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## **21st ANNUAL COURTYARD CONCERTS BEGINS SEPTEMBER 3 AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**



*Eight Acts to Appear at Library's Free Lunchtime Concerts This Year*

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – Nashville Public Library's [Courtyard Concerts](#) series returns this year, beginning Tuesday, Sept. 3, with eight musical acts scheduled to perform.

The Library's free lunchtime concert series — traditionally held in the Library's beloved Robinson Courtyard — is being held this year at [Church Street Park](#)

while the Main Library undergoes essential preventative maintenance. The concerts run 11:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. every Tuesday through Oct. 22.

“We are thrilled to partner with the Nashville Public Library for their Courtyard Concerts series at Church Street Park for the second year,” said Nashville Downtown Partnership's Parks & Placemaking Coordinator, Alisha Lane. “Like the library, Church Street Park aims to provide connection for our community. This collaboration does just that by bringing these beloved music experiences to the neighboring park that serves as downtown's shared backyard.”

The Library is also partnering with the National Museum of African American Music this year, which serves as an alternate venue in case of inclement weather.

NPL will announce the final location the day prior to each concert on its [website](#) and [social media channels](#).

“NMAAM is excited to partner with NPL on the Courtyard Concert series, providing opportunities for the Nashville community and visitors from around the world to experience what makes us 'Music City,’” NMAAM Director of Education and Exhibitions Noelle Taylor said.

Discounted parking will be available in the parking garage adjacent to the Main Library, but only for the duration of each concert.

This year's lineup features an enticing mix of new artists and returning favorites.

### **2024 Courtyard Concerts Lineup**

#### **Sept. 3: The McCrary Sisters**

Boundless joy in singing is central to The McCrary Sisters' gospel music. Ann, Regina, and Alfreda grew up in Nashville surrounded by music, artists, community, and faith. As daughters of the late Rev. Samuel McCrary (founding member of legendary gospel quartet The Fairfield Four), they were raised in harmony, and shared the family legacy by performing with artists including Bob Dylan, Elvis, Isaac Hayes, and Stevie Wonder. In 2011, the sisters officially formed their own group and have since recorded and performed widely on their own and alongside other notable artists.

[The McCrary Sisters on YouTube](#)

#### **Sept. 10: Devon Gilfillian**

Devon Gilfillian grew up on the musically fertile streets of Philadelphia, surrounded by his musician father's love of the craft. He came to Nashville and quickly nestled into the local music community. He released his GRAMMY®-nominated debut album, "Black Hole Rainbow," in 2020 and has maintained a relentless touring schedule supporting artists such as Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats, Keith Urban, and Mavis Staples. His latest release, "Love You Anyway," spans numerous genres and confronts as well as comforts, all under the banner of Black joy.

[Devon Gilfillian on YouTube](#)

### **Sept. 17: Sawyer**

Two college friends experienced breakups on the same day, then spent the rest of the school year writing lyrics in a dorm room. The equal parts depth-to-fun ratio of their conversation evolved into the Sawyer style of lyric. In 2017 they quit their restaurant jobs and survived by touring and playing college gigs. The artists describe their music as "the only antidepressant without side effects," and they hope it "will eat people alive and spit them out as self-actualized, emotionally validated Sawheads who are in love with the world and ready to heal it."

[Sawyer on YouTube](#)

### **Sept. 24: Buzie**

Buzie formed when a group of friends with polar influences came together to create a sonic mosaic that would satisfy each of their respective ears. Softening the lines between alternative rock, pop, funk, and everything in between, Buzie transcends genre with intricate, driving rhythms and articulately fat bass lines that cradle carefully refined lyrics and catchy melodies — like a pack of wolves nurturing a human baby. Buzie will leave listeners asking, "When are you gonna release that?" from behind melted faces.

