Wharf Stage
Sunday	2:30 pm	Park Stage

JUSTYN THYME



Justyn Thyme is the stage name of Justyn Young, a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist from Charlottetown, PEI. Justyn harnesses diverse influences ranging from roots and Americana to Mongolian throat singing and modern soul, and blends them into something fresh and powerfully authentic. Justyn is a Music PEI winner and

an ECMA nominee; he has released several singles, including 2022's "It's Been A While."

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

SOPHIE NOEL



Sophie Noel (they/them) is a musician and writer living in Dartmouth, NS. Their songs blend elements of folk, indie, and contemporary pop and are characterized by heartfelt storytelling, emotive melodies, and rich, evocative vocals. Sophie has a captivating stage presence that has allowed them to garner recognition and acclaim throughout the Atlantic Canadian music scene. Their latest release is the raw and atmospheric ballad, "Hurricane."

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

SUMMER BENNETT



Hailing from Paradise, NL, Summer Bennett is taking no time in establishing herself as a songwriter to watch. In 2024, Summer was named "Top Teen" in the national CBC Searchlight competition for her single, "Just a Phase," that song also earned her a spot in the Top 5 of the International Young Songwriter competition from the UK Song Academy. Summer's debut EP, *One Thousand Fahrenheit*, is now streaming, and she is working on a full-length album.

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



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BILL PLASKETT



A founder and Lifetime Friend of the Folk Harbour Festival, Bill Plaskett is the perfect person for this year's Folk Steps where we look at the history of Folk Harbour. Bill will moderate the session about Folk Harbour's earliest minstrels in conversation and song. Bill will also moderate an Alma Houston Talk, "Children of Our Founders." Bill was a member of Folk Harbour's unofficial house band, Starb'ard Side, and has performed at the Festival and in our concert series with his son, Joel.

Thursday	1:00 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Saturday	10:00 am	Central United Church

CORBIES



Hailing from Scotland, Eilidh Campbell and Andy Webster have spent a lifetime weaving music into the fabric of their friendship. They first crossed paths in the vibrant halls of Glasgow's music scene in the 1990s, where they honed their craft as students and forged a partnership rooted in shared passion and creativity. Now, by chance, they both live in Nova Scotia and bring the essence of Scotland to their adopted home, performing as the duo, Corbies.

Sponsored by the Black Family Foundation

Friday	1:00 pm	Park Stage
	3:30 pm	Central United Church

EMILEA MAY



Prince Edward Island's Emilea May participated in the 2024 Folk Harbour Songwriters' Camp, where she showed her abilities to write honest lyrics and create indie/pop/rock music that provokes deep feelings of introspection.

Sponsored by Commercial Tent

Saturday	3:30 pm	Wharf Stage
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GEOFF ARSENAULT TRIO



Geoff Arsenault is a veteran touring and recording artist with three solo recordings, including his new release, *Hired Hand* (2025). Geoff plays funky and soulful Louisiana-infused blues. Mike Farrington and Ty Messick round out the trio.

Sponsored by Buck's Home Building Centre

Sunday	3:30 pm	Central United Church
	8:30 pm	Main Stage (backing Terra Spencer)

JEFF DAVIS



A Lifetime Friend of the Festival and the person who has made the most appearances in Folk Harbour's history, it would not be a milestone anniversary without Jeff Davis! Jeff has a passion for sharing stories and for preserving history through songs and is one of America's most

respected collectors and interpreters of traditional music. He plays fiddle, banjo, mandocello, guitar, jaw's harp, and a few hand-made instruments. He always brings his extensive knowledge, his generous spirit, and his wry humour to Folk Harbour.

Sponsored anonymously in honour of Val and Earl Meister

Thursday	2:15 pm	Zion Lutheran Church
Saturday	1:00 pm	Park Stage
Sunday	10:00 am	Gospel Concert, Main Stage
	1:00 pm	Wharf Stage

JUD GUNNING



A participant in our 2024 Songwriters' Camp, Jud Gunning has been making his mark on the NS music scene with his wicked guitar playing and his captivating live performances.

Sponsored by CKBW

Saturday	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	3:30 pm	Wharf Stage

KRISTEN MARTELL

Kristen Martell is a bilingual folk-pop artist hailing from NS. Her performance is an intimate and heartfelt experience that revolves around her captivating vocals, thoughtful lyrics accompanied by warm guitar sounds. Kristen's music creates a warm and inviting atmosphere where audiences feel moved.

Sponsored by Keller Williams Select Realty

Sunday	1:00 pm	Lunenburg Opera House
	4:30 pm	Wharf Stage

MARY BETH CARTY

A sparkling spirit and veritable vagabond, Antigonish's Mary Beth Carty paints with a broad palette of roots music motifs, fusing traditional song, instrumental tunes, and songwriting. She is equally versatile on accordion, guitar, and musical bones. She will be joined by multi-instrumentalist and singer Bradley Murphy of East Bay, Cape Breton.

