



Produced by Downtown Kingston! B.I.A.
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LIMESTONE CITY BLUES FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES HEADLINERS!

The Limestone City Blues Festival will once again bring Downtown Kingston alive with the sounds of the blues August 27, 28, 29 and 30, 2009

This year the festival is delighted to announce that **Shemekia Copeland** will headline the Springer Market Square stage Saturday night! At a young age, Shemekia Copeland is already a force to be reckoned with in the blues. While still in her 20s, she's opened for the Rolling Stones, headlined at the Chicago

Blues Festival and numerous festivals around the world, scored critics choice awards on both sides of the Atlantic (*The New York Times* and *The Times* of London) and shared the stage with such luminaries as Buddy Guy, B.B. King, Taj Mahal and John Mayer. Born in Harlem, New York, in 1979, Copeland actually came to her singing career slowly. Her father, the late Texas blues guitar legend Johnny Clyde Copeland, recognized his daughter's talent early on. He always encouraged her to sing at home, and even brought her on stage to sing at Harlem's famed Cotton Club when she was just eight. At only 19, Shemekia stepped out of her father's shadow with the release of her 1998 debut recording, *Turn the Heat Up!*, Her second album, *Wicked*, released in 2000, scored three Handy Awards (Song of the Year, Blues Album of the Year, Contemporary Female Artist of the Year) and a GRAMMY nomination. Her most recent release *Never Going Back* is receiving rave reviews. www.shemekiapeland.com A recent performance on David Letterman can be viewed at <http://www.3030fm.com/2009/02/21/shemekia-copeland-david-letterman-show-22009/>

At the Limestone City Blues Festival for their first Canadian date, **Delta Highway** will headline the Princess Street (at Barrie) stage, Friday August 28th. Delta Highway breathes youth and energy back into the blues. With strong guitar sounds reminiscent of Muddy Waters and R.L. Burnside, combined with a progressive harmonica sound, this Memphis band has developed a style that is all their own and sure to please new and veteran blues fans alike. In December of 2008, Delta Highway was nominated for the 2009 Blues Music Awards for Best New Debut Artist. www.deltahighwayblues.com Winners are due to be announced on May 7th in Memphis.

This year promises to be a "not to be missed" presentation of blues greatness! The heat will be turned up this year as we present more than a dozen participating venues with more than 50 shows (= *over 100 hours of programming*) - three afternoons of concerts in Confederation Park, live blues nightly in many downtown clubs, restaurants and cafes as well as runch Blues. Get your \$10 admission bracelet from participating venues for all four days of the festival - to the clubs, park, and the concerts on Princess Street and in Springer Market Square - and, with your bracelet, your free blues bucks to redeem at many downtown merchants! Bracelets will be on sale June 15, 2009. (Check our website for bracelet sales locations)

Be sure to check out the website for constant updates of the weekend line up and festival highlights!
www.kingstonblues.com

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For more information please contact:
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