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August 16, 2017

12th annual River City Roots Fest Set for August 25-26, 2017

Downtown Missoula Festival Welcomes UM Students & More

The 12th Annual River City Roots Festival will hit the streets of Downtown Missoula Friday and Saturday, August 25-26, and this admission-free festival celebrates all that is amazing about Missoula, Montana.

The 2017 iteration of Roots Fest features the award-winning *John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band* as Friday night's headliner and New Orleans-native *Anders Osborne* as Saturday night's headliner. This year's lineup will also see the return of *Taj Weekes & Adowa* from the Caribbean Islands, returning to Missoula six years after making their initial appearance at Roots in 2011.

"This year's Roots Fest lineup showcases a wide variety of Americana music and showcases entertainers from all across the country," said Ellen Buchanan, Festival Chair, MDA Board Member and Director of the Missoula Redevelopment Agency. "From California to Maine, from the Caribbean Islands to Provo, Utah, our talent for this year's Music on Main is spectacular!"

The Main Stage will also feature one of Missoula's favorite – the Whizpops – as well as Missoula up-and-coming band Rotgut Whines. Additionally, both Tangled Tones and the ZACC will showcase some of their best kids' bands on the Main Stage Friday afternoon.

Roots Fest officially commences on Friday, August 25 at 11 am with the Family Fun Festival in Caras Park, the Art Show on Main Street, and the Food Court on Ryman Street. The Art Show is the largest ever with 35 different artists showcasing their work. Kids from Tangled Tones and the ZACC will perform Friday between 12 noon and 1:30 pm on Main Street.

Roots Fest is admission free and full of family-friendly fun thanks to support from more than 30 Missoula-area businesses that sponsor the event. The festival celebrates all Missoula has to offer, including exceptional arts and culture, healthy living, sustainability, and local food and beverages. Major sponsors include the Missoulia/Missoula.com, the Trail 103.3, Gecko Designs, Big Sky Brewing, Bob Wards Sports and Outdoors, Destination Missoula, and First Interstate Bank.

The festival also features a Four-Mile Fun Run, produced by Run Wild Missoula, on Saturday, Aug. 26. The race kicks off at 8:30 am and is sponsored by DJ & A, Farran Realty Partners, First Security Bank, and the Runner's Edge. The race will feature a new route for 2017 that will start at the intersection of East Main and Higgins and finish in Caras Park. The race will loop runners near Silver Park and the Old Sawmill District and then follow the Riverfront Trail to Caras Park. Folks can register today at rivercityrootsfestival.com, and all registration fees support the running club.

Festival-goers can bike, walk, and bus to Downtown Missoula, thanks to Zero-Fare Mountain Line, great bike parking, and trails and sidewalks throughout the community. Additionally, all public parking will be free of charge throughout Roots Fest weekend, thanks to the Missoula Parking Commission.

Food and beverages are available for sale at the festival. Those who are age 21 and older can purchase a wristband and a signature, reusable Roots Fest cup for \$8, and the first drink is free. Nearly twenty (20) local food vendors will be available for folks to purchase food both on Ryman Street and in Caras Park.

To support sustainable practices during the festival, Roots Fest has once again teamed up with Climate Smart Missoula and the City of Missoula to showcase simple actions that leave the festival, community, and planet cleaner, safer, and healthier. Initiatives such as eliminating straws at the Roots Fest Street Bars, having a carbon-neutral stage, selling reusable cups, and All-in-One Recycling bins are just a few of the sustainability initiatives this year. Green sponsors include HomeBase Montana, Mountain Line, NorthWestern Energy, and Territorial Landworks.

For more information, visit rivercityrootsfestival.com or call 406.543.4238.

Roots Fest 2017 Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2017

11 am-5 pm.....	FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL	Caras Park
11 am-7 pm.....	ART SHOW	Main Street
11 am-10 pm.....	FOOD COURT OPEN	Ryman Street
2-10 pm.....	STREET BARS OPEN.....	Main Street
12:00-10:30 pm	MUSIC ON MAIN.....	Main Street
6-8 pm.....	Family Friendly Friday.....	Top Hat Lounge
6-10 pm.....	Boys & Girls Club FAMILY CONCERT: <i>Letter B</i>	Caras Park

FRIDAY'S MAIN STAGE LINEUP

12:00-12:30pm	3 rd Capo Kids and Satellite Jacket	Main Stage
1:00-1:30pm	ZACC Rock Camp Band.....	Main Stage
2:30-4 pm	<i>Rotgut Whines</i>	Main Stage
4:30-6 pm.....	<i>Taj Weekes & Adowa</i>	Main Stage
6:30-8 pm.....	<i>Ryan Shupe & The Rubberband</i>	Main Stage
8:30-10:30 pm	<i>John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band</i>	Main Stage

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2017

8 am-1 pm	Saturday Markets	Downtown Missoula
8:30 am.....	FOUR-MILE RUN	East Main
10 am-3:30 pm.....	FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL	Caras Park
11 am-7 pm.....	ART SHOW	Main Street
12-10 pm.....	FOOD COURT OPEN	Ryman Street
12-10 pm.....	STREET BARS OPEN.....	Main Street
12:30-10:30 pm	MUSIC ON MAIN.....	Main Street

SATURDAY'S MAIN STAGE LINEUP

12:30-2 pm.....	<i>The Whizpops</i>	Main Stage
2:30-4 pm.....	<i>Malcolm Holcombe</i>	Main Stage
4:30-6 pm.....	<i>Ghost of Paul Revere</i>	Main Stage
6:30-8 pm.....	<i>The Band of Heathens</i>	Main Stage
8:30-10:30 pm	<i>Anders Osborne</i>	Main Stage

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2017

10am-5pm	Downtown "Roots Hang-Over" Sidewalk Sale.....	Downtown Retailers
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