

PRESS RELEASE

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Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the
Somerville Arts Council present...



**ARTBEAT FESTIVAL
DAVIS SQUARE, SOMERVILLE**

Sat., July 16th, 11am-10pm
(rain date: 7/17, same times)

Location: Throughout the square, including
Seven Hills Park, Elm Street, and Holland
Street (streets closed to traffic)

**Suggested Donation:
\$3 (Get a cool dog tag!)**

About ArtBeat: Things are looking up, lifting—rising. At this year's ArtBeat Festival we invite artists of all kinds and community members to interpret the "rise" theme in myriad ways. What's beyond us, what's within reach? How might we rise to further our dreams and goals, and rise up to fight inequality? It's time to RISE Somerville! Also, expect the usual barrage of bands, art, dance, food, a parade—and much more!

B.Y.O.W.B.

This year we're asking all festival goers: Bring your own water bottle! You can fill up your bottles at the Quench Buggy (details follow). Let's make this a festival free of plastic water bottles!

ARTBEAT SCHEDULE

July 16th [Rain date: 7/17; same times]:

Parade, School of Honk

10:30 AM The festival will kick off with a parade led by School of Honk. We invite other festival performers and community members to join in and RISE for Somerville!

Park Stage, Seven Hills Park (behind Somerville Theatre)

12:00 PM Toni Lynn Washington (blues)
1:00 PM Los Nitidos (Salvadoran)
2:00 PM Genie Santiago (indie/spiritual)
3:00 PM Sue Bell (pop/soft rock)
4:00 PM Georgia Overdrive (country rock)
5:00 PM Kimon Kirk (pop/rock)
6:00 PM Kina Zoré (african)
7:00 PM JayB Prodigy (reggaeton/hip-hop)
8:00 PM Nectarine Girl (indie-rock)
9:00 PM Dutch Tulips (indie-rock)

Elm Street Stage (corner of Elm St. and Chester St.)

12:30 PM Ira Klein & Friends (folk)
1:30 PM Sawaari Trio (international/indie)
2:30 PM TIFFY (soft punk)
3:30 PM Aaron and the Dream (rock/hip-hop/electronic/soul)
4:30 PM Senseless Optimism (singer-songwriter)

Somerville Theatre (55 Davis Square)

12:30 PM Deborah Mason School of Dance
Duets of a Lifetime
1:30 PM Continuum Dance Project
2:30 PM Danza Orgánica
Art Uneaths
Carmen Rizzo
Eliza Malecki Dance
4:00 PM Ken Pierce Baroque Dance Company
JLin and Colleagues
Navarasa Dance Theater

Statue Park (plaza in front of JP Licks)

12:00 PM Bonbon de Rue (acordian/clarinet busker)
2:00 PM Flutterby Fairies (showcase performance)
3:00 PM Boston Hoop Troop (hula hoop extravaganza)

Near the Davis Sq. Traffic Intersection

all day Somerville Community Land Trust (SCLT) will be rising up in this space featuring interactive activities for all ages that provide insight into the housing affordability in Somerville along with opportunities to get involved.



Top to bottom: Dutch Tulips; Continuum Dance Project; Eliza Malecki Dance; Senseless Optimism

Music in Seven Hills Park

12:00PM **Toni Lynn Washington**

NorthernBlues Music - Moments before Toni Lynn Washington takes the stage, you might see what appears to be a quiet, unassuming woman standing patiently out of the spotlight. But look quickly, because once the music starts, four decades of performing will kick into gear, and she'll soon take control of the room like a pool shark running the table. Special performers are gifted with the innate ability to throw that "switch". You know, that ignition of performance and presence that lets you leave your troubles behind, and immerse yourself in the sheer joy of sharing that comes from giving one's self over to the music. Toni Lynn Washington is just such an artist.



