



NEWS RELEASE

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Hochstein at High Falls Noontime Concert Series Returns this Summer *Free outdoor concert series features local musicians*

ROCHESTER, N.Y.— The **Hochstein at High Falls** lunchtime summer concert series returns to the city's High Falls District with the sounds of local music beginning **Thursday, June 8, 2023**, and running through August 17 (except for Thursday, July 6). The series kicks off with Debbie Kendrick, Rochester's Queen of the Blues. The featured musical talent will vary each week, with styles ranging from Latin jazz, blues, and Americana to rock, swing, and R&B.

The 10-week series includes: Debbie Kendrick Project (June 8), Big Blue House (June 15), Ann Mitchell Trio (June 22), Bellwether Breaks (June 29), Watkins & the Rapiers (July 13), Mambo Kings (July 20), Hanna PK (July 27), Zahyia (August 3), The White Hots (August 10), and John Dady and Benny Bleu (August 17). [**See calendar listing below for full descriptions of the performers.**]

Hosted by WXXI Classical's Mona Seghatoleslami, the concerts begin at 12:10 pm in the outer parking lot at 4 Commercial Street, corner of Browns Race. **Please note that this is a new location for this summer**, due to pending construction on the Pont du Rennes.

Concerts take place rain or shine. In the event of inclement weather, the rain location will be announced by 10:30 am on Hochstein's website at <https://hochstein.org/Calendar/Hochstein->

[at-High-Falls](#) and via Hochstein's social media. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own seating and lunch. Each performance will run approximately 40 minutes.

Hochstein at High Falls concerts are presented by High Falls Business Association, The Hochstein School, and WRUR 88.5. The new look for this year's Hochstein at High Falls concerts was designed by Brandtatorship. For more information, visit www.hochstein.org or The Hochstein School's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HochsteinSchool or call 585.454.4596.

Hochstein at High Falls concerts are made possible by a number of local organizations, including Brandtatorship, LaBella Associates, La Luna High Falls, and The Zoghlin Group.

Photographs of the performers are available in this folder on Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Euef7nSbq0q6ZBKeJNT98YMhtLBSVmi3?usp=s>
[hare link](#)

About High Falls Business Association: The High Falls Business Association is a diverse group of businesses located in downtown Rochester's vibrant High Falls District, home to the future High Falls State Park. Members are proud to support business development in the historic environment and spectacular natural surroundings that make High Falls unique.

About Hochstein: The Hochstein School is a vibrant organization in Rochester, NY, offering high-quality instruction in music, dance, and Expressive Arts (music, art, and dance therapy). Established in 1920 to commemorate the artistry, life, and service of David Hochstein – a prodigious violinist who died serving in World War I – the School welcomes students of all ages, abilities, proficiency levels, ethnicities, and socio-economic backgrounds in an inclusive and accessible environment that provides artistic opportunities for all. More than 100 years after its founding, Hochstein annually serves more than 3,000 students from a 12-county region surrounding Rochester. The School is active throughout the community and provides tuition assistance to more than 50% of its students. The acclaimed Hochstein Performance Hall, located within the school's historic downtown building, hosts concerts and events throughout the year. For more information, visit www.hochstein.org.

About WRUR 88.5: A broadcast partnership between WXXI Public Media and the University of Rochester, WRUR-FM 88.5 is a non-commercial, member-supported radio service. Dedicated to music discoverability, the station introduces listeners to new and significant artists - both locally and globally - in the genres of rock, blues, roots, folk, and more. For more information, visit <https://www.wrur.org>.

CALENDAR LISTINGS

Hochstein at High Falls: Debbie Kendrick Project

Thursday, June 8; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

Vocalist Debbie Kendrick is Rochester's Queen of the Blues, carrying on a tradition of many great

blues and gospel artists that goes back to the legendary Son House. Her group has an acoustic vibe and its influences harkens back to the early days of blues, gospel, folk, and jazz music. The Debbie Kendrick Project includes drummer Pete Monacelli, a veteran of the local jazz scene; bassist Mike Patric, who also accompanies the legendary Joe Beard; guitarist Sean Pfeifer, whose acoustic fingerstyle guitar provides a solid rhythmic background for Debbie's powerful vocal melodies; and vocalist Ann Culbreth. Kendrick inspires audiences across New York and Canada with her improvisational performances, laughing with the band and chatting with the crowd.

<https://www.debbiekendrickproject.com>

Hochstein at High Falls: Big Blue House

Thursday, June 15; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

Big Blue House is a trio of seasoned musicians with experience in a variety of genres, merging styles and voices into a unique gumbo of folk, rock, blues, jazz and reggae. They offer a blend of voices, acoustic rhythm and lead guitar and stand-up bass. The band includes Brian Burley on vocals and acoustic guitar, Bob DeRosa on bass, and Harvey Possemato on lead guitar and backup vocals.

