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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2015 Pittsburgh Blues Festival Announces World-class Lineup

Event celebrates 21 years of music and giving back

PITTSBURGH, PA (May 28, 2015)--Warm summer nights, great music and something for the whole family, The Pittsburgh Blues Festival, a benefit for Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, has become a summer favorite for two decades and, 2015 will be no different.

Gates opens Friday, July 24, 2015 at scenic Hartwood Acres (Hampton, PA) with headliner The Duke Robillard Band. Saturday night features Buddy Guy and the event closes on Sunday night with performances from Marsha Ball and Bobby Rush. In between, a host of local and national acts will fill two stages.

"This is going to be the most diverse, exciting Blues Festival we've had in a long time," said Ron "Moondog" Esser, chair of the Blues Festival committee. "This year's performers will merge legendary artists with newer groups that are establishing themselves on the scene resulting in a fresh mix of traditional and modern music."

The star-studded headliners represent an exciting mix of blues entertainment spanning many genres. Award-winning blues guitarist Duke Robillard has been praised for his ability to "play across the spectrum of blues" as well as his dedication to his craft. He has been nominated for the B.B. King International Artist of the Year award seven times and has collaborated with a large number of musicians including Tom Waits, Bob Dylan, Maria Muldaur, Dr. John and more.

Buddy Guy, one of the world's leading bluesmen, has been "keeping blues alive" since 1957. A Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, Guy has worked with several artists such as Steven Tyler, Kid Rock and Keith Urban as well as having been a driving influence for musicians such as Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton and Stevie Ray Vaughan.

On Sunday, singer/pianist Marcia Ball headlines alongside Bobby Rush. Ball's unique vocals feature a New Orleans and Gulf Coast R&B fusion that has helped her gain a loyal and steady following throughout a span of three decades. Rush's performances are known for featuring the grit, grind and soul that's been the blues innovator's trademark since the 1960s, when he stood shoulder to shoulder on the stages of Chicago with Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Little Walter and other giants.

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A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1 (800) 732-0999.



Schedule:

Friday

- Billy Price
- Dana Fuchs
- Headliner, The Duke Robillard Band

Saturday

- Jarekus Singleton
- New Breed Brass Band
- Headliner, Buddy Guy

Sunday

- Duane Dopsie and the Zydeco Hellraisers
- Selwyn Birchwood
- Headliners, Marcia Ball and Bobby Rush

Known for its mix of local bands and national headliners, the three-day event is family-friendly, offering food, merchandise, kids' activity tent and zero-waste recycling.

"While the focus of the Blues Festival will be the great music it has to offer, the organizing committee has gone out of its way to make sure that there is fun for all ages," said Food Bank Director of Community Engagement Alyssa Jurewicz-Johns. "This year's event will feature food trucks offering a variety of dining options, local beer and liquors, and children's activities that are fun and engaging."

Blues Festival Music feeds more than the soul

In 20 years, the festival has raised over 100,000 pounds of donated food and \$2 million for Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.

Friday's admission is free with a bag of nonperishable groceries. Advance tickets are \$38 for Saturday and \$20 for Sunday. Two-day weekend passes are also available.

For more information on tickets, volunteer opportunities with the Blues Festival or the Food Bank, visit www.pghblues.com.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Contact Alyssa at 412-460-3663, ext. 281.

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Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, a member of Feeding America, is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1980 that distributes more than 26 million pounds of food annually throughout a network that exceeds 400 member agencies across 11 counties in southwestern Pennsylvania. For more information on hunger in our region or how to get involved, visit www.pittsburghfoodbank.org.