

# Middlesex Bandstand

Summer 2023

This past summer, our 17th annual concert series at the Martha Pellerin / Andy Shapiro Memorial Bandstand, aka The Middlesex Bandstand, was another highly successful season. Again we celebrated World Music as our program grows and continues to include touring artists from the world over and some of the best domestic and Vermont artists.

Highlights included touring artists from Africa - Nomfusi, Haiti/Montreal - Wesli, Pittsburgh - Buffalo Rose, and Vermont artists Myra Flynn, Nick Cassarino, and A2VT. Again our gazebo stage was graced with an incredible array of rhythmic musicians who rocked our Middlesex audience for an average gathering of 400 folks/week.



The July flood altered our 7/12 concert schedule for A2VT who graciously rescheduled later in August only to be forced indoors by rain. Thanks to the generous provision of the Rumney School, with updated acoustics in the gym, we are now able to proceed with shows despite inclement weather. Proceeds from the Nomfusi 7/19 show, exceeding \$1,800, were fully donated to flood relief in both Middlesex and Montpelier.

Generous support continues to grow as provided by our audiences, numerous local businesses, banks, and institutions. Additionally, the town of Middlesex pledged \$1,500 in support of the program. In-kind sponsors again included Brian P. Graphic Arts, Capitol Copy, Madtech Sound & Lovetown Recording, and Margot Prendergast. Food concession by Woodbelly Pizza. Ahead of the 2024 season we are aware that numerous businesses, affected by the July 2023 flood, are either no longer in service or may be compromised in their capacity to sponsor this year. We wish all those businesses the best in their future pursuits, extend heartfelt gratitude, and look forward to a time of renewed participation with the Bandstand.

The Bandstand Committee is in transition as we bid farewell to founder and long time original Committee member, Elliot Burg, as well as Wendy Freundlich, who



took her leave at the end of the 2023 season. We hope to see them both at future concerts.

Stay tuned for news of our upcoming 2024 concert season of six consecutive Wednesdays starting July 10 this year. You can access up-to-date Bandstand info on Facebook (search “Middlesex Bandstand”) and [middlesexbandstand.com](http://middlesexbandstand.com) where you will find a gallery of photos from past concert seasons.



See you at the Bandstand this summer!

Respectfully submitted, **The Middlesex Bandstand Committee**

Linda Belti-Burnier

Emily Boedecker

Paul Boffa

Ron Sweet