

WHAT: Newark Celebration 350 announces additional activities at its kickoff event.

WHEN: Oct 17, 2015, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHERE: Military Park & NJPAC, Center Street, Newark

WHO: Newark Conservancy's Youth Farm Stand, the youth vocal performance group Special Ensemble, Newark Print Shop's Pop Up Print Shop, Playworks and author Guy Sterling.

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Newark Celebration 350 Announces Additional Participants for October 17 Kick Off Event Celebrating City's 350th Anniversary

Youth Farm Stand, Special Ensemble, Pop Up Print Shop and Playworks Added to a Growing Lineup

NEWARK – Sept. 28, 2015 – Newark Celebration 350 announced today a series of additional participants for the free family October 17 event in the newly refurbished Military Park that will kickoff the celebration of Newark's 350th Anniversary.

The additions come on the heels of an announcement last week that the event will include a special appearance by R&B singer Kenny Lattimore and music by World Famous DJ Tony Touch.

The free event, run in conjunction with the Military Park Partnership, will feature a series of live family friendly concerts and performances, arts and crafts, various demonstrations and global cuisine representing all the communities of Newark.

Added to the lineup are the Greater Newark Conservancy's Youth Farm Stand, the youth vocal performance group Special Ensemble, Newark Print Shop's Pop Up Print Shop and Playworks.

In addition, longtime Newark resident and former Star-Ledger reporter Guy Sterling will be selling and autographing his recent book, "The Famous, the Familiar and the Forgotten," about 350 noteworthy people who have made Newark, N. J. their home. He will be joined by one of the entrants in his book, former Mayor Sharpe James, who will be signing copies of his memoir, "Political Prisoner."

"We are striving to involve every aspect of our community at our Oct. 17 kickoff event to show off the talents of our population," said Junius Williams, the chair of Newark Celebration 350, the organization coordinating the year-long celebration of Newark's 350th Anniversary. "This will truly be a celebration of all that is Newark and a wonderful experience for the entire

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family. I hope to see families from throughout Newark and neighboring communities on October 17 to help us celebrate.”

The Greater Newark Conservancy's Youth Farm Stand is a part of the Newark Youth Leadership Project, a year-round job training and leadership development program for Newark high school students.

The Youth Farm stand will sell fruits and vegetables grown organically on the Conservancy's Hawthorne Avenue and Court Street urban farms. Founded in 1987, the Conservancy promotes environmental stewardship to improve the quality of life in New Jersey's urban communities through environmental education, community gardening, urban farming, beautification of neighborhoods, job training opportunities and environmental justice.

The Pop Up Print Shop is Newark Print Shops outreach initiative designed to strengthen community engagement in printmaking and to share our love of print with the greater Newark community. Newark Print Shop, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the fine art of printmaking, will be printing limited edition posters in celebration of Newark's 350 years at the Military Park celebration.

The Special Ensemble is youth vocal performance group whose members range in ages from 13 to 21 and consist of 15 vocalists and musicians. The ensemble won the 2011 McDonald's Gospelfest youth group competition category and has been featured on Fox 5 news and cablevision's access channel.

Playworks will host fun, healthy and inclusive field games for kids and adults, like switch, relay races and more. Playworks is an acclaimed nonprofit that reduces bullying, improves learning and increases fitness by providing safe play and physical activity to more than 15,000 Newark students at recess and throughout the entire school day.

The Oct. 17 event will also feature opportunities to sample music and art. WBGO's Felix Hernandez will spin classic soul in Military Park from 1-2 p.m. with a Family Fun Rhythm Revue Dance Party that will also be broadcast live on WBGO 88.3 FM. World Famous DJ Tony Touch will host a family dance party while the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra (NJSO) will present the NJSO Brass Quartet, performing popular musical selections from around the world.

More details about the attractions can be found at NC350.org. To stay up to date on all the events and activities surrounding Newark Celebration 350, like Newark350 on Facebook and follow on Twitter and Instagram. All social media posts will be hashtagged #Newark350.