

Opinion | One of Canada's greatest jazz vocalists set to perform in Peterborough

Molly Johnson will be in town to celebrate International Jazz Day.
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Jazz vocalist Molly Johnson performs at Market Hall Performing Arts Centre on Sunday, April 26, in celebration of International Jazz Day in Peterborough. Other events include Dine with Jazz, featuring local jazz artists at several downtown restaurants.

International Jazz Day Peterborough

By Naomi StockSpecial to the Examiner

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Celebrate International Jazz Day with a variety of events taking place in downtown Peterborough on Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26.

Molly Johnson, recognized as one of Canada's greatest jazz voices, will be performing on Sunday from 7 to 9:45 p.m. at Market Hall Performing Arts Centre, 140 Charlotte St.

In addition to being a jazz vocalist, Johnson is also a mother, singer-songwriter, artist, and philanthropist. Throughout her life-spanning career, she has captivated audiences in Canada and Europe with her original pieces and interpretations of jazz standards.

She has received numerous accolades, including two JUNO Awards, the Governor General's Award, and the Order of Canada. Tickets are \$58 per person and are available at tickets.markethall.org or by calling 705-749-1146.

Dine with Jazz takes place on Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. Make a reservation with one of the participating restaurants and experience dinner surrounded by the sounds of live jazz performed by local artists.

Participating restaurants and musicians include La Hacienda, 190 Hunter St. W, Pete Woolidge and Mark Davidson; Amandala's, 375 Water St., Ginny Simonds and Craig Paterson; Agave, 376 George St. N., Michael Monis and Paco Luviano; Blackhorse Pub, 452 George St. N., Rob Phillips and Carling Stephen.

On Saturday April 25, from 9 p.m. to midnight, the Curtis Cronkwright Quartet will take the stage at the Blackhouse Pub. Admission is free. The Quartet features Jazz masters Nathan Hiltz, Chris Gale, Duncan Hopkins and Peterborough's own Curtis Cronkwright.

April 30 was officially designated as International Jazz Day in 2011, by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The stated mission is to highlight Jazz and its diplomatic role of uniting people in all corners of the globe.

For more information on local events celebrating International Jazz Day, please visit facebook.com/internationaljazzdaypeterborough.