



Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage Announces 2021 Season Lineup

**Free In-Person Shows Return June 17 in Central Park
Featuring the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis
Followed By *Summer Of Soul* Juneteenth Celebration with Questlove
in Marcus Garvey Park**

**This Season will Feature New York-Centric Artists, Including
Patti Smith and Her Band;
Sun Ra Arkestra; Antibalas; Tito Nieves; Marc Rebillet;
Armand Hammer & The Alchemist featuring Moor Mother, Fielded,
and KAYANA; Complexions Contemporary Ballet and Parsons Dance;
The Dom Salvador Samba Jazz Sextet; Erica Campbell;
The Metropolitan Opera & More to be Announced**

**Benefit Concerts Include Machine Gun Kelly, Dawes,
Lake Street Dive, Indigo Girls with Ani DiFranco and Blue Note at
SummerStage featuring George Clinton, Chris Botti and Galactic**

**SummerStage in Coney Island Returns Featuring Gloria Gaynor,
La India, Ginuwine, Funk Flex, A Michael Jackson Tribute & More**

Charlie Parker Jazz Festival Returns to Harlem this August

Tickets will be Required for All Free & Benefit Show Performances

NEW YORK, NY - June 3, 2021 – City Parks Foundation is thrilled to return to live, in-person performances this summer with the announcement of the shows planned for the 2021 season of **Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage**, New York City's largest free outdoor performing arts festival. This year's festival will showcase renowned artists and rising stars with an important tie to New York City. SummerStage shows will be returning to Rumsey Playfield in Central Park, Marcus Garvey Park in Harlem, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in Queens, and The Coney Island Amphitheater, presenting distinctly New York genres including hip-hop, Latin,



indie rock, contemporary dance, jazz, and global music. The annual **Charlie Parker Jazz Festival** will return for two days at Harlem's Marcus Garvey Park/Richard Rodgers Amphitheater in August. Performances will be live-streamed on SummerStageAnywhere.org, artist approval and rights permitting. A digital season brochure is available now at SummerStage.org.

The 2021 SummerStage season will open with a free concert featuring the **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra** with **Wynton Marsalis** on **Thursday, June 17** in Central Park. Since the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra was founded in 1988, the group's historical bent has blossomed, paying particular attention to the Duke Ellington oeuvre as well as works by Count Basie, Fletcher Henderson, Thelonious Monk, Mary Lou Williams, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman, Charles Mingus, and many others. The New York-based orchestra is made up of 15 of the finest soloists, ensemble players, and arrangers in jazz music today. Free tickets are required for entry; ticket reservations will be open for request [on Monday, June 7 at 12:00PM ET](#).

Celebrate Juneteenth in Harlem with a free, outdoor screening of *Summer of Soul* presented by Target in association with Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage, NYC Parks' Historic Harlem Parks and Jazzmobile. The special advance screening will be followed by live performances at The Richard Rodgers Amphitheater in Marcus Garvey Park featuring Questlove and surprise guests. [*Summer of Soul \(...Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised\)*](#), directed by Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson, highlights the story of the momentous 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival which took place in Marcus Garvey Park, featuring never-before-seen footage from the massive concert series that was - until now - virtually eliminated from the history books. The film had its world premiere at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival and was met with rave reviews, taking home both the grand jury prize and the audience award. *Summer of Soul* will stream on Hulu in conjunction with Disney General Entertainment's Onyx Collective; Searchlight Pictures will release it theatrically on July 2, 2021. Free tickets are required for entry; ticket reservations will be open for request [on Monday, June 7 at 12:00 PM ET](#).

This season emphasizes our city's rebirth and resilience illustrated by the many free performances planned, especially **Sun Ra Arkestra**, who performed at the inaugural SummerStage concert at the Central Park Bandshell in 1986, and symbolizes our festival's rebirth after a year's hiatus. Considered the pioneer of Afrofuturism, this jazz group will make its return to Central Park joined alongside female jazz ensemble **Sistazz of the Nitty Gritty** on July 24. July 25 will recognize New York's position as the dance capital of the world with **Dance IS!**, an evening featuring some of our city's brightest dance talents, including artists from **Rennie Harris Puremovement**,



Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Parsons Dance, A.I.M by Kyle Abraham, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater with special guest **Madison McFerrin**, and **Soles of Duende** with guest artist **Asha Griffith**. On July 31, New York DJ legends **The Originals** will make their triumphant return to SummerStage with a joyous dance party celebration. The formidable collective of true New York tastemakers has dominated the nightlife scene for over 30 years.