Sponsored by Ticketpro

Friday	1:00 pm	Wharf Stage
	3:30 pm	Central United Church

SOUTH SHORE MALAYALIS

The South Shore Malayalis are a group of South Asian people who live on the South Shore and work in health care. They will be sharing South Indian Cinematic dance with a workshop as well as a performance of this graceful and expressive form of dancing.

Sponsored by Maggie Ostler

Friday	10:00 am	St. John's Parish Hall
	3:00 pm	Park Stage

THERESA MALENFANT & SCOTT MEDFORD

Theresa Malenfant is a powerhouse vocalist and Scott Medford is a renowned guitarist. Together, the NB-based duo is one of the most popular blues acts in Atlantic Canada. In 2019, they earned second place at the prestigious International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN.

Sponsored by the Knot Pub

Sunday	1:00 pm	Park Stage
	3:30 pm	Central United Church

FOLK STEPS

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF MUSIC BY THE SEA!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

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 40 years of music by the sea!”**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: RICHARD MACKINNON



Dr. Richard MacKinnon has been researching, writing and teaching in the field of heritage and culture for over 25 years. A native Cape Bretoner, Dr. MacKinnon holds both an MA and a PhD in folklore from Memorial University, and his research focuses on Atlantic Canadian folklore, culture, and heritage with a specialization in Cape

Breton Studies. Dr. MacKinnon is the Director of the Centre for Cape Breton Studies and a lecturer at Cape Breton University, where he teaches folklore and humanities. He is also Managing Editor of *Material Culture Review*—a national publication produced by the Centre for Cape Breton Studies and Cape Breton University Press.

Thursday

JOIN US ON AUGUST 7

TIME	ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH — FOLK STEPS
HOST	Bill Plaskett
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm	Keynote - Richard MacKinnon Folk Harbour's earliest minstrels in conversation and song moderated by Bill Plaskett with Jeff Davis, Connie Kaldor, and Ken Whiteley Folk Harbour's next generation in conversation and song moderated by Catherine MacLellan with Hannah Rarity, Matthew Byrne, and Joce Reyome

Main Stage

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7	
Emcee	Jonathan Crouse
7:00 pm	Cassie & Maggie, Matthew Byrne, The Hel <i>Intermission</i> Catherine MacLellan, Lennie Gallant
FRIDAY, AUGUST 8	
Emcee	Patricia Watson
7:00 pm	Mia Kelly & Nick Loyer, Kim & Reggie Harr John Wort Hannam Trio <i>Intermission</i> Red Moon Road, Connie Kaldor
SATURDAY, AUGUST 9	
Emcee	Darrin Harvey
7:00 pm	Hannah Rarity, Ken Whiteley, Quote the R <i>Intermission</i> The Young'uns, Good Lovelies
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10	
Emcee	Joella Foulds
7:00 pm	The Gilberts, Joce Reyome, Ian Sherwood <i>Intermission</i> Heather Rankin, The Barra MacNeils

SEE YOU N
FOLK HARBOUR 20

JOIN US ON AUGUST 7 to 10

Illo Crows, Dave Gunning

ris, Allison de Groot & Tatiana Hargreaves,

aven, Le Winston Band

l, Terra Spencer

EXT YEAR!

26: AUGUST 6 TO 9

JOIN US ON AUGUST 8

Friday

TIME	ST. JOHN'S PARISH HALL DANCE WORKSHOP	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH VOCAL WORKSHOP	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH ALMA HOUSTON TALKS
Host	Angela McKinnon	Louis Robitaille	Margo Carruthers
10:00 am to 11:30 am	SOUTH INDIAN CINEMATIC South Shore Malayalis	GOSPEL Red Moon Road	THE CRAFT OF THE SONG Dave Gunning Terra Spencer Songwriters' Camp musicians

RAIN VENUES: Park Stage moves to St. John's Parish Hall
Wharf Stage moves to Zwicker Wharf Building

TIME	PARK STAGE CONCERTS	WHARF STAGE CONCERTS	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CONCERTS	LUNENBURG OPERA HOUSE CIRCLES	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH CIRCLES
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Emcee	Melitta Smole	Alex Grabowski	Margo Carruthers	Darrin Harvey	Stephanie Beaumont
1:00 pm	Corbies	Mary Beth Carty	Catherine MacLellan	THE STORY IN THE SONG Matthew Byrne Allison de Groot & Tatiana Hargreaves Nick Loyer	TALES FROM FRANCOPHONIE Lennie Gallant Le Winston Band Mia Kelly
1:30 pm	Eliza Rhinelanders	Kim & Reggie Harris			
2:00 pm	Christian Kirby	Ian Sherwood	Dave Gunning		
2:30 pm	Sophie Noel	Catherine Kennedy			
3:00 pm	South Shore Malayalis	Justyn Thyme	Terra Spencer	STAGE CHANGEOVER	YOUR CELTIC ROOTS ARE SHOWING Cassie & Maggie Hannah Rarity Corbies Mary Beth Carty
3:30 pm	Joce Reyome	Eliza Rhinelanders			
4:00 pm	Ken Whiteley	The Hello Crows	Lennie Gallant		
4:30 pm	The Gilberts				

