Festivals offer fun, food and 'All that Jazz

Ford Montreux Detroit

Cottages, parks and picnic grounds - this is where metro Detroiters used to spend sum-mer weekends, especially the Labor Day, the last one.

Not anymore! People thought Bob McCabe

was crazy 19 years ago when he organized the first Ford Mon-treux Detroit Jazz Festival on

He's still laughing about it, and looking forward to this year's.
The summer music festival

The summer music festival season heats up locally in July with the fourth annual Michigan Jazz Festival Sunday, July 19, at Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills and Birmingham Jazzfest '98, July 23-25 in downtown Birmingham

ingham. More than 150 musicians per-

More than 150 musicians performed at last year's festival, which drew 6,000 people. It is offered by the Music Performance Trust Fund, Detroit Federation of Musicians, Local 5. Birmingham's Jazzfest kicks off this year in Shain Fark, July 23, with futist Alexander Zonjic. The Ursula Walker/Buddy Budson Band with Marcus Belgrave will also perform. Free concerts will take place throughout the weekend in Shain Park, and at most of the area's restaurants. most of the area's restaurants. Stay tuned for details.

Arts, Beats & Eats

Oakland County kicks off its first "Art, Beats, & Eats" festival

side of living in Oakland Coun-

what better place to host the featival than Pontiae, which has become the entertainment capitol of Oakland County. Over 125 artists and 20 galleries are expected to exhibit art works in the juried art show. There will be arts and crafts and entertainment for kids.

National and local entertainers will provide the "Beats" everything from rhythm and blues to jazz, swing, rock and popon three stages. The entertainment schedule will be announced in mid June.

You're sure to work up an appetite, but don't worry when you're stomach grumbles "I'm hungry, feed me" - 50 restaurants will be serving up "Eats" for sale.

Pontiac's ready for the crowds, don't forget, this is a town that hosted Elvis Presley, and even Pope John Paul II.

Event proceeds will benefit seven local charities - The Rainbow Connection, The American

home.
Singer Diane Schuur and The
Duke Ellington Orchestra directed by Paul Ellington headine
this year's festival. One of
Detroit's most successful jazz
alumni, Regina Carter, is coming
home to perform in four different ven local charities – The Rain-w Connection, The American musical settings, including a fes

Heart Association, The Haven, The Dittrich Foundation, The Pontiac Rescue Mission, The Boys and Girls Club, and The Chrysler Oakland Arts Fund. In Wayne County for the past 19 years, the riverfront has been the place to be Labor Day week-end.

tival-closing set with fellow jazz violinist John Blake.
Education is a key component, and the festival is a classroom for tomorrows jazz legenda. Jack Pierson of Livonia, director of the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association, is working with Louis Smith, past president Michigan International Association of Jazz Educators and Ernie Rodgers, Detroit Northwestern High School vice principal to guide a variety of educational programs during the festival. All high school and college performances will be adjudicated by a panel of International Association of Jazz Educators members. The students will learn from the judge's comments, and scholarships will be owarded.

Tania Macioce of Farmington Ford Montreux Detroit
Last year's Ford Montreux
Detroit Jazz Festival drew over
780,000 people, and organizers
are expecting even more this
year.
They're offering 130 different
scheduled events this year, and
the Kowlaski Riverfront Cafe
will stay open each day of the
festival until 11:30 p.m. it will be
the place to be before you head
home.

Tonia Macioce of Farmington Hills, an art director at J. Walter Thompson Detroit, designed this year's festival poster.

She was surprised her design was chosen out of 56 different designs submitted by J. Walter Thompson Detroit in a company-

wide competition. She was pre-sent for the unveiling at a press conference in Detroit's Harmonia Park, and smiled as the audience

Park, and smiled as the audience applauded.
"It's fun and festive," she said.
"I used a lot of colors, textures and patterns to show that it's a really diverse, cultural festival." Her design portrays four Her design portrays four abstract figures swaying to music amidst musical notes. The border features bright colors and

patterns.
A 1996 graduate of the Univer sity of Notre Dame with a backer lor of fine arts in design, Macioco-joined J. Walter Thompson Detroit in 1997. Prior to joining the company she worked for Skidmore Design in Southfield.

Winning the contest was a sur-prise. "It was great," said Macioce. "The intent was to cap-ture the idea of 'festival' and the coming together of people. Of course, the music is wonderful at the festival and enjoying the music in the city setting is great part of the Detroit Mortreux experience."



Poster: Tania Macioce of Farmington Hills, an art director at J. Walter Thompson Detroit, designed the poster for this year's Ford Montreux Detroit Jazz Festival.

in downtown Pontiac Labor Day

in downtown Pontine Labor Day weekend with title sponsorship from Chrysler Corp.

The festival is Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson's dream come true. We are rexited about the project, said Patterson. We think it will be a super event. What I did want, and do want, is to accentuate the quality of life in Oakland County. We're highlighting the fun





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