



For Immediate Release: May 11, 2009 • Please include in your listings and announcements

NXNE MAINSTAGE YONGE-DUNDAS SQUARE

The 15th edition of NXNE will be taking over Toronto with live performances, films, and panels in neighbourhoods all over the city from the airport to the waterfront and points between. The hub of this invasion is Yonge-Dundas Square, where a huge shot of adrenaline will slam straight into the heart of downtown with four days of free concerts on the **NXNE Mainstage**, featuring performances by **Black Lips, Burning Brides, Wintersleep, The Sonics, Youth Brigade, The Cool Kids, GZA** and more, plus **The Toronto Song Competition**, the **AMP ENERGY \$100,000 Rock Off**, the **Tattooed Dolls Fashion Show**, and more..

Yonge-Dundas Square will be home not only to the NXNE Mainstage but to the **Indie Music Marketplace** - a veritable souk of indie vendors hawking everything from freshly pressed music and just screened t-shirts to skate gear, arts & crafts, and collectibles only a record geek's mother could love. Keeping it all fermenting is the licensed **Mill Street Brew Pub** and its Thursday and Friday **Day Stage** with afternoon performances; **The AMP ENERGY Lounge**, featuring 10 gaming stations with comfy seating and an array of addictive products; and the **Tattooed Dolls Fashion Show**, hosted by Purrfect Pineapples and Healing Heart Designs in cooperation with the Northern Ink Xposure Tattoo Expo.

The Mainstage kicks off NXNE on Thursday, June 18 at 12:30pm when Deputy Mayor Joe Pantalone introduces live performances by some of the 10 finalists in the **Toronto Song Contest**. The contest launched in March as part of the City's 175th Anniversary celebrations when Mayor David Miller invited entrants to write an original song that celebrates Toronto. Hundreds of entries will be narrowed down to a field of ten top songwriters who pay homage to Toronto's amazing spirit and diversity. Presented by the City of Toronto in partnership with NXNE, NOW Magazine and CP24, the contest will be Toronto's first chance to hear leading entrants for its new song.

myspace Canada turns up the volume and really gets the festival rocking from 6pm – 11pm on Thursday, June 18 with a solid line-up of explosive live shows featuring Toronto's own **Spiral Beach**, eclectic Montrealer **Xavier Caffeine**, and the power-rock of **Melissa Auf Der Maur**. **Burning Brides** will crank the intensity even further, before the headliners, Atlanta's **Black Lips**, close the night out.

Sirius Satellite Radio takes over the NXNE Mainstage on Friday with a live broadcast on Iceberg 85. Hitting the stage and the airwaves will be Halifax's chill indie-rockers and three-time East Coast Music Award winners **In-Flight Safety**, Toronto's own queer culture heroes **The Cliks**, and handsome Halifax fivesome and Juno and Much Music Video Award winners **Wintersleep**.

On Saturday, **AMP Energy Drink** keeps everyone wired with a full day of kick-ass rock – indie rock, Japanese rock, Boston rock and punk rock. Local pre-teen rockers **The Burning Boyz**, Boston boogie band **Say When**, Japanese outfit **Zoobombs**, Vice Records alumni **Golden Triangle**, Long Beach indie-rockers **Crystal Antlers**, Brooklyn's **Japanther**, LA Punks **Youth Brigade** and 60s Garage rock pioneers **The Sonics** all take their place on the Mainstage from afternoon to curfew.

Oh, and virtual rock too. Canada's best video-game Rock Bands will be competing for one of the biggest prizes in Canadian gaming. The **AMP ENERGY \$100,000 Rock Off** descends on Yonge-Dundas

Square on Saturday for the culmination of a 9-week competition that burned through 39 colleges and universities across Canada to produce the 4 finalists in this Rock Band 2™ contest. The four bands will showcase their gaming skills before three judges, the live NXNE audience and, via live streaming, a Facebook audience voting for their favourite band. In addition, AMP Your Game will host the **AMP ENERGY Lounge** all weekend long for NXNE gamers to strap on virtual instruments and discover if they do, indeed, rock.

The final day of Mainstage performances will see the audience getting seriously schooled by Fab 5 Freddy as he presents some freaky-deaky crunk-a-liscious sounds with **Liquid & The Velvet Trench**, those lovers of tight pants, **Ninjasonik**, Toronto duo **Candy Coated Killahz**, The Wu-Tang Clan's **GZA** and, finishing off the bill with a retro take on modern hip hop, Chicago's **The Cool Kids**.

NXNE @ YDS

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

12:00-11:00pm Indie Music Marketplace
12:00-11:00pm AMP Energy Lounge
12:00-11:00pm Mill Street Brew Pub
12:30pm NXNE Kick-Off with the **Toronto Song Competition**
Hosted by CP24s Melissa Grelo with Deputy Mayor Joe Pantalone
1:30-4:30pm Mill Street Brew Pub Day Stage performances
5:00pm **Tattooed Dolls Fashion Show**
Presented in cooperation with Northern Ink Xposure Tattoo Expo
6:00-11:00pm **myspace Canada** presents
Spiral Beach, Xavier Caffeine, Melissa Auf Der Maur, Burning Brides and Black Lips.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

12:00-11:00pm Indie Music Marketplace
12:00-11:00pm AMP Energy Lounge
12:00-11:00pm Mill Street Brew Pub
12:00-6:00pm Mill Street Brew Pub Day Stage performances
8:00-11:00pm **SIRIUS Satellite Radio** Live Broadcast on Iceberg 85
In-Flight Safety, The Cliks, Wintersleep

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

12:00-11:00pm Indie Music Marketplace
12:00-11:00PM AMP Energy Lounge
12:00-11:00pm Mill Street Brew Pub
12:00-11:00pm **AMP Energy Drink** Presents
The Burning Boyz, Say When, Zoobombs, Golden Triangle, Crystal Antlers, Japanther, Youth Brigade and The Sonics
AMP ENERGY \$100,000 Rock Off Finals at 8:00pm

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

12:00-11:00pm Indie Music Marketplace
12:00-11:00PM AMP Energy Lounge
12:00-11:00pm Mill Street Brew Pub
6:00-11:00pm **Fab 5 Freddy** Presents
Liquid & The Velvet Trench, Ninjasonik, Candy Coated Killahz, GZA and The Cool Kids

15 Years, 500 Bands, 50 Stages, 30 Films, 25 Panels, 5 Days. The **North by Northeast Music & Film Festival and Conference (NXNE)** runs June 17-June 21, 2009 in Toronto. The Music Festival is recognized worldwide as the place for fans to see breakout performances at intimate venues and for musicians to get vital international exposure. Alumni include **Feist, The Dears, New York Dolls, Ron Sexsmith, K'naan, Jason Collett, Television, Sheek Louch, and The Soundtrack of Our Lives.** The Film Festival features the most compelling music-related films, shorts and documentaries from around the world, and the Conference puts music insiders and veterans alongside the next generation of innovators defining the industry for the digital age. Past Conference speakers include **Stewart Copeland, Rob Halford, Don Letts, Johnny Rotten** and **Thomas Dolby.** Fans can attend the festival with **5-day or 1-day wristbands, Priority Passes or VIP Super Passes;** prices range from \$25 - \$250. Visit www.nxne.com to buy passes & wristbands and for more festival info. Be sure to check out **NXNE** on Facebook, MySpace, and YouTube, and follow **NXNE** on Twitter.

Media Contact: **FLIP PUBLICITY**, Mavis Harris 416.533.7710 X251, mavis@flip-publicity.com or Damien Nelson X221, damien@flip-publicity.com, www.flip-publicity.com