1:00 PM **Grupo Los Nitidos**

Los Nitidos blends styles like Cumbia (Colombia), Tex Mex and the fast-paced rhythms of Bachata (Puerto Rico and Dominican Republic) to create a singular sound. This seasoned seven-piece band, which released "Mi Lindo el Salvador" in 2001, features two singers, guitars, bass, drums, conga and guero. Whether fast and feisty Bachata or sweetly syncopated Cumbia, Los Nitidos creates sounds perfect for dancing.



2:00 PM **Genie Santiago**

Described as spiritual and moving, Genie Santiago is a Boston based musician, poet, visual artist, event producer, and bruja. Her art draws from her experience growing up in poverty, overcoming trauma, and as a Queer Indigenous Puerto Rican. Genie is unafraid to empower others to overcome trauma, decolonize the mind, and stray from the ideals of self-hatred that society places upon us. Her work as Co-Owner and Director of Performing Arts at Creatives of Color Boston allows her to create events and opportunities for MA based BIPOC artists. She can be found blessing many stages performing original poetry and songs from her newest album "Inner Space".



3:00 PM **Sue Bell**

Backed by a supergroup of Camberville musicians past and present, singer-songwriter Sue Bell and her buddies create a blend of pop and dreamy soft rock. Their music has been described as "alive with unique orchestration, catchy melodies, and imaginative lyrics." The lineup includes Johnny Allen (drums), Mariam Saleh (bass) Doug Tuttle (guitar), Sarah Cronin (harmonies), and Nick Vandenberg (clarinet and trumpet).



4:00 PM **Georgia Overdrive**

Georgia Overdrive plays the best of country rock: Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, Gram Parsons, and many more. "The festive side of country twang has rarely sounded better than in the hands of this uplifting band." -The Boston Globe



5:00 PM **Kimon Kirk**

Bassist, singer-songwriter-guitarist, and producer Kimon Kirk's 2021 release *Altitude* is his first solo album in ten years. Having toured and recorded with Gaby Moreno, Aimee Mann, Alejandro Escovedo, Session Americana, Amy Correia, Grant-Lee Phillips, and Sarah Borges, and penned songs with Grammy-winners Mann and Lori McKenna, Kirk steps into the spotlight on vocals and guitar, leading his crack five-piece band. *Altitude's* lush-but-understated production results in an album that "shines a golden melodic light on the darker corners of the human soul, beguiling the listener onto a higher plane. It's a combination of penetrating intelligence and unapologetic catchiness that's rare, but shouldn't be." (The Daily Vault)



Music in Seven Hills Park (continued)

6:00 PM **Kina Zoré**

African rhythms that echo from frontman Helder Tsinine's hometown of Maputo, the capital of Mozambique. Shortly after moving to Boston to attend Berklee, Tsinine formed Kina Zoré (the band is named after a Mozambican, traditional, celebratory dance) to share some of his songs and stories of his life in Mozambique. Kina Zoré has attracted international attention, including features on BBC Africa, the Christian Science Monitor, and the Agência Angola Press.



7:00 PM **JayB Prodigy**

A panoply of Latin/Caribbean styles, Grupo Fantasia is the brainchild of Dominican multi-instrumentalist Angel Wagner. With Grupo Fantasia, Wagner and his band demonstrate a mastery of Latin music through the styles of merengue, salsa, Latin jazz, cumbia, bachata and vallenato. When he isn't performing at shows, Wagner heads the Angel Wagner Musical Workshop, providing students with hands-on lessons in the sounds of the Caribbean and Latin America.



8:00 PM **Nectarine Girl**

Nectarine Girl is an indie-rock musician based in Boston Massachusetts. Her artistic influences are Alex G, Sasami, Cherry Glazerr, and Johanna Warren. Her music has been described as "heavy on killer songwriting that creates compelling soundscapes, imagine Elliott Smith with a Nine Inch Nails twist" Her debut EP "Is This The Light" came out February 11th this year! Her band, consisting of Caroline Daniels on bass, Matty Enriquez and Shai Rodriguez on guitar, and Gabe Perez on Drums all do an incredible job of bringing her recorded music to life.



