

May 30th to June 18th, 2023

Source: Elyzabeth Walling 514-212-9229 elyzabethwalling@wallingcommunications.com

FRANCOFEST 2023: June 16th, 17th and 18: A rich line-up to experience arts and culture *en français!*

Hamilton, ON – FrancoFEST unveils the full program of its three days of programming, where everyone is invited to discover and celebrate the diversity of *la francophonie* with the largest festival of Francophone art & culture in the Niagara Peninsula. THE event that proves anyone who speaks French can thrive in Ontario!

The poster for FrancoFEST 2023 features a bright yellow background with a green wavy border at the bottom. On the left, the Centre Francophone Hamilton logo is shown above the text 'Présente' and 'FrancoFEST 2023' in large pink letters. A white speech bubble on the right contains the dates '16, 17 et 18 juin' and 'June 16th, 17th, and 18th'. Below this, it says 'FREE Admission GRATUITE'. The poster lists activities, music acts, and funders. On the right side, there are four circular images of performers. At the bottom, logos for Canada, Ontario, Québec, Hamilton, and SiriusXM are displayed, along with the website 'francofesthamilton.ca' and the location 'PARC GAGE Hamilton GAGE PARK'.

CENTRE FRANCOPHONE HAMILTON
Présente

FrancoFEST 2023

16, 17 et 18 juin
June 16th, 17th, and 18th

FREE Admission GRATUITE

ACTIVITÉS / ACTIVITIES :
Atlas Geocircus
Chiens cascadeurs / Ultimutts
Châteaux gonflables / Inflatables

MUSIQUE / MUSIC :
LGS
Shauit
Abel Maxwell
Bermuda

BAILLEURS DE FONDS / FUNDERS
Canada Ontario Québec Hamilton SiriusXM

PARC GAGE Hamilton GAGE PARK **francofesthamilton.ca**

FrancoFEST Hamilton is more than a date, it's the love story between Francophones, Francophiles, and their largest francophone festival in the Niagara Peninsula! **FrancoFEST, an initiative launched about 40 years ago by Centre francophone Hamilton**, returns for three days in beautiful Gage Park, and announces summer with its usual friendly atmosphere!

The 2023 edition will take place on June 16th from 5pm to 11pm, on June 17th from 11am to 11:30pm and on June 18th from 11am to 2:30pm. It will feature performances by many renowned artists from Ontario and Quebec, emerging local artists and a host of free workshops and activities for the whole family such as bouncy castles, a pirate ship, food vendors, arts and crafts workshops, an art exhibition, a Bingo game, etc.

This unique arts and culture festival allows the many Francophones and Francophiles of different origins to unite in the beautiful Niagara region to celebrate the diversity of the French speaking world. Come experience one of the largest and most inclusive celebrations of francophone arts and culture in Ontario!

The FrancoFEST team is delighted to announce that Le Groupe Swing (LGS) and Abel Maxwell will be making the festival crowd dance this year.

LGS – MAIN STAGE FRIDAY, JUNE 16 AT 8:00 PM

Groupe Swing (ON) is a Franco-Ontarian reference for every party! Created in 1999 by **Michel Bénac**, **LGS** transforms traditional French-Canadian song with flavors of American pop music. In the spring of 2020, the Franco-Ontarian group won 3 awards at the first edition of the Capital Music Awards: "Group of the Year", "Song of the Year" and "Music Video of the Year". These recognitions are in addition to 13 Trille-Or awards won since the gala's inception in 2001, as well as nominations at the Gala de l'ADISQ and the JUNO Awards! Each of their 6 albums immediately makes you want to smile and dance! Come party with us!



**ABEL MAXWELL- MAIN STAGE
SATURDAY AT 8:30 PM**

Don't miss the new rhythmic and catchy show by Abel Maxwell (ON), who arrived in North America a decade ago without money and without a job, **Abel Maxwell** is now an internationally recognized artist with inspiring lyrics and Afrobeat sounds.

Nominated as best male performer at the Trille-Or Gala in 2015, recipient of the UNESCO/ International Humanitarian Fashion Week Community Achievement Award (2016), he reveals his new album "**Five Roses**".



In total, more than 30 artists **from nearly 10 artistic disciplines** (mime, circus, dance, music, fashion, visual arts, crafts, poem, agility) will participate in the celebrations, with 15 music concerts on the festival's main stage, sponsored by **Sirius XM Canada**. The festivities will begin with a school matinee during which **Shuit**, nominated twice in the Indigenous artist of the year category at the prestigious Gala de l'ADISQ, will offer a performance followed by an interactive conference-workshop on Innu traditions. Among the artists you don't want to miss during the weekend : the sparkling MCs **Julie-Kim Beaudry** and **Andrée Anne Baribeau**, the percussion and samba group **Hamilton Beat Harmonics**, **Trevor Copp** the mime from Marcel Marceau's school in Paris, the actor-songwriter **Stef Paquette** back by popular demand for the fourth consecutive year, **Zapa Couture's** colorful fashion show, multi-instrumentalists **Dirty Hippie Music**, Haitian-Quebec singer-songwriter **Pascale Leblanc**, four-legged celebrities **Ultimutts**, singer-songwriter living in Hamilton **Breezy**, the band **Coup de Cœur** with their West African rhythms, **Atlas Géocircus** with their space circus show, **Bermuda** and her fun songs oscillating between funk, rap and pop and rapper **Le Flo Franco** who will carry us away with his multicolored urban pop style until late at night!

FrancoFEST will also celebrate Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day on **Sunday, June 18th from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** with a special musical and culinary program **sponsored by TFO**, a show of worthy representatives of Quebec's culture the group **Les Tireux d'Roches**, not to mention a multicultural touch with performances by talented percussionist **Adama Daou** on the balafon and **Alpha Rythm Roots** who marry influences from Africa and Canada.

See francofesthamilton.ca for full programming details.
This outdoor festival is free and offers something for everyone!

The FrancoFEST thanks its funders and sponsors of the 2023 edition: Ontario Arts Council, Ministry of Canadian Heritage, Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports, Secrétariat du

Québec aux relations canadiennes, City of Hamilton, Sirius XM Canada, Ici Toronto, Collège Boréal, Conseil Scolaire Catholique Mon Avenir, Conseil Scolaire Viamonde, OLG, Groupe Média TFO, Collège La Cité, ACFO Régionale Hamilton, Centre de Santé Communautaire Hamilton-Niagara, Communauté Francophone Accueillante, Entité 2, McMaster University Humanities, Parks Canada, Autism Ontario, Hamilton Arts Council.

The 2023 Hamilton FrancoFEST

June 16, 17 and 18

Gage Park (Gage Ave. S. & Main St. E., Hamilton)

FREE admission

For interviews, please contact Elyzabeth Walling

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Don't miss anything: follow us on social medias!

Twitter @francofestham | Instagram @francofesthamilton | Facebook @francofesthamilton
#FrancoFEST #HamOnt #FFHamilton2023

For the artist's photos, bios, videos & music:

<https://www.francofesthamilton.ca/espace-pro-presse>

Information: 905-547-5702 | www.francofesthamilton.ca

About:

Initiated by the Centre francophone Hamilton, FrancoFEST, traditionally community-based and family-oriented, FrancoFEST is a summer festival that has been in existence for 40 years. For 3 days this year, the Centre francophone celebrates Francophone arts and culture from around the world in Gage Park!

Press Officer

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WALLING COMMUNICATIONS

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Walling Communications
communication = connection

