



Northampton Arts Council, Inc.  
240 Main Street  
Northampton, MA 01060  
413-587-1069  
[admin@firstnightrnorthampton.org](mailto:admin@firstnightrnorthampton.org)  
[www.firstnightrnorthampton.org](http://www.firstnightrnorthampton.org)

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## First Night Northampton Announces Full Schedule for 2026 Celebration

NORTHAMPTON - The Northampton Arts Council is pleased to announce that the full performance schedule for First Night Northampton 2026 is now live. The city's signature New Year's Eve celebration returns with a vibrant, diverse lineup of music, dance, magic, theater, and community activities across dozens of downtown venues.

From noon until midnight on December 31st, First Night Northampton will showcase the best of the region's artistic talent with more than 100 performances and events for all ages. Attendees can explore a dynamic mix of local favorites, emerging artists, and long-loved traditions — creating an unforgettable day of celebration throughout downtown.

Among the hundreds of performers this year, you'll find Echo Royale, an energetic electro-pop band whose dance-friendly sound and high-energy live shows promise to bring a fresh, contemporary vibe to the evening; All Feels, a dreamy indie-rock / lo-fi pop group rooted in the Western Massachusetts DIY scene — perfect for those looking for introspective lyrics and nostalgic melodies; Katherine First & Kitchen Party, whose lively blend of Cape Breton, Celtic, Americana, and bluegrass music invites audience participation and brings a festive, communal energy; and The Happy Valley Guitar Orchestra, a 20+—guitar ensemble known for its experimental spirit — expect inventive arrangements spanning classical, rock, pop, and more, all delivered with joyful energy. You'll also find family-friendly fun from The Juice and Jelly Funtime Band, offering playful, original music for kids and families that gets everyone dancing and laughing together.

The complete performance schedule — including times, venues, performer bios, and event descriptions — is now available at: [www.FirstNightNorthampton.org/schedule2026](http://www.FirstNightNorthampton.org/schedule2026)

Admission to First Night Northampton 2026 is granted with the purchase of a First Night button. Buttons help support the artists, venues, and community organizations that make this annual celebration possible. Buttons are on sale now, with online purchases available at no extra cost through 9 p.m. on December 31st. Buttons can be picked up at the Cedar Chest through

December 30th or at First Night Headquarters in Thornes Marketplace on December 31st from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. In-person sales will also be offered that day at several downtown locations, including the First Night Box Office, the Academy of Music, 33 Hawley, Hotel Northampton, State Street Fruit, and Cooper's Corner. Regional outlets across western Massachusetts also have buttons available. Pricing varies by age and date of purchase. Full button details and pricing can be found at [www.firstnightnorthampton.org/buttons](http://www.firstnightnorthampton.org/buttons)

First Night Northampton is produced by the Northampton Arts Council with support from the City of Northampton, local businesses, volunteers, and community partners. This year's event is made possible thanks to the generosity of Platinum Co-sponsors Gage Wiley Investments and many others — helping us continue a decades-long tradition of inclusive, alcohol-free, family-friendly New Year's celebrations.

For more information, please contact Arts & Culture Director Brian Foote at [bfoote@northamptonma.gov](mailto:bfoote@northamptonma.gov) or 413-587-1069.