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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 19, 2016

American Folk Festival Releases 2016 Performance Schedule

Festival celebrates 15th year with more ~~live performances than in recent years~~ Friday evening shows

BANGOR, MAINE – The American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront has released its full schedule of performances for the 15th edition of the annual 3-day event. The 2016 Festival marks a return to a Friday night performance at the end of Festival grounds closest to Pickering Square before a parade led by a marching group of musicians takes festival-goers – and the party – to the Railroad Stage for the kickoff of full Friday night schedule.

"We're excited to be celebrating the 15th birthday of the American Folk Festival with more performances" said American Folk Festival Executive Director Heather McCarthy. "We are starting the music earlier than in recent years on Friday night from the EMHS Two Rivers Stage, and we are also featuring more performances in the Bangor Savings Bank Children's Village. With 20 different groups of performers coming to the Bangor Waterfront this year, Festival-goers are in for a tremendous experience at the 2016 American Folk Festival."

Friday night performers get started at 6:15 at the EMHS Two Rivers Stage with Beat Boxer Shodekeh, followed by Acadian group Vishten. Following Vishten, around 7:15 p.m., a parade led by the Treme Brass Band will lead Festival attendees from the Sea Dog Brewing Company to the Bangor Daily News Railroad Stage. Treme Brass Band was at the first National Folk Festival hosted in Bangor in 2002, playing traditional New Orleans-style brass band music. Following the parade, the Railroad Stage, the L.L. Bean Penobscot Stage and the Dance Pavilion will have cultures ranging from Chicago Blues to Big Band Jazz & Swing to African-American acappella gospel to Celtic to Portuguese Fado running through 10:30 p.m.

On Saturday, the music starts at 12 noon on the Railroad, Penobscot, and Two Rivers Stages, with the Children's Village and Dance Pavilion following closely at 12:15 and 12:30, respectively. The Children's Village will feature four performances with younger festival-goers in mind including Tap Dance, Beat Boxing, Sri Lankan Dance, and Hoop Dancing. The Maine Folklife Center Folklife Stage will also be open starting at noon on Saturday at Sunday with a focus on fiber arts. Music continues through the evening hours including a Saturday parade from the Sea Dog to the Railroad Stage at 7 p.m. featuring the Treme Brass Band. The final note heard on Saturday night around 10:30 will be from the Railroad Stage with Lurrie Bell's Chicago Blues Band.

Sunday's robust schedule will start at noon and include an additional four performances in the Children's Village, and six events at the Folklife Stage, and an additional 23 performances across the four large stages of the American Folk Festival. An annual favorite, the Sunday noon gospel show will return to kick off the day from the Railroad Stage, with the Northern Kentucky

Brotherhood Singers making their second trip to Bangor for the American Folk Festival. The final notes of the 2016 American Folk Festival will be heard from the Railroad Stage and the Dance Pavilion, with Tribu Baharu and Lurrie Bell's Chicago Blues Band performing at the respective stages.

"There is always a lot to see and do at the American Folk Festival, and we are so happy to be presenting a jam-packed schedule of performances this year to celebrate 15 years of this festival calling Bangor home," said McCarthy. "Volunteers are key to the success of the American Folk Festival, and we are still encouraging people to go to our website to sign up and get involved for a completely different experience at the American Folk Festival."

The complete schedule of performances can be found online at www.americanfolkfestival.com.

The American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront is scheduled for August 26th, 27th, and 28th and celebrates the roots, the richness and the variety of American culture through music, dance, traditional crafts, storytelling and food. The Festival is supported entirely by public donations that make it possible to continue to present the Festival in our community.

For more information about the 2016 American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront, please visit www.americanfolkfestival.com or call 207-262-7763.

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Artist sound/video clips are available at the following links:

Tribu Baharu - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LI4HJUdVA1s>
Leo Sandoval - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2mXZaS5yEil>
Fendika - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B5UUjdebjYY>
Nakota LaRance - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6d24m7t8Sk>
Alash - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2uY-u9w07S4>
Shodekeh - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=caoz0xVLU9Y>
Gerardo Contino y Los Habaneros - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gCAwLhcTgts>
Nathalie Pires (after emcee) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aIQWxl75ks>
The East Pointers - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17kIDfqmLgk>
Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zgri3KmoLgA>
The Western Flyers - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLLVp6OdPA8>
Michael Mwenso & The Shakes - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DpTlj9DJO1U>
The National Women's Dance Troupe of Sri Lanka - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gHMnbtFxxOo>
The Treme Brass Band - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wx0LI4Qaalq>
The Jeff Little Trio - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3d-e9sA-tk>
Vishten - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KO1ZI14G-qk>
Erica Brown - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0WDKThTYxU>
Northern Kentucky Brotherhood Singers - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Z6LpTUMc24>
Bonsoir, Catin - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09oHTnp2ca8>
The Lurrie Bell Band - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiujMSlrN3s>