

The Beat Goes On



Launching our 12-week 2021 Henniker Concert Series is the 7-piece, Boston-based Kotoko Brass ensemble, Tuesday evening June 15, 6:30 PM, Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park.

Kotoko Brass melds 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.”

Massachusetts brothers Ben and Brian Paulding form the nucleus of this powerhouse group and are aided by international musicians from Ghana, Antigua and Japan who play. 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. What better way to begin our 2021 season than with performers who provide us a varied musical experience that spans age, ethnicity, and nationality. We are pleased to welcome the Rotary Club of Henniker as our co-sponsor for this concert. Be sure to stop by their table where they will have free copies of the 10th edition of the Outdoor Guide and subscription forms for their Flag Project. 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.

We continue to follow current best practices from the CDC as we plan for an exciting and safe summer series. As we see increases in vaccination rates and a decrease in infection rates (Henniker has had zero new instances of COVID in at least 14 days) and, as the State of New Hampshire continues to allow more activities, especially outdoors where the CDC indicates the risk of COVID infection is minimal, the Henniker Board of Selectmen approved removing the fencing around Community Park and the need to mark out squares for the Summer Concert Series. We ask you to use your own judgment in deciding whether or not to wear masks and/or to socially distance.

Currently, there is no provision for moving indoors this summer and if there is inclement weather, the concert will be cancelled and, if possible, rescheduled. 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. For more information, contact hennikerconcerts@henniker.org. Check [Facebook.com/HennikerConcertSeries](https://www.facebook.com/HennikerConcertSeries) the day of the concert to receive updated weather information regarding cancellation.