9:00 PM **Dutch Tulips**

Dutch Tulips are a fun and energetic indie rock band. Their unique sound brings together layered vocal harmonies, fuzzed out guitar tones, and a driving rhythm section that will get you moving. After releasing their debut album last year, the band has been busy performing around Boston including a performance at this year's Boston Calling Music Festival.



Music on the Elm St. Stage (Corner of Elm & Chester)

12:30 PM **Ira Klein & Friends**

Ira Klein is an award-winning multi-instrumentalist and composer, originally from Jerusalem, Israel. Join Ira and his virtuosic string-band for a captivating and uplifting set of American folk music. From driving fiddle tunes to haunting ballads, Ira's band will present a joyful program of music, rooted in the rich old time and blues traditions.



1:30 PM **Sawaari Trio**

Sawaari Trio explore the nexus of Indian taals, Arabic maqams, and trance music from North Africa and Italy, fully encompassing the varied interests and backgrounds of its band members: Fabio Pirozzolo (vocals and percussion), Mike Rivard (sitar), and Andy Bergman (sax, clarinet). With an emphasis on rhythm, the music they create together has a searching, exploratory quality that brings together the meditative with the energetic, taking the listener from sparse tranquility to complex syncopations in a moment. Named for a word that means "to ride" in Hindi, Sawaari invites audiences to be transported into a world of rhythm and sound that knows no borders, no limitations.



2:30 PM **TIFFY**

What, exactly, makes a soft punk? An attitude both rigid and tender? The right guitar pedal, generating a buzz that reverberates straight into your soul? Or maybe it's the gall to rebel in the face of your workplace and shriek "I'm not equipped for this" while cushioning your message in fuzzy, right-outta-the-garage rock. This is the equation that multi-instrumentalist, songwriter, and producer Tiffany Sammy seeks to balance every time she slips into her Boston-based project TIFFY. Kickstarted by her self-recorded and self-produced debut EP Fire Sale in June 2019, TIFFY represents what it means for genres to clash and meld in 2022, preserving a bottled-up mix of dream rock and coarse punk.



3:30 PM **Aaron and the Dream**

Aaron and the Dream is a genre defying full band outfit from the mind of singer-songwriter and producer Aaron Emmanuel. Their songs probe the corners of the psyche and vulnerability and invite the audience to do the same. Their sound includes elements of rock, hip-hop, electronica, and soul. Be on the lookout for the full length album to be released this Summer!



4:30 PM **Senseless Optimism**

Senseless Optimism, the vessel for international artist Brittany, is quickly redefining the role of the singer/songwriter in the modern era. Her international perspective and deeply insightful lyricism have already made her a fan favorite in her hometown of Lowell, MA. Now, with the release of her most accomplished music to date, Senseless Optimism is on the verge of a national breakthrough.



Somerville Theater Dance Showcase (55 Davis Square)

12:30PM

“Tap Works,” “The Beginning and the End, “Jazz Suite” by Deborah Mason School of Dance

Cited by the United States Senate in Washington, DC for providing a high quality arts education, Deborah Mason Performing Arts Center and the CYDP Dance Company is an intensive pre-professional training and performance company. The versatility of the dancers captivates audiences with an impressive range of styles in the art of ballet, modern dance, character, Broadway, tap, jazz, and drama. Under the artistic direction of founder, Deborah Mason, CYDP has flourished into a performing arts program with a rigorous schedule and an extensive community outreach program.

“Lighten Up” by Duets of a Lifetime

Duets for a Lifetime is known for its short, humorous, portable dances. Ruth Benson Levin and Lynn Modell have been working together for 100 years. We are known for our short, funny, portable dances. We will be performing a dance called “Lighten Up.” This performance was created to bring a moment of delight amid the stress of the pandemic to people’s back yards and driveways. During the months of January and February, Lynn and Ruth performed in over 40 locations in the Boston area.

