



NC Folk Festival Contact:
Amy Grossmann
President & CEO
agrossmann@ncfolkfestival.com

PRESS RELEASE

The North Carolina Folk Festival Announces Performer Lineup and Film Locations to be featured in 2020 Virtual Concert Series

The North Carolina Folk Festival will premier this year's "Virtual" concerts the weekend of September 11,12, and 13, 2020

Greensboro, N.C., August 12, 2020 — The North Carolina Folk Festival announced the 10 performing artists and 9 film locations around Greensboro that will appear in its 2020 Virtual Concert Series. The Festival previously announced it would pre-record the live performances at iconic Greensboro locations that will premiere on streaming and broadcast platforms free-of-charge the weekend of September 11-13.

“The pairing of North Carolina folk and traditional artists performing at iconic locations around Greensboro is our way of sharing with the world a sample of the people and places that contribute to the cultural identity of our home community,” said Amy Grossmann, President & CEO of the North Carolina Folk Festival. “In lieu of inviting folks to travel to experience our event this year, we are excited that people from across the world will be able to enjoy this taste of North Carolina and Greensboro in the comfort of their homes.”

The performers announced today encompass a range of traditions and cultures that contribute to the rich tapestry of creative expression that emanates from North Carolina and the Southeast.

Headline performers include:

- **Mandolin Orange** (*Americana*) – from Chapel Hill, NC
- **The Hamiltones** (*R&B/Soul*) – from Charlotte and Greensboro, NC
- **Chatham County Line** (*Bluegrass*) – from Raleigh, NC

Additional performers include:

- **The Burnett Sisters Band** (*Bluegrass/Old-Time*) – from Boone, NC
- **Charlie Hunter** (*jazz/folk*) – from Greensboro, NC
- **Charly Lowry** (*Singer-Songwriter*) – from Robeson County, NC
- **Demeanor** (*Hip-Hop/Banjo*) – from Greensboro, NC
- **Diali Cissokho & Kaira Ba** (*West African kora master*) – from Pittsboro and Raleigh, NC
- **Rissi Palmer** (*Southern Soul*) – from Durham, NC
- **Veronika Jackson** (*Blues*) – from Atlanta, GA; presented by the 34th Carolina Blues Festival as a tribute to NC blues legend Elizabeth “Libba” Cotton.

The North Carolina Folk Festival teamed up with the Piedmont Blues Preservation Society (PBPS) to jointly present the 34th Carolina Blues Festival in September. In addition to incorporating a Blues artist into the 2020 Virtual Concert Series, PBPS will host additional performances and activities that will be announced in the coming weeks.

The 2020 North Carolina Folk Festival Virtual Concert Series was filmed at locations around Greensboro, NC by the EMMY Award-winning video, music and streaming production company 7 Cinematics. The film locations announced today shine a light on places that have cultural or historical significance in our region:

- **Underground Railroad Tree (near Guilford College)** – southernmost terminus of the Underground Railroad
- **Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum** – a North Carolina Historic Site and home to the former Palmer Memorial Institute, a private school for African American youth from 1902 – 1971.

- **The Historic Magnolia House** – a nationally acclaimed bed and breakfast for African American travelers that was featured as a highly recommended place in six editions of the Green Book.
- **Center City Park** – a central gathering place for residents and visitors in the heart of downtown Greensboro.
- **The International Civil Rights Center & Museum** – world-renowned civil rights center, and home to the peaceful sit-in protest of Jim Crow segregation at the F.W. Woolworth lunch counter that sparked hundreds of protests like it across the country in 1960.
- **Gateway Gardens** – located at the eastern entryway to the City of Greensboro, a beautiful community-planned and implemented public park space with walking paths and public art.
- **The Old Mill of Guilford** – a fully operational 18th-century grist mill that produces all-natural, stone-ground, whole grain foods.
- **The Greensboro Rotary Carousel** – a brand new carousel located at the Greensboro Science Center; decorated with images and mounts of Greensboro's past and present in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Greensboro Rotary Club.
- **First National Bank Field** – home to the Greensboro Grasshoppers, a Minor League Baseball team and Class A affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

The 2020 North Carolina Folk Festival Virtual Concert Series premiere will be available in 3 segments of approximately two hours each starting the evenings of Friday, September 11, Saturday, September 12, and Sunday, September 13. It will be available on several media outlets including Greensboro Television Network (GTN), YouTube, and Nugs.net. The broadcast times and lineup for each night will be announced in the coming weeks. Live links will be available on ncfolkfestival.com.

