

## Blues and Jazz Festival places among Ontario's top 100 festivals

The Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival has been recognized by Festival and Events Ontario as part of the 2016 Top 100 Festivals and Events in Ontario (FEO).

The top 100 recipients represent festivals and event that excel within the industry.

"Our government recognizes festivals and events as important economic drivers and we're proud to support their efforts to create jobs, grow our economy and celebrate our diverse and vibrant cultural identity," said Tourism, Culture and Sport Minister Michael Coteau. "I am pleased to join with Festival and Events Ontario in celebrating this year's Top 100 recipients and I congratulate them all for achieving this honour."

Submissions from FEO members were received for consideration in the fall of 2015 and judged by an independent panel of judges. Festivals and events of all kinds from every corner of Ontario were represented in the submissions - from community festivals to internationally recognized events. The 2016 Top 100 Awards were given recently during FEO's annual conference, Dare 2B Different, held in Markham.

"We are thrilled to receive this recognition once again of our Festival and we look forward to presenting our 14th annual Festival this June," said Festival Founder and Artistic Director Larry Kurtz. "I am particularly pleased that our Festival attendance grows steadily every year and we are able to present some of the very best in both local and Canadian talent."

"It is gratifying for the Festival and our community to be recognized by the festival and events industry," said Gary Brown, chair of the Festival's Board of Directors. "On behalf of the Board of Directors, volunteers and supporters of the Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival, we would like to thank our community, funders and sponsors for their significant role in creating a major FREE festival of such importance."

The 14th Annual Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival will take place June 2 to 5. For further information on the Festival, check out [www.orangevillebluesandjazz.ca](http://www.orangevillebluesandjazz.ca)