

Kitsilano Showboat 2026 – Artist Bios

All shows start at 7:00 pm except for Canada Day starting at 2:45 pm

Up to date Calendar at KitsilanoShowboat.com

Wednesday June 17

Opening Remarks – Barry Leinbach, President of the Kitsilano Showboat Society

The Vancouver Concert Band Society

The Vancouver Concert Band has been in operation for over 60 years (although the name has changed from time to time) and has members ranging in age from mid teens to 80s! The band is first and foremost a Community Band and performs at many seniors 'residences and neighborhood events. They play a wide variety of musical styles: classics to pop, jazz and rock under the able direction of Frank Ludwig.

Thursday June 18

Vancouver School of Highland Dance

The Vancouver School of Highland Dance perform a variety of traditional Highland (Scottish) dances, as well as original choreography. They have performed all across Canada and the US. They do performances at senior's residence, school fairs and a football half time show. Their performances outside of Vancouver consist largely of competitions, both individual and group.

StoryJam

This summer, six real people step onto the stage to share something rare: a true story, told live, from the heart. No scripts. No costumes. Just honest, deeply human moments — some funny, all heartwarming — that will stay with you long after the last word. Come ready to listen.

Friday June 19

Brock House Big Band

The Brock House Big Band is an 18 piece jazz band and their repertoire includes swing music from the 1930s and 1940s through to more modern jazz/big band arrangements. The band performs about sixteen times a year, delivering big band music to community centres, outdoor venues and seniors' residences.

Saturday June 20

Kitsilano Secondary School Band

This performance showcases the range of music-making at Kitsilano Secondary, from soloists on Persian tar and clarinet to ensembles including FUSE and Jazz Band. Featuring acoustic, vocal, pop, rock, and fusion works, the program highlights student creativity, versatility, and the diverse musical voices developed within the Kits music program. Wear your Blue and Gold and be prepared to sing "Hail Kitsilano".

Sunday June 21

National Indigenous Peoples Day

Steven Seegerts

Steven Seegerts is the Director of Urban Aboriginal Ministry in the Diocese of New Westminster. Steven incorporates traditional ways of being with his faith including drum circle, the practice of smudging and burning of the four sacred medicines Sage, Tobacco, Cedar and Sweet Grass as expressions of prayer and peacemaking. Join us for a remarkable evening of Indigenous culture.

Brad Henry

Indigenous Elder Brad Henry wowed our audiences last year with his stories, singing, drumming and the insightful meanings behind his paintings. If you want to learn more about Indigenous art and Brad's interpretations this is a must-see show. It will change you.

Wednesday June 24

Royal City Concert Band

The Royal City Concert band is based in New Westminster and was formed in 1987. Under their music director Kris Covlin, this ensemble of adult musicians aspires to perform at a high level and present both classic and contemporary band music. They have performed at the Kitsilano Showboat many times over the years and consider it to be a highlight of their season.

West Vancouver Concert Band

WVCB is celebrating their 53rd anniversary playing a variety of music genres, from jazz and show tunes to classical and everything in between. Come ready for a toe tapping night of music.

Thursday June 25

Band of the 15th Field Artillery Regiment

The Band of the 15th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, is a vibrant part of the music scene in Vancouver, BC and Canada. In addition to being a first class wind ensemble and marching band, the band boasts smaller ensembles such as a brass quintet, saxophone quartet, clarinet quartet, jazz combo, and party band. The band performs more than 50 engagements per year and has performed throughout BC, across Canada, into the United States, Germany, Hong Kong, and the Netherlands.

Friday June 26

Vancouver Performing Stars

Vancouver Performing Stars inspires confidence through elite dance, vocal, and theatre training. This year, they produced seven large-scale productions in their own 80-seat black box theatre and performed at the PNE, Nat Bailey Stadium and York Theatre. Get ready for a high-energy show from their competitive teams and musical theatre companies.

Saturday June 27

Canadian Multiculturalism Day

The Bright Sunset Chinese Dance Group

Their dance performances represent various types of ethnic, classical and folk dances of China. Their goals are to share the variety of Chinese culture expressing their identity within the community and to encourage older adults to stay healthy, fit, and active.