Saturday

JOIN US ON AUGUST 9

TIME	ST. JOHN'S PARISH HALL DANCE WORKSHOP	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH VOCAL WORKSHOP	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH ALMA HOUSTON TALKS
Host	Angela McKinnon	Louis Robitaille	Margo Carruthers
10:00 am to 11:30 am	CAJUN AND ZYDECO Le Winston Band	GOSPEL Ken Whiteley Kim & Reggie Harris	CHILDREN OF OUR FOUNDERS w/ BILL PLASKETT Anna Plaskett Ben Anderson Michael Pittman

RAIN VENUES:

Park Stage moves to St. John's Parish Hall
Wharf Stage moves to Zwicker Wharf Building

TIME	PARK STAGE CONCERTS	WHARF STAGE CONCERTS	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CONCERTS	LUNENBURG OPERA HOUSE CIRCLES	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH CIRCLES
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Emcee	Melitta Smole	Alex Grabowski	Margo Carruthers	Darrin Harvey	Stephanie Beaumont
1:00 pm	Jeff Davis	Matthew Byrne	Red Moon Road	MUSICAL FAMILY & FRIENDS Dave Gunning Terra Spencer The Gilberts Jud Gunning	DUOS & DUETS Allison de Groot & Tatiana Hargreaves Kim & Reggie Harris Mia Kelly & Nick Loyer Quote the Raven
1:30 pm	Sofia Andreu Gray Hagen	Evelyn Jess			
2:00 pm	Cassie & Maggie with Val Meister Young Fiddlers	Christian Kirby	Connie Kaldor		
2:30 pm	Dane Pedersen	Summer Bennett			
3:00 pm	Catherine Kennedy	Le Winston Band	John Wort Hannam Trio	STORIES TOLD IN SONG Catherine MacLellan The Hello Crows Ian Sherwood	TRIO OF TRIOS Good Lovelies The Young'uns Red Moon Road
3:30 pm	Ben Vallee	SONGWRITERS' CAMP ALUMNI Joce Reyome Jud Gunning Emilea May	Quote the Raven		
4:00 pm	Allison de Groot & Tatiana Hargreaves				
4:30 pm					

JOIN US ON AUGUST 10

Sunday

TIME	MAIN STAGE GOSPEL CONCERT
Hosts	Ken Whiteley and Kim & Reggie Harris
10:00 am to 12:00 pm	Terra Spencer, Dave Gunning, The Gilberts, Mia Kelly & Nick Loyer, John Wort Hannam Trio, Joce Reyome, Ian Sherwood, Hannah Rarity, Allison de Groot & Tatiana Hargreaves, Red Moon Road, Quote the Raven, Catherine MacLellan, Cassie & Maggie, Matthew Byrne, Connie Kaldor, Good Lovelies. Heather Rankin, and Jeff Davis

RAIN VENUES:

Park Stage moves to St. John's Parish Hall
Wharf Stage moves to Zwicker Wharf Building

TIME	PARK STAGE CONCERTS	WHARF STAGE CONCERTS	ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CONCERTS	LUNENBURG OPERA HOUSE CIRCLES	CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH CIRCLES
Emcee	Melitta Smole	Alex Grabowski	Margo Carruthers	Darrin Harvey	Stephanie Beaumont

1:00 pm	Theresa Malenfant & Scott Medford	Jeff Davis	The Young'uns	HOMES IN THE MARITIMES Ian Sherwood Catherine MacLellan Dave Gunning Kristen Martell	HARMONIES John Wort Hannam Trio Good Lovelies Quote the Raven The Hello Crows
1:30 pm	The Gilberts	Ben Vallee			
2:00 pm	Hannah Rarity	Sophie Noel	The Barra MacNeils		
2:30 pm	Evelyn Jess	Dane Pedersen			
3:00 pm	Justyn Thyme	Mia Kelly	Heather Rankin		
3:30 pm	Summer Bennett	Nick Loyer		LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE Terra Spencer Connie Kaldor The Young'uns	AFTERNOON BLUES Ken Whiteley Joce Reyome Geoff Arsenaault Trio Theresa Malenfant & Scott Medford
4:00 pm	Matthew Byrne	Cassie & Maggie	Good Lovelies		
4:30 pm		Kristen Martell			

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, doing publicity and being an emcee for our summer series and the Festival. Alex will be the emcee on the Wharf Stage each afternoon.

