

Forecast calls for sold-out patio series at 19 on the Park

BY ALI RAZA
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What's better than sitting on a patio on a warm, breezy summer day? Sitting on a patio on a warm, breezy summer day while enjoying live music by up-and-coming talent.

It's the Summer Patio Series at the Lebovic

Centre for Arts & Entertainment Nineteen on the Park. The series offers four outdoor patio concerts this summer starting in June. Now in its fourth year, the series has grown from two to four events.

"We really didn't have something like this in Stouffville before," said 19 on the Park cultural facility and programming coordinator

Ashley Chappell. "We tried it out and in the first year those two events sold out. I thought 'perfect, Stouffville wants this'."

The patio series is well received by the town, with sold-out shows every year since it began. Alongside music and entertainment, guests are offered coffee and sweets in the closed-off licensed patio.

This year's artists are Jason Wilson & The Perennials, Ian Kelly, Union Duke and Kirsten Jones.

"Usually, I try to pick up more up and coming artists for the series," Chappell said. "We try to pick a genre of music that everyone will enjoy since it's outdoor."

Stouffville's own Jason Wilson combines the Scottish folk tradition with a unique reggae sound. His band offers music that's described as "reggae-impressionism" or "jazzy-reggae". Wilson will perform songs from his latest album *Perennials*, released this spring. Previously, the band has toured across Canada, the UK and Jamaica.

Jason Wilson & The Perennials are set to perform for the summer patio series on Saturday, June 25, at 8 p.m.

Ian Kelly's been described as "the big guy with that unique voice". His arrangements and lyrics have grown popular throughout his performances. His previous album, *Speak Your Mind*, went gold in Canada after 40,000 copies were sold, just weeks before his new third album, *Diamonds & Plastic*.

Based out of Montreal, Kelly's coming to Stouffville for his outdoor show on July 15



KIRSTEN JONES

at 8 p.m.

Folk quintet Union Duke hails from Toronto and offer soulful indie rock with bluegrass and country influences. Their harmonized vocals are known to get the audience dancing. Union Duke will perform tracks from their two albums, *Cash & Carry* and *Bandits & Bridges*.

They're coming to Stouffville on Aug. 10, performing at 8 p.m.

Kirsten Jones exclaims "life is short" in her song "I Don't Wanna Live Like This". Her words reflect the vibe she brings with her music. Jones now follows her dreams after quitting her office job and pursuing music full time. Her first major release, *The Mad Mile*, is inspired by her life-changing moment while sea kayaking in New Zealand during a treacherous storm on a part of the coast known as the Mad Mile.

She's based out of Toronto and will make her way to Stouffville for her show on Aug. 26 at 8 p.m., closing up the series for 2016.

Tickets for each show of the series are \$29 and it includes coffee and treats. For more information and tickets, visit nineteenonthepark.com

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