

Chuck Jackson – 2016 Bio

Chuck Jackson is Downchild's lead singer and harmonica player; the sort of openhearted, friendly guy who builds an instant rapport with audiences. He came to Downchild 29 years ago after a long career with a number of top Canadian bands. An Award-Winning singer, who rates **Big Joe Turner, Otis Redding and Junior Wells** as major influences, Jackson is also an excellent songwriter. A number of his songs can be heard on the many Downchild recordings. As a dynamic harmonica player, one special highlight of the band's performances is a harp duet with Mr. Downchild, Donnie Walsh. Chuck is also the Founder and Artistic Director of the annual award-winning **Tim Hortons Southside Shuffle Blues and Jazz Festival** celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2018. The Festival has become a major event on the North American festival circuit.

With Downchild, Chuck has been nominated for 6 Junos and in 2014 won the **Juno for Blues Album of the Year** for their CD "Can You Hear the Music". Chuck has been nominated 7 times as **Male Vocalist of the Year** at the **Maple Blues Awards** in Toronto. He has had the honour of winning the award twice in 1999 and again in 2007. He was also honoured in 2002 with the Toronto Blues Society's prestigious **Blues With a Feeling Award** for his achievements during a distinguished career. In 2012 Chuck received the prestigious **Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal** and in 2013 was inducted to the **Mississauga Music Walk of Fame** and **Mississauga Legends Row**. 2017 saw Chuck honoured with a **MARTY** by the Mississauga Arts Council in the category of 'Music-Solo-Vocalist'. In 2018 Chuck will be touring across Canada with **The Legendary Downchild Blues Band** and **The Last Waltz – The Music of The Band**. Now in his 29th year with Downchild and 45th year in the Canadian Music Industry, Chuck says *"Being able to play the music I love and entertain the wonderful people across Canada and around the world is certainly a dream come true and one I will continue to follow"*