



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Dottie Osmun, Chair

Ol' Front Porch Music Festival, Inc.

dottieosmun@gmail.com

252-617-0540

Nonprofits to team with local restaurants to create 'Food Park' at Ol' Front Porch Festival

ORIENTAL, NC – Sept. 22, 2017 – What goes better with great music than delicious food? The Oriental Food Initiative has joined the Ol' Front Porch Music Festival team this year to create a special "Food Park" for music fans during the festival on Saturday, Oct. 7.

The Food Park will offer a wide variety of "grab and go" meals so festivalgoers won't miss a performance. Much of the food will come from cooperative ventures between local nonprofit organizations and local restaurants. The offerings will range from barbecue sandwiches, pizza, and chili, to rotisserie chicken, Caesar salad, seafood chowder and crab corn chowder. Vendors will also be offering fish and shrimp plates, grilled bratwurst, burgers, hot dogs, and fruit and desserts.

The Food Park will be located in Lou Mac Park from 11am to 5pm on Saturday. On Saturday morning from 8:30-10am, the Rotary Club of Oriental will offer a breakfast of egg/sausage biscuits, coffee and juice. For a complete list of the Food Park partners and vendors, go to olfrontporchmusicfestival.org.

The Festival, now in its fourth year, will feature the Tony Award-winning Red Clay Ramblers, and Dom Flemons, The American Songster, plus 27 other varied groups and solo artists performing on the porches of 18 Oriental homes and businesses. The Red Clay Ramblers, the nationally known North Carolina string band, will play on the Main Stage across from Lou Mac Park at 3 pm on Saturday, Oct. 7. Admission is free.

The festival opens at 4 pm on Friday, Oct. 6, with music on five porches around town, followed by a special Friday evening concert at The Old Theater, 609 Broad St. Grammy winner Dom

Flemons will perform starting at 7:30 pm. Tickets for this special event are \$20 per person and are available at Nautical Wheelers and Mariner Realty, or by calling 252-671-4643.

On Saturday, porch performances begin at 10 am and continue to 3 pm, followed by the Red Clay Ramblers on the Main Stage from 3-5pm. All porch performances and Main Stage concerts are free.

The music this year ranges from folk, Americana, and bluegrass, to country, gospel, blues, and jazz. Some favorite regional and local groups are returning to the festival this year, including Saltwater Gold, who will perform on the Main Stage on Saturday, Moore's Creek Bluegrass, Honey Magpie, Dennis Cash, Green Creek Bluegrass, Harbor Sounds, Salty Paws, and The Gospel Ensemble.

Among performers new to this year's festival are world-renowned guitarist Mojo Collins, Canadian alt-country singer-songwriter Melissa Plett, country singer Brittany Jean, MahaloJazz and the Pamlico High School Jazz Band. For more information about this year's music, go to olfrontporchmusicfestival.org and click on the Performers menu tab.

In addition to the Food Park, the festival will also feature a Village Market showcasing dozens of local and regional artisans and crafters. The Village Market will be located across from Lou Mