



STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES
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OGS ANNOUNCES 2014 AT THE PLAZA SUMMER SERIES

Wednesday Night Concerts New This Year

RoAnn Destito, Commissioner, New York State Office of General Services (OGS) today announced the 2014 Summer *At The Plaza* series of free community events that will be presented at the Empire State Plaza in Albany. A new Wednesday night concert series will be introduced in June, and the popular outdoor movie nights will return with four movies in August.

“Attending free Summer At the Plaza events has become a great tradition for many families and groups of friends in the Capital Region,” Commissioner Destito said. “Thanks to our sponsors, including Price Chopper, GE, Saranac, and Hannaford Supermarkets, we have a series of performers and festivals lined up that are sure to make this summer the best one yet at the plaza.”

Summer At the Plaza kicks off with the New York State Capital Concert Series presented by Saranac, featuring four concerts that will run from 5 to 9 p.m. each Wednesday in June. Next on the summer lineup are the New York State Plaza festivals, which begin with Price Chopper’s presentation of New York State’s 4th of July Celebration, the biggest and best Independence Day celebration in the Capital District. GE’s Kids Day, African American Family Day, the New York State Food Festival, and the Hispanic Heritage Celebration will round out a summer full of festivals with live music, great food, and family fun. The popular outdoor movie nights will return, but on a new night and in a new location. Friday Night Flicks will feature classic films suitable for the entire family every Friday in August, beginning at 8 p.m. in West Capitol Park.

New York State Capital Concert Series presented by Saranac:

- **Living Colour in concert**
Wednesday, June 4 5 – 9 p.m.

The music performed by this New York City-based, Grammy Award-winning band is an original fusion of free jazz, funk, hip hop, hard rock, and heavy metal. Living Colour rose to fame in 1988 following the release of their first album “Vivid.” The recording featured the group’s signature song, “Cult of Personality.”

- **Kellie Pickler in concert**
Wednesday, June 11 **5 – 9 p.m.**

"My life is a country song," Kellie Pickler has said on occasion, and no one who knows her or has watched her career evolve from her days as a breakout presence on American Idol would argue that in the least. Over the course of three albums, hundreds of concert appearances, and a breath-taking 2013 win on ABC's "Dancing With The Stars," she has earned the admiration and affection of countless fans, serving as both inspiration and role model.

- **Bootsy Collins**
Wednesday June 18 **5 – 9 p.m.**

Known as the "man who put bass in yer face," Bootsy Collins is one of the all-time great funk and R&B bassists/singers/bandleaders. His first group, the Pacesetters, functioned as James Brown's backup band, and Bootsy's inspired, clever progressions and patterns on the bass were a vital part of James Brown's recordings. Bootsy later joined George Clinton's Parliament/Funkadelic, before launching Bootsy's Rubber Band as a spinoff to P-Funk.

- **George Thorogood in concert**
Wednesday, June 25, **5 – 9 p.m.**

George Thorogood and his band played their first gig in 1973 and are still making explosive music, thrilling audiences, and are the baddest-to-the-bone performers in rock. With hits that crackle with humor and swagger — "Who Do You Love," "I Drink Alone," "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer," "Move It On Over," and "Bad To The Bone" — the band defines powerhouse rock with bar band roots, unchained attitude and a fierce love of its country and blues history.

Price Chopper Presents New York State's 4th of July Celebration starring Felix Cavaliere's Rascals and Gedeon Luke & The People
Friday, July 4 **3 – 10 p.m.**

Price Chopper has presented this Albany tradition since our country's bicentennial celebration in 1976. The annual holiday celebration features live music and fun for the whole family including the best fireworks show in the region. Each year, more than 30,000 people gather to enjoy the day at the Plaza, which includes a naturalization ceremony, dozens of food and craft vendors, activities for kids, and an evening of live entertainment leading up to the big pyrotechnics show. Felix Cavaliere earned his place in music history as the keyboard player and vocalist for the '60s pop/rock sensation, The Rascals. From 1965 through 1969, The Rascals were one of the biggest groups in the country, with a string of hits including the Felix-sung "Good Lovin'" "Groovin'," "A Girl Like You," "A Beautiful Morning," and "People Got to Be Free." Hailing from the streets of Memphis, soul music flows through Gedeon Luke's veins in rainbow colored hues. Gedeon and his band The People are here to crash through the boundaries of music and society, to bring Love, Peace and Soul to the world.

GE's Kids Day Sing Along Adventure with Mike the Knight™
Sunday, July 13 **Noon – 5 p.m.**

GE's Kids Day is this area's "kid-centric" outdoor event. Nowhere else can children enjoy live music, theater, and dance, in addition to an array of favorites, such as face painting, bounce rides, puppet shows, arts and crafts, animals and amazing stilt walkers and unicyclists all in one place. Mike the Knight™ and his friends transport children to a world filled with marvelous missions, castles, dragons,

Vikings and trolls. Mike is an energetic, cheeky yet bountiful young knight-in-training, driven by his passion to help others and, along the way, be the best knight he can be. Determined to do his best, through comedy and adventure with his rallying cry “Be a knight, do it right,” Mike learns the power of responsibility and how to do things the right way.

African American Family Day with musical guests to be announced
Saturday, August 2 Noon – 7 p.m.

Come celebrate the traditions and contributions of the African American community through music, art and dance featuring a variety of family-oriented activities. Bands and local choirs will also perform. In addition to great music there will be lots of fun kids’ activities including, arts and crafts, face painting, and more. This important day also features community organizations, ancestry research, health and safety awareness, food, and crafts.

New York State Food Festival with musical guests to be announced
Wednesday, August 13 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

With nearly 100 food vendors to choose from, 15,000 people annually flock to the Plaza Food Festival for lunch, dinner, or both. They come for the food and stay for a day of live musical entertainment, capped off by a major headline performer. The Food Festival showcases New York producers and products, and the popular Farmers Market.

Hispanic Heritage Celebration with musical guests to be announced
September 13 5 – 10 p.m.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with this this tribute to Latin culture. Rich in tradition, the Hispanic community comes together in the Empire State Plaza Convention Center for a colorful pageantry of live music, dance, food, and crafts.

All of the Summer *At The Plaza* events are FREE at the Empire State Plaza, Madison Avenue, Albany. Free parking in the East Garage is also available. During Food Festival and other weeknight At the Plaza events, free parking in the East Garage begins at 5 p.m.

Sponsors include Price Chopper, GE, Saranac, Hannaford Supermarkets, DeCrescente Distributing, SEFCU, New York 529 College Savings Program, New York Lottery, County Waste and Recycling, Times Union, and Albany.com.

For performance updates on any of the above listed events, find the Empire State Plaza on Facebook at [facebook.com\empirestateplaza](https://facebook.com/empirestateplaza), on Twitter at twitter.com/plazaevents or call the OGS Convention & Cultural Events Office toll free at 1-(877) 659-4ESP. For additional information, including ground rules for the events, visit our website at www.ogs.ny.gov.

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