DARRIN HARVEY



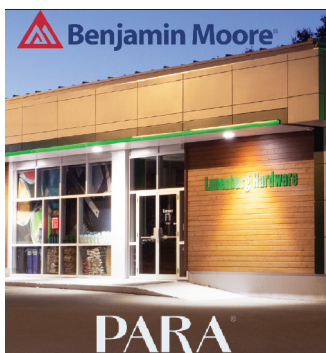
Darrin Harvey is a veteran broadcaster who has worked for over 30 years in radio and television. His radio career takes place in the Annapolis Valley, where he is the morning show host at Rewind 89.3. He is also the host and co-producer of *East Coast Music Unplugged* on Eastlink

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 Saturday.

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 Sunday.



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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 the driving force behind Riverfest Music Festival, a not-for-profit

event designed to promote local talent. Jonathan will be the Main Stage emcee on Thursday.

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.

MARGO CARRUTHERS



Margo Carruthers is a theatrical storyteller, traditional ballad singer, and teacher of Gaelic language and song. Her passion is folklore through a feminist lens, championing women's issues past and present. She is an executive director of the Helen Creighton Folklore Society and Storytellers of Canada/

Conteurs du Canada. Margo will emcee the concerts at the St. John's Anglican Church each afternoon.

MELITTA SMOLE



Melitta Smole is passionate about music. She sings, plays the guitar, and has volunteered at the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival for several years, helping with merchandise sales. Melitta has been an emcee for our Summer concert series and this year is taking on emcee duties at our Park Stage.

This is the 4th year that Melitta and her husband, Kerry Jarvis, have supported Folk Harbour's Songwriters' Camp for emerging musicians.

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 be the Main Stage emcee on Friday evening.

STEPHANIE BEAUMONT



Stephanie Beaumont has always enjoyed entertaining and engaging audiences. She is a musician who has toured internationally and a broadcaster who has worked in radio and television across Canada. She also celebrates Canada's East Coast online with SeaAndBeScene.com and

EastCoastCurator.com. While that might seem like a great number of hats, at the heart of it all is storytelling. Stephanie thrives on meeting great people and shining the spotlight on them.

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

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SENSEA

NORDIC SPA

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 8

Artists: Dave Gunning, Terra Spencer, Songwriters' Camp musicians

CHILDREN OF OUR FOUNDERS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

Artists: Anna Plaskett, Michael Pittman, Ben Anderson

Anna Plaskett is the daughter of Folk Harbour Festival co-founder, Bill Plaskett. Anna holds a degree in music performance and a certificate of Music Therapy. She released a children's album, *To The Moon and Back*, in 2017 and participated in an Alma Houston talk in 2023 ("The healing power of music").

Ben Anderson grew up with Folk Harbour as his father, Chris Anderson, has been involved from the very beginning. Ben worked for Folk Harbour as a summer student from 1996-2000 and now is a driving force behind Bright & Lyon Productions, a multi-faceted production company dedicated to the promotion and production of quality live music events serving New Hampshire's greater Seacoast region, Maine, and Massachusetts.

Michael Pittman is the son of Festival co-Founder, Jim Pittman. Michael is a Chartered Professional Accountant who works with Clearwater Seafoods. He has been an active Festival volunteer for many years and is currently the Treasurer of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society.



2015 Alma Houston Talk with Bill Plaskett (L) and Jeff Davis (R), moderated by Marilyn Keddy.
Garry Woodcock photo

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 8 - GOSPEL

Artists: Red Moon Road

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9 - GOSPEL

Artists: Ken Whiteley and Kim & Reggie Harris

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 8 - SOUTH INDIAN CINEMATIC

Artists: South Shore Malayalis

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9 - CAJUN AND ZYDECO

Artists: Le Winston Band

ANGELA MCKINNON: DANCE WORKSHOPS FACILITATOR



Angela McKinnon is the owner and director of McKinnon Dance, located in Bridgewater, NS. The studio offers lessons in Highland Dance, Traditional Cape Breton Step Dance, and Celtic Step Dance. Dancing adventures have taken her around the

world to Indonesia, Scotland, and the USA. Angela has a master's degree in education and loves to teach. She will facilitate dance workshops on Friday and Saturday.

