



## STERN GROVE FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2021 MUSIC LINEUP

**FEATURING THUNDERCAT, FITZ & THE TANTRUMS,  
JOAN JETT & THE BLACKHEARTS, PERFUME GENIUS, LEDISI  
THIEVERY CORPORATION, ST. PAUL & THE BROKEN BONES, X & MORE**

**PLUS SEASON FINALE WITH TOWER OF POWER & TOO \$HORT**

*-- 84th Annual Admission-Free Summer Concert Series Kicks Off June 20,  
Advance Ticket Reservations Available Starting Today at 2pm via [SternGrove.org](http://SternGrove.org) --*

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA (June 8, 2021)** — Stern Grove Festival, the longest-running free outdoor music festival in the San Francisco Bay Area, is proud to reveal the 2021 music lineup for the 84th annual concert season. Although the event continues to be free for all attendees, guests must register in advance to reserve a spot for each concert at [www.sterngrove.org](http://www.sterngrove.org) with initial online reservations opening today at 2:00 p.m. PT.

Kicking off on Sunday, June 20, Stern Grove will make its highly-anticipated return with one of the most diverse and star-studded lineups in the Festival's 80+ year history. With programming as eclectic and diverse as the city it calls home, Stern Grove Festival continues to present a wide range of musical performances where the sounds of rock, hip-hop, jazz, folk, classical, funk, and blues all define the concert-going experience for attendees of all ages.

The 2021 schedule is available below and online at [www.sterngrove.org](http://www.sterngrove.org):

- **June 20:** *Ledisi, The Seshen, La Doña, LadyRyan*
- **June 27:** *Perfume Genius, Madame Gandhi, Honey Mahogany, LadyRyan*
- **July 4:** *San Francisco Symphony*
- **July 11:** *Thievery Corporation, Dessa, DJ Shortcut*
- **July 18:** *St. Paul & The Broken Bones, The Dip, DJ Omar*
- **July 25:** *X, The Avengers, DJ Omar*
- **August 1:** *Joan Jett & the Blackhearts*
- **August 8:** *Thundercat, Cassowary, DJ Shortcut*
- **August 15:** *Fitz & The Tantrums, Devon Gilfillian, DJ Omar*
- **August 29:** *The Big Picnic featuring Tower of Power, Too \$hort, DJ Shortcut*

The 2021 concert season begins with a headline performance from 2021 Grammy Award winner and R&B singer/songwriter **Ledisi**; followed the next week by **Perfume Genius**, the critically-acclaimed indie-rock project from the mind of the accomplished singer/songwriter and creative artist Mike Hadreas.

The July 4th concert will feature a special Independence Day holiday performance from the **San Francisco Symphony** (SFS), led by conductor Edwin Outwater. Since its inaugural concert in 1938, Stern Grove Festival has partnered every year with the SFS to offer a world-class performance to the public, which also marks the only opportunity for fans to see an admission-free performance by the SFS.

July concerts continue with a headline performance on July 11 from **Thievery Corporation** as the DC-born electronica group celebrates 25 years since the release of their debut album *Sounds from the Thievery Hi-Fi* in 1996; followed by a set on July 18 from **St. Paul & The Broken Bones**, an eight-piece Birmingham, Alabama-based rock and soul band that is best known for its gospel-tinged and soulful southern sound.

The second half of the 2021 season will kick off on July 25th with legendary punk rockers and musical trailblazers **X**, who recently released their latest album *Alphabetland*, which marked an end to the band's 27-year hiatus from releasing new music and coincided with the 40th anniversary of their debut album *Los Angeles*. Rock and Roll Hall of Famers and music pioneers **Joan Jett & the Blackhearts** will take the stage next on August 1 while performing hits from the band's nearly 50-year career including "I Love Rock N Roll," "I Hate Myself For Loving You," and "Crimson and Clover."

Additional headliners include two popular acts that both hail from Los Angeles. R&B singer/songwriter **Thundercat** is scheduled to perform on August 8, which marks one of his very first performances after the acclaimed bass player won "Best Progressive R&B Album" at the 2021 Annual Grammy Awards. Indie pop and neo-soul band **Fitz & The Tantrums** will perform on August 15, while the group continues to work on their highly-awaited next project that follows the release of *All the Feels* in 2019.

