

STEPHANIE MILLS AND HEATWAVE TO HEADLINE
NEW YORK STATE'S ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY DAY PRESENTED BY
MCDONALDS ON AUGUST 3

The Theme For This Year's Event: "A Family Reunion"

RoAnn Destito, Commissioner, New York State Office of General Services (OGS), today announced the 2013 lineup for the New York State's African American Family Day, presented by McDonalds, which will be held from noon to 7 p.m. on Saturday, August 3 at the Empire State Plaza in Albany.

"We invite you to come celebrate the traditions and contributions of New York's African American community and experience all the music, art, dance, food, and other family-friendly activities," Commissioner Destito said. "Governor Cuomo knows that one of New York's greatest assets is its diversity, and this positive cultural event will pay tribute to the enduring strengths and traditional values of the African American family."

This year's headliners will be ultra-soulful songstress Stephanie Mills, the legendary Grammy and America Music Award winning recording artist with five bestselling albums and 10 Billboard #1 singles.

Three stages of entertainment will offer something for everyone. The main stage will feature Stephanie Mills, performer of such hits as "Sweet Sensation," "Never Knew Love Like This Before" (a gold single), and "Two Hearts," along with disco funk band Heatwave, whose hits include "Boogie Nights," "Always and Forever," and "The Groove Line," and national gospel recording artist Tiffany Andrews-Woodside and the Mambo Dragon Jazz Ensemble, and the Plaza Lites talent competition winners. The gospel stage will feature local church choirs and several liturgical dance groups. Performers on the community youth stage will include R&B artist Shaliek Rivers, STOP (Student Theatre Outreach Group), poetry and youth dance groups.

The day will kick off at noon. In addition to live entertainment, activities throughout the day include a children's area with pony rides, arts and crafts, and bounce rides; various ethnic, craft, and informational booths; and a presentation on locating African ancestors in the Americas. The big finale will feature the Capital District's largest dance medley including the Cha-Cha, Wobble, Cuban Shuffle, Before I Let Go, and the Electric Slide.

Free parking will be available in the Cathedral lot off Madison Avenue and in the East Garage, located on the corners of Madison Avenue, Eagle Street and Philip Street. The fee for parking under the Plaza in the V-lot and P2 North-lot will be \$5.

No alcoholic beverages, coolers (defined as rigid insulated containers), or glass containers of any kind; animals or pets (excludes ADA-defined service animals) will be allowed.

In addition to presenting sponsor, McDonalds, other sponsors include Albany.com, CBS 6 Albany, JAMZ 96.3, Metroland, NY's 529 College Savings Program, and NYSUT.

For more information and performance updates on any of the Summer At The Plaza events, visit us online at www.empirestateplaza.org, on Facebook at [facebook.com\empirestateplaza](https://www.facebook.com/empirestateplaza), on Twitter at twitter.com/plazaevents or call the OGS Convention & Cultural Events Office toll free at 1-(877) 659-4ESP.

###