Sponsored by The Water Market



VAL MEISTER YOUNG FIDDLERS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH HALL

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

Artists: Cassie & Maggie 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 2:00 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. Eilidh has a music degree from the University of Strathclyde and has performed worldwide; she shares her love for fiddling through her active schedule of private lessons. 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 **Sachi Biancolin, Luc Breough, Ella Ernst, Maya Lojek-Graves, and Evelyn Long.**

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 the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Society Music Award winners from the **Lunenburg and District Music Festival.**

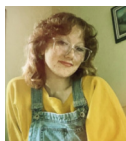
Junior Winner: **SOFIA ANDREU**



Sofia Andreu is a vocalist and fiddler with a love for folk and pop music, drawing inspiration from everyone from Taylor Swift to Joni Mitchell. She participates in the Lunenburg County Music Festival and has appeared in South Shore Summer Theatre productions. This year she's excited to be performing in their latest production, *All Shook Up!*

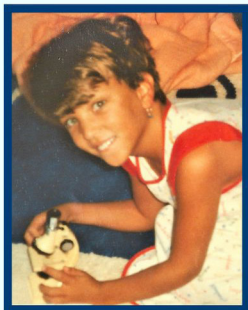
Saturday: 1:30 pm Park Stage

Senior Winner: **GRAY HAGEN**



Gray Hagen has been performing music and theatre since age 4. They have appeared in community theatre musicals and at music festivals, and have attended a variety of theatre and music classes, including voice training with Mary Knickle. Gray recently performed the role of Barbarina in Maritime Concert Opera's production of *The Marriage of Figaro*.

Saturday: 1:45 pm Park Stage



Helping children
to achieve
their dreams



LEANNE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TICKET PRICING INFORMATION

FESTIVAL PASS | AUG 7 - 10

Admission to the entire weekend including all paid venues.

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

FOLK STEPS | AUG 7

One admission to the event, *Celebrating 40 years of music by the sea!*, featuring speakers, stories, and songs.

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

DAY PASS | AUG 7, 8, 9, or 10

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 8 or 9

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

GOODWILL DONATION

AFTERNOON TICKET | AUG 8, 9, or 10

Admission to all afternoon venues for one day.

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

EVENING MAIN STAGE | AUG 7, 8, 9, or 10

Admission to one evening Main Stage.

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

SUNDAY MORNING GOSPEL CONCERT | AUG 10

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 and WHARF STAGE CONCERTS | AUG 8, 9, or 10

The Park Stage is an outdoor venue in a Town of Lunenburg park. **In case of rain, the Park Stage moves to St. John's Parish Hall.** The Wharf stage is on the Adams & Knickle Wharf on the Lunenburg Waterfront. **In case of rain, the Wharf Stage moves to the Zwicker Wharf Building.** See map, page 78.

GOODWILL DONATION

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
Festival Box Office | 6 King St., Lunenburg
(Keller Williams Select Realty building)

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

Festival Box Office hours at 6 King Street are 9:00 am until 5:00 pm daily, from Tuesday, August 5 to Sunday, August 10.

The Folk Harbour office is NOT a Box Office location as of August 5.

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 Festival Box Office or the Main Stage Box Office.

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. 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.

DRIFT COFFEE TRUCK - quality espresso and brewed coffee, along with cold specialty drinks and baked goods.

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!

MOMONEPAL - authentic Nepalese food vender that serves up hot, handmade Nepali momos—fresh, authentic and packed with flavour. Vegan and vegetarian options are available.

SHORE LUNCH - a varied selection of healthy sushi, using fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Committed to sustainability, Shore Lunch supports local farmers in delivering the finest culinary experience.

SOBERISH MOCKTAILS - non-alcoholic wines, spirits, beer and mocktails.



Food vendors at the 2022 Folk Harbour Festival.

David Baillieul photo



Hon. Susan Corkum-Greek
MLA for Lunenburg

97 Kaulbach St, Lunenburg

902-634-8708

susancorkumgreekmla@gmail.com



CONCESSIONS

You can purchase merchandise at the Wharf Stage Concessions tent on Friday and Saturday 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, although these seats can fill up quickly so 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 Zwicker Wharf Building 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.



groundSOUND



March 19-22 2026

Prince Edward Island
Winter
BLUEGRASS
Festival

**Delta Prince Edward by Marriott
Charlottetown, PEI**

Featuring The Tim O'Brien Band
Old Man Luedecke - McMillan's Camp Boys
Shane Pendergast Trio - Bluegrass Tradition
Blue Meadow - Janet McGarry Band
Sunny Mountain Gals - Stiff Family Band
Bluestreak - Bad Hoss
Holland College SOPA Students
Great Workshops and Late Nite All-Star Jams!

**Weekend Passes and Hotel
Reservations Starting July 7th
Early Bird Draws Online!**

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Bluegrass, Old Time and Traditional East Coast Music **Winter Meltdown!**

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Prince
Edward
Island
The Gentle Island



KW

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FOLK HARBOUR TRIVIA CONTEST

As we celebrate 40 years, we want to know how much you know about Folk Harbour. There have been so many “Musical memories made by the sea!” How many of them do you remember?



Scan the QR code to be taken to our 40th anniversary quiz. There are prizes to be won!!