Norine Braun with Alice Fraser

Norine Braun, a Vancouver singer-songwriter and recording artist renowned for her soulful vocals and introspective songwriting in multiple genres. With 14 albums to her name, Braun's music explores themes of the environment, identity, heritage, and the universal journey of life. Norine is Metis and Two Spirit and her latest album received a First Peoples Cultural Award. Her partner Alice Fraser accompanies on harmony vocals and keys.

Sunday June 28

Jazz Connexion

Jazz Connexion is a dynamic big band made up of talented musicians who embrace all styles of jazz music. Under the direction of Christian Morrison, the ensemble delivers vibrant performances that explore the full spectrum of jazz, from classic to contemporary, showcasing the versatility and creativity of the genre.

Sea to Sky Wind Ensemble

The Sea to Sky Wind Ensemble is a vibrant wind symphony ensemble consisting of over 50 talented musicians. Under the leadership of Music Director Tak Maeda, the ensemble brings together a diverse range of instruments, offering captivating performances that showcase the richness and depth of wind music in various styles and genres.

Wednesday July 1, 2026 – Canada Day

Kids' Activities 2:30 – 9:00

Face Painting, Games, Cupcakes, Singalong, Dancing, and much much

more……

Fun for all ages

Music with Marnie

3:15

Described as "One of the best performers of her generation" by the Vancouver International Children's Festival, Marnie will be sure to captivate every child and have them grooving to her songs. Each song tells a story with an action, keeping children focused, physical and having fun throughout the show.

Story Time with Barry

4:00

Our president Barry Leinbach is back with original stories that children help to develop, allowing their imaginations to create the story line and characters. It is a fun and entertaining time for the whole family.

Meike Jurgens Dance Party

4:15

Bring all the kids and Meike Jurgens will lead the children in games, activities and fun for all; a Kids Dance Party. The dance party is a fun and a fast way to kick off our Canada Day Celebration.

Kids Trivia and Prizes with Barry

5:00

Cupcakes: Delicious Cupcakes

5:00

Peter and Angela - Active Music for Kids

5:15

These children entertainers will be performing music to guarantee to make you dance about and sing along. Get ready for a really FUN time with Peter and Angela and experience a musical extravaganza of adventure. Everyone will be singing their tunes all week long.

Cupcakes: More delicious Cupcakes

6:00

R Friends Beach Party at the SHOWBOAT

7:00

To celebrate Canada Day the Kitsilano Showboat and Celebrate Canada is hosting a BEACH PARTY. Come ready to singalong and dance your heart out. It will be a fun time. Richard Lowy is a talented Kitsilano resident who plays some of the best "cover" songs of the 60s, 70s and 80s. His love of classic rock music drives his performances with heart and soul, something for everyone to enjoy! Richard is also the author of the bestselling and award winning true story of Kalman and Leopold, Surviving Mengele's Auschwitz.

Thursday July 2

South Van Big Band

The South Van Big Band is a 19-piece jazz orchestra based in Metro Vancouver. The band has a broad spectrum of musical tastes ranging across blues, Latin jazz, funk, swing, bebop and contemporary styles. The band grooves hard to deliver an eclectic set of music through the dynamic power of a modern big band. We are looking forward to the bands eight appearance at the wonderful Kitsilano Showboat!

Friday July 3

You Can Uke Too

A very popular interactive group at Showboat, we invite the audience to bring their ukuleles and strum along with us. Song sheets will be posted on the Showboat website

Saturday July 4

Aliza Arts Association

This troupe was formed by Baby Aliza to showcase professional and amateur talent at local venues across BC. This is a voluntary organization that believes in giving back to the community and focusing on personal participation. Get ready for an amazing night of variety entertainment.

Sunday July 5

Purple Dragon Kitsilano Academy of Martial Arts

Purple Dragon Kitsilano teaches students from age 2 - 70+ in the art of Don Jitsu Ryu, a Karate Jiu Jitsu style. They have been serving the Kitsilano community since 2002, leading teams around the world to achieve their Black Belts, winning world championships, and be inducted into numerous Halls of Fame.

