



Sultans of String bass player Drew Birston, violin player Chris McKhool and guitar player Kevin Laliberte are bringing their sounds to the Orleans Jazz Lounge March 7.

# Royalty coming to Newmarket

BY SEAN PEARCE  
Staff Writer

Get ready Newmarket, because the Orleans Jazz Lounge is playing host to some musical royalty next Friday.

That's because the Sultans of String will swing into town March 7 to jazz things up a bit. Riding high off the success of their debut CD, *Luna*, the Sultans arrive with their eclectic musical style, a self-described atomic-world-jazz-flamenco blend, and three talented musicians.

The musical triumvirate is made up of violinist Chris McKhool, guitarist Kevin Laliberte and bassist Drew Birston who, among them, have played in bands with the likes of Jesse Cook, the Chieftains and

## SWINGIN' STRINGS

- ▶ **WHAT:** Sultans of String
- ▶ **WHERE:** The Orleans Jazz Lounge, 17380 Yonge st., Newmarket
- ▶ **WHEN:** March 7, 9 p.m.
- ▶ **INFORMATION:** [orleansnewmarket.com](http://orleansnewmarket.com) or [sultansofstring.com](http://sultansofstring.com)

Chantal Kreviazuk. As a group, they have had No. 1 songs on national campus radio charts, received play on international radio airwaves and have also won a number of accolades.

A talented violin player and musician, Mr. McKhool comes from a

musical family and likely picked much of his love for the art from his Egyptian-born mother who is a pianist. In addition to his Egyptian background, Mr. McKhool also finds ancestors of Lebanese descent on his father's side and, thus, his music comes with a Middle Eastern flair and calls up the rhythms of Spain and Morocco along with just about anywhere else he has travelled across the globe.

An accomplished guitarist, Mr. Laliberte shares Mr. McKhool's passion for globe-trotting and his music, like that of his fellow Sultan, is heavily influenced by his travels.

Finally, Mr. Birston completes the ensemble with his bass playing skills and his Latin, jazz and folk influenced stylings.