

JIM CUDDY BAND FILLS MEMORIAL PARK AT 26TH ANNUAL TIM HORTONS SOUTHSIDE SHUFFLE IN MISSISSAUGA, DOWNCHILD BLUES BAND CLOSES FESTIVAL WITH FAREWELL TOUR PERFORMANCE

Mississauga, Ont. – The 26th Annual Tim Hortons Southside Shuffle Blues and Jazz Festival, held in the village of in Port Credit and Memorial Park from September 6-8, 2024, was a spectacular weekend, drawing thousands of music lovers to the park, street, and clubs over the 3 days.

This year's festival was headlined by Canada's multi-award-winning Jim Cuddy Band, who took to the stage on Saturday night to a packed audience. Closing the festival on Sunday evening was The Legendary Downchild Blues Band, marking a significant moment as they performed on their farewell tour after 55 remarkable years in the music industry.

The festival kicked off on Friday with award-winning Sue Foley headlining the evening. Throughout the weekend, the Brightwater Mainstage brought a diverse lineup of local and international artists, including CJ Chenier and the Red Hot Louisiana Band, Marriner & Bowskill, Bywater Call, Philip Sayce, Matt Minglewood, The Blackburn Brothers, Durham County Poets, and The Ladies of Sweet Soul Music with headliner performance proudly powered by Visit Mississauga.

"Over the weekend, we had several acts, some from Canada, others from the United States, and some from right here in Mississauga, including performers from Port Credit. It was a fabulous weekend, and we are so grateful to everyone who came out to support the festival, all the musicians who performed in the park, on the streets, and in the clubs, and the hundreds of dedicated volunteers that make it happen. Without them, the festival wouldn't exist," said Founder and Artistic Director Chuck Jackson

In addition to the ticketed main stage, the festival also featured several free events and performances, making it accessible to all. The LIUNA Local 183 Street Shuffle on Saturday transformed the village into a "blues Disneyland," with over 20 acts performing along Lakeshore Road. The Street Shuffle wrapped up with a New Orleans-style Second Line Parade, featuring a Dixieland band, leading the crowd into Port Credit Memorial Park and the Not Another Restaurant Gazebo Stage and Queen Bea Stage, along with the vendor area, offering a variety of food options, vendors, and giveaways from sponsors, including Tim Hortons, Rama Gaming House, and more.

The festival also supported up-and-coming talent through the Youth Band Challenge, backed by Metalworks Studios, SoundsUnite, Long & McQuade, Mississauga Arts Council, and the Hazel McCallion Foundation.

The festival's continued success is a testament to the strong support from the community, hundreds of volunteers, and several sponsors and donors, including Tim Hortons Mississauga, Visit Mississauga, Brightwater, Ontario Creates, Canadian Heritage, Port Credit Community Foundation, Port Credit BIA, the City of Mississauga, Elite Containers, Not Another Restaurant, LIUNA Local 183, Rama Gaming House, Charitable Gaming-Community Good, Hazel McCallion Foundation, and Edenshaw, along with several local businesses. "We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our sponsors, grantors, and donors, whose contributions are essential to the festival's success," said Festival Co-Chair Kris Kane. "The commitment of hundreds of volunteers also plays a crucial role, and we can't thank them enough for their hard work."

Looking ahead, the festival remains committed to delivering top-notch musical experiences and fostering a strong sense of community in Mississauga. More information about this year's performances, as well as updates on next year's event, can be found at southsideshuffle.ca.

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