



MEMO

Date: June 1st, 2021
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden Outreach Coordinator & Customer Service Associate
RE: BCA Programming in City Hall Park, Summer of 2021

Request for waiver at City Hall Park to allow amplified sound for BCA events and programming throughout the summer of 2021.

BCA staff contact is Zach Williamson.

City Hall Park was completed in Fall 2020 after many years of planning and two years of construction. Now, activation of the park, led by Burlington City Arts with support from our underwriters and partners, ensures that it remains a vibrant public space, increases accessibility to the arts, and creates a sense of belonging for community members across a spectrum of ages, races, abilities, and incomes. City Hall Park's programming will also create economic opportunity for artists who have been hit hard by the pandemic, and will attract people to downtown Burlington to aid local businesses, restaurants, bars, and clubs in their recovery. In addition, this programming will allow community members to come together safely and outdoors for much-needed joy, social connection, and creative release after a year of extraordinary hardship.

There will be weekly events and programming organized by BCA throughout the summer at City Hall Park, both with and without amplified sound. They do not exceed the parameters surrounding park usage stated in the City Ordinance. Weekly programming includes the BCA Summer Concert Series, The Twilight Concert Series, Splash Dance, Flicks in the Park, Listen Up, All Heart in the Park and the BCA Artist Market. Programming will run from June 4th to September 25th.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow waiver for amplified sound.



BCA

City Hall Park Summer Programs

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City Hall Park - Summer 2021

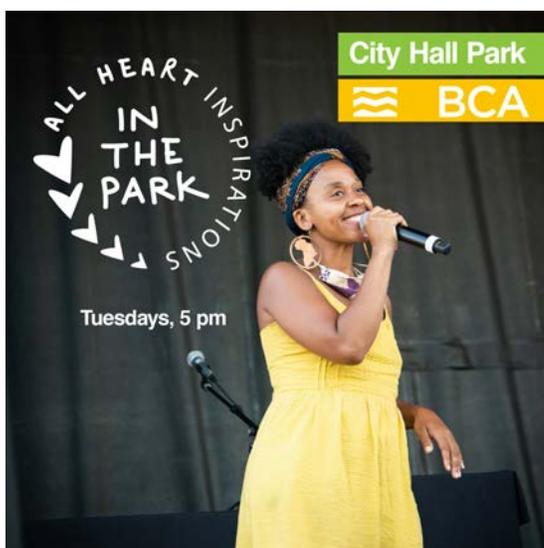


BCA is thrilled to introduce the brand-new Twilight Series, created especially for the renovated and re-envisioned City Hall Park. We will present 15 free, family-friendly outdoor evening concerts in the park every other Friday and Saturday at 7pm from June to September.

This year, we're focusing on local: our all-Vermont lineup includes well-known acts and some new acts that we look forward to supporting. Soule Monde, Couchsleepers, Vermont Symphony Orchestra, Maple Run Band, The

John Daly Band, The Leatherbound Books and Red Hot Juba are some of our headliners. Bringing high quality live music to the heart of Burlington is a win for downtown businesses, performing artists, and a community of music lovers eager to gather safely outdoors this summer, and we can't wait to kick it off!

Several other BCA events will be happening adjacent to the Twilight Series, including our family-friendly Splash Dance (Fridays, 4-5:30 PM) and our Artist Market (Saturdays, 2-7 PM) to help us reach even broader audiences.



From the outset, we wanted our programming to bring community together and to promote cultural understanding and safe discussions. We are lucky to have lined up All Heart Inspirations to curate, host and perform in our new program, All Heart in the Park.

Local superstar storyteller Ferene Paris-Meyer will perform a new topical story at the start of each session. After her opening, others will be invited to share their own stories in a safe, welcoming and understanding environment.

This series takes place Tuesdays at 5pm from June 15 to September 14 on the lawn in City Hall Park. We are thrilled to be supporting this initiative and All Heart Inspirations.



