



## PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Mike Michelon, Executive Director  
734-994-5899, [michelon@a2sf.org](mailto:michelon@a2sf.org)

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### The Ann Arbor Summer Festival Announces its 2019 Mainstage Series

ANN ARBOR MI (March 27, 2019) – The Ann Arbor Summer Festival is pleased to announce its headlining Mainstage ticketed performances for the festival's 2019 season. Festival Executive Director Mike Michelon shares, "The festival's 36th season will deliver a diverse mix of creative and engaging experiences that feature music icons, rising stars, and spectacle. We look forward to sharing additional series announcements throughout the spring and we have a few surprises planned, too. With over 175 concerts and events, the festival is the best part of summer in Ann Arbor."

**Highlights include Cirque Alfonse, Dawes, Madeleine Peyroux, Evolution of a Sonero by Flaco Navaja, Melissa Etheridge, and The Capitol Steps.** The remainder of the festival's 150+ admission-free events will be announced ongoing through May 1.

#### Festival Ticket Information

Tickets On Sale:

Thursday, April 4 at 9 am (\$1,000+ Members)

Friday, April 5 at 9 am (\$100+ Members)

Monday, April 8 at 9 am (General Public)

By Phone: (734) 764-2538

Online: [A2SF.org](http://A2SF.org)

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

#### Festival Venue Information

Power Center for the Performing Arts: 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor, MI

Top of the Park: 915 E Washington St, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

A detailed schedule of ticketed Mainstage performances follows.



## Ann Arbor Summer Festival 2019 Mainstage Series

### [Cirque Alfonse: BARBU Electro Trad Cabaret](#)

Thursday June 20 and Friday June 21 at 8:00pm

Power Center

\$35-\$45

Backed by a frenetic electro-trad band, the Cirque Alfonse clan from Quebec strays dangerously close to the edge in this exuberant circus rave. BARBU is a bellyful of cheeky humor and brazen eccentricity. It features exceptionally strong men and women, delivering edge-of-your-seat entertainment set to a rollicking soundtrack. BARBU creates a strange and wonderful world, straddling old traditions with a modern edge, delivering a wildly exuberant night out at the circus. This piece is recommended for ages 16+.

### [Dawes](#)

Wednesday, June 26 at 8 pm

Power Center

\$30-\$55

It's been a decade since Dawes first emerged from Southern California with a guitar-driven sound reimagining the 1970's Laurel Canyon vibe. Singer Taylor Goldsmith's plaintive delivery blends with rich harmonies and forges one of America's great rock bands. Dawes' latest record *Passwords* explores relationships, politics, victories, and losses that shape us all. "Dawes returns to its greatest specialty: smooth and ingratiating California folk-rock that never bothers to hide its big, beating, bleeding heart." NPR Music

### [Madeleine Peyroux](#)

Thursday, June 27 at 8:00 pm

Power Center

\$25-\$55

Elegant and escapist, American singer Madeleine Peyroux moved to Paris in her teens and busked on the streets, honing a confident "bohemian storyteller" approach to Billie Holiday and Edith Piaf. 22 years since her debut *Dreamland*, Peyroux continues pushing jazz boundaries. In *Anthem* (2018),



she casts a sober, poetic, and philosophical eye on the current state of the world, dazzling listeners with interpretations of Leonard Cohen's "Anthem" and poet Paul Eluard's "Liberté."

### [Evolution of a Sonero by Flaco Navaja](#)

Saturday, June 29 at 7:00 pm and 9:30pm

Power Center (onstage)

\$40

Part coming of age story, part love letter to salsa and the Bronx, Evolution of a Sonero delivers a testament to human resilience in a spirited concert tribute. Backed by five world-class musicians, Flaco Navaja draws from Héctor Lavoe, The Doors, KRS-1, and many humorous friends and family that shaped him. Join an intimate audience on the Power Center stage and witness the culmination of Navaja's twenty years performing internationally for Def Jam, MC'ing the Nuyorican Poets Cafe, and as a sonero emblematic of American Boricua.

### [Melissa Etheridge](#)

Wednesday, July 3 at 8:00pm

Power Center

\$48.50 – \$103.50

Rock visionary Melissa Etheridge broke out in 1988 and hasn't stopped. With 14 albums, 15 Grammy nominations, two wins, and an Academy Award, Etheridge summons gorgeous, bittersweet roots rock songs connecting listeners to what she calls "personal healing, national healing, and human healing." Etheridge's latest album, The Medicine Show, features songs of renewal inspired by acts of kindness, resilience, and bravery. Purchase a pair of tickets and receive a free digital download of the album.

### [The Capitol Steps](#)

Thursday, July 4 at 4 pm

Power Center

\$40-\$55

The Capitol Steps celebrates its 20th season at the Summer Festival on Fourth of July! This infamous comedy troupe starring former Congressional staffers will have you rolling down both sides of the aisle with a bonanza of song parodies from 2018's Make America Grin Again. Recent



Tweets about the album are barely exaggerated: “It’s amazing. It’s huge. It’s fabulous. It has nothing to do with Russia. Or Putin.”

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 two parallel programs—one indoor and one outdoor—at various venues and spaces across the University of Michigan campus and in downtown Ann Arbor. Each season features a progressive mix of over 175 events showcasing local, national, and international artists and a diverse audience of more than 80,000 people.

The indoor Mainstage series includes ticketed performances of world-class music, contemporary circus, dance, family entertainment, public radio shows, and comedy. The outdoor program, Top of the Park, is held along a beautiful campus green and offers admission-free concerts, Movies by Moonlight, open-air street spectacle, culinary treats, and unique family attractions.

The Ann Arbor Summer Festival’s admission free series located at Top of the Park runs nightly from June 14 – July 7, 2019 (dark on Mondays).

For more information on all festival events, please visit the festival website: [a2sf.org](http://a2sf.org)

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Please note that all artist event pages will not be made public until March 27, 2019 at 9 am. Please note each hyperlink is correct but will not be made live for public viewing until that date and time.

Mainstage Artist Press Photos:

[Cirque Alfonse: BARBU Electo Trad Cabaret](#)

[Dawes](#)

[Madeleine Peyroux](#)

[Evolution of a Sonero by Flaco Navaja](#)

[Melissa Etheridge](#)

[The Capitol Steps](#)

Mainstage Artist YouTube Videos:

[Cirque Alfonse: BARBU Electo Trad Cabaret](#)

[Dawes](#)

[Madeleine Peyroux](#)

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[Evolution of a Sonero by Flaco Navaja](#)  
[Melissa Etheridge](#)  
[The Capitol Steps](#)