<https://www.bigbluehouseband.com/>

Hochstein at High Falls: Ann Mitchell Trio

Thursday, June 22; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

Ann Mitchell Trio entertains listeners with the songbook jazz classics of the 1930s-1950s with an unbeatable heart. Ann is known for her smooth, lively jazz vocal style and energetic performances. Rounding out the trio are pianist John Gabriele and Kyle Vock, bass. Ann Mitchell Trio has had an extensive list of appearances including Jazz 90.1 FM LIVE On Air Concerts, KeyBank Rochester Fringe Festival, JazzBuffalo, and Fox Rochester's Good Day Rochester. <https://annsings.com>

Hochstein at High Falls: Bellwether Breaks

Thursday, June 29; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

Bellwether Breaks has a groove so irresistible it won't let you walk out the door. This new band draws its life blood from slinky soul and early rock 'n' roll, with a smattering of modern angular grit. With hints of Amy Winehouse, Otis Redding, Angel Olsen, and even Weezer, Bellwether Breaks puts a modern spin on retro nostalgia with their seriously catchy new sound. Elyse, Eugene, Chris, Wade, and Dave happily call Rochester their home, where they were forged in the fires of the vibrant local scene, the Eastman School of Music, and just plain honest living. <https://www.bellwetherbreaks.com>

Hochstein at High Falls: Watkins & the Rapiers

Thursday, July 13; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

Watkins & the Rapiers play an eclectic mix of acoustic music incorporating echoes of Cajun, country, jug band music, reggae, soul, and swing. The band's repertoire includes more than 60 quirky original songs written by band members, as well as covers of songs by artists as diverse as The Band, Travelling Wilburys, Steve Earle, and Colorblind James, among others. The band has been rocking out in the Greater Rochester area since January 1996, when the band was formed on a lark to fill an empty performance slot at the Rose & Crown Pub. The band includes Scott Regan, Kerry Regan, Tom Whitmore, Marty York, Steve Piper, and Rick McRae. <https://watkinsandtherapiers.com>

Hochstein at High Falls: Mambo Kings

Thursday, July 20; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

Together since 1995, Mambo Kings are enjoying great success as Upstate New York's foremost Latin jazz ensemble, and have earned a national reputation for their explosive blend of Afro-Cuban rhythms and jazz improvisation. They have appeared in Pops concerts with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, at the Rochester International Jazz Festival, and with orchestras in

Baltimore, Vancouver, Detroit, Dallas, Naples (FL), Portland (OR), Alabama, Chicago, Austin, Virginia, and Buffalo. The band consists of Mambo Kings' musical director and pianist Richard DeLaney, percussionist Freddy Colón, saxophonist John Viavattine, bassist Hector Diaz, and percussionist Tony Padilla. www.mambokingdom.com

Hochstein at High Falls: Hanna PK

Thursday, July 27; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

Hanna PK is a blues pianist and singer born and raised in South Korea and based in Rochester. She has been building a strong local following with her wide-ranging repertoire, the power of her voice and piano playing, and the way she can rock the house! She has a dynamic songwriting style that ranges from a funky tune with socially conscious lyrics to a mournful slow blues, from a pop-edged ballad to an uplifting swinging number, and from barrelhouse boogie to jazz.

<https://www.hannapk.com/index.html>

Hochstein at High Falls: Zahyia

Thursday, August 3; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

A songwriter, lyricist, producer, and creative visionary, Zahyia has dedicated her life to existing in spaces that elevate and change the limited narratives, images, and awareness of what it means to exist as a Black American Woman. With her eclectic background of jazz, hip-hop, R&B, lo-fi hip-hop, music theater, funk, and soul, Zahyia finds ways to push traditional boundaries in the world of music and alternative R&B. She will be joined by her six-piece band with Devonte Oliver on drums, Luis Carrion on bass, Melvin Solder Jr. on keyboards, Greg Meisenzahl on guitar, Orlando Vega on percussion, and Quinn Lawrence on saxophone. www.zahyia.com

Hochstein at High Falls: The White Hots

Thursday, August 10; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

Named for one of Rochester's gastronomic specialties, The White Hots are a blues, swing, and jazz group who perform everything from mellow instrumental music to swing dances with a full band. Musicians and music critics rave about them, dancers swing to them, and people who just like interesting music love their live shows and CDs. The band includes Tina Albright, vocals; Ted Mosher, bass; Aleksandar Disljenkovic, guitar; and Bill Blind, percussion.

<https://www.facebook.com/TheWhiteHots>

Hochstein at High Falls: John Dady & Benny Bleu

Thursday, August 17; 12:10 pm; 4 Commercial Street (corner of Browns Race), Rochester, NY; free.

John Dady – one half of the Rochester Music Hall of Fame inductees The Dady Brothers – brings his unique blend of Irish and American folk music back to Hochstein at High Falls. Joining him for this concert will be Benny Bleu, an award-winning banjo player, songwriter, and singer who is also a member of The Brothers Blue. John and Benny have been friends and musical kin for years. Both are songwriters and multi-instrumentalists, so you can expect lots of spontaneous moments of musical magic. <https://dadybros.com> - <https://bennybleu.com>

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