New York's favorite salsa star and SummerStage alum, **Tito Nieves**, aka "El Pavarotti de la Salsa," will perform on August 1. The Puerto Rican-born and New York-raised musician became one of the leading salsa singers of the 1980s and the early 1990s with an enduring legacy that remains relevant today. One of New York's most iconic cultural institutions, the **Metropolitan Opera** will return to Central Park for its 12th year on August 8. The company will present a Summer Recital featuring Met Opera Stars in an evening of arias and duets from some of opera's most beloved works. New York City-based electronic musician and internet sensation **Marc Rebillet**, known for his improvisational sets and comedic lyrics, will be joined by some of his previous collaborators, the iconic DJ and record producer **DJ Premier** (D'Angelo, Nas, Kanye West) and Harlem bass player **Brady Watt** plus special guests on August 14. Incendiary Brooklyn-based rap duo **Armand Hammer** (Elucid and Billy Woods) and prolific hip-hop producer **The Alchemist** will take over SummerStage on August 15. They are joined by a group of close friends and collaborators featuring experimental visionary **Moor Mother**, and R&B producers/singers **KAYANA** and **Fielded**. This standout group of artists recently collaborated on the widely celebrated album *Haram*. Brooklyn-based Afrobeat band **Antibalas**, modeled after Fela Kuti's Africa 70 and Eddie Palmieri's Harlem River Drive Orchestra, will perform on August 21.

New York mainstay and pioneer **Dom Salvador** will perform with his Samba Jazz Sextet on September 4. Salvador, a jazz pianist, composer, and arranger who is credited as the founder of samba funk, has been the house musician at the River Cafe in DUMBO for over 40 years, one of NYC's longest residencies. GRAMMY award-winning contemporary R&B, gospel singer, and New York City radio personality **Erica Campbell** will perform on September 11. Campbell started her music career in 1998 as part of the chart-topping gospel group, Mary Mary. On September 19, New York icon **Patti Smith and her band** will return to SummerStage. Smith's brand of hard-nosed rock and roll was infused with the spirit of experimentation and free expression that made downtown Manhattan so exciting. Later in her career, she would establish herself as a crucial voice of activism, using her platform to speak out against unjust wars and oppression, and her songs have resonated with people around the globe. Smith will be joined by her band for an unforgettable evening



under the stars in Central Park. More free Central Park shows will be announced in the coming weeks.

SummerStage is partnering with Rooftop Films for a free drive-in film and live performance at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in Queens on June 24 in association with Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Jr.. A free screening of the British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA)-winning Indian comedy-drama *Monsoon Wedding*, will follow a special live performance from GRAMMY-nominated, internationally recognized artist **Falu**, known for her modern inventive style and her formidable, classically-shaped vocal talent. Falu is currently an artist-in-residence at Carnegie Hall. SummerStage is also partnering with Rooftop Films to feature short films prior to Central Park shows this season. Rooftop Films will curate programs of new short films from around the world, featuring the work of filmmakers whose voices and stories complement the featured musical performers and represent the vibrant international communities of our city. The screenings will include official selections from Rooftop Films' 25th anniversary Summer Series, the nation's largest outdoor showcase for new independent films. Films will be announced at a later date.

The **Charlie Parker Jazz Festival**, SummerStage's annual salute to the eponymous late saxophonist, will return for its 29th year with a weekend of live jazz in Harlem's historic Marcus Garvey Park/Richard Rodgers Amphitheater. Running August 28 and 29, the festival will feature *Jazziz Magazine's* 2007 Person of the Year, **Donald Harrison** and his quartet, performing "Charlie Parker with Strings" along with **The Harlem Symphony Orchestra**, on August 28, highlighting the historic visibility and contributions of African American orchestral instrumentalists. On August 29, the **Charlie Parker Centennial Celebration** with music direction by leading drummer **Willie Jones III** in association with Jazz at Lincoln Center will feature an international and inter-generational lineup celebrating the global impact of Charlie Parker: Nicaraguan-born American jazz pianist and music composer **Donald Vega**; up-and-coming bassist **Endea Owens**, who won Lincoln Center's Emerging Artist award in 2019; Manhattan-born veteran alto saxophonist **Justin Robinson**; Japan-born, New York-based prodigy saxophonist **Erena Terakubo**; Harlem-born and Haitian-raised alto saxophonist **Godwin Louis** and NY-based up-and-coming, vibrant saxophonist **Sarah Hanahan**.