1:30PM

“Cubed” by Continuum Dance Project

Continuum Dance Project is a Boston based dance company focused on creating site-specific work, cross-disciplinary collaboration, and reflecting the backgrounds of our collaborating artists. Continuum Dance Project is working on the creation of a new evening length work exploring multi-layered connection with Michael Alfano’s interactive sculpture “Cubed”. This cross-disciplinary dance will explore race and gender from the female perspective.

2:30PM

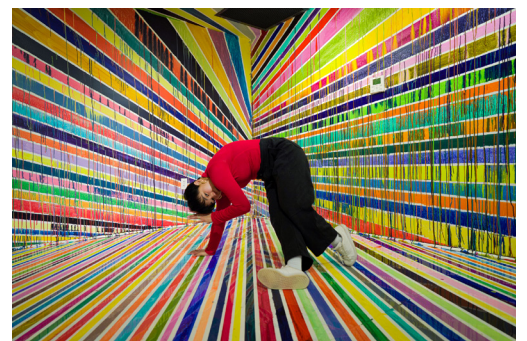
“Amor Ancestral” by Danza Orgánica

Danza Orgánica is a Boston-based dance theater company that focuses on social change. Their work has been featured at Jacob’s Pillow, The Yard, and the ICA.

Dancers: Ale Rosa, Claudia Varela, Dey Hernandez, Fran de Paula, Mar Parrilla
Choreography and direction: Mar Parrilla

“Pink Blue” by Art UnEarths

Jeryl Palana Pilapil-Brown has been a dancer, choreographer and teaching artist in the greater Boston area for over ten years. Jeryl is honored to be associate director of the Cambridge Youth Dance Program at Deborah Mason Performing Arts Center in Somerville. She is the founder and creative director of Art UnEarths, a multi-disciplinary dance company who’s mission is to encourage empathy through exploring the untold and unheard parts of our own identities and cultures through dance on film and live performances. Jeryl loves connecting people by curating events such as The Hip Hop Exchange, and remains driven to share her passion for culture, movement and humanity through her work.



Somerville Theater Dance Showcase Continued (55 Davis Square)

2:30PM

“Lost in Translation” Carmen Rizzo

Carmen Rizzo, from São Paulo, Brazil, is a freelance dancer/choreographer. A Manhattanville College Alumna, her work celebrates diversity, voicing what and who is silenced.

“A Considerable Speck” by Eliza Malecki Dance

Eliza Malecki is a Cambridge based choreographer that creates intricate and whimsical works inspired by the little pockets of joy in life.

4:00PM

“Dances from the cour of Louis XVI” Ken Pierce Baroque Dance Company

The Ken Pierce Baroque Dance Company piece will feature dance and music from the court of Louis XIV. The French king Louis XIV was a devoted dancer, and he surrounded himself at court with the best musicians and dancers in Europe. An important feature of the style of dance at court (“Baroque dance”) is that almost every step begins with a rise or upward spring: the dancers aspired to qualities of lightness and grace, reaching toward the heavens rather than toward the earth. Performed in period costume, suitable for the whole family. Music by Lully, Marais, and others. Ken Pierce Baroque Dance Company (Ken Pierce and Camilla Finlay) with Ensemble Maresienne (Carol Lewis, treble viol; Olav Chris Henriksen, theorbo & baroque guitar; Alice Mroszczyk, bass viola da gamba).

“Buk Chum” by JLin and Colleagues

Jennifer Lin, a classically trained dancer of European and Korean descent, explores interstitial spaces between tradition and modernity, form and expression, and theory and practice.

“These Poems” by Navarasa Dance Theater

SINDHOOR & NATYAVEDA – Navarasa Dance Theater is a South-Asian-American company touring extensively and is considered the best physical theater company out of India.