Main Stage audience at 2024 Folk Harbour Festival.

Kerry Jarvis photo

It just got real.

Support in buying or selling
a home, from start to finish.

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REALTOR® can help. >

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A photograph of an older couple standing in a room with light-colored walls and wooden floors. The man, wearing a yellow t-shirt, has his arms around the woman, who is wearing a dark green t-shirt. They are both looking towards the right. In the background, a wooden ladder and some boxes are visible, suggesting a home renovation or move.

LUNENBURG FOLK HARBOUR SOCIETY 2025

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

L-R: Johanna Patrick, Tom McFall, Maggie Ostler, Dana Allen, Mary Gilson, Seamore (Folk Harbour mascot), Mary Dillon, Louis Robitaille, Kandace Clark Westin

Garry Woodcock photo

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

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



DIRECTORS

Dana Allen, Mary Dillon, Mary Gilson, Robert Lawrence, Maggie Ostler, Johanna Patrick, and Kandace Clark Westin.
 Director Emeritus: Chris Anderson

OFFICE STAFF

Administrative Services Coordinator: Kristen Martell
Financial Services Coordinator: Eilidh Campbell
Festival Support Staff: Rachel Hopkins
John Whicher Memorial Mentorship Program: Libby Saunders

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:	Simon Gordon
Festival Guide & Newsletter:	Mary Dillon
Finance:	Michael Pittman
Food Vendors:	Lisa Purcell
Grant writing:	Mary Dillon
Hospitality:	Heather Joudrey
Opera House:	Tom McFall
Parking and Security:	Drew McCarthy
Personnel:	Tom McFall
Program:	Louis Robitaille
Publicity and Marketing:	Dana Allen
50/50 Draw:	Tom McFall
Site (acting):	Louis Robitaille
Transportation:	James Hirtle and Mary Gilson
Youth and Education:	Mary Dillon

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 & Nikki Burke
 George & Rosalie Case
 David Corbeil & Michael Beckett
 Emma & Daryl Davies
 Teri-Lynn Dempsey
 Shannon Dewald & Jason Semenek
 Chris & Annette Diller
 Emma Fitzgerald
 Debbie Flemming & Chris Root
 Rosemary Fleming-Featherstone
 Ariane & Dimitri Gleize
 Kelly & Patricia Jamieson
 Marilyn Keddy
 Barb & Andy Kehoe
 Sonya Kobes
 Helen & Keith Lathier

Michael & Carol Lord
 Kate Lum-Potvin & Brian Potvin
 Patsy MacDonald
 Lynda McLaren
 Sarah & Jonathan Miesner
 Leanne & Joel Morin
 Graham & Lynn Mowbray
 Benjamin Diaz Olavarrieta
 Susan Otto-Bain & Rick Bain
 George & Janet Palmer
 Lisa Booth & Elvis Pye
 Trish & Chris Pye
 Peggy Richardson
 Paula & Matt Schwindt
 Theresa Seguin & Robert Keene
 Joel & Kandace Westin
 Ruth Anne Whicher
 Lynn Yoshikawa & Ali Riaz

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 Allan
 Shelah Allen
 Chris Anderson
 Kathy Armstrong
 Darcy Atwood-Smith
 David Baillieul
 Freda Baillieul
 Sara Beveridge

Bill Birch
 Carole Birch
 June Brinkman
 Dante Bruhm
 George Case
 Doug Cashin
 Cynthia Clarke
 Bennett Cook
 Derek Couch

Alan Creaser
 Mark Currie
 Mary Dillon
 Bob Durovich
 Graeme Durovich
 Keegan Durovich
 Marisa Eisner
 Cindy Ellis
 Barry Fader