"We are so thrilled to bring SummerStage back for all New Yorkers to enjoy in-person, outside, in parks again this summer. The artists performing this summer represent a true sense of resiliency in their own art and deep connection to New York City," said **Erika Elliott, Executive Artistic Director of SummerStage**. "While we continued to present artists of all genres for the past year with SummerStage



Anywhere digitally, we are eager to provide artists the platform to perform to a live audience and to bring communities together to enjoy the live, spirited experience that is truly unique to our city and festival.”

SummerStage will be operating at modified production levels and performances will initially be held at a reduced capacity in all of our venues to abide by social distancing requirements. Free tickets are required for entry to every free SummerStage show this season. Ticket pod requests must be made in advance through our online entry form. Forms will be available three (3) weeks prior to each show. Ticket request forms will open on Mondays at 12:00PM ET on the show specific webpage at SummerStage.org. Requesting a ticket does not guarantee entry, attendees who are selected at random will be emailed their ticket confirmation in advance of the show. Sign up for the SummerStage newsletter [here](#) for show information and ticket reservation reminders closer to show dates. As New York State and City safety guidelines for public gatherings are rapidly changing, City Parks Foundation will frequently update our audiences on venue safety protocols. Details will be shared on our website and on our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages in advance of each show. For the most current guidelines, show updates, and additional venue information and restrictions, please visit cityparksfoundation.org/summerstage-safety

“The last year has been enormously difficult for our city, but New York City’s parks have provided needed respite. Now, our parks will help us re-engage with one another, generating the unique energy that is sparked only by experiencing live performance collectively,” said **Heather Lubov, City Parks Foundation’s Executive Director**. “This year’s SummerStage line-up reflects our city’s tenacity and spirit, its vibrancy and creativity. We are thrilled to be back.”

Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage in partnership with iStar will also return to the Seaside Park Community Arts Center & the Coney Island Amphitheater in Brooklyn this summer for six free concerts. Grammy-award-winning disco hitmaker **Gloria Gaynor** will be performing on July 17 with Harlem-via-East London selector **DJ Stormin Norman**, who brought mix shows to daytime radio in the 90’s on WBLS. Puerto Rican singer/songwriter and Latin Grammy Award-winner **La India** will take the stage on July 18 with a soon to-be-announced DJ. Before Celia Cruz would dub her the “Princess of Salsa,” La India got her start in the South Bronx, where she was a founding member of the Latin Freestyle group TKA. Multi-platinum R&B artist **Ginuwine** with special guests will celebrate legendary hip-hop DJ **Funk Flex’s** birthday on August 7. An icon in the hip-hop community, Flex started his DJ career at sixteen in NYC nightclubs and now spins weekly for over 8,000 club-goers. On August 29, a special performance of **INVINCIBLE: A Glorious tribute to Michael**



Jackson will take over the Coney Island stage. Hailed as the #1 Michael Jackson tribute show in the world, it features the world's most authentic Jackson impersonators. The Bronx's own, **DJ KS 360**, will be on hand to kick off the event. More SummerStage at the Coney Island Amphitheater shows will be announced at a later date.

SummerStage in Central Park will also host several paid benefit performances this season. **Blue Note at SummerStage** will present three shows, each with two seatings, a matinee and an evening show. On June 20, GRAMMY award-winning trumpeter **Chris Botti**, a musician known for his blended jazz-pop sound, will kick off the series. Funk icon **George Clinton** will return to SummerStage with his collective **Parliament Funkadelic** on June 27 and jazz-funk New Orleans-based jam band **Galactic** will be joined by Tank and the Bangas' vocalist **Anjelika "Jelly" Joseph** and special guest **MonoNeon** on July 11. **The Bowery Presents** benefit shows will include hip-hop/rap-rocker **Machine Gun Kelly** on September 13, Boston-based pop, rock, R&B, and jazz group **Lake Street Dive** on August 24, folk-rock band **Dawes** on September 17, and folk-rock co-bill **Indigo Girls** with **Ani DiFranco** on September 21 with more to be announced. Tickets must be purchased in advance for all benefit performances and are on sale now at SummerStage.org.

