

# Artpark to welcome DISPATCH & O.A.R.

Tickets on sale Friday, Dec. 10, for Aug. 23 concert

Dispatch and O.A.R., two of the most successful touring acts in the states, will hit the road together next summer for their first-ever North American co-headline tour, with special guest G. Love. The tour plays the Artpark Amphitheater at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23.

Tickets go on sale at noon Friday, Dec. 10, and cost \$45 for front-of-stage (standing-room-only) or reserved seating (numbered chairs provided); and \$25 for general admission (carry-in chairs permitted). Prices include facility fee. Additional fees apply for online orders. All prices increase by \$5 starting Sunday, Aug. 21.

Purchase online at ticketmaster.com. The Artpark box office will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays, Dec. 3-17.

"DISPATCH has always been a name on our white-board wish-list for bands we wanted to tour with," said O.A.R. sax player Jerry DePizzo. "It's almost as if we've existed in parallel universes. We both came up through the ranks and cut our teeth playing colleges and small clubs throughout the Northeast and Midwest. It's taken a few years, but the stars have finally aligned. We're looking forward to this because we feel both audiences will be excited as well. We should have done this a long time ago."

DISPATCH – formed by Chadwick Stokes and Brad Corrigan while in college in Vermont – have forged their own path outside the mainstream music industry as one of the most successful artists in the roots rock scene. Over the course of a slew of ac-

claimed studio and live albums and countless tours and festivals, the band has gone on to become one of biggest success stories in independent music history, selling out three nights at Madison Square Garden and drawing over 100,000 fans to a massive outdoor show in their adopted hometown of Boston without any traditional radio or major label support. The band recently released its eighth studio album, "Break Our Fall," to critical acclaim.

O.A.R. is one of music's most consistent and dependable rites of passage for rock fans across the country. The band from Rockville, Maryland, has sold out Madison Square Garden multiple times, filled Red Rocks Amphitheater on countless nights, earned Platinum and Gold plaques across 11 full-length albums, lit up the Times Square New Year's Eve celebration, and built one of the most committed fan bases in the world. The group – Marc Roberge (lead vocals, guitar), Richard On (lead guitar), Chris Culos (drums), Benj Gershman (bass) and DePizzo (saxophone, guitar) – formed while still in high school. This year, they will ring in 25 years together by strengthening their special bond with audiences everywhere.

"I'm certainly looking forward to this experience," DePizzo SAID. "There are some beautiful anchors and moonshots in place in order to celebrate not only the history of where O.A.R. and DISPATCH have been, but where we're going."

Added DISPATCH's Brad Corrigan, "We're grateful to still have



DISPATCH, top, and O.A.R. (Photos courtesy of Artpark & Company)

our family of fans, health, friendships and a chance to continue making music. Gonna be good."

More info on the bands and tour is available at [www.dispatch-oar.com](http://www.dispatch-oar.com).

Additional 2022 concerts at Artpark currently on sale include: Bon Iver (June 7); Patti LaBelle (June 21); Barenaked Ladies with Gin Blossoms and Toad the Wet Sprocket (July 5); Tedeschi

Trucks Band with Los Lobos and Gabe Dixon (July 12); and Earth, Wind & Fire (July 31). Visit [artpark.net](http://artpark.net) for more information.

## 'Christmas in the Village' back for 2021

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"Christmas in the Village" is sure to offer something for visitors of all ages.

That includes live theater.

"It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" will take over the former Mug and Musket stage on Main Street the entire weekend, with performances at 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 3 p.m. matinees Saturday and Sunday.

Directed by Claudia Andres, choral director at Wilson High School, "It's a Wonderful Life" will be presented free of charge to visitors. The holiday classic will cast local performers Kris Brayley and Karen Bean as George and Mary Bailey, Dale Lawrence and Laura Scarsbrick as Joseph (God) and Clara (Angel). Also cast are Monti and Marica Jones, Lewis Bean and Michael Riordan, with Jim Jaremka and Elizabeth Teal providing live sound effects.

Donations for the shows are being accepted in support of the Youngstown Community Players, a developing theater company that has been active in attempting to reestablish the legendary Post Theatre at Fort Niagara State Park. Last summer, the group

hosted an impromptu outdoor performance of "The Wizard of Oz" in support of the theater at Fort Niagara.

"We're opening up the Mug and Musket for a fundraiser," said Lewis Bean, owner of Youngstown's Hill of Beans Coffee Shop. "Without serving dinner, we're going to be putting it on almost like a dinner-type theater. Our plan is to put it on at the Mug and Musket; we'll be using the frontage as a stage."

The "Christmas in the Village" experience continues at the Youngstown Red Brick Village Center.

•The Christmas craft show and marketplace, with a host of vendors, will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the gym. Expect a variety of holiday crafts and some neat ideas for gift buying.

•A children's Christmas party, presented by the Youngstown Recreation Department, runs from 1-3 p.m. in the second floor Cora Gushee Room. Look for the arrival of Santa Claus at 1 p.m., children's crafts, plus balloon animals by Jiminy the Elf and Corabelle.

The Rec. Department said visi-

tors are welcome to make a donation of a canned and/or dry food good or children's toy for the annual Youngstown Christmas Basket program, which continues in the River Region. Donation boxes can be found in the Red Brick main entrance.

Other activities include crafts in the Community Room; musical entertainment by Step in Time in the gym; plus an assortment of refreshments, crafts and a raffle at Historical Museum.

•On Youngstown streets, visitors will find carriage rides available from noon to 4 p.m., with special guests roaming about to welcome everyone. There will also be assorted gift-buying ideas found at local businesses, plus food and drink available at village restaurants. In addition, the Youngstown Lions will be at the Red Brick parking lot with complimentary hot dogs and popcorn for visitors.

"We look forward to celebrating the holidays with you," Reynolds said as he invited all to "spend the day in Youngstown."

For more on Youngstown's "Christmas in the Village," visit its Facebook pages.



## CHICKEN WING CONTEST

Where do we go to find the king of the wing?

# TELL US & WIN!

**Vote for your favorite**  
**ENTER TO WIN A FOOD PRIZE FROM**  
**A LOCAL RESTAURANT**

Now through the end of the football season, Niagara Frontier Publications wants your input in naming the area's best chicken wing joint. It could be a bar, a restaurant or a social club – the only requirements are that chicken wings are sold to the public from a locally headquartered joint.

The chicken wing place with the most votes will be prominently featured in the Niagara County Tribune-Sentinel, Grand Island PennySaver and Island Dispatch, with additional photos and a video posted at [www.wnypapers.com](http://www.wnypapers.com).

When you cast a vote for your favorite chicken wing destination, you'll be entered to win a gift certificate courtesy of an area restaurant. Winners will be chosen by random draw and notified by phone or email.

Good luck – and happy eating!

Visit [www.wnypapers.com/2021-chicken-wing-contest](http://www.wnypapers.com/2021-chicken-wing-contest) for a complete set of rules & to enter online.

Name (Full): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Restaurant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Why these chicken wings are the best: \_\_\_\_\_

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