



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY Summer Entertainment Series

## RETURNS THIS SUMMER!



Fairfax County Park Authority's Summer Entertainment Series returns for an exciting 2024 season! The series offers a variety of free performances throughout the county including children's shows, renowned musical groups from classical to bluegrass, outdoor movies in Chantilly and a series of dance and music from around the world at Ossian Hall Park.

Now in its 35<sup>th</sup> year, the Summer Entertainment Series has evolved from just three parks to 18 locations. The series originally started with Arts in the Parks, the children's entertainment series in 1989 and expanded to concerts at Mason District Park amphitheater in partnership with the Friends of Mason District Park.

After the success of these series, the Park Authority pursued the idea that residents could walk to the park, meet their neighbors and form a sense of belonging and togetherness through watching live performances. In 1994 at the request of the Braddock District Supervisor, performances were expanded with Braddock Nights at Lake Accotink Park. The series has been so successful and the performances so well received that the concert series has continued to grow throughout the county.



Sousan Frankeberger has been planning, organizing, managing the entertainment series from the very beginning:

"Last summer, more than 37,000 people attended 189 concerts across the county. They let music lift their spirits, raise their hopes, awaken their memories, forge friendship between cultures and kindle a sense of belonging. For me it has been an incredible journey and a total joy to coordinate these concerts where young and old get together to appreciate live performances at a park setting."

Not only does the series provide entertainment, but it also plays an important role in exposing children to live entertainment, and in many cases, for their first time. Seeing performances in a comfortable setting, like a park, encourages children to have a life-long love of the performing arts. The Arts in the Parks performances vary from week to week and venue to venue to include puppet shows, musical acts, magic shows and comedy.

This year's lineup promises to delight audiences, with something for everyone to enjoy. The series has garnered an exceptional reputation and so attracts top talent from around the region.

Bring a picnic and, depending on the venue, a lawn chair, to enjoy an evening out with friends and neighbors. Some locations offer refreshments for sale, so please check the website. The series runs from June 1 to August 31.

The Summer Entertainment Series performances are made possible thanks to the Fairfax County Park Authority, Board of Supervisors and Fairfax County Park Foundation. The many generous donations from individuals, businesses and corporations to the Fairfax County Park Foundation funds the artists' performances. Through the efforts of volunteers and many individuals, the series continues to thrive and provide free entertainment to the community.



Performances and movies are held outdoors and may be canceled in the event of inclement weather. Please call 703-324-SHOW (7469) before leaving home for inclement weather updates. Cancellations are recorded one-hour before showtime.

To find out details about each series, please turn to the events section or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances) starting May 1.



Fairfax County Park Foundation