Detroit Music Weekend 2020 Will Be Safe & Social Distanced

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The Third Detroit Music Weekend will be a two-day live music event with CDC compliant safety. On Friday, July 24th there will be the Drive-In Gala & Road Rally at 6:30 PM. The event will take place in the Music Hall parking lot for an in-car scavenger hunt and drive-in style dinner and cocktails at 8 PM. Rollerskating carhops will deliver food to cars with special car window trays. Kern Brantley and his band will end the evening with '50s style music on the big stage. Saturday will have the Stay Safe and Jam Live free concert that will have a limited capacity of 88 guests on 6' by 6' carpet squares over a 15,000 square foot area. The stage will host 10 artists at a time with 15-minute intervals to clean the equipment. The shows will be streamed on a short-range modulator on 107.7 FM WMHC. The final lineup will be announced this week at detroitmusicweekend.org.Â

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The Jacksons To Be Honored

During Detroit Music Weekend

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The Jackson 5 will headline Detroit Music Weekend and receive honors including the key to the city and the naming of a street after Michael Jackson. The Jacksons signed to Motown in 1969 and started having hits with "I Want You Back" and "ABC" and "The Love You Save." At the press conference for Detroit Music Weekend at the Music Hall, Marlon and Jackie Jackson shared a story about singing in front of the Motown family of artists at Berry Gordy's home. They also expressed their respect for Detroit's neverending pool of creative talent and how they never take the iconic status of The Jackson 5 for granted. It is the second year for Detroit Music Weekend and The Jackson 5 will headline the event that will feature more than 500 artists on five stages. Last year Aretha Franklin was the headliner and honored with the naming of Aretha Franklin Way.Â

The Jackson 5 concert is a free outdoor event that takes place June 16th on the Madison Central Stage. On the night of the 15th, there will be a tribute band led by Kern Brantley performing a musical tribute to The Jackson 5 and keyboardist Greg Philliganes who worked on several Jackson albums is one of the musicians. For more information about the event see DetroitMusicWeekend.org.Â

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The Jacksons Will Perform At Detroit Music Weekend's Tribute To The Jackson 5

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Detroit Music Weekend will kick off its second year June 14-17 with a tribute to The Jackson 5. Forty-nine years ago The Jackson 5 recorded their first hit single "I Want You Back" for Motown Records. Michael Jackson was 11 years old and together with his brothers, they built a musical legacy that made them one of the first Black bands to have crossover success. "I Want You Back" started what was then called Jacksonmania because they continued to have hits and became the biggest teen band in the world. Their journey led the way for every young group to come after as well as Michael, Jermaine and Janet Jackson's solo careers. Tito, Marlon, Jackie and Jermaine will perform free to the public June 16th at 9PM ET.

The event will also have Will Sessions, Third Man Records country artist the Craig Brown Band and over 400 performers on multiple stages. \hat{A}

On June 16, the Motor City Market will host several vendors alongside the performance stages.Â

For more information about Detroit Music Weekend check out their site.Â

Aretha Franklin & Tuxedo Captivate Detroit Music Weekend Crowds

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Aretha Franklin performed a free concert for Detroit Music Weekend this past Saturday for an eager crowd that did not mind waiting hours to see her under an 88-degree sun. Ms. Franklin arrived 41 minutes after her scheduled performance time of 6 PM as the audience patiently waited for what might have been her last concert. Jesse Jackson helped her to the stage as other members of her entourage made sure that her white gown stayed clean and in place as she walked up the stairs. She began her set with "I Knew You Were Waiting For Me" her 1986 hit duet with the late George Michael. After launching into "Do Right Woman, Do Right Man" from her classic Muscle Shoals era she gave a true to the recording performance of the Curtis Mayfield-penned "Hooked On Your Love" from the Sparkle soundtrack.

At one point during the evening, Ms. Franklin took the time to acknowledge the many Detroit notables that were present including Mary Wilson of The Supremes, Â Freda Payne, boxing legend Tommy Hearns, singer Freda Payne, Vickie Winans and U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow.

Ms. Franklin was joined later by The Williams Brothers for a pure gospel interlude and the show was stopped for a short time to allow Mayor Duggan to present Franklin with the key to the city. After graciously receiving the honor Franklin resumed the show with a quick run of Adele's "Rolling In The Deep." She concluded her almost two-hour show with a grittier version of "Freeway Of Love." As she exited the stage, she

asked the crowd to keep her in their prayers.

Mayor Hawthorne and Jake One took the stage as Tuxedo in the yellow tent soon after the clearing of the main stage. Their 40-minute set included dauntless performances of "So Good," "2nd Time Around" and "Fux With The Tux." The crowd knew the words to the songs and created an almost karaoke-like atmosphere. Jake One explained to the crowd how they were inspired by classic west coast hip-hop sounds from Mac Dre to Dr. Dre when they were making their Tuxedo II album. Vocalist Gavin Turek, who duetted with Hawthorne on "Shine" also paid tribute to Detroit with a solo performance of Alicia Myers' "I Want To Thank You." Their short but sweet set left the audience satisfied but clearly ready for their next return to Detroit.

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