As a women-run festival with a mission of diversity and inclusion, since 2019 SummerStage has helped to transform the future of the music industry by participating in the PRS Foundation's international Keychange pledge, presenting an annual lineup that features a 50:50 gender balance. SummerStage is one of the few local festivals that has achieved this goal.

This year's SummerStage season artwork is illustrated by [Lyne Lucien](#). An award-winning Haitian artist based in Brooklyn, Lucien is an American Illustration Award Winner and a finalist for the Artbridge - Not a Monolith Residency. She has worked as a photo editor and art director at various publications including *New York Magazine*, *The Daily Beast* and *Architectural Digest*. Her drawings are rooted in community engagement and are influenced by the details she noticed around her in the US and Haitian cities where she lived as a youngster. The complexities of color, form, and texture she uses in this year's SummerStage design articulate the vivacity and diversity of NYC.

Capital One is the festival's multi-year title sponsor (**Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage**) and the official bank and credit card of the festival.



“Capital One is proud to continue our long-standing support for SummerStage as the title sponsor,” said **Michael Slocum, President, Commercial Banking and Northeast Regional President, Capital One**. “This city is resilient and free live music and dance performances bring neighborhoods to life. After a challenging year, we are committed to supporting New York City’s revival by sponsoring SummerStage performances and keeping them free and open for all New Yorkers to enjoy.”

For the most up-to-date lineup, follow SummerStage on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and visit SummerStage.org for festival information.

Performances will be live-streamed on SummerStageAnywhere.org, artist approval and rights permitting by Launch Inc. The company produces, captures, and streams live music and events in partnership with Hardwired.Tech who will debut a mobile, live broadcast studio at SummerStage this summer.

Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage is a proud member of the NYS Outdoor Performing Arts Coalition and the National Independent Venue Association (NIVA).

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Date	Day	Doors	Show	Artist	Location	Type of Show
Jun-17	Thursday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Jun-19	Saturday	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	Summer Of Soul Screening with Questlove and Friends	Marcus Garvey Park	Free, Tickets Required
Jun-20	Sunday	1:30 PM	3:00 PM	Chris Botti - Blue Note Jazz Festival	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase Required
Jun-20	Sunday	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Chris Botti - Blue Note Jazz Festival	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase



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						Required
Jun-24	Thursday	8:00 PM	8:30 PM	The Queens Drive-In: Monsoon Wedding featuring Falu in association with Rooftop Films and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Jr.	Flushing Meadows - Corona Park	Free, Tickets Required
Jun-27	Sunday	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	George Clinton - Blue Note Jazz Festival	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase Required
Jun-27	Sunday	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	George Clinton - Blue Note Jazz Festival	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase Required
Jul-11	Sunday	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	Galactic - Blue Note Jazz Festival	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase Required
Jul-11	Sunday	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	Galactic - Blue Note Jazz Festival	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase Required
Jul-17	Saturday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Gloria Gaynor / Sundae Sermon's - Dj Stormin' Norman of Disco Sequestered	Coney Island	Free, Tickets Required



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Jul-18	Sunday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	La India + More TBA	Coney Island	Free, Tickets Required
Jul-24	Saturday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Sun Ra Arkestra / Sistazz of the Nitty Gritty	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Jul-25	Sunday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Dance IS! Featuring Artists from Rennie Harris Puremovement, Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Parsons Dance, A.I.M by Kyle Abraham, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, special guest Madison McFerrin, and Soles of Duende with guest artist Asha Griffith	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Aug-1	Sunday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Tito Nieves	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Aug-7	Saturday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Funk Flex Birthday Concert with Ginuwine and Friends	Coney Island	Free, Tickets Required
Aug-8	Sunday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Met Opera Summer Recital	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Aug-14	Saturday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Marc Rebillet, DJ Premier and Brady Watt	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required



