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canada day parade

Port Hope Jazz kicked off the summer by participating in the Port Hope Canada Day Parade. With the help of Lauria Auto Group — who lent a Palisade to pull the float — parade watchers were treated to live music by **Casual Friday**, dancing and lots of fun. ★



2024 Port Hope Jazz Festival

After months of planning, Thursday, August 22nd arrived and the Festival began. First up: a free concert in Memorial Park which was a co-production with Road to Cultivate. **Joy Lapps** played steel pan, backed by her band.

Later that night, the BLou Room opened with a performance by the **Mike Downes Trio** with **Robi Botos** and **Ted Quinlan**. The room is named BLou in tribute to Lou Pamenter, a member of the Port Hope Jazz board and an enthusiastic booster of the arts wherever she lived. Lou passed away in June, 2024 but her contributions will outlast us all.

On Friday, August 23rd, **Ewen Farncombe** and **Alex Bird** brought their elegant and romantic tunes to TwentySix restaurant. Meanwhile, at The Beamish House, **Charlotte McAfee-Brunner**, trombone and her band blew the audience away.

The Shuffle Demons (with **Colleen Allen** filling in last minute for an ailing Demon) put everyone at the Ganaraska Hotel into a great mood with their upbeat sets.

Finally, a new feature in this year's Festival — an after hours jam — took place at the BLou Room. **Michael Shand**, **Duncan Hopkins** and **Lorne Nehring** were the house band for the evening and musicians were invited to bring their instruments and play. And some talented performers did show up! A special shout out to the fellow from Brampton who sang 'This Masquerade'.

On Saturday the 24th, we worried that the weather would let us down, but the day was perfect... bright and sunny, just what a summer day should be. So we complained about being too hot. **Alex Pangman** and the **Alleycats** played to a packed patio at The Beamish House. At the Ganaraska Brewing Company, **Jesse Ryan** and **Adrean Farrugia** played music from their special duo project.

In the evening, **Kellylee Evans** filled Port Hope United Church with her talent and enthusiasm. The church's amazing acoustics meant we caught the full force of Kellylee's message of positivity.

The evening ended at the BLou Room again, with some great performances including performances by **Tanya Wills** and **Kellylee Evans**. You never know who will show up for an after hours jam session!

And then, just like that, it was Sunday the 25th, a.k.a. the final day of the Festival. For early risers, there was a performance at Port Hope United Church by the **Lorne Nehring Quartet** featuring **Alex Dean** along with **George Koller** and **Tom Reynolds**. The **Duncan Hopkins Trio** featuring **Allison Au** and **Reg Schwager** played a lunchtime set at The Beamish House, where it was still bright, sunny and hot.

Steve Holt's new quintet, 'Jazz Impact' featuring **Kevin Turcotte**, **Perry White**, **Duncan Hopkins** and **Terry Clarke** performed two high energy sets at the Ganaraska Brewing Company. To wrap up the day and the Festival, **Tryptique** featuring **Colleen Allen**, **Fern Lindzon** and **George Koller** played jazz vespers at Port Hope United Church. Watch for a recording soon from both of these groups.

It was an amazing four days of music, sun and fun. Thank you to everyone who helped: the planning committee, the volunteers, the sound engineers and all the venues where the performances happened. Thank you to the musicians, you were all fantastic. Thank you to the donors and sponsors. And thanks to all the audiences who travelled from all over Southern Ontario and Quebec to hear live jazz. We couldn't do it without you! ★

Port Hope Jazz Festival performances



Port Hope Jazz Festival performances (cont'd.)



Colleen Allen and 'This Masquerade' singer



Michael Shand, Duncan Hopkins, Lorne Nehring



Alex Pangman and the Alleycats



Adrean Farrugia and Jesse Ryan



Kellylee Evans



Port Hope Jazz Festival performances (cont'd.)