The Layali Dancers

The Layali Dancers are a Vancouver-based belly dance performance group that focuses on authentic Egyptian-style belly dance under the direction of Ashley Rhianne. They bring both traditional and contemporary dances to the stage keeping true to the essence of Raqs Sharki.

Wednesday July 8

Pacific Spirit Voices

Pacific Spirit Voices is an all-voice Barbershop Chorus, dedicated to preserving and enlivening the art of a cappella singing in close harmony. Enjoying unprecedented growth as a chorus, they feature some of their collection of "Polecats" (known around the Barbershop world) and songs that amplify "The Power of Music."

Minami

In 2011 a powerful Tsunami hit her mother country Japan leaving devastation everywhere. Manami said that the Canadian people jelped out immediately. She was so touched that she performed "Land of the Maple Leaf" in her appreciation to all Canadians. Minam performs at small veunes around Vancouver but loves sharing her music at our iconic Showboat stage.

Thursday July 9

The Ancient Mariners

The Ancient Mariners are an eight-person band of accomplished musicians who came together during the covid pandemic. They perform two big shows a year and anywhere else they are invited to play. They include a keyboard, guitars, bass, drums, singers and some are multi-instrumentalists with flute, saxophone, clarinet playing a variety of music; pop, jazz, country, rock, originals.

Susan's Paradise of Polynesia

Susan started the Paradise of Polynesia Dancers in 2001 in Cloverdale as she wanted to share her love for the dances and culture of Hawaii, Tahiti and New Zealand with her students. Susan grew up dancing on the Kitsilano Showboat stage with Darcelle's Dancers and later Josie de Baat's Polynesian Dancers. She can't wait to show you the dances that they have be working on this year.

Friday July 10

Saints and Sinners

Saints and Sinners is a live performance and international recording group. They have opened for international stars including Edgar Winter, Blue Oyster Cult, Jefferson Starship and many other bands. Come ready to Rock and Roll the night away.

Saturday July 11

Rancho Folelorico Cruz De Cristo

Rancho Folclórico Cruz De Cristo is a Portuguese folk dance group based out of Vancouver, founded in 1979. With dancers of all ages, we celebrate and preserve our heritage through traditional music and dance, sharing the energy, culture, and spirit of Portugal with communities across the Lower Mainland.

Sunday July 12

Tuesday at John's

Tuesday at John's consists of Lynne the jazz singer, John on Tenor & Bari Sax and Bongos, Robby on alto sax and valve trombone, the two Bruces on guitar & bass, Mark on keyboards and Bud on drums. We play funk, bossa, swing, jazz, rock and specialize in getting you off your feet and dancing. We are all seniors and love using music to uplift and inspire.

Wednesday July 15

Sanctuary Big Band

Sanctuary is a 17-piece jazz band under the direction of Max Todd, featuring some highly regarded soloists and an amazing collective playing swinging tunes from the libraries of Count Basie, Thad Jones, and Maynard Ferguson, among others. The band has been playing together for the past 25 years. Audiences are in for a treat to experience a live jazz performance. *It's "all that Jazz" for the fun of it!*

Thursday July 16

Heart and Sole

Heart and Sole Tap ensemble loves to spread the joy of tap dancing. They have performed at many community events including the PNE, Greek Day, Chinatown Summerfest, Variety Club for over 20 years. We dance to a variety of styles of music. We guarantee our audiences will leave with a smile.

Burnaby International Folk Dancers

Burnaby International Folk Dancers learn, teach and perform traditional dances from many cultures throughout the world. Folk dancing is a fun recreational and social activity enthusiastically embraced by audiences of all ages.

Friday July 17

Wailele Wai Wai

Our focus is on the modern Hawaiian hula known as Auana that tells a story through hand and arm gestures and rhythmic patterns. We strive to capture the Aloha Spirit and share the love and joy through our performance and presence.

Hadani Ditmars

Join Hadani as she performs classic jazz, cabaret, chanson francaise and American song book tunes – music from around the world in Spanish, French, English and more!

Saturday July 18

Don Alder

Don Alder is a pioneer of modern solo acoustic guitar, redefining the instrument with his explosive technique and unique voice. A global competition champion, Order of Canada inductee, and BC Entertainment Hall of Fame "Star Meritus". He tours worldwide, earning top endorsements, top magazine features and millions of online views.