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Aug-15	Sunday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Armand Hammer & The Alchemist featuring Moor Mother, Fielded, and KAYANA	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Aug-21	Saturday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Antibalas	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Aug-24	Tuesday	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Lake Street Dive with Allison Russell	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase Required
Aug-28	Saturday	4:00 PM	6:00 PM	CPJF - Charlie Parker with Strings: The Donald Harrison Quartet and The Harlem Symphony Orchestra	Marcus Garvey Park	Free, Tickets Required
Aug-29	Sunday	4:00 PM	6:00 PM	CPJF - Willie Jones III - A Charlie Parker Centennial Celebration featuring Sarah Hanahan, Godwin Louis, Justin Robinson, Erena Terakubo with Donald Vega and Endea Owens in association with Jazz at Lincoln Center	Marcus Garvey Park	Free, Tickets Required



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Aug-29	Sunday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	INVINCIBLE: A Glorious tribute to Michael Jackson	Coney Island	Free, Tickets Required
Sep-4	Saturday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Dom Salvador Samba Jazz Sextet / Screening: "Dom Salvador & Abolition" in association with 25th Inffinito Brazilian Film Festival	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Sep-11	Saturday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Erica Campbell	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Sep-13	Monday	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Machine Gun Kelly "Tickets to My Downfall" Tour with jxdn and KennyHoopla	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase Required
Sep-17	Friday	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Dawes with special guests Bonny Light Horseman & Erin Rae	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase Required
Sep-19	Sunday	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Patti Smith and Her Band	Central Park	Free, Tickets Required
Sep-21	Tuesday	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Indigo Girls / Ani DiFranco	Central Park	Benefit, Ticket Purchase Required

SummerStage Social Media

Twitter: [@SummerStage](https://twitter.com/SummerStage)



Facebook: [SummerStage NYC](#)

Instagram: [@SummerStage](#)

YouTube: [NYCSummerStage](#)

Twitch: [SummerStageNYC](#)

Official Hashtags: #SummerStage #SummerStageAnywhere

Capital One is the title sponsor of Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage. Supporting Sponsors include iStar, Union Beer Distributors, Sierra Nevada, Bell's Brewery, Wolffer Estate Cider, Archer Roose Wines, Two Robbers Seltzer, Con Edison's Arts Al Fresco Series, and Bloomberg Philanthropies.

Generous private support is provided by The Thompson Family Foundation, The Jaharis Family Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, The Shubert Organization, and the J.E. & Z.B. Butler Foundation, and the Hyde and Watson Foundation. This program is also supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council; the National Endowment for the Arts; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and the NYC Council under the leadership of Speaker Corey Johnson. Additional support is generously provided by our dedicated festival audience and SummerStage Members.

In all of its programming and activities, City Parks Foundation partners with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation to activate neighborhood parks.

About City Parks Foundation

At City Parks Foundation, we are dedicated to invigorating and transforming parks into dynamic, vibrant centers of urban life through sports, arts, community building and education programs for all New Yorkers. Our programs -- located in more than 400 parks, recreation centers and public schools across New York City -- reach 310,000 people each year. Our ethos is simple: thriving parks mean thriving communities.

About SummerStage

Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage is New York's largest free outdoor performing arts festival. SummerStage annually presents approximately 100 performances in 15-18 parks throughout the five boroughs. With performances ranging from American pop, Latin, global music, dance, and more, SummerStage fills a vital niche in New York City's summer arts festival landscape. Since its inception 35 years ago, more than six million people from New York City and around the world



have enjoyed SummerStage. In 2020, Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage Anywhere was launched in response to the global pandemic, presenting 80 free digital performances, spanning all genres, available to all around the world. Capital One is the Title Sponsor of SummerStage. For more information, visit www.SummerStage.org.

About Capital One

Capital One Financial Corporation (www.capitalone.com) is a financial holding company whose subsidiaries, which include Capital One, N.A., and Capital One Bank (USA), N.A., had \$310.3 billion in deposits and \$425.2 billion in total assets as of March 31, 2021. Headquartered in McLean, Virginia, Capital One offers a broad spectrum of financial products and services to consumers, small businesses and commercial clients through a variety of channels. Capital One, N.A. has branches located primarily in New York, Louisiana, Texas, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey and the District of Columbia. A Fortune 500 company, Capital One trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "COF" and is included in the S&P 100 index.

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