Sal Falk	Janet Mason	Gerry Porrier
Karen Ferguson	Kim Mason	Nancy Powers
Barbara Flowers	Les Mason	Judy Purcell
Mary Anne Fox	Derek McCarthy	Carrie Read
David Friendly	Drew McCarthy	Kevin Read
Dave Gass	Tomi McCarthy	Don Rice
Mary Gilson	Letty McFall	Darrin Richard
Peter Glenister	Tom McFall	Donelda Richard
Lisa Golden	Sheri McGill	Susan Robertson
Simon Gordon	Maureen Moffat	Louis Robitaille
Peggie Graham	Marion Moore	Madeleine Robitaille
Bri Hennigar	Charlene Morton	Amy Russell
James Hirtle	Graham Mowbray	Kelly Schnare
Blake Holland	Joseph Muzzi	Ed Schreiber
Anke Holm	Lynn Myra	Jim Shatford
Bonnie Isabelle	Paul Nodwell	Dave Shaw
Ian Jarvie	Barry Olivella	Elaine Shaw
Kerry Jarvis	Harrison Olivella	Gil Shreiber
Jennifer Josenhans	Joanie Olivella	Ujjwal Signh Dadwal
Cecil Joudrey	Mark Olivella	Darryl Sloght
Heather Joudrey	Maggie Ostler	Julie Smith
Jutta Juraschek	Robert Parkinson	Rayen Symonds
Marilyn Keddy	David Patrick	Deb Trask
Robert Keene	Katrina Patterson	Kimberley Tupert
Barb Kehoe	Clare Pawsey	Monique Vivier
Deborah Kiceniuk	Angie Payne	Daniel Vokey
Diana Komejan	Darryl Payne	Jeff Wayne
Duncan Kroll	Rhonda Penney	Don Webster
Abby Levy	Dick Pentz	Anne Macleod-Weeks
Cameron Levy	Linda Pentz	Erin Wells
Jamie Lippay	Sarah Phipps	Kandace Clark Westin
Julie Lohnes-Cashin	Foster Phipps-Chong	Nancy Wilson
Tracey Lothian	Kate Phipps-Chong	Garry Woodcock
Cullen MacDougall	Ian Pineau	Barry Wooten
Eilish MacDougall	Michael Pittman	Linda Zinowki
Ewan MacDougall	Wallace Polson	Marilyn Zinowki



Some of the volunteers who make Folk Harbour happen!

David + Freda Baillieul photo

FOLK HARBOUR SOCIETY SUPPORTERS

Approximately 10% of our funding comes from our Members and Friends. At the time of printing, our list of Friends included the following:

+\$1000

Jordis Asbell-Clarke
Black Family Foundation
Doug Cashin & Julie Lohnes-Cashin
Mary Dillon
Colin Finlay
Jackie Manthorne
Pat McGowan and Dennis Carter
In honour of Val and Earl Meister
Michael T. Pittman
Louis Robitaille
Melitta Smole and Kerry Jarvis
Deborah Trask
Sheila & Garry Woodcock

\$100 - \$999

Dana Allen
Shelah Allen
Julius & Trudi Chepey
Seth Congdon
Ian Dale
Judy Doan

Robert Durovich
Steve Dyer
Deborah Glassman
Peter Glenister
Alexander Grabowski
Christophe Herbinger
Fern Jordan
Philip Kolvin
William MacDonald
Annie MacNeil & Larry Earl Hansen
Lynn Mowbray
Anna Osburn
Maggie Ostler
Linda Pentz
Diana Pepall
Dan Pittman
Shannon Pittman
Swain Chartered Professional
Accountants
Garth Vickers
Martha Vowels & William Toner

\$40 FOR 40!

To help make our 40th Folk Harbour Festival extra-special, we asked for donations through our "\$40 for 40" campaign and so many people answered the call or donated in other ways. Thank you for your generosity!!

Dwayne Abrahams
Tiffany Allen
Vickie Allen
Sandra Aylward
Brian Bowers
Jim Breeze
Patricia Carruthers
Brian Comeau
Barbara Cowan
Sheryl Crowley
Michelle D'Eon
Ann Dent
Colleen Duncan
Susan Flygare
Bruce Foote
David Friendly
Alex Frith
Marni Gent
Holly Gunn

Laurie Haig
Elizabeth Lusby
Paul McDonnell
Mary Norton
Evelyn Perkins
Mark Powell
Madeleine Robitaille
Marcel Robitaille
Janice Rogers
Barbara Robson
Therese Saunders
Dan Snyder
Sarah Stanley
Sandra Stewart
Emma Swinimer
Jane Taylor
Hannah Westner
Chris Wyard

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 inducting a group of volunteers who have been instrumental in our success over the last 40 years: **Karen Bates, Durovich Family (Robert, Colyer, Graeme, and Keegan), David Friendly, Barry Gradwohl, James Hirtle, Marilyn Keddy, Barb Kehoe, and Barry Wotten.** We could not have done it without you!

2001:	Clary Croft Jeff Davis Bill Plaskett	2017:	Garry Woodcock
2002:	Gordon Stobbe	2022:	Deborah Trask
2003:	Val ^D & Earl ^D Meister	2023:	Barbara ^D & Barry Olivella
	Don & Anna Osburn	2024:	Ruth Anne & John ^D Whicher
2005:	Chris Anderson	2025:	Karen Bates
2008:	Bev Lamb		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		Marilyn Keddy
	Mary ^D & Roy ^D Landis		Barb Kehoe
2016:	Ron Word		Barry Wotten
2017:	Dillon/Robitaille Family (Mary, Louis, Marcel & Madeleine)		

D = deceased



Chris Anderson (centre) receiving his Lifetime Friend of the Festival award in 2005, pictured with his daughter, Rebecca and son, Ben.

Garry Woodcock 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 **Town of Lunenburg** has been a supporter of the Folk Harbour Festival since the beginning, through both financial grants and providing logistical support.



