

PRESS RELEASE SPECIFIC TO THE NEW RIVER VALLEY

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New River Valley Musicians Featured at Youth Music Festival

Abingdon, Va. – The Blackberries, The Floyd Jammers and Gravel Road will perform at the 3rd Annual Crooked Road Youth Music Festival. The festival takes place on Saturday, May 10, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Heartwood in Abingdon.

Twenty-five bands from Southwest Virginia will perform on two stages throughout the day, and an “Old Time Square Dance” will take place inside Heartwood from 5 to 7 p.m. The square dance will feature Shawn Brenneman, caller, and The Lee Highway String Band. All are welcome to participate!

“The festival is an opportunity for people to show support for young tradition bearers,” said Jonathan Romeo, The Crooked Road’s Program Manager. “It gives folks interested in the distinctive musical heritage of Southwest Virginia a way to encourage its future growth.”

Festival performers include Adam McPeak & Mountain Thunder, The Blackberries, The Butcher Family, Changing Lanes, Close Kin – Our Roots Run Deep, The Floyd Jammers, The Friendship Boys, Gravel Road, Honaker FFA Bluegrass Band, The Jamming Bobcats from Abingdon Elementary School, Kitty & The Stray Cats, Leigh Beamer, The Loose Strings Band, Mountain Music School String Band, Oh Brother Where Am I?, The Patterson Family, Pike City, Tori Bartfai, Travis Starkey & Cheryl Lunsford, Tyler Hughes, Valley Grass, The Yates Family Band, WiseJAMS–Coeburn, WiseJAMS–Big Stone Gap and WiseJAMS–Norton.

The Crooked Road Youth Music Festival is sponsored by Abingdon Convention and Visitors Bureau, Abingdon Olive Oil Company, First Bank & Trust Company, Heartwood, Highlands Union Bank, the National Endowment for the Arts, Pepsi Beverages Company, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, Virginia Commission for the Arts, the Wayne C. Henderson Scholarship Program and Wordsprint.

Heartwood: Southwest Virginia’s Artisan Gateway is located off I-81 at Exit 14 in Abingdon, VA, and features food, music and craft of Southwest Virginia. Admission to the festival is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children ages six to twelve. Children five and under are admitted free.

For more information, call (276) 492-2409 or email: info@thecrookedroad.org.

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The Blackberries perform at 4:15 p.m. and Gravel Road performs at 12:45 p.m. Please contact us if you need additional photos.