Gary Chalk & Kits Point All Stars

Join our local movie star and musician Gary Chalk and the Kits Point All Stars. They are a band that came together by accident, but they clicked and now play at venues all throughout Kitsilano. They have been playing together for over a decade this will be their sixth appearance at the Kitsilano Showboat.

Sunday July 19

Earth Wind & Choir

Earth Wind & Choir is a vibrant Vancouver vocal collective founded by Joani Bye and Colin Weinmaster. Bringing together 25 acclaimed singers from across the music community, the choir blends soul, rock, and contemporary classics into rich harmonies. Each performance celebrates connection, friendship, and the shared joy of music.

Muscato A Capella

Founded in 2023, Muscato A Cappella blends pop, R&B, and choral influences into a unified sound shaped by friendship and a love for music. They're grateful to perform for you tonight and invite you to share an evening filled with harmony, joy, and music-making.

Wednesday July 22

Dancin' Stars

Dancin' Stars school of dance was established in 2001 by Sonica Gujral and presents a high energy show of performers that will delight everyone. Her studio presents all styles of dance for all ages.

Pistache

Pistache is musical duo specializing in Brazilian bossa nova and popular jazz from the 1920s-1960s. John plays guitar and Megan provides the vocals. This is great accompaniment to a spectacular sunset at Kitsilano Beach.

Thursday July 23

Caio & Matheus

Caio & Matheus are a Brazilian country band, who bring romantic and happy songs. Their show is always very dynamic so come prepared to dance to the beat.

Friday July 24

Horse Opera

Horse Opera is a Vancouver based roots rock/Americana band known for story driven songs, tight harmonies, and energetic, dance floor filling live shows.

Saturday July 25

Saints and Sinners

Tonight please enjoy an encore performance of Saints and Sinners. This world famous group is a live performance and international recording set. They have opened for many international stars including Edgar Winter, Blue Oyster Cult, Jefferson Starship and many other bands. Come ready to Rock and Roll the night away.

Sunday July 26

UNA Chinese Folk Dance Group

This dance troupe will mesmerize the audience with a vibrant fusion of Mongolian whirling, elegant fan dances, and the lively rhythms of Xinjiang and many more. Classical grace meets modern innovation, while ethnic traditions blend seamlessly, creating a breathtaking tapestry of Chinese cultural artistry in motion.

Wednesday July 29

Halau Kia'i O Ka Hula

Halau Kia'i O Ka Hula has performed at the Kitsilano Showboat for more than 45 years, performing dances from Hawai'i, Tahiti, and New Zealand. Enjoy watching graceful Hawaiian hands telling a story, fast moving hips of Tahiti and the skill of twirling poi balls from New Zealand.

Alma Raiz

Alma Raiz will be performing traditional dances of Columbia. Oriplayando (Women's Dance): A performance by women highlighting grace and sisterhood. Musical Interludes will be Flute performances by Jhon, allowing for fluid transitions and moments of reflection for the audience. The performance is based on Traditional Fluidity. It is not just a succession of dances, but a continuous narrative incorporating elements of daily life into a life journey.

Thursday July 30

Vancouver Rainbow Concert Band

Under the expert guidance of Director Topher Johnston, the Rainbow Concert Band proudly stands as Canada's sole 2SLGBTQIA+ concert band. The band plays marches, pop music and band classics.

The East Van Sax Quartet

The East Van Sax Quartet presents a fun, high energy performance of music from many genres including pop, jazz, tango, ragtime and classical. All numbers are performed with a high level of musicianship and opportunities for audience participation with percussion, clapping or singing along.

Friday July 31

The Shores

The Shores is an all original Vancouver band that originated in Kitsilano. They developed their sound at Leadroom Studios, located on West 3rd Ave. Their slightly rock pop sound is reflective of the vibrant area of which they live and play in.

Friends With Guests

Friends With Guests is a group of East Vancouver musicians with diverse musical backgrounds. Their original music combines diverse backgrounds to create sophisticated music with a strong groove focus and sublime vocal harmonies

Saturday August 1

HWY7

HWY7 is a rockin' & drivin' blues rock band based out of Vancouver. They perform both original songs and popular blues-based cover tunes. They focus on taking the blues along with rock and roll roots and injecting a high level of energy.

