

Written by

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MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. – Record breaking numbers attended the two-day total Miami Gardens 9th Annual Jazz in the Gardens music festival at Sun Life Stadium that featured among others Mint Condition.

This year's attendance surpassed last year's, jumping from 63,000 to 68,000. Organizers credited its A-list performers, and extraordinary weather for the remarkable tickets sales.

Fans from all across the nation and abroad, danced in aisles to performances from Mint Condition, LL Cool J, Jamie Foxx, Maze featuring Frankie Beverly, Trey Songz, Kelly Rowland, Anthony Hamilton, Stanley Clarke, Rachelle Farrell and Boney James. The festival was hosted by comedian, actor, author, political commentator and syndicated radio host D.L. Hughley.

This year's star-studded lineup featured surprise appearances by Nelly who appeared to support Kelly Rowland's performance of the duo's 2002 hit, "Dilemma." Superstar comedian, Kevin Hart had the crowd in stitches before Trey Songz took the stage.

"The Human Beat Box," Doug E. Fresh was the weekend's hardest working artist with performances at the Friday night pre-party, Saturday with Jamie Foxx and Sunday with Stanley Clarke. Crooner, Tank added more R&B to Foxx's Saturday set with a performance of, "Please Don't Go." Foxx's "Unpredictable" set showcased his wide array of talent with a mixture of R&B, comedy and theater. His Ray Charles-like performance of "Georgia" was spot-on and "Blame It" was appropriate for the ladies that participated in the onstage dance contest for \$5,000 cash.

The crowd went wild for three-time NBA Champion, Dwyane Wade and BET's star of "Being Mary Jane," Gabrielle Union's introduction of LL Cool J. LL Cool J energetically graced the stage and performed all his old school hip-hop classics including "Rock The Bells" and "Mama Said Knock You Out."

Rachelle Ferrell's show was a tough act to follow; her six-octave range had the crowd on their feet with her performance of her signature hit, "Nothing Has Ever Felt Like This." Boney James' mastery of the saxophone was only matched by Stanley Clarke's genius on the bass.

Mint Condition showcased their range and gave the crowd what they wanted with an incredible performance of, "Breakin' My Heart (Pretty Brown Eyes)." Anthony Hamilton's soulful

## 9th Annual Jazz in the Gardens sets attendance records with performances with first class performances

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performance was a weekend favorite.

D.L. Hughley delighted attendees by bringing fellow comedian Sommore onstage late Sunday night before the final performance of the weekend, Maze featuring Frankie Beverly.

Syndicated radio host Tom Joyner stopped by to catch a few Saturday performances and living legend and social activist Harry Belafonte was also in attendance.

All of the action at Sun Life Stadium was preceded by performances on Friday night from S.O.S. Band, Dazz Band and Doug E. Fresh at Calder Casino's Turf Club at the inaugural Jazz in the Gardens Friday Night Pre-party.