

Young Stitch to open for Classified during Winter Carnival

The Kirkland Lake Festivals Committee has announced that Young Stitch and The Sentral Soldiers will open Classified's Winter Carnival concert on Saturday, February 15 in the Northern College Gymnasium.

Hailed as Canada's next hip hop sensation by E.T. Canada, the Kirkland Lake native has developed a loyal following locally after performances at Canada Day festivities and local clubs.

"I'm super excited to be joining Classified," said Stitch. "Kirkland Lake is a special place for me and we can't wait to rock Winter Carnival." Stitch is currently putting the finishing touches on his debut album.

Known for his energetic live shows, the 23-year-old Stitch has been rapping since he was 11. He has performed before more than 60,000 people at We Day concerts with The Tenors in Canada and The U.S.

Classified's concert is set for the opening weekend of Kirkland Lake's 18-day Winter Carnival. It's the Festival Committee's first rap concert and is timed perfectly as the hip hop star is one of the hottest artists in the country.

Classified's latest self-titled album debuted at #1 on the Canadian albums chart. The album features his Juno Award-winning song Inner Ninja, 3 Foot Tall and Pay Day, his current hit on the charts.

Tickets for the concert are \$35 advance at reception at the complex or on the Festival Committee's website. It's an all-ages show and the back portion of the floor will be licensed.

Other performers during Winter Carnival include Canadian Music Hall of Fame member Bruce Cockburn on Wednesday, February 19. Rock icon David Wilcox headlines the Winterfest Pub on Saturday, February 22 following the fish derby.

The 2014 edition of the Stars of Pop concert for kids is Sunday, February 16th, the night before the Family Day holiday. The show features live tributes to Taylor Swift, Miley Cyrus and Selena Gomez.

2014 marks the 10th anniversary of the Festivals Committee turning Kirkland Lake's Winter Carnival into an 18-day celebration, making it Canada's longest continuous winter festival.

Last year, the Kirkland Lake Festivals Committee received a prestigious Top 100 Award for Winter Carnival by Festivals and Events Ontario, an organization dedicated to the development of events and festivals.

This year's Winter Carnival will kick off with the crowning of Miss Kirkland Lake at the CJKL Carnival Queen Crowning and Fashion Show on Thursday, February 13 in the Northern College Auditorium.

Other events include a hockey tournament, 3 nights of Kabaret, a comedy night, the skating club's ice show, the kids carnival, free sleigh rides, a magic show, curling bonspiel, kids matinees and more.

A complete schedule of events for Kirkland Lake's Winter Carnival is on the Festival Committee's website: www.klfestivals.com