Sunday August 2

Ho'okani

Ho'okani plays rootsy traditional and contemporary Hawaiian music, from the Monarchy of the 1800s, through the classic periods of the 1930s, 40s and 50s and the Hawaiian Renaissance of the 70s, right up to today. We'll be joined by Don Kellett on steel guitar and a group of hula dancers.

Roots Peruvian Folk Dance

Roots Peruvian Dance is a vibrant cultural ensemble who through choreography, music, and colorful costumes brings to life the diverse rhythms of Peru's Coast, Andean, and Amazon regions. Each dance shares stories of heritage, identity, and cultural pride. Audiences are transported to the heart of Peru through captivating rhythms, breathtaking costumes, and traditions that have been passed down through generations.

Wednesday August 5

Sangre Morena Latin Music

Romance, passion and lively rhythms; Sangre Morena is a musical duo that performs music from Mexico, Latin America and Spain. We bring the most beloved Spanish-language songs to life with beautiful, passionate singing and the fiery sounds of the Flamenco Guitar.

Thursday August 6

9/12

9/12 reunites a vibrant collective of musicians hailing from Mexico, Nicaragua and Colombia. Rooted in heritage and rhythm, 9/12 brings an authentic tropical energy to the stage. Our blend of cosmic cumbian and Salsa/Rock is designed to foster community connection and resilience. We offer a polished, high-impact show that celebrates diversity and the spirit of Vancouver.

Friday August 7

Will's Jams

This special show is for the kids. Will Stroet of Will's Jams is a JUNO-nominated bilingual singer-songwriter, educator and former CBC Kids TV star. Since 2005, Will's performed more than 2,000 shows in schools, theatres and festivals across Canada and in China. Will's Jams is always very popular with the kids and always welcome at Showboat.

DJ Dance party

Come ready to sing along and dance like never before. The West Broadway BIA is hosting a DJ and singer experience that will get you out of your seats and moving to the music.

Saturday August 8

The Singles

Full sparkle experience! The Singles cover popular Motown / soul / disco hits that are high energy and exciting! Bringing you hits that everybody knows and loves. With beloved songs like I Will Survive, Disco Inferno, or Love Train, people can't help but start dancing and singing along.

Sunday August 9

Stone Poets

Stone Poets is a West Coast trio blending folk, pop, and roots with rich harmonies, poetic lyrics, and fearless authenticity. Featuring Cherelle Jardine, Scott Jackson, and Marc Gladstone, their deeply human songs range from intimate ballads to soaring anthems. Their fifth album, HUMVN (2024), carries a global message of hope, unity, peace, and love. Follow them on their social media at stonepoets.

Pasion Venezuela

Pasion Venezuela's show will feature traditional Venezuelan dances such as La Burriquita, Joropo, Tambor, and Golpe Tocuyano. All of these dances are joyful, energetic, and colourful, highlighting the country's signature cheerful spirit. Each dance is matched with storytelling aimed at providing the audience with context to better understand the reasoning behind the costumes, movements, and rhythms.

Wednesday August 12

Guilty Pleasure

Guilty Pleasure is a 5-piece band that breathes new life into old and new favourites from the likes of Cranberries, Radiohead, Black Crowes, Rolling Stones, Bleachers, Adele, The Cult, INXS and more. Always fun, always danceable, always oddly satisfying.

Thursday August 13

The Spirit of the Pacific Cultural Society

Connecting communities with Aloha, The Spirit of the Pacific Cultural Society is home to Canada's largest Hula Hālau. Today, students of all ages share a 26-year family legacy through the authentic traditions of Hawaii and Tahiti. Please join us in celebrating the vibrant music and dance of the Pacific!

Lana Dance Company

The Lana Dance Company is honoured to be back performing at the historic Kitsilano Showboat in their 91st Anniversary year! Led by Lana, an award-winning professional dancer and instructor, the beautiful Noor Dancers can be seen all over the Vancouver area and perform regularly for local festivals and private events.

