

St. Johns' No.Fest Expands

The Fourth Annual No.Fest, presented by InterArts, just announced an initial line-up for their increasingly ambitious multi-venue, multi-event festival. The festival consists of 16 categories of artists that will be performing shows and leading workshops. So far, the event has 61 confirmed artists.

The fest will run June 24 at 7 p.m. through June 26 at 10 a.m. in St. Johns at multiple venues. Most events have a suggested donation of \$1.

"This is a festival unafraid to drive close to the edge of all things," according to organizers. "Our program seems to go further in to the frays with more family friendliness and diversity at once. It seems we are maturing. We introduce comedy, expanded music categories, and interactive workshops to the program. There will be an extensive hip hop program, more pop music, the return of our children's program, and we're very excited about the Portland Peace Choir opening Noon performance."

The festival will be broadcast live on KBOO 90.7 FM. For more information, visit www.nofest.net.

ARTIST LINE UP BY CATEGORY

VISUAL WORK IN GALLERY

Chavawn R. Y. Vasquez
Alejandro Ceballos
Noah Saterstrom
tba
Multimedia and Installation
Brenna Murphy
Krystal South
Kurtis Hough
Ron Mason Gassaway
Mega*Tent
Mini St. Johns
Todd Norman Guess
Chris Lael Larson
Clint Ganzack
Pop Music
Wishyunu
Hawkins Wright
Sam Densmore
My Autumns Done Come
Rock Music
Last Prick Standing
Bison Bison
The Tomorrow People
Metanoia
The Hand That Bleeds
Valkyrie Rodeo
Noise-Pop Music
Moodring
PartyKiller
Activity Universal Associates
Muscle Beach

Beta Crack
Americana Music
Michael Hurley
Paul Evans and Friends
Right On John
Les Tresvinos
World Music
DJ Anjali and The Kid
tba
Hip Hop Music
Rustlah
Breakdance Battle
Way2Hott Presents...
tba
Electro Music
White Rainbow
Gulls
tba
Movement/Dance
Danielle Ross
Steele/Currin
Lucy Yim/Jenkins/Nelson
Theatre/Spoken Word
Portland Peace Choir
Cast Iron Carousel
G.M. Holder
Comedy
Christian Ricketts
Philip Schallberger
tba
Children's Show
Joyfull Noize Kid
Jamz
tba
tba
Visual Accompanied Music

SNDTRKR

Jon Meyer
Jennifer Keyser Workshops
Fencing by Rocky
Yoga by Maize
Bike Games with Neil
Grand Detour's Sound/Image...
Slackline Demo
Experimental
Dr. Id
Dead Air Fresheners
Mike Frekete
Cliche Au Lait
Daniel Menche
Evil Doer

PERFORMANCE SITES

Plews Brews
Patty's Home Plate
Town Square
Brownfield/Maries
The Booksellers
Proper Eats
Slims
Legong
John's Tavern
Salle Trois Arme
The People's Yoga

VISUAL SITES

The Yellow House
Salty Tea Cup
Anna Bananna's
Held Belts
Wright Brothers Glass
James John Cafe
Legong
Proper Eats
SJ Bike Lab

Brandon Mychal Smith: He's So Brandon!

Interview with Kam Williams

Born in Los Angeles on May 29, 1989, Brandon Mychal Smith is a charismatic young actor best known for playing ladies man Nico Harris on the Disney Channel sitcom "Sonny with a Chance," which was renamed "So Random" earlier this year. Brandon discovered his love for acting at a young age when he stood in front of his 6th grade class and recited a crowd-pleasing rendition of a poem by Shel Silverstein. And after graduating from high school, he enrolled at Hampton University where he earned his degree in entrepreneurship while minoring in finance.



A versatile performer, Brandon recently competed on the ABC celebrity reality show "Skating with the Stars," and in 2010 starred in the Disney Channel Original Movie "Starstruck." His other TV credits include recurring roles on such shows as "Unfabulous" and "Phil of the Future." Brandon has also guest-starred on "Bones," "Without a Trace" and "That's So Raven."

Brandon's motion picture credits include appearances opposite Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson in Gridiron Gang, opposite Nick Cannon in Weapons, and opposite Matthew Perry in The Ron Clark Story. Away from work, he keeps himself busy between his many hobbies (especially roller-skating) and his charity work with organizations like the "Magic of Healthy Living Campaign" alongside First Lady, Michelle Obama.

Here, Brandon talks about his work on "So Random."

Kam Williams: Hi Brandon, thanks for the time.
Brandon Mychal Smith: Thank you for giving me the time.

KW: What interested you in So Random?

BMS: What interested me about So Random was the great team of people that I knew were behind this project. My first love has always been drama and Brian Robbins, So Random's Executive Producer, had produced a film called Hardball that I had wanted to be in. I always wanted to work with Brian Robbins, so when the opportunity rang I was more focused and ready to do whatever it took to land the role of Nico. [LOL]

KW: Tell me a little about the show?

BMS: So Random is your SNL mixed with a splash of 30 Rock all geared towards the cool kids and fly teens of the new millennium!

KW: How would you describe your character, Nico?

BMS: Nico Harris has the charisma and charm of a Will Smith from Fresh Prince of Bel Air days with a dash of Denzel Smooth and a Kanye West swagger when it comes to getting fly! [Laughs]

KW: How similar are you to Nico?

BMS: Nico Harris is Brandon Mychal Smith at about 16 or 17 with much more energy and a way cooler job than I really had at that age. [Laughs] Nico and I share a love for the fashion world. And much like Nico, I've always loved vintage and unique clothing and cool jewelry. Nico and I also are very much ladies men. [Chuckles] The ability to charm the ladies has never been a sore spot for Mr. Nico Harris [LOL] But most importantly, Nico, as well as I, love to keep everyone laughing and having a good time!

KW: What would you say is the message being delivered by So Random?

BMS: The show's message is that with The Power of We, you can do it with drive, persistence, commitment, breathing and smiling. [Laughs] The Power of We is the collaborative effort, everyone coming together to help contribute and or make a positive difference.

KW: What was it like doing the reality-TV series Skating with the Stars? How much of a skater were you as a child?

BMS: Doing Skating with the Stars was a very empowering experience for me. It showed me what I can truly achieve with drive, persistence and commitment. It felt good to become physically active and to push my body to its physical limits day in and day out. If I ever have to do a superhero movie, trust me, I'll be ready. [Chuckles] I am an avid roller skater, NOT ice skater. [Laughs some more] Big difference! Ice skating is a much more physically-demanding sport, although my lifetime love and passion for roller-skating definitely helped my confidence and ability to create on the ice skates, during Skating with the Stars. I became pretty good at ice-skating by the end of the competition, which surprised me in a great way.

KW: You've been in showbiz since you were 8? How have you avoided the problems that have plagued so many other stars?

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