

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Beth Haynes
404 543-7849
bethhaynes@mac.com
.jpg photos attached

DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL MUSIC LINE-UP **ATLANTA DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL RETURNS MAY 20 & 21 WITH** **LIVE MUSIC ON TWO STAGES –WIDE RANGE OF ACTS**

ATLANTA- The Atlanta Downtown Neighborhood Association (ADNA) has released the line-up of musical acts that will fill the two stages at this year's Atlanta Downtown Festival & Tour. As the Festival has grown in its five-year history, so has the quality and variety of the bands and solo artists that grace its stages over the two-day event.

Twenty-six acts ranging from jazz-fusion to gospel, R&B to rock, songwriters performing their own songs to standards from the 30's and 40's are coming together from throughout Georgia and the Southeast to perform live from 11 am to 7pm Saturday and noon to 6 pm on Sunday.

Musical acts include:

Bain Maddox – Athens-based band recently voted Best Singer Songwriter by Creative Loafing (photo attached)

Nunez – From Orlando, FL, this band rocks with melodic guitar and harmonic vocals.

Lockdown Band – Old school hits from the 70's and 80's that combine funk, jazz and soul (photo)

Vicki Blankenship – Acoustic rock musician from Gainesville who founded Indie Music for Life to raise money for cancer research

Az1 – a crowd favorite from the 2005 Festival, this talented and beautiful trio take upbeat R&B to an all new level.

The Monkey Butlers – this gypsy-jazz trio specializes in classic jazz, 30's and 40's swing: (photo)

Little Country Giants –Americana, Country and Delta blues

Complete line – up attached

The Atlanta Downtown Neighborhood Association presents the annual Atlanta Downtown Festival and Tour, a showcase of downtown life on May 20 and 21, 2006 in the Fairlie Poplar and Centennial Park districts of downtown Atlanta. The Association produces the arts festival and tour of downtown dwellings annually, after having launched the Festival in 2002 and taken responsibility for the tour started by Central Atlanta Progress in the mid 90's. This year's Festival takes a substantial step forward in the quality of its musical offerings as well as by initiating a juried artist market aimed at drawing some of the finest visual artists and crafts people in the Southeast.

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About the Festival and Tour

The Downtown Festival and Tour is a resident led event held on Walton, Broad and Poplar Streets in the heart of Fairlie Poplar and includes the artist's market, live music on two stages, a children's activity area, as well as the well-established tour of downtown homes. For eight years, CAP hosted one of the region's most popular home tours, The Downtown Tour of Lofts and Lifestyles. In 2002 the Atlanta Downtown Neighborhood Association launched a festival on the streets of the historic Fairlie Poplar district on the same weekend as the loft tour. In 2004, the two organizations banded together to produce the combined event, and in 2005, Central Atlanta Progress turned over the reins of the event to the neighborhood association.

This year's tour will feature more than a dozen lofts, condos and other unique living spaces on a walking tour in and around Fairlie Poplar and Centennial Olympic Park. The festival site in the heart of the district will include live entertainment on two stages beginning at noon each day, an artist market with more than 100 booths, a beer garden and other activities designed to showcase the vibrancy of downtown living. Some of the Southeast's finest visual artists will display their work at the Artists' Market. The children's area will let young artists create their own masterpieces and enjoy a series of artist-led hands-on activities and storytelling.

Overview

Atlanta Downtown Festival and Tour

May 20 and 21 2006

11 am to 7 pm on Saturday

12 pm to 6 pm on Sunday

Festival is FREE

Tour tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door

Tickets are available at The Container Store (Buckhead and Perimeter locations), the box office at Theatrical Outfit (84 Luckie Street – 678-528-1500) or on-line at www.atlantadna.org

Start the weekend off right by joining the Atlanta Downtown Neighborhood Association for the Festival Kick-off Party, Thursday May 18 at 6:30. Tickets are \$15. Purchase a combo ticket for \$25 and attend the Kick-off Party as well as the Festival and Tour.

Sponsors for the Festival include Target Stores, Novare ING, AMC America's Mart, The Georgia Council for the Arts, Sweetwater Brewing Co., Yellobee, VSA Georgia, Theatrical Outfit

For more information or the latest updates, log onto www.atlantadna.org

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