After a short one-week hiatus, the 2021 concert season concludes on Sunday, August 29 with the Festival's annual fundraiser, The Big Picnic, featuring a very special performance from two legendary SF Bay Area artists, both of whom hail from nearby Oakland – the iconic soul/funk/R&B outfit **Tower of Power** will headline the final concert event at 2:00 p.m. PT followed by a season-closing set from multi-platinum selling emcee **Too \$hort** later that afternoon. The Big Picnic helps to raise funds in support of the Festival's mission to provide admission-free concerts and arts education programs for the residents of the Bay Area. A limited number of tables for the benefit party are on sale now at [www.sterngrove.org/84th-concert-season/concert-10](http://www.sterngrove.org/84th-concert-season/concert-10).

"It's been so long since most of us have been able to enjoy live music with masses of other people, and we're beyond excited to be able to be one of the first festivals to bring this soul-uplifting experience back," said Executive Director Bob Fiedler. "Our lineup is diverse as always and we're even going to push a few more boundaries than we usually do. Whether it's punk rock, hip-hop, crossover jazz, or the good old Symphony on the Fourth of July, we hope that everyone can find something they love in this year's lineup."

All concerts for the 2021 season will begin at 2:00 p.m. PT at Sigmund Stern Grove, a historic park and concert meadow located at 19th Avenue and Sloat Boulevard in the city's Sunset District that offers an unparalleled outdoor setting for music lovers of all ages.

Admission to each concert will continue to remain free to the public, although the Festival will implement a new online ticket reservation system for the first time. Additionally, attendance for each concert will be adjusted over time in order to protect public health while adhering to local, state, and federal regulations, with limited seating expected for at least the first few concert events.

At 2:00 p.m. PT exactly 12 days prior to each event, an online portal will be opened through [www.sterngrove.org](http://www.sterngrove.org) to offer free passes on a first-come, first-served basis. For, example, tickets to the June 20 concert will be available to reserve today, June 8 at 2:00 p.m. PT.

Additional changes to the Festival-going experience include the construction of new temporary fencing and other key infrastructure to help maintain proper social distancing, although patrons are welcome to once again bring their own food and beverages to enjoy. Other safety-related protocols will be announced closer to day-of-show via social media channels and website, and strictly enforced in order to protect the health and safety of the Festival's patrons, performers, and staff. For more information about this year's Festival-going experience, please visit [www.sterngrove.org/COVID](http://www.sterngrove.org/COVID).

In order to reach as many people as possible, especially those unable to attend in person, Stern Grove Festival will also be live streaming its shows this year for the first time ever. In partnership with [Stagelt](http://Stagelt), each of the future live stream events can be viewed for free via [www.sterngrove.org](http://www.sterngrove.org) on concert Sundays starting at 2 p.m. PT.

Stern Grove Festival would like to thank its 2021 sponsors for their support, including SF Recreation & Parks, Lisa & Douglas Goldman Fund, Grants for the Arts, Hewlett Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, The Bernard Osher Foundation, Walter & Elise Haas Fund, Waymo, National Endowment for the Arts, Levi Strauss & Co., John & Marcia Goldman Foundation, William G. Gilmore Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Xfinity, Anchor Brewing, Seiler LLP, San Francisco Association of Realtors, and Dodge & Cox. Local media partners include KPIX-TV (CBS), KBCW-TV (CW), and SF Media Co. This year's event is once again held in partnership with the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department and Commission.

Stay tuned as more details surrounding the 2021 season will be announced in the coming weeks, including more ticket reservation sign-ups, experiential offerings, live streams, and more.

Learn more at [www.sterngrove.org](http://www.sterngrove.org), and make sure to follow along on social media including [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

###

**ABOUT STERN GROVE FESTIVAL:**

Stern Grove Festival is a beloved annual San Francisco summer tradition spanning 84 years and counting. Each summer, the Festival presents 10 free concerts featuring a curated mix of popular headliners, Rock & Roll Hall of Famers, Grammy Award-winners, and rising new stars. Past Festival performers include The Isley Brothers, Smokey Robinson, The Doobie Brothers, Kool & the Gang, Toots & the Maytals, Mavis Staples, The Psychedelic Furs, Mitski, Pink Martini, Ziggy Marley, Ozomatli, Digable Planets, Carlos Santana, Sheila E., and many more!

Stern Grove Festival also presents over 30 admission-free arts education programs for youth and young adults in San Francisco each year, fulfilling its mission to make live musical experiences accessible to all. Learn more by visiting [www.sterngrove.org](http://www.sterngrove.org).

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Trey Hicks // [trey@treyhickspr.com](mailto:trey@treyhickspr.com) // 214.908.1261