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New details on 35th annual Tri-C JazzFest as countdown is on for Thursday night kick-off in Playhouse Square

Event will include largest set of free concerts in JazzFest history, thanks to Cleveland Foundation's June centennial gift to the community

CLEVELAND (June 25, 2014) — The 35th annual Tri-C JazzFest makes its debut in Playhouse Square when it kicks off Thursday, June 26, with the Sean Jones Quartet and the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra with Christian McBride. The three-day event includes 12 ticketed [theater concerts](#) – and 17 [free outdoor concerts](#). As part of the Cleveland Foundation's June centennial gift to the community, the free concerts will be held on U.S. Bank Plaza (East 14th Street and Euclid Avenue) from 3 p.m. to midnight on June 27 and 28.

There are some new details for concert-goers planning to enjoy the festival's first ever summer-time festival:

- Starting at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 27, through 9 a.m. on Sunday, June 29, the southbound lanes of East 14th Street from Euclid Avenue to Brownell Court will be closed, as well as the eastbound lanes of Euclid between East 13th and East 14th Streets to make the area more pedestrian-friendly
- No tickets are required for the Cleveland Foundation Days at Tri-C JazzFest outdoor concerts, which will be held rain or shine. In case of severe weather, outdoor concerts will move inside the State Theatre. A media alert will be issued in the morning of June 27 or 28 if the concerts are being moved indoors.
- Another first for the JazzFest – the introduction of food trucks! Four food trucks, plus ice cream, donuts and kettle corn stations, will be set up on the festival site. In addition, there will be balloon activities for children from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, June 28.
- Festival-goers are encouraged to take the RTA. Playhouse Square is on the HealthLine. For route information, visit www.riderta.com. Parking will be available at the Playhouse Square parking garage. Valet parking is available at the Wyndham, the official hotel of Tri-C JazzFest.
- The Tri-C JazzFest Second Line, featuring puppets from Parade the Circle, will be part of the festivities on Friday. The procession will kick off in front of the Hanna Theatre at 5:45 p.m. and will weave its way onto the west end of U.S. Bank Plaza shortly before 6 p.m.

“We are excited to welcome JazzFest guests to our 35th annual festival that is full of so many wonderful firsts,” says Terri Pontremoli, director of Tri-C JazzFest Cleveland. “It’s a summer-time, jam-packed streamlined schedule right in the heart of Playhouse Square with an amazing line-up of renowned musicians. We are thrilled to be the Cleveland Foundation’s June centennial gift partner and look forward to welcoming many first-time JazzFest attendees. We hope folks come down for some of the free concerts and then pop into one of the theaters to enjoy one of our ticketed concerts, as well. It will be ‘the’ entertainment venue this weekend.”

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