Friday August 14

Pianomen – Billy Joel Elton John songbook

An amazing show of an electrifying musical tribute to two of the greatest songwriters of all time: Elton John and Billy Joel. Get ready for a one-of-a-kind musical extravaganza by a 5 piece tribute band that takes you on a journey through the iconic songs of these legendary musicians.

Saturday August 15

Aliza Arts Association

Tonight we are proud to present an encore presentation by Aliza Arts Association. This troupe was formed by Baby Aliza to showcase professional and amateur talent at local venues across BC. This is a voluntary organization that believes in giving back to the community and focusing on personal participation.

Sunday August 16

The Recipe

The Recipe is a dynamic group of musicians who reinvent popular music with harmonies and acoustic vibes. They often have special guests to enhance the flavour of our sound. Classic sing-a-long music with an organic sound that is warm and easy on the ears.

Heartbeats

The Heartbeats is a collective of singers, established in 2019, serendipitously brought together during their undergrad degrees. The Heartbeats meet every Wednesday to cultivate musicality and camaraderie. They feel privileged to share their musical magic with you this evening, which will include a variety of pop, indie, and alternative music.

Wednesday August 19

Heart String Studio

Guzheng. Guqin. Pipa. Bamboo flute. The delicate melody of those oriental instruments with over 2000 years of history brings a breeze of peace to our age, touching the heart in a way that you may have never experienced. Getting a taste of both the classics and all-original pieces and be ready to be transported into a tranquil land of the ancient East.

Tian Guo Marching Band of Vancouver

Tian Guo Marching Band of Vancouver has participated in over 100 local and international parades, winning awards and hearts wherever it has gone. Along with practicing their instruments, each member practices Falun Dafa exercises and its creed of "Truthfulness Compassion Forbearance" which inspires them to perform with strength of heart and moral character.

Thursday August 20

The Side Project

The Side Project is a Vancouver-based Americana, Roots Rock collective that blends soulful harmonies with heartfelt storytelling. As an all-originals band, their music draws influence from blues, rock, gospel, and folk. From upbeat grooves to poignant ballads, The Side Project's diverse catalogue leaves its audiences reflecting, laughing... and enjoying themselves.

Friday August 21

The ShowStoppers

Perry Ehrlich's ShowStoppers is a GLEE troupe that appears in concert, on TV and radio, and at numerous galas, awards dinners, conventions, corporate and charitable events throughout the Lower Mainland. They have performed with Eric Church and the legendary troupe Foreigner, Canada Day at Canada Place, singing the anthems for the Canucks, and the PNE

Saturday August 22

Fairweather Blues Band

The Fairweather Blues Band is a seasoned six-piece ensemble from Vancouver, known for their fun performances and diverse playlist of material. From soulful blues, hidden gems and a great selection of original tunes, to a jumpin' cross-section of up-tempo grooves - they are a good time band. Buckle up... and enjoy!

Sunday August 23

Penke O'Donnell Irish Dancers

The Penke O'Donnell Irish Dancers love to dance and perform. In fact they compete in world class competitions with many "best in the world" trophies. The uniqueness of Irish dance is officially recognized as a "fine art". Dancers perform soft shoe dances where they jump and move quickly to high energy music, and heavy shoe dances where they tap out many different rhythms to interpret the music. Dancers perform solo, and in teams with enthusiasm and energy.

GRAND PRIZE DRAWS

Grand prizes will be drawn from all the tickets sold during our regular season. Prizes include an overnight stay at the Pinnacle Hotel Harbourfront, Stanley Park Horse Drawn Tour Tickets Package, Battery Powered Leaf Blower and so much more.

The Final Word:

Tonight's show brings our 91st celebratory season to an end. I would like to thank all our volunteers, performers, committees and audience members for their continued support of the Kitsilano Showboat. It is all of you who have made it the success that it is today. We couldn't have done it without you. You are indeed community heroes.

The Kitsilano Showboat Society will continue to work hard with the City of Vancouver and Parks Board to rebuild a new and improved Showboat theater so that our community can continue to enjoy our "Showboat" for another 91 years.

Barry Leinbach
Kitsilano Showboat Society
President / Producer