Listen Up Burlington! It takes some special people to make our community tick. Listen Up aims to feature one community star every week, bringing them to the City Hall Park for a TED-Talk style presentation, explaining what they do, their lives, how they got here, and what makes them tick.

These talks will be every Monday at 12:30 from July 5 to August 30. Hosted by Burlington's Gina Stevensen and Quinn Rol, these wide ranging conversations will be inspiring and revealing, leaving you feeling happy to live

amongst these hard working people, with a deeper appreciation of your community. We'll feature innovative farmers, top level executives, financial gurus, hip artists and local business owners, programming for diversity in every aspect of the series. Join us and Listen Up!



Kids will soad up the fun this summer in City Hall Park's brand-new splash pad! The LED-lit, music synchronized, wheelchair-accessible fountain comes alive this summer with Splash Dance. For 15 Fridays, local DJ's will spin family-friendly tunes at 4 p.m. while the fountain plays along. Families will kick-off each weekend by dancing along to a rotating roster of incredible DJs in this first-ever BCA program.

Through this programming, we are excited to welcome families to the Park on a late Friday afternoon for a safe and inclusive event. Further, we hope people will leave our event when it concludes at 5:30, grab dinner at a local restuarant and then join us for the Twilight Series at 7.



In 2020, we were all reminded that there's simple joy in watching a great movie under the stars—and that we can gather to do it safely. This summer, BCA will screen a diverse line up of free films every other Thursday from June to mid-September in the fantastical urban environment of the renovated City Hall Park.

From fun summer classics to selections made in partnership with Discover Jazz Festival, Local Motion and Vermont International Film Festival, our plan is to offer something for everyone. Taking advantage of our impressive outdoor projection system, we look forward to welcoming community members to a movie night under the stars. We assume this will become a new tradition for summers in Burlington!



The BCA Summer Concert Series has been a staple of City Hall Park for over a decade. In that time, the series has grown to be one of the most loved free music series in the area. We will present 23 free concerts, every Wednesday and Friday at 12:30pm from June through August.

The newly renovated BCA Patio and new collection of patio furniture will play host to these twice-weekly shows. Our line up includes some traditional favorites like Trio Gusto, Birdcode and Jenni Johnson. We also dug deep to find groups and musicians who are new to the scene like the Moon Shells, 'Bo and Alpaka . Through this program we support many Vermont performing artists and train a group of audio and production interns.



The BCA Summer Artist Market is thrilled to return to City Hall Park this summer after a year on Pine Street. Over the course of 16 markets, we will present a juried roster of local artists and makers with a strong emphasis on making the selection process accessible and equitable.

For the first time ever, we have moved the market to afternoons, running from 2 to 7pm each Saturday from June through September. This will align with busier downtown shopping times, as well as our Twilight Series, which will have a concert at 7pm on alternating

Saturdays. It also allows for overlap with other park activations with Discover Jazz Festival and the Festival of Fools. The new park has plenty of space for us to set up vendor areas in safe manner for both patrons and vendors, and supply power and data services as needed.

Additional Summer 2021 Programming

We are thrilled to facilitate other uses of the park, to keep it active and welcoming.

-Community Grant Program: We are working with the Head Start Program to develop projects with early childhood groups that will culminate in a performance or other type of display in City Hall Park.

-Juneteenth: The Juneteenth Celebration is making full use of City Hall Park with programming that ranges from a 150-seated gospel brunch to a 9 p.m. dance party and everything in between!

-Festival of Fools: This Festival of family fun has long used City Hall Park. With the new park we plan to have an aerial act in the north end of the park and a puppet show in the south end, an artist market and evening concerts!

-Vermont Comedy Club: will present free, informal, family sketch comedy one Saturday morning in each of June, July and August.

-Glitter 5k: is a ticketed comedy show in the park for three performances in August, written and produced by Sam Nagely.

-Pop Up Stand Up: will be a standup comedy event in August, produced by Julia Colasanti.