

Aurora talent showcased in Newmarket jazz Fest this weekend



By Brock Weir

Up-and-coming and well established Aurora Talent will have another chance to shine this weekend at the inaugural Newmarket jazz+ Festival.

In this, their first year in Newmarket following the Aurora jazz+ Festival, organizer Sher St. Kitts has maintained relationships with local singers for the Civic Holiday Weekend Festival.

Having pride of place this year right before headliner Justin Hines takes the stage will be award-winning Aurora singer Stacey Kaniuk. She will perform this Saturday at 7 p.m.

The fun, however, kicks off Friday. The Arts Music Teachers Band, featuring artists from Aurora and the surrounding area ? including a few Juno awards under their respective belts ? take the stage at 6.45 p.m.

Aaron Morris of the Manatee Band is slated to get behind the microphone at 3 p.m. on Saturday, soon followed by Chris Hau at 5 p.m.

After Stacey, Justin and the George St. Kitts Band bring things to a close on Saturday, music continues through Sunday with the After Hours Big Band kicking off the day's entertainment at 1 p.m. They will be followed by Six Ways To Sunday featuring Michael Lanteigne of Aurora's My Jam Space and My Rock Band Camp, at 2 p.m.

Popular Aurora mainstay Glenn Marais also carries on the local contingent, scheduled to appear on stage at 3 p.m.

The Newmarket jazz+ Festival opens Friday afternoon at 5.30 at Riverwalk Commons and runs through Sunday at 11 p.m.

Additional activities include kids art, music workshops, painting to music, a beer and wine garden, live music and shopping on Main Street Friday night, and a beer and wine garden, all assisted by countless local volunteers.

?Arts Music Festivals York Region wishes to invite festival fans in Aurora to join us at Riverwalk Commons this Friday, Saturday and Sunday to enjoy many of Canada's finest entertainers and artists,? says Ms. St. Kitts. ?We will showcase many home-grown Aurorans and are pleased to have so many Aurora residents volunteering to help make this a truly great festival for York Region.?

For more information on the Festival, visit www.artsmusicfestivals.com.