[Buzie on Instagram](#)

### **Oct. 1: Elliott Robinson**

The opportunity to perform here last year was an incredible thrill, one I never imagined I would get to experience AGAIN! Special thanks to NPL: I'm baaaack! My musical tastes come right out of Dad's record cabinet: everything from Bach to Bacharach, Mozart to Motown; but I have always been enchanted, enthralled, and entranced by the voices of the singers. I'm going to stick to the same formula as last year and pay tribute to some of those great artists that have warmed our hearts, but are no longer with us; this time with a focus on the Great American songbook.

[Learn More on Instagram](#)

**Oct. 8: Crystal Rose**

Kansas City native Crystal Rose is blazing a trail in Nashville's music scene. Her genre-blending sound and emotionally-charged lyrics feel like stolen glimpses into her diary. She's shared stages with Jess Nolan, Medium Build, Alice Merton and Trombone Shorty and supports Maggie Rose on her NO ONE GETS OUT ALIVE TOUR this year. Named a 2024 Artist to Watch by both *Nashville Scene* and *The Tennessean*, Crystal is also a two-time recipient of NPR Music's Tiny Desk Contest's Top Shelf Status — most recently for her original “Mad Black Woman.”

[Crystal Rose on Instagram](#)

**Oct. 15: Abbey Cone**

Independent country vocal powerhouse Abbey Cone connects with listeners through her emotionally resonant songwriting. A member of CMT's 2020 Next Women of Country class of and one of Pandora's 10 Country Artists to Watch in 2022, she recently made her debut on the Grand Ole Opry and will support Morgan Wade, Mickey Guyton, and Kimberly Perry on tour this fall. Cone is currently in the studio finishing a new project, set for release later this year. Presented in collaboration with the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

[Abbey Cone on YouTube](#)

**Oct. 22: Voxology (Belmont University)**

Voxology is an all-women gospel and R&B ensemble based in Belmont University's School of Music. Directed by music producer and professor Brian Nathan Seay, the group comprises commercial music majors of diverse disciplines and allows students to explore and perform a blend of traditional and contemporary gospel and R&B. Bolstered by performances both local and international (plus a vibrant social media presence), the ensemble has grown its followers to 30K+ in only two years. Stay tuned as Voxology continues to grow and explore, poised to make a lasting impact on the global stage.

[Voxology on Instagram](#)

The 21st Annual Courtyard Concerts series is made possible by the [Nashville Public Library Foundation](#), the Downtown Nashville Partnership, Church Street Park, the National Museum of African American Music and the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

### **About Nashville Public Library**

With more than two million books, movies, and music items to choose from — plus great programming and resources to improve early and adult literacy, STEAM, ESL, and other key skills — NPL is Nashville's gateway to some of the best resources our city has to offer. Every year, across our 21-location system, thousands of visitors discover how our library lives up to our philosophy: at NPL, books are only half the story.

### **About Nashville Downtown Partnership & Church Street Park**

Established in 1994, the Nashville Downtown Partnership is a private-sector nonprofit and membership organization dedicated to making downtown Nashville the premier urban center in the southeast to live, work, play, and invest. In 2021, the Nashville Downtown Partnership, in collaboration with Metro Parks and the Historical Capitol Corridor Foundation, enhanced Church Street Park, making it a vibrant community space with free daily programming for all.

### **About the National Museum of African American Music**

NMAAM is the only museum dedicated to preserving and celebrating the many music genres created, influenced and inspired by African Americans. The museum's expertly curated collections share the story of the American soundtrack by integrating history and interactive technology to bring the musical heroes of the past into the present. The National Museum of African American Music is the premier global destination for music lovers of all generations, and inspires, educates and transforms your appreciation of American music. NMAAM's mission is to educate the world, preserve the legacy and celebrate the central role African Americans play in creating the American soundtrack. NMAAM was born out of a proposal from the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce in 2002, as a way to celebrate and preserve African Americans' influence on music and provide residents and visitors with diverse cultural offerings. The National Museum of African American Music broke ground in early 2017 and officially opened in 2021. Since its opening, NMAAM has welcomed guests from across the U.S. and is one of Music City's top must-see tourist destinations.



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