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Ann Arbor Summer Festival Announces 32nd Mainstage Season

Highlights include the Indigo Girls, Golden Dragon Acrobats, Ingrid Michaelson, The Blind Boys of Alabama and The Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Robert Randolph and the Family Band, The Moth Mainstage, Pink Martini, and the Capitol Steps!

More announcements and the full Top of the Park schedule coming soon

ANN ARBOR, MI – The Ann Arbor Summer Festival is pleased to announce its headlining indoor Mainstage performances for the 2015 season. From folk pop legends and world-class acrobats to gospel icons and storytellers, the new season runs from June 12 through July 5, and features an eclectic mix of over 140 events showcasing the best in music, dance, comedy, film, spoken word, contemporary circus, street arts, and family entertainment.

The festival's Mainstage performances take place in The Power Center for the Performing Arts on the campus of the University of Michigan and at the Michigan Theater. The festival's outdoor Top of the Park activities occur 6 nights a week on the 700 block of North University Avenue, located directly in front of Hill Auditorium and the U-M League, near the infamous U-M Diag, Tuesday through Sunday nights for nearly 4 weeks.

The festival's Mainstage series features the return of several Ann Arbor favorites along with a number of performers making their festival debut. With artists spanning the globe, this year's line-up includes: the return of folk pop legends the **Indigo Girls**, who offer ticket buyers a copy of their newest release; two nights of circus spectacle with the world-renowned **Golden Dragon Acrobats** from China; pop sensation **Ingrid Michaelson** with special guest **Jukebox the Ghost**; in a new collaborative project, **Down By The Riverside: The Blind Boys of Alabama and The Dirty Dozen Brass Band** perform gospel spirituals and New Orleans brass band music; high-energy rock and amazing pedal steel guitar from **Robert Randolph and the Family Band**; public radio's best loved live storytelling adventure **The Moth Mainstage**; intoxicating retro-pop from the "little orchestra" of **Pink Martini**; and political satirists **The Capitol Steps**.

Festival Ticket Information

Tickets go on sale:

Thursday, April 16 at 9 am (donors of \$1000+; in person, by phone)

Friday, April 17 at 9 am (donors of \$100+; in person, by phone)

Thursday, April 23 at 9 am (general public; in person, by phone, online)

In Person: Michigan League Ticket Office, 911 N. University Ave, Ann Arbor MI 48109

By Phone: (734) 764-2538

Online: A2SF.org (as of April 23)

**Festival Venue Information:**

Power Center for the Performing Arts
The Michigan Theater
Top of the Park

121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor, MI
603 E. Liberty Street, Ann Arbor, MI
770 N. University Ave, Ann Arbor, MI

The Ann Arbor Summer Festival is made possible with the support from its 2015 season sponsors including: Ann Arbor Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, Bank of Ann Arbor, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, Comerica Bank, First Martin Corporation, Howard Hanna, Miller Canfield, Mlive/Ann Arbor News, O&W Inc., Old National Bank, Phire Group, Procereus Skin Care, Reinhart, State Street Area Association, Toyota, U.S. Wine Imports, Ulitho, U-M Business Engagement Center, Underground Printing, and Whole Foods Market.

Additional funding is provided by: the City of Ann Arbor and the President's Office of University of Michigan, along with the following program underwriters: Anne and Howard Cooper, Connie and Tom Kinnear, Wendy and Ted Lawrence, Erin McKean and Stephen Sullivan, THE MOSAIC FOUNDATION (of R. & P. Heydon).

The 2015 festival is also supported in part by grants from: the National Endowment for the Arts: Artworks and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Media partners for the season include: ann arbor's 107one, CTN, Mlive/Ann Arbor News, Michigan Radio 91.7 FM, and WEMU 89.1 FM.

A detailed schedule of ticketed Mainstage performances follows. The remainder of the festival's 2015 line-up will be announced over the coming weeks and months.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit the festival's website at: A2SF.org

Ann Arbor Summer Festival Mainstage Series 2015

Indigo Girls
Friday, June 19, 8 pm
Power Center for the Performing Arts
Pop | Singer-Songwriter
\$40, \$45, \$50

Ever since the Indigo Girls debuted their indie release "Strange Fire" in 1987, legendary duo Amy Ray and Emily Saliers have been the standard bearers of contemporary American folk pop. Known for their lush vocals, joyful and textured guitar arrangements, and openhearted songwriting, they have sold over 14 million albums and won several Grammy Awards. Tirelessly touring for generations of devoted fans, the Indigo Girls have refused to slow down, always evolving their craft, and are stronger than ever. They open the 2015 Mainstage season with a rare Ann Arbor appearance in support of their newest release, *One Lost Day*. A copy of the new release is provided following an Artist Lift Fee with each ticket purchased.

