



A program of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation

4274 Pearl Road • Cleveland, Ohio 44109
216-459-1000 • benfranklincommunitygarden.org

January 3, 2026

Partner with Us for the 2026 Music in the Garden Series

Dear community partner,

Each summer, on warm Saturday evenings, Ben Franklin Community Garden becomes something special: a gathering place for neighbors, gardeners, and visitors from across Northeast Ohio who come together to enjoy live music in the heart of Old Brooklyn.

The Music in the Garden Series has become a much-anticipated part of our neighborhood's summer rhythm. From June through September, we host free, live performances by professional local musicians on the first and third Saturdays of each month—drawing families, music lovers, and new visitors who might not otherwise discover this corner of Old Brooklyn.

We are writing to invite your business to sponsor the 2026 Music in the Garden Series.

Your sponsorship helps us do more than book performers. It helps us:

- Keep concerts free and accessible to the entire community
- Support working musicians from our region
- Welcome new audiences into Old Brooklyn, strengthening the neighborhood as a whole

In return, sponsors receive meaningful visibility and goodwill within a highly engaged audience—people who value community, creativity, and local businesses. Sponsor recognition includes on-site signage, social media mentions, inclusion in promotional materials, and acknowledgement during concerts throughout the season.

Enclosed you'll find a brief overview of the Garden and last season's concert lineup to give you a sense of the scope and quality of the Series. We are happy to work with sponsors at a level that makes sense for them, whether that's supporting a single concert or the season as a whole.

If you're interested, I'd love to talk briefly about how a partnership could align with your business goals while helping pay forward something that truly enriches our neighborhood.

Thank you for considering support of local music, local artists, and a community space that brings people together. We hope you'll join us for the 2026 season.

Warm regards,

Mark Tapajna
Garden Operating Committee
216-276-1183
mtapajna@yahoo.com



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About Ben Franklin Community Garden:

Ben Franklin Community Garden is a vibrant greenspace located in Cleveland's Old Brooklyn neighborhood. As the largest community garden in the area, established in 1981, it serves as a haven for over 200 gardeners on a 5-acre site, along with the OSU Extension's Master Gardener program, and youth gardeners from Benjamin Franklin Elementary School. The Garden is a Cleveland Summer Sprout garden and a program of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corp., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, tax ID No. 34-1177633. The all-volunteer Garden Operating Committee is committed to stewardship and preservation of the garden while also cultivating programs and activities for the wider community to connect with nature, cultivate friendships, and enjoy the exceptional space.

Mission: to serve our urban community by stewarding a greenspace that provides a natural retreat for the community to grow food and learn about sustainable food practices. We promote social harmony and inclusion by creating partnerships among community, government, schools and local businesses. We build friendships, promote health, wellbeing and sustainability by empowering people from diverse backgrounds to grow the greater community together.



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Music in the Garden

2025 Summer Music Series at Ben Franklin Community Garden



Visit a true Old Brooklyn gem this summer and discover a welcoming community space while listening to an array of local musicians as they elevate the sounds of nature!

Every year Ben Franklin Community Garden brings together a variety of artists to perform in its serene greenspace. The largest community garden in the county, Ben Franklin is home to over 200 gardeners, Benjamin Franklin Elementary School youth gardeners, and the OSU Extension's Master Gardener program. The garden Operating Committee, comprised of all volunteers, has created a space where you can relax amongst the trees with friends, old and new, as local musicians entertain you.

It's a wonderful way to spend a summer evening and it's free!

Performances are at 6 p.m. on the first and third Saturdays June – September.
Bring a lawn chair & join us!

See back for Summer 2025 lineup!



Music in the Garden

2025 Summer Lineup

June 7th – Global Connections An energetic blend of Afro-Latin and world grooves. This genre-spanning ensemble delivers infectious rhythms, cross-cultural instrumentation, and vibrant global spirit.

June 21st – Northcoast Jazz Collective A swinging quartet bringing fresh life to classic jazz standards. Rich vocals and dynamic musicianship deliver timeless tunes with style.

July 5th – Alla Boara Ancient Italian folk songs reimagined through jazz, percussion, and passionate vocals. This ensemble breathes life into forgotten melodies and celebrates cultural roots with dazzling artistry and emotional depth.

July 19th – Mud Window Mud Mirror Early music meets modern imagination. Soprano and percussion duo blend marimba, bells, and voice to explore Medieval and Renaissance repertoire through seasonal themes, bold textures, and experimental soundscapes.

August 2nd – Uzizi All-original folk-rock with a global soul. A wide palette of world music influences drives this alternative ensemble's rich, rhythmic, and genre-bending sound.

August 16th – Population of One & Morgan Mecaskey Population of One weaves ambient pop with textured rhythms and ethereal vocals. Morgan Mecaskey offers soulful, introspective indie folk rock with lyrical clarity and depth.

September 6th – Sunflurry Baroque rock at its most intimate and expansive. Cello, sultry vocals, guitar, and foot drums create a lush, genre-defying blend of original music and imaginative covers.

September 20th – Village Bicycle Psych-pop with mathy melodies, shoegaze textures, and vintage synths. Vocal harmonies shift from delicate to brazen in this witty, unpredictable, and sonically rich ride.

Ben Franklin Community Garden is located at 1905 Spring Road in the Old Brooklyn area of Cleveland, behind Benjamin Franklin Elementary School. Parking is available in school parking lot.

**wheel-chair accessible! Contact Mark Tapajna if more details needed on accessibility (216-276-1183)

In the event of rain, shows will be performed on Sunday at 2 p.m.