The Duncan Hopkins Trio featuring Allison Au and Reg Schwager



Steve Holt's Jazz Impact featuring Duncan Hopkins, Terry Clarke, Perry White and Kevin Turcotte



Tryptique featuring Fern Lindzon, George Koller and Colleen Allen

81 Walton Street Stage

Port Hope Jazz has partnered with the Port Hope HBIA to build a new performance space. Located behind the Walton Hotel, this stage will be used for busking and special shows. The fun began on September 7th with a ribbon cutting ceremony, then the band **Casual Friday** entertained.

This space was made possible by the generous support and donations from Will & Jennie Ryan, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters Local 397 and RONA Northumberland Building Materials Ltd. ★



port Hope Jazz Appearances

Port Hope Arts Festival

August is arts month in Port Hope and August 10th was this year's annual Arts Festival in Memorial Park. There were 10-minute plays, live music, dancing, art displays and more. Port Hope Jazz was there too, promoting the Festival and photographing people with musical instruments and props. Here are some of the cool jazz looks that were captured. ★



Notes from the Artistic Director - Colleen Allen

To my great delight, I was able to gather together a group of young Port Hope/Cobourg musicians to open for **Joy Lapps'** show. **Colsen Deak** and **Lucas Arciniegas** joined me and **Rob Christian** (Joy's sax player) to play a couple of sax quartet numbers before the main show. Youth engagement is one of the festival's biggest priorities, so we're off to a good start!

I may have had the most amount of fun sitting in at the after hours event at the BLOU Room on both Friday and Saturday evening. **Michael Shand** and **Duncan Hopkins** hosted the evenings, with **Lorne Nehring** sitting in on drums both nights. The place was packed, drinks and food were flowing and the music was exquisite!

I'll wrap this up with one final anecdote: I had a gentleman reach out to me at the Ganny to say that he was ready for a move out of Toronto and had come to Port Hope to see what it was like. The Ganny was hopping, people were dancing and obviously enjoying the music, the BLOU room was packed and he asked "Is this the vibe in Port Hope all the time?" And I thought - why not!

The weekend would not have happened without the hard work, dedication and crazy commitment from the board members and all of the volunteers. Thank you all! ★



Rob Christian, Lucas Arciniegas, Colsen Deak and Colleen Allen

UPCOMING SHOWS

**Brian Barlow Big Band with Heather Bambrick -
Saturday, November 30, 3pm**

**Laila Biali -
Sunday, December 15, 3pm**

Announcing:



The Brian Barlow Big Band with Heather Bambrick

Join us on November 30th to hear this sensational 15-piece big band performing seasonal classics such as Duke Ellington's *Nutcracker Suite*, A *Charlie Brown Christmas* and much more. A great way to kick off the festive season!



Tickets available at
www.eventbrite.ca

saturday, November 30, 2024

Port Hope United Church,
34 South St., Port Hope, Ontario
3:00pm
\$30, \$15 for students

port hope
jazz
Featuring Canadian artists
porthopejazz.com
@porthopejazz



PRESENT



Laila Biali quartet

Wintersongs and Holiday Classics

Laila Biali (piano/voice), Jane Bunnett (reeds),
George Koller (bass), Ben Wittman (drums)
with a string ensemble accompaniment.

sunday, December 15, 2024

Victoria Hall, 55 King St. W., Cobourg, Ontario
3:00pm

Tickets are \$50 plus tax and service fee.
Available at the Victoria Hall Box Office,
online or by calling 855-372-2210.

lailabiali.com
porthopejazz.com
cobourgloft.ca

Port Hope Jazz is a volunteer driven non-profit organization passionate about delivering the best of Canadian Jazz to residents and visitors in Port Hope. We have a charitable mandate to advance musical education, and the public's appreciation of jazz. Port Hope Jazz had a fifteen-year successful run with a three-day big tent festival from 2001 to 2016. In 2017 and 2018 we ran road show events during the year featuring both local and national musicians in venues throughout Northumberland County. Following a four-weekend mini festival in August 2021, we have been producing an annual festival weekend - the fourth weekend of August.

To make a Charitable Donation via Canada Helps: www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/90169

Thank you to our generous sponsors and donors!