**Golden Dragon Acrobats**

Saturday, June 20, 8 pm and Sunday, June 21, 5 pm

Power Center for the Performing Arts

Circus | Family | World

\$28, \$36, \$42, \$46

In a spectacular exhibition of grace, power, beauty, and athleticism, the Golden Dragon Acrobats from China captivate audiences with their dazzling acrobatics, traditional dance, brilliant costumes, ancient and contemporary music, and spellbinding artistry. As the premiere ambassadors of the centuries-old Chinese acrobatic tradition, they have toured for over thirty years, amazing audiences in all 50 states and more than 65 countries. This is breathtaking theatrical entertainment for the whole family. Discounted children's tickets available.

Ingrid Michaelson

With Jukebox the Ghost

Thursday, June 25, 8 pm

Power Center for the Performing Arts

Pop | Singer-Songwriter

\$30, \$35, \$40, \$45

The world first fell in love with Ingrid Michaelson when her song "The Way I Am" became the irresistible pop rock anthem of 2007. Since then, her smart, quirky sensibility, confident delivery of original vocal and piano compositions, sweet melodies, and charming performance style have catapulted her to pop stardom. Recommended to fans of Feist, Regina Spektor, and Sarah Bareilles, Ingrid Michaelson has become one of today's generation's favorite artists. Vibrant pop rockers Jukebox the Ghost open the show.

***Down By The Riverside:* The Blind Boys of Alabama and The Dirty Dozen Brass Band**

Saturday, June 27, 8 pm

Power Center for the Performing Arts

Jazz | Spirituals | Brass Band

\$34, \$38, \$42

Gospel icons The Blind Boys of Alabama and the Crescent City's most enduringly influential brass band are touring together for the first time. Featuring individual performances as well as on-stage collaborations, these national treasures promise a joyful night of Southern spiritual music and New Orleans rhythms.

Robert Randolph and the Family Band

Sunday, June 28, 8 pm

Power Center for the Performing Arts

Rock | Blues

\$30, \$35



Named one of the “100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time” by Rolling Stone, pedal steel guitarist Robert Randolph and his Family Band have been thrilling audiences from Bonnaroo to New Orleans Jazz Festival with their joyful, passionate rock and roll and energetic jams exploring American funk, rock, blues, and soul.

The Moth Mainstage
Tuesday, June 30, 8 pm
Michigan Theater
Radio Program | Storytelling
\$38, \$60 VIP with Artist After Party

The Moth is dedicated to old-fashioned storytelling on thoroughly modern themes. This public radio and festival favorite returns to Ann Arbor with a new all-star line-up of writers, actors, and local gems, each with a ten-minute story told live without notes.

Pink Martini
Thursday, July 2, 8 pm
Power Center for the Performing Arts
Jazz | Pop | World
\$45, \$50, \$55, \$60

Pink Martini’s “little orchestra” draws inspiration from the romantic Hollywood musicals of the 1940s and ‘50s and crosses genres to make an eclectic, modern sound. Mesmerizing with elegant arrangements of Latin music, jazz, cabaret, cinema scores and more, this intoxicating retro-pop ensemble is always a festival favorite. They join us as part of a tour that includes The Hollywood Bowl and Ravinia. Their latest release, *Dream a Little Dream*, traverses the world from Sweden to Rwanda, China, and Bavaria.

The Capitol Steps
Saturday, July 4, 5 pm
Power Center for the Performing Arts
Comedy | Music
\$40, \$45, \$50, \$55

America’s foremost political satirists make their annual Fourth of July return for one show only! Putting the pun in pundit, these former Congressional staffers poke fun at both sides of the aisle with up-to-the-minute song parodies like “Everybody Must Get Droned” and “Stand By Iran.” If you’re tired of hearing about Putin, Benghazi, and the Pope, you’ve come to the wrong place.

The Ann Arbor Summer Festival is an exhilarating celebration of performing arts, outdoor entertainment, and community spirit. An annual international arts gathering in Ann Arbor, Michigan, the three-week festival offers an array of ticketed and free events, both indoors and out, featuring a progressive mix of local, national, and international artists.

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PRESS RELEASE



Presenting over 140 events each season and attracting a diverse audience of more than 80,000 people, the festival continues to grow as a major cultural event in the Ann Arbor community, and as a leading multi- arts celebration that enriches the cultural, economic, and social vitality of the region. The festival's 32nd season runs from June 12 through July 5, 2015.

For more information on all festival events, please visit the festival website: a2sf.org

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