



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Live Music Hits the Streets with Downtown Berkeley's New "Sidewalk Sessions" Busker Program

**Berkeley, CA — July 23, 2025** — The Downtown Berkeley Association (DBA) is proud to announce the launch of **Sidewalk Sessions**, a new summer-long busker program that brings live, acoustic music to the sidewalks, plazas, and corners of Downtown Berkeley. The program kicks off today with two live performances and will continue through the end of August with scheduled sets at high-traffic public spaces across the district.

**Sidewalk Sessions** is designed to bring vibrancy, joy, and a touch of surprise to everyday downtown life while supporting local musicians and enhancing the public experience. All performances are free to enjoy and feature a rotating lineup of acoustic and lo-fi musicians carefully selected to keep the vibe light, welcoming, and community friendly.

"Berkeley has always been a city of voices, creativity, and expression." said Matthew Jervis, Director of Vitality at the DBA. "Sidewalk Sessions is a way to let that spirit ring out, right on our sidewalks, where everyone can enjoy it."

### July & August 2025 Lineup Highlights

**All shows are free, acoustic, and open to the public.**

- **July 23 | 4:30–5:30 PM** – *The Missin' Cousins* @ 2129 Kala Bagai Way
- **July 23–25 & 30 | 4:30–5:30 PM** – *Baron Rubenbauer* @ 2036 Shattuck Ave (at Addison)
- **July 24 | 11:00 AM–12:00 PM** – *Shiny Cosmos* @ 2036 Shattuck Ave
- **July 30 | 11:00 AM–12:00 PM** – *UC Jazz Summer Combo* @ Center & Kala Bagai Wy
- **July 31 | 11:00 AM–12:00 PM** – *Ollie Dudek* @ 2177 Shattuck Ave
- **August 1, 6–8 | 4:30–5:30 PM** – *Baron Rubenbauer (encore dates)* @ 2036 Shattuck Ave
- **August 7 | 11:00 AM–12:00 PM** – *Erin Skidmore & The Hot Toddies* @ Shattuck BART Plaza

Performers are compensated through a modest stipend and 100% of any tips or digital donations they collect. All acts are approved through a light-touch registration process that ensures performances align with community expectations, no loud amplification, no disruption to local businesses, and nothing but good vibes.

Interested in hosting a performance near your business or learning more? Visit [www.downtownberkeley.com](http://www.downtownberkeley.com) or email [info@downtownberkeley.com](mailto:info@downtownberkeley.com)

### About the Downtown Berkeley Association

The Downtown Berkeley Association (DBA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing and promoting Downtown Berkeley as a vibrant, welcoming, and inclusive place for all. Through public events, economic development, marketing, and placemaking, DBA supports a thriving urban core rooted in Berkeley's creative spirit.