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## **OGS ANNOUNCES AT THE PLAZA SUMMER SERIES** ***Eddie Money, S.O.S Band and Audiostars to rock the Plaza***

The New York State Office of General Services (OGS) today announced the *At The Plaza* schedule of free events that will be presented at the Empire State Plaza in Albany this summer.

### **The Price Chopper Homegrown 4th and Fireworks Festival featuring the Audiostars**

Monday, July 4            2 p.m. – 10 p.m.

An Albany tradition since 1976, this annual summer holiday event features live music and fun for the whole family including the best fireworks show in the region. This year's theme is "Home Grown Fun." With local entertainment, area artisans and crafters and a variety of food vendors reflecting the ethnic roots of the area, everything will be local, local, local—including the Audiostars who will headline the all-day event. Other performers during the day include: Captain Squeeze & the Zydeco Moshers; Hair Of The Dog; Alex Torres & His Latin Orchestra; plus Radio Disney's Next Big Thing—Kicking Daisies.

### **GE's Kids Day**

Sunday, July 17            Noon – 5 p.m.

Sponsored by General Electric, this is the place to be for kids of all ages. There will be numerous interactive activities, including storytelling with Lady Slipper on the Sunshine Stage, bounce rides, pony rides, face painting, arts and crafts, and the ultra-cool GE Science Emporium where tomorrow's scientists are born. Be sure to catch Circus Theatricks ([www.circustheatricks.com](http://www.circustheatricks.com)) as they present "Summer Time Splash" showcasing amazing acrobatics and artistry that combines the best of the circus with theater performances packed with fun, comedy and magic. Also on the main stage, families can enjoy the Puppet People's "Puppet Potpourri" featuring a variety show accompanied by musical favorites using hand puppets, mouth puppets, rod puppets and trick marionettes. El Toro Loco from Advance Auto Parts Monster Jam will be on site all day.

### **McDonald's African American Family Day featuring the S.O.S. Band**

Saturday, August 6            Noon – 7 p.m.

Come celebrate the traditions and contributions of the African American community through music, art and community with special musical guests, inspiring speakers and family-oriented activities for all ages. The theme for this year is "A Family Reunion." The day kicks off with a youth talent competition, gospel artists Pastor John David Wright and the DW Project, and many area choirs and local gospel artists. The S.O.S. Band, known for hits such as "Take Your Time (Do it Right)" and "Just Be Good To Me," will headline the festivities. Other highlights include a performance by rising hip-hop artist, MIMS and fresh beats from Rob Murat, who has had his music featured on ESPN. Local jazz ensemble, Chronicles, the Capital Region's largest Electric Slide, the Albany NAACP Student Theater Outreach Group (STOP), an African village presented by Hamilton Hill Arts Center, health screenings, a replica of the Emancipation Proclamation and lots of children's activities round-out this day of African American culture and entertainment.

### **Empire State Plaza Food Festival with Eddie Money**

Wednesday, August 17 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Sample foods from around the region while enjoying the sounds of local and national musical acts. This *At The Plaza* favorite features a farmers' market, and more than 50 specialty vendors serving up delicious lunch and dinner treats. Chris Busone rocks the stage at 5 p.m., then local power pop band, Ten Year Vamp, blaze into the dinner show with a sound that concert-goers will recognize as Foo Fighters meets Green Day with Gwen Stefani on vocals. The legendary Eddie Money headlines the event with his new single, "One More Soldier Coming Home," a tribute to men and women in uniform who have lost their lives while serving the United States. Other hit songs include "Take Me Home Tonight," "Two Tickets To Paradise," and "Baby Hold On." With more than 28 million records sold, Money's blue-collar brand of Rock-n-Roll has managed to transcend generations and continues to move audiences today. Spend your lunch hour with Slick Fitty and the Chris Dukes Band while soaking up the rays and excellent views at the Empire State Plaza!

### **Local Legends Live! 9 on 9/9**

Friday, September 9 Noon – 9 p.m.

A new addition to the *At The Plaza* Summer Series, Local Legends Live is poised to become a Capital Region music tradition. OGS is working with an official selection committee consisting of local music critics, bloggers, radio hosts and booking agents to come up with an amazing line-up of local talent. The all-day music festival will showcase some of the very best of Albany's homegrown artists including Sgt. Dunbar and the Hobo Banned, Ashley Pond, the John Scarpulla Band, Barons in the Attic, Charlie Watts Riots, The Tom Evans Blues Band, and three more bands to be announced! Come out and support the area's next generation of stars before they hit the big time at this one-of-a-kind event.

### **Hannaford Hispanic Heritage Celebration**

Saturday, September 17 3 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Join us in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month at this exciting family festival featuring music that will have the whole crowd dancing. Entertainers include national and Capital Region musicians such as Mundo Nuevo, Grupo Taineri, and Las Manos, with more to be announced. Mark your calendars! You won't want to miss this jam-packed day of culture, food and entertainment.

All of the *At The Plaza* events are FREE at the Empire State Plaza, Madison Ave., Albany. Free parking in the East Garage is also available.

For more information and performance updates on any of the above listed events, find the Empire State Plaza on Facebook at [facebook.com/empirestateplaza](https://facebook.com/empirestateplaza), on Twitter at [twitter.com/plazaevents](https://twitter.com/plazaevents) or call the OGS Special Events Office toll free at 1-(877) 659-4ESP, or visit our website at [www.empirestateplaza.org](http://www.empirestateplaza.org).

For information on the Dunn Memorial Bridge work or travel and road conditions, please call 511 or visit [www.thruway.ny.gov](http://www.thruway.ny.gov).

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