

The Beat Goes On



Propulsive rhythms and beautifully complex drumming are the hallmarks of Kotoko Brass, set to return to Henniker for the second year as the 2022 Henniker Concert Series continues on Tuesday evening August 23, 6:30 PM, at the Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park.

Kotoko Brass is a 7-piece, Boston-based Brass ensemble, melding the beautifully complex traditional drumming of Central Ghana, the sturdy bass and keyboards of the Caribbean, and the joyous horns of New Orleans to forge a sound the Boston Globe has described as “propulsive, infectious party music.” Last summer in their debut performance in Henniker, they wowed the crowd and were among the highest rated bands of the season.

Massachusetts brothers Ben and Brian Paulding form the nucleus of this powerhouse group and are aided by international musicians from Ghana, Antigua and Japan. While each member plays an equal and vital role in the group, the drums are at the heart of the band. The tradition of Asante drumming is intimately intertwined with dance in West Africa, and Kotoko Brass helps the audience experience that first-hand. That instinctual link between drumming and dancing exists in nearly all indigenous traditions and informs the harmony and melody in all of their music.

At its core, Kotoko Brass music is a celebration of tradition, diversity, and unity. The Henniker Concert Committee is pleased to continue its efforts to provide attendees with a varied musical experience that spans age, ethnicity, and nationality.

We are pleased to welcome Pats Peak as our sponsor for this concert. During the evening, the Peak will raffle off ski tickets at their display table.

The Henniker Summer Music Series is sponsored by the town of Henniker. All concerts are free (although donations to the Town of Henniker are welcome), begin at 6:30 PM and take place at the Angela Robinson Bandstand at Community Park, Main Street. Should there be inclement weather, the concert will take place the following evening (Wednesday). Stake out a space, bring a chair, spread a blanket, visit a local restaurant or have a picnic supper on the lawn and join your neighbors and friends in this community-building event at our bandstand. The complete summer schedule is available on the Town of Henniker website: www.henniker.org. Check our Facebook page: <https://facebook.com/HennikerConcert> to receive updated weather information and schedule changes.

We continue to follow current best practices from the CDC as we plan for an exciting and safe Sumer series. We ask you to use your own judgment in deciding whether or not to wear a mask and/or to socially distance. Please, if you or a family member have COVID symptoms or have tested positive, remain at home.