



# Economic Opportunity Program, Inc.

*Strengthening the fabric of our community*

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## Economic Opportunity Program, Inc. (EOP), Elmira NY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Wednesday May 2, 2018

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### Services

Center of Excellence  
(New Day Program)

Child Development Head  
Start/Day Care

Community Food for Jobs  
Program & Bistro

Energy Services Bureau

Ernie Davis Community  
Center

Family Support Services

Literacy Volunteers of  
Chemung & Schuyler  
Counties

### **EOP ANNOUNCES FERRARIO SOUTHERN TIER JAZZ FESTIVAL LINEUP**

**Elmira NY, May 2** – Economic Opportunity Program, Inc. of Chemung and Schuyler Counties (EOP Inc.) will hold its largest fundraiser of the year, The Ferrario Southern Tier Jazz Festival (FSTJF), from Friday August 17 to Saturday August 18. All proceeds from the event go to supporting community and economic development in Chemung and Schuyler Counties.

Entering its seventh year of jazz in the Southern Tier, The Ferrario Southern Tier Jazz Festival welcomes pianist **Brian Simpson** and vocalist **Selina Albright**. The evening begins with hors d'oeuvres at 6:00pm.

Brian Simpson is a keyboardist, composer, studio musician and producer. He's released seven albums and has scores of chart-topping and number one hits including the #1 pop hit "The First Time" (recorded by Surface). His latest album, *Persuasion*, was released in 2017 and further asserts him as one of the most thrilling and innovative pioneers on the contemporary jazz scene. Soulful singer-songwriter, Selina Albright, has appeared on famed sax player and father Gerald Albright's Grammy-nominated projects dating back to 1997, writing and performing the lyrics for the title track to *24-7*. Her 2017 R&B project, *Conversations*, features Billboard chart-topping Grammy-considered singles "Eat Something" and "Possible" and spent many weeks on the Sapporo Hot 100 chart (Japan).

Tickets to Friday's performance at the historic Clemens Center are available for \$50 at <http://www.eventbrite.com/> or at the EOP offices at 650 Baldwin Street, Elmira, Monday-Thursday 8:15am-5:45pm.

Performances for Saturday's show will begin at 2:00pm at Thorne Street Park in Horseheads, NY and will feature music from five outstanding artists:

- Trumpet player, **Cindy Bradley**, a native of Buffalo and a graduate of Ithaca College and the New England Conservatory, has secured seven #1 Billboard singles. She has also conducted hundreds of jazz workshops at high schools and community colleges all over the country. "Everyone But You" is currently #4 on Billboard singles.

- Sax player, **Jeff Kashiwa**, enjoyed a decade long tenure with The Rippingtons before striking out on his own. Kashiwa now has nine CDs released under his own name and has continued to record as a guest artist with many other artists as well. His brand new CD, *Let It Ride*, has been in the top 4 Best Sellers in Smooth Jazz on Amazon.com.
- Festival staple, keyboardist **Marcus Johnson**, brings with him special guest, **Phillip “Doc” Martin**. To date, Johnson has released more than fifteen Billboard charted CDs, and has the distinction of having his groundbreaking 2008 Billboard Top 20 Contemporary Jazz FLO (For the Love Of) Anthology, which consisted of three distinct CDs -- FLO Chill, FLO Romance and FLO Standards - all chart Top 10 on Billboard Contemporary Jazz Charts simultaneously. Phillip “Doc” Martin, saxophonist (and dentist!), has been wowing fans since the release of his 2003 debut *Saxappeal*. His latest release, *Pocket Love*, with a tight, funky old school driven alto vibe, further establishes the dynamic flow of this independent artist and performer.
- In addition, **Top Shelf**, a local favorite, brings an energetic vibe to kick off Saturday events.

Thorne Street Park, Saturday’s venue, features a large open area for patrons to bring their own seating and personal coolers. EOP Inc.’s **CFJP Bistro** will offer food and beverage, along with a farmer’s market of local vendors selling cheese, flowers, jewelry, and more.

Tickets for Saturday will cost \$40 for adults, \$20 for students, and Free for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.eventbrite.com/> or at EOP Inc.’s offices, 650 Baldwin Street, Elmira, from 8am-4:30pm Monday-Friday.

**Early Bird tickets** will be available through May 31st! Friday tickets are \$40, Saturday Adult tickets are \$30, and Saturday Student tickets are \$15. After May 31, you can purchase 2-Day Combo Tickets for the discounted price of \$80.

For over fifty-three years, EOP Inc. has been a community leader in building collaborative partnerships to provide individuals and families with the tools to overcome barriers and lead healthy, stable and economically self-sufficient lives.

The largest non-profit, community-based human services agency in Chemung and Schuyler counties, EOP Inc. uses a highly integrated, person-centered and strength-based approach. The agency serves as the one-stop, multi-service provider of child and youth care, family development, and energy services to more than 5,000 individuals and families annually.

Current programs at EOP Inc. include: Child Development Head Start preschool education; afterschool day care and services for youth (Center of Excellence and Ernie Davis Community Center); support and advocacy services for children with developmental disabilities and their families, and literacy training for all family members. Additionally, EOP Inc. operates the Community Food for Jobs Program and Bistro, a culinary arts training and job placement program, and provides a safety net for low-income homeowners, especially the elderly, through its Energy Services Bureau.

Ferrario Auto Team serves the area with Dealership locations in Towanda, Sayre, and Elmira since 1969. Don and Robin Ferrario provide financial and marketing management assistance to EOP Inc, through the Ferrario Southern Tier Jazz Festival. They support EOP's mission in the community. Ferrario Auto Team invites friends, customers and area businesses to have a great time at the Jazz Festival in August.

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