The **Municipality of the District of Lunenburg** is a sponsor of the Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival.



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.



The **SOCAN Foundation**, founded in 1992, is dedicated to fostering musical creativity and to promoting a better understanding of the role of music creators in today's society.

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)



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.

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.



Atlantic Lottery proudly supports partnerships that celebrate Atlantic Canada and are impactful to our communities.



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".



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.



hb studios

HB Studios has created captivating and award-winning video games for over 20 years. They are a team of developers, creators, and fans who are passionate about the art and process in bringing games to life.



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.



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.



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.



Saltbox Brewing Company is a craft brewery in Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia. They express the heritage and craftsmanship found in Nova Scotia by brewing good beer.



Whether you're in the mood to explore our beautiful shoreline, visit with a local fisherman, or just sit back, relax and sip locally-made craft beers and wines, **Seaweed Tours** is sure to delight.



Smugglers Cove Inn was founded in 2002 and is one of Lunenburg's biggest privately owned 4 star hotels. This historic inn is conveniently situated in a prime location in the heart of the Town.



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

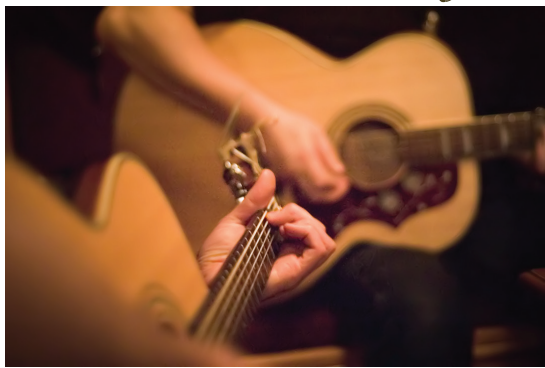


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Sept 17-21, 2025
12th Annual Festival





Above: Backstage at the Festival's Main Stage

Below: Terra Spencer on the Wharf: Music by the Sea!

David Baillieul photo

Kerry Jarvis photo



Thank you for joining us at the 2025 Folk Harbour Festival! In celebration of 40 years we have included some photos to look back and showcase a few of our most iconic venues, performers, and volunteers. Many thanks to the wonderful photographers who have donated their time and talent throughout the years.



Above: Starb'ard Side, Folk Harbour's first "house band"

Below: Ken Matheson and Alma Houston were key players in the early years of Folk Harbour. See page 32 to read about Ken and page 52 to read about Alma.



Below - L: Wharf audience

Below - R: Main Stage tent above Lunenburg's waterfront

Kerry Jarvis photo

Eric Hayes photo



Above: Sunday morning gospel concert

Below: Long-time volunteers, past Folk Harbour presidents, and Lifetime Friends of Folk Harbour: Barb Kehoe (photo taken in 1994) and Garry Woodcock (2017).







RAIN VENUES: Park Stage (10) moves to John's Parish Hall (9)
Wharf Stage (3) moves to Zwicker Wharf Building (2)

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, 3, 6, 7, 8,** and **10** on the map above plus the Lunenburg Community Centre at 15 Green St., where there is plenty of free parking (**11**). The shuttle will not go to the Main Stage during the daytime. 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.

Special thanks to Saunders Motors, Bridgewater and Payless Fuels for helping us to provide this service.

Map credit: Lunenburg Board of Trade / Town of Lunenburg

MAP LEGEND:

- | | | | |
|-----------|---|--|------------------|
| 1 | Main Stage Tent / Evening Box Office | | Picnic area |
| 2 | Zwicker Wharf Building | | Parking |
| 3 | Wharf Stage (Adams & Knickle) | | Public washrooms |
| 4 | Folk Harbour Office | | Playground |
| 5 | Festival Day Time Box Office | | Church |
| 6 | Lunenburg Opera House | | Information |
| 7 | Central United Church & Hall | | Museum |
| 8 | St. John's Anglican Church | | Shuttle stop |
| 9 | St. John's Parish Hall | | |
| 10 | Park Stage (Labrador Park) | | |
| 11 | Toward Community Centre / Parking at 15 Green St. | | |

L U N E N B U R G

FOLK HARBOUR

*Weekends at the
Opera House*

Fall 2025



Oct. 3

3 Pianos, 6 Hands,
No Plans (Kim Dunn,
Doris Mason & O'Sound)

Oct. 4

2nd Generation

Oct. 24

Rose Cousins

Oct. 25

Christina Martin

Nov. 7

Black Umfolosi

Nov. 8

Measha

Brueggergosman-Lee

Nov. 15

Lennie Gallant:

Christmas

(3:00 pm)



LUNENBURG OPERA HOUSE
7:30 PM SHOW TIME

*LENNIE GALLANT 3:00 PM START

folkharbour.com