

## Jazz Fest organizers give thanks to friends and sponsors

The 2014 Newmarket jazz+ Festival wishes to thank you for helping us create another successful festival showcasing local talented musicians and artists. It takes a vibrant, engaged community which supports the arts to build a successful grass roots festival.

Residents of Newmarket and Aurora who volunteered in every capacity made NJF a huge success again this year.

Thanks to each of the over 200 volunteers who assisted us by manning the gates, moving cinder blocks, securing and setting up tents, festival set up and tear down and assisting programming and special needs guests.

Thanks to 30 student interns who took on coordinator leadership roles in all aspects of the 2014 festival.

We appreciate all who came to Festival Launch at the Newmarket Farmers' Market in June; and those who attended the Jazz Guy Black Tie event at the Newmarket Theatre in July. We are grateful for the cooperation and support of the Newmarket Farmers' Market and Newmarket Theatre.

We thank community organizations: the Newmarket Chamber, Newmarket Library, Main Street BIA, York Region Arts Council, Newmarket Arts Council and the York Region Amateur Radio Operators. Thanks to hundreds of people who were actively involved in the creation of this fabulous festival.

We appreciate support from Ontario Trillium Foundation, Celebrate Ontario, Central Counties Tourism, Town of Newmarket & Staff, TD Bank, YRMG, Rose & Green Developments, snapd Newspapers, Buckley Insurance, Investors Group, NewRoads Automotive, Vince's Markets, Powell Contracting, The Arts Music Store, Comfort Inn, etc.

Thanks to our sponsors and friends the NJF is now four days during the August Civic long weekend annually. This year we included Festival Family Day on Monday offering special programming targeted at families with young children (interactive activities, music and characters). We showcased over 45 local bands on 3 stages, entertainers, puppet show, a dozen visual artists, thespians and local talent of all sorts ? dance, music, art, Improv, film, and workshops.

In all the festival was able to showcase and engage almost 300 local entertainers this year for the small fee of \$5 per day!

Over 12,000 patrons attended. Our Economic Impact Study indicates approximately 80% of our patronage came from Aurora and Newmarket. Therefore, clearly local residents, business owners, organizations and fans are key to successful festival future.

We will continue to build the festival with local patrons in mind. Therefore, we ask you to send suggestions and ideas for the 2015 festival to [sherstkitts@gmail.com](mailto:sherstkitts@gmail.com).

Join us for the 2015 Newmarket jazz+ Festival: July 31, August 1, 2, 3. Mark your calendars for another wonderful adventure of music, art, food and family fun!

Thanks for your continued support.

Sher St. Kitts

Arts Music Festivals York Region