



Office: 370 Queens Quay West,
Unit 113, Toronto, ON, M5V 3J3
hello@thebentway.ca
416.304.0222
thebentway.ca

For Immediate Release: June 13, 2019 • Please include in your listings/announcements

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!
THE BENTWAY presents
The Second Annual All-Ages
BENTWAY BLOCK PARTY
Sunday, July 7, 2019, Noon–10pm

Also Returning is the SUNDAY SOCIAL Series
Featuring the Exclaim! Stage
July 7–August 25

Summer officially kicks-off at the second annual family-friendly **BENTWAY BLOCK PARTY, Sunday, July 7, 2019**. July 7 also marks the return of **SUNDAY SOCIAL** at The Bentway, featuring the Exclaim! Stage with Toronto's hottest musical acts on the city's coolest patio!

The Bentway Block Party is free and runs from **noon-10pm**. The party features live performances from Canadian indie rockers **The Elwins**, experimental pop band **Ellevator**, and indie emo-orchestra **Common Deer**.

Daytime entertainment includes performances by the **Heavyweight Brass Band**, tunes from **DJ JayemKayem** (Josephine Cruz), and a Double Dutch demonstrations and free jump session. There will also be face-painting, a colour by numbers scavenger hunt, ping pong tables, and a DIY collage party with multidisciplinary artist **Paul Butler**. More activities are planned with the Fort York Visitors Centre, and Beanfield, The Bentway's provider of WiFi. **Pilot Coffee** and **SPIN** will take care of nourishment and hydration!

Award-winning interdisciplinary artist and designer **Sean Martindale** will unveil a one-of-a-kind art installation for **The Bentway Block Party**. His interventions activate public spaces, often using salvaged goods and live plants in unexpected ways. His playful works suggest alternate possibilities for existing spaces while focusing on ecological and social issues.

The evening ramps up with the launch of the second season of the popular **SUNDAY SOCIAL** series. **SUNDAY SOCIAL** at The Bentway is a welcoming space for socializing with good friends and making new ones around the oversized lounge chairs and picnic tables.

Canada's authority on music and popular culture, **Exclaim!** will program the musical acts for **SUNDAY SOCIAL** including; folkies **Birds of Bellwoods**, the experimental sounds of **Claire de la Loopa**, Toronto rapper **DijahSB**, the futuristic sounds of **Future Peers**, the indie pop of **Jackie**, the dreamy pop of **Lost Cousins**, pop tunesters **Petra Glynt**, the rock sounds of **Pony** and **Good Kid**, and more.

SUNDAY SOCIAL runs July 7-August 25, from noon-9pm. Pilot Coffee and SPIN will provide food and drink selections, plus bar service. And, the fan favourite ping pong tables will remain onsite all summer long.

Throughout the summer, Pilot Coffee offers coffee drinks and tasty treats, Thursday-Sunday 11am-7pm. All food and drink vendors are located at Strachan Gate – the westernmost section of The Bentway.

Visitors to The Bentway can also explore [New Monuments for New Cities](#), a joint art exhibition of the High Line Network—a group of 19 North American infrastructure reuse projects. This ambitious touring public art exhibition is displayed across The Bentway Skate Trail and in front of the Fort York Visitor Centre, and showcases 25 provocative works that present new monuments for today's new cities.

Through the lens of culture and recreation, The Bentway explores Toronto's changing landscape and presents opportunities to unite diverse communities through shared one-of-a-kind experiences. Other Bentway programs this summer include free outdoor [Yoga](#) and [Tai Chi](#), uniquely-guided [Public Art Tours](#) of *New Monuments for New Cities* with local artists and urbanists, and affordable family-style dinners at the [Communal Table](#). Everyone is invited to The Bentway!

BENTWAY BLOCK PARTY

Sunday, July 7, 2019

Noon–10pm

Thebentway.ca/blockparty2019

SUNDAY SOCIAL at The Bentway

Featuring the Exclaim! Stage

July 7–August 25

Noon-9pm

Thebentway.ca/sundaysocial2019

For more information, please visit TheBentway.ca

Social Media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) using @TheBentway and [YouTube](#)

#TOBentway #BentwayBlockParty #SundaySocial

Access to The Bentway is Always Free
Enjoy WiFi Courtesy of Beanfield

The Bentway's Summer Season is supported by the City of Toronto, Labatt, Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, Hal Jackman Foundation, RBC, Toronto Friends of the Visual Arts, Beanfield, Exclaim!, The Walrus, Pilot Coffee Roasters, Scadding Court Community Centre, and Spin Toronto.

The Bentway would also like to thank its growing family of donors, including: Maxine Granovsky Gluskin & Ira Gluskin, Richard M. Ivey, Frances & Tim Price, Rosamond Ivey, Andy Chisholm & Laurie Thomson (via Goldman Sachs Gives), Donald K. Johnson, O.C. & Anna McCowan-Johnson, Mazyar Mortazavi & Bitá Doagoo, Howard Sokolowski & Linda Frum, Diamond Corp., The Ouellette Family Foundation, Langford Family Foundation at the Toronto Foundation, and Northwood Family Office.

Media Contact: [FLIP PUBLICITY](#), 416.533.7710 • Carrie Sager, carrie@flip-publicity.com

About The Bentway

[The Bentway](#) is a unique and innovative public space that transforms 1.75km underneath Toronto's Gardiner Expressway into a new gathering place for our city's growing population.

The Bentway knits together seven local neighbourhoods with over 70,000 residents, becoming a gateway to the waterfront, while providing access to important attractions and destinations – from Fort York National Historic Site, Ontario Place and Exhibition Place to Harbourfront Centre and the CN Tower. The Bentway offers year-round activities and events, including gardens, a skate trail, recreational amenities, public markets, public art, special exhibitions, festivals, theatre and musical performances, and more. Since opening to the public in January 2018, The Bentway has welcomed over 150,000 visitors to experience free year-round programming including public art installations, performances, festivals, recreational activities, and much more.

The initial phase of The Bentway stretches from Strachan Avenue in the west to just east of Bathurst Street underneath the Gardiner Expressway, this section of The Bentway is located on the lands of Fort York National Historic Site, recognized by the Government of Canada as a site of national significance. The Bentway is maintained, operated, and programmed by The Bentway Conservancy. The Bentway is a proud member of the [High Line Network](#), an international network of projects that transform underutilized infrastructure into new urban landscapes.

About Fort York National Historic Site

[Fort York National Historic Site](#) is one of 10 Toronto History Museums operated by the City of Toronto. Since 1793, Fort York has been an important military location and is where Toronto was founded as an urban place. Located in the heart of downtown Toronto, this 43-acre heritage conservation district is home to Canada's largest collection of original War of 1812 buildings. Fort York offers permanent exhibits and immersive multimedia displays at the Visitor Centre, ongoing programming and events, site tours, military displays, historic cooking demonstrations, and the annual Indigenous Arts Festival.

Fort York National Historic Site is also home to the first phase of The Bentway. For more information, visit <http://www.toronto.ca/fortyork>.