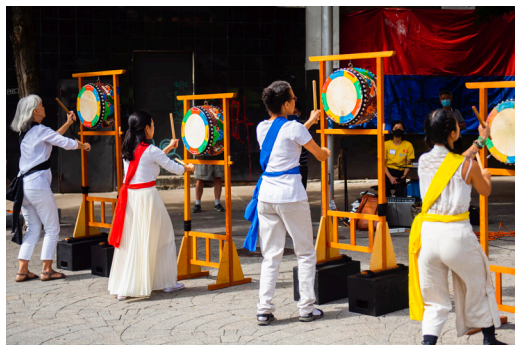
These Poems, These Dances, These Songs by Aparna Sindhoor

Choreography and Direction: Aparna Sindhoor and Anil Natyaveda

Music: George Books

Poems: June Jordan, S M Raju

Performed by: Aparna Sindhoor, Anil Natyaveda, Smitha Radhakrishnan, Sapna Govindan, Revati Masilamani, Priya Bangal, Giri and Vaidu



ArtBeat Festival Kick-Off Parade

10:30 AM **ArtBeat RISE Parade**

This year's parade will feature School of Honk, additional ArtBeat Festival performers, and YOU! We are inviting community members to participate in this year's parade to join together and RISE for Somerville.

The parade will meet at the Community Bike Path at the intersection of Grove Street and stage from here and the Bikeway Community Garden.

Statue Park Performances

12:00 PM **Bonbon de Rue Performance**

Bonbon de Rue is an accordion and clarinet duo that delights their audience with an eclectic repertoire of music ranging from traditional jazz, waltzes, French classics such as "Sous le Ciel de Paris", to the theme song from Howl's Moving Castle.

2:00 PM **Flutterby Faeries**

Has your life been lacking in sparkle, magic, and general whimsy? Have no fear, the faeries are here! We love going to festivals, parties, parades, birthdays, and more! We're based out of Somerville, but we can bring magic to wherever you are! Come flutter with Flutterby Faeries!

3:00 PM **Hula Hoop Extravaganza**

Boston Hoop New England's premier hooping collective who teach classes, perform and host hoop jams in the Boston area. Originated in 2003 as a way for Boston hoopers to get together and share their love of hooping, this once-listserv has evolved into a staple in the movement arts and circus community in Boston. Join Boston Hoop Troop for a hula hoop showcase and interactive hula hooping experience!

Additional Happenings

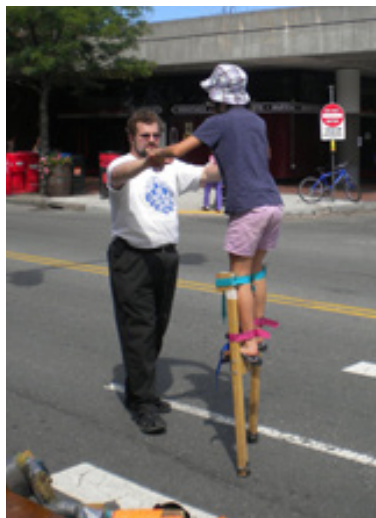
Roving Performers

Esh Circus Arts Student Performers

Caricature Drawings

Face Painting

Bubble Making



RISE Interactive Activities *(All day unless otherwise noted)*

Somerville Community Land Trust

Davis Square Traffic Intersection

Somerville Community Land Trust (SCLT) is working to create and sustain permanently affordable housing on community-owned land. At the traffic island at ArtBeat 2022, SCLT members will be painting, building, and talking about what's rising in Somerville: big buildings, rents, and community voice and power to shape how our city grows and changes. We'll be decorating canvas with images of our dreams for Somerville; recording stories of housing, displacement, and resistance in our city; and have building blocks for younger neighbors. You can also learn more about SCLT and join our work as a member.

