



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

CANADIAN LEGENDS COLIN JAMES & JIM CUDDY

TO HEADLINE KERRFEST 2026

OAKVILLE, ON – The Kerr Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) is proud to unveil the lineup for the 10th Annual Kerrfest, returning to Westwood Park on Friday, September 11 and Saturday, September 12, 2026.

Celebrating a decade of music and community, this year’s festival features an exceptional lineup led by two of Canada’s most iconic artists—**Colin James** and **Jim Cuddy** with The Jim Cuddy Band. Both are multi-JUNO Award winners and inductees of the Canadian Music Hall of Fame, setting the stage for an unforgettable weekend of live music.

Additional highlights include performances by **The Box**, **Lennie Gallant**, **The Redhill Valleys**, **Bill Durst**, and, alongside a dynamic mix of emerging and established Canadian talent.

Friday, September 11 – Colin James

With a career spanning more than three decades, Colin James remains one of Canada’s



most celebrated blues-rock artists. Known for his masterful guitar work and powerful vocals, he first rose to prominence with his record-breaking 1988 debut album—the fastest-selling in Canadian history.

With multiple Platinum and Gold records and hits including “*Voodoo Thing*” and “*Just Came Back*,” James has built a legacy defined by versatility—effortlessly moving between blues, rock, and swing. A Canadian Music Industry Hall of Fame inductee and recipient of 31 Maple Blues Awards as well as 8 Juno Awards, his live performances

continue to captivate audiences across the country.



Saturday, September 12 – The Jim Cuddy Band

Fronted by one of Canada’s most respected songwriters, The Jim Cuddy Band delivers a rich blend of roots rock and heartfelt storytelling. Known as a co-founder of Blue Rodeo, Cuddy is joined by an exceptional group of musicians, including Colin Cripps, Anne Lindsay, Bazil Donovan, Joel Anderson, and Steve O’Connor.



Following the release of his acclaimed 2024 album *All The World Fades Away*, Cuddy continues to bring deeply personal songwriting and timeless melodies to the stage.

As both a solo artist and member of Blue Rodeo, Cuddy has earned 15 JUNO Awards, been named to the Order of Canada, and is a Canadian Music Hall of Fame inductee. His return to Kerrfest is highly anticipated.

Opening for Colin James - The Red Hill Valleys



The Redhill Valleys are an award-winning Americana/alt-country trio hailing from Hamilton, Ontario. Known for their powerful harmonies, rootsy guitar licks, and authentic storytelling, the band has performed alongside artists like The Trews and has been featured on numerous festival stages. Their latest music is produced by Tim Allard and showcases their growth into a, full, melodic sound.



Opening for The Jim Cuddy Band – Lennie Gallant



Lennie Gallant is a legendary Acadian singer-songwriter and **Order of Canada** member from Prince Edward Island, celebrated for his 16-album career that spans folk, rock, and country. A powerhouse in the Canadian music scene, he has earned **19 East Coast Music Awards**, multiple JUNO nominations, and was recently named **2026 Solo Artist of the Year** at the Canadian Folk Music Awards. His songwriting prowess is perhaps best exemplified by his anthem "**Peter's Dream**," which is inducted into the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame. Beyond his solo work, Gallant enjoyed a prestigious long-term friendship and collaboration with the late **Jimmy Buffett**; Buffett recorded Gallant's song "Mademoiselle (Voulez-vous danser)" and later invited him to co-write and sing on his final posthumous album, *Equal Strain on All Parts*, on the track "**Portugal or PEI**."

Saturday Afternoon Headliner – The Box



The Box stands as one of Quebec's most enduring musical acts, with a legacy defined by early **New Wave** chart dominance and a successful modern transition into **progressive rock**. Their peak commercial era in the 1980s earned them **four Félix Awards**, including Group of the Year (1985) and Anglophone Group of the Year (1987), as well as two **Juno Award** nominations. Their discography is anchored by four certified records, most notably the **Platinum-certified** *Closer Together* (1987), which produced staples like "Ordinary People" and the titular "Closer Together".

Since reforming in 2004, the band has maintained its presence in the Canadian music scene by releasing three studio albums—*Black Dog There* (2005), the entirely French *Le Horla* (2009), and the EP *Take Me Home* (2018)—while continuing to perform at major festivals across the country. To date, they have secured nine consecutive top-ten singles and remain active with recent digital releases such as the 2021 single "**A Surer Sound**".



Opening for The Box – Bill Durst, Legendary Blues Guitarist



With over 125 recorded songs and 12 albums, including seven national radio chart hits, Bill Durst has shared the stage with icons like Aerosmith, Rush, and Jeff Healey. Known for his radical interpretations and powerful vocals, he continues to be a staple of the Canadian music scene, recently being named a 2022 Blues Artist of the Year.

Complete [Kerrfest 2026](#) Lineup

Friday, September 11

- 9:30 PM – [Colin James](#)
- 7:45 PM – [The Redhill Valleys](#)
- 5:45 PM – [Hotel California: The Original Eagles Tribute](#)
- 4:00 PM – [Fiddlestix](#)
- 3:45 PM – Gates Open

Saturday, September 12

- 9:30 PM – [The Jim Cuddy Band](#)
- 7:45 PM – [Lennie Gallant](#)
- 5:45 PM – [Freedom Train](#)
- 3:30 PM – [The Box](#)
- 1:45 PM – [Bill Durst](#)
- 12:00 PM – [Tianna Woods](#)
- 11:45 AM – Gates Open



Kerrfest Kids – Sunday, September 13

The celebration continues with Kerrfest Kids from 11:00 AM to 3:45 PM, offering a full day of family-friendly fun. Highlights include a Paw Patrol meet & greet, live performances on stage, roaming entertainers, Prince Bambi the alpaca, Top Shot Hockey, Hands on Exotics Reptiles, free face painting, Captain Nick the Party Pirate, a pop-up market, and local Kerr Village food vendors. Kerrfest Kids is free admission.

Festival Details

Location: Westwood Park, corner of Kerr & Bond Street, Oakville

Rain or shine event. Admission details to be released June 1st for Kerrfest.

[Kerrfest](#) features live music, local food vendors, and a vibrant pop-up market experience.

New this year:

Happy Hour Specials

- Friday: 3:45 PM – 6:00 PM
- Saturday: 11:45 AM – 2:00 PM

For updates and full details, visit Kerrfest.ca

About Kerr Village BIA

The Kerr Village Business Improvement Area is a proactive, community-focused organization dedicated to supporting local businesses and enhancing the vibrancy of the Kerr neighbourhood. Through advocacy, marketing, and signature events like Kerrfest, the BIA continues to bring people together and celebrate the spirit of the community.



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