To learn more about the North Carolina Folk Festival, and the performers and locations listed above, please visit ncfolkfestival.com. The North Carolina Folk Festival will continue to post updates on its Facebook page (facebook.com/NCFolkFestival), Twitter (twitter.com/NCFolkFestival) and Instagram (instagram.com/ncfolkfestival).

Learn more about the Piedmont Blues Preservation Society (<https://piedmontblues.org/>) and the Carolina Blues Festival (<https://carolinabluesfestival.com/>). The Piedmont Blues Preservation Society will continue to post updates on Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PBPS85/>), and on Instagram (instagram.com/piedmont_blues/).

To learn more about 7 Cinematics, please visit <7cinematics.com>, on Facebook (<facebook.com/7cinematics>), and on Instagram (<instagram.com/7cinematics/>)

###

About the North Carolina Folk Festival: The NC Folk Festival is a 501c3 non profit organization dedicated to the presentation of music, dance, crafts, and other arts representing cultural traditions from across America and the world through its flagship annual event each September in downtown Greensboro, NC. The North Carolina Folk Festival, co-produced by the City of Greensboro, is one of the fastest-growing destination events in the Southeast, attracting over 156,000 people from across the U.S. to downtown Greensboro. The festival is a FREE admission, three-day event that continues the legacy of the National Folk Festival, which was held in Greensboro from 2015–2017. In the tradition of “The National,” the North Carolina Folk Festival features performing groups representing a diverse array of cultural traditions from around the world on multiple stages, including continuous music and dance performances, a North Carolina Folklife Area featuring ongoing demonstrations, an interactive Family Area, a makers marketplace, regional and ethnic foods, festival merchandise and more. The 2020 North Carolina Folk Festival will take place September 11 through 13. Additional information is available at www.ncfolkfestival.com.

About 7 Cinematics: 7 Cinematics is a three-time Emmy Award-winning production company, known for producing the world’s foremost live-music broadcasts and video streams. With hundreds of live shows produced to date, the company has redefined an industry, by creating and producing groundbreaking broadcasts, including: ***The Red Hot Chili Peppers Live from the Great Pyramids, Kayne West’s Sunday Service, The Brothers 50 at Madison Square Garden, The Raconteurs (Jack White) Live at the Ryman Auditorium, Dead and Company Live at Folsom Field.*** The company’s work has aired on NBC, Direct TV, PBS, CBS, Netflix, YouTube and other streaming platforms. Headquartered in Greensboro, North Carolina the company also has studios in Nashville and Los Angeles.

About the Piedmont Blues Preservation Society:

The Piedmont Blues Preservation Society (PBPS) is a 501c3 charitable non-profit dedicated to the preservation and presentation of the culture & music known commonly as the Blues; this form of music having evolved historically from the culture & experiences of African-Americans including work songs and spirituals. Our organization documents and preserves both the African-American and North Carolina Blues traditions, and presents educational programs, seminars, and workshops meant to revive, maintain, and grow interest in Blues in our regional community. We represent Blues culture through educational programs, workshops, and with a focus on historic accuracy and cultural authenticity. We collaborate with other non-profits and with regional and global businesses to highlight the Piedmont as a place to not only live but a place to experience rich culture and history. Our services support public health issues, educational initiatives, and societal concerns while promoting local businesses, tourism, the Arts, and education. <https://piedmontblues.org/>.