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DOWNTOWN TO SHOWCASE FÊTE DE LA MUSIQUE LOUISVILLE ON JUNE 21ST

Downtown Louisville to celebrate the Summer Solstice with live music and more than 30 street performers for a day-long celebration of French culture

Louisville, KY – A little taste of France is coming to Downtown Louisville on the summer solstice, Thursday, June 21st, with Fête de la Musique Louisville (*pronounced fet de la myzic*). The event, which means “celebration of music” in French, has been taking place in Paris on the summer solstice since 1982. Downtown Louisville’s “celebration of music” is presented by Alliance Francaise de Louisville in conjunction with the Louisville Downtown Partnership (LDP).

Music will literally fill the downtown streets all day on the 21st with dozens of free live performances over the lunchtime hour and during a special Happy Hour showcase on the front steps of the Kentucky Center from 5:30-7:30pm. A list of performance venues with scheduled performers from 11am-1pm are:

- Fourth Street Live! – Classical musicians including The NouLou Chamber Players, 90.5 WUOL Young Musicians and Harin Oh, GFA Youth Guitar Summit
- Kindred Plaza – Hewn From The Mountain, a local Irish band
- 400 W. Market Plaza – FrenchAxe, a French band from Cincinnati
- Old Forester Distillery – A local jug band

The salsa band Milenio is the scheduled performance group for the Happy Hour also at Fourth Street Live! from 5 – 7 pm.

"In Paris and throughout France, the Fête de la Musique is literally 24 hours filled with music by all types of musicians of all skill levels. Music is everywhere in the city," said Brett Corbin, a board

member of Alliance Francaise de Louisville. "We are so thrilled to bring this same cultural experience to Louisville for the second straight year."

In addition to the featured musical groups, Fête de la Musique Louisville is extending an open invitation to area street musicians to come Downtown and claim a piece of sidewalk to perform during the lunchtime events (11am-1pm). A few common sense tips for those individual artists planning on staking out some territory on the sidewalk include:

- *You can perform in any public place – sidewalk, park, or any space open to the public.*
- *You can collect tips, but don't ask for money out loud or on a sign. Do not approach or solicit pedestrians.*
- *Be careful not to block pedestrians on the sidewalk or the entrance to a building.*
- *Don't perform for tips on any public transportation vehicle, bus stop, public parking lot or structure.*
- *Don't perform for tips in close proximity to an ATM or bank, outdoor dining, or school.*
- *Watch the noise level and don't violate the noise ordinance.*
- *If you want to reserve a specific time and place, block the public right-of-way, or other special circumstance, get a permit in advance. Please visit www.louisvilleky.gov for information.*

"It's so exciting to bring these new experiences to our downtown that create such vibrancy and life for our city," said Jeanne Hilt, Director of Marketing & Communications for the Louisville Downtown Partnership. "This year's Fête de la Musique will be even larger in scope than previous years with music literally filling the downtown streets."

Fête de la Musique Louisville is free and open to the public. It will take place rain or shine. In addition to Alliance Francaise de Louisville and the Louisville Downtown Partnership, a number of sponsors and partners are involved in supporting the city's celebration of music event, including Kaplan & Partners LLP, Alliance Francaise de Louisville, Signarama Downtown, Hazen Insurance of Kentucky, The Corbin Financial Group of Raymond James, Louisville Public Media, Fund for the Arts, Fourth Street Live!, The Kentucky Center, The Piano Shop and Merle's Whisky Kitchen.

The Louisville Downtown Partnership drives economic growth in Downtown and adjacent central-city neighborhoods for the benefit of the entire region, as well as oversees multiple on-street enhancements that help establish Downtown Louisville's distinctive character and widespread appeal. LDP believes the economic engine of any great city starts with a strong Downtown.

Tickets are not required and all performances are free. For more information, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fete-de-la-musique-louisville-tickets-46664543907>.

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