Rise Together Hopscotch

Day Street

Rise Together intends to create playful moments in public open space that invites people to play, hop, jump, dance, interact, and rise together in their own way. Ponnapa Prakkamakul is a visual artist and landscape architect based in Massachusetts. She has been working extensively on public engagement art projects in the Greater Boston Area. Her work aims to gain a better understanding in cultural displacement and isolation issues as an immigrant, overlapping fine art and landscape architecture. Ponnapa currently is a member at Kingston Gallery and a licensed landscape architect at Sasaki.

Paint Your Truth

Statue Park

THE Art Expressionist uses art to heal trauma. She curates spaces for self-care and wellness by facilitating process painting workshops. Process painting is a therapeutic art method that allows participants to focus on being present of their authentic mind, body and soul as they paint. Vie Ciné has been facilitating painting workshops in Massachusetts for 4 years, going on 5 years. In 2020, Vie Ciné turned Paint Your Truth Workshops into a business for survivors of COVID19 Massachusetts Residents!

Post-Meridian Radio Players

Throughout Festival Grounds

Founded in 2005 and based in Somerville, The Post-Meridian Radio Players are a group of actors, writers, FoleyFX artists, composers, sound designers and other interested people dedicated to the preservation of radio drama, and the development of audio theater, as unique art forms. They offer live performances and studio productions of both classic tales from the Golden Age of Radio and original works by new and experienced writers, with a special emphasis on science-fiction, fantasy, and horror.

Esh Circus Arts

Roaming at Festival

Esh Circus Arts is the Boston area's home for high-quality circus instruction. We live and breathe all things circus! Esh is a 5,000 sq foot facility located in the heart of Somerville, only a few minutes walk from Harvard, Union, and Porter squares. Our facility features adjustable aerial rigging points, padded floors, spotting belts for acrobatics, a dance area, and an on-site massage treatment room. With a staff of over 30 circus educators, we offer a large selection of classes in many different circus disciplines for adults and children of all ages. Most of our classes are recreational, and we are proud to be an inclusive circus home for people of all experience levels, genders, body types, and backgrounds. We also offer more advanced training for aspiring professionals through one-on-one training and our pre-professional programs. All of our ArtBeat performers are Esh students!



Throughout the festival

Craft Vendors

We'll have over 65+ craftsters and crafty companies, including: Winter Hill Jewelry, Studio Nine Photography, Henna by Heather, Custom Woodworks, Mudflat Pottery Studio, Flutternutter crafts, Stella Marie Soap, and more! When it comes to “raising the bar” for quality crafts, our talented artists fit the bill. So, buy local and support our talented artists and maker communities.



Community Outreach Organizations

There will be a slew of organizations sharing material and offering activities, including: Somerville Public Library, Outside the Lines, Somerville Garden Club, Project Have Hope, Extinction Rebellion, The Fashion for Empowerment Project, Somerville Homeless Coalition, Somerville Education Foundation, KMW School of Painting, and the Mystic River Watershed Association

Nibble

Nibble, the culinary arm of the Somerville Arts Council, will be at the center of the ArtBeat Festival! Look for the Nibble tent just outside the CVS building. Nibble Chef Edwin Orellana of Dos Manos Kitchen will be our featured vendor, selling a variety of pupusas, Salvadoran smoothies, and more! The Nibble tent is also the place to learn more about the Nibble program and sign up for Nibble Union Square food tours. Nibble is a culinary business incubator program and a platform for multicultural exchange through food.

Inside Out Gallery “Rise” Exhibit—Through the Realities

Inside Out Gallery “Through the Realities” showcase on view at the Somerville Arts Council’s Inside Out Gallery (within the CVS windows in the heart of the square). Curated by Joshua Sarnana, “Through These Realities” challenges the narratives of mass media that invalidate the experiences of people of color through the interactions of poetry and photography. Stop by the window to see six local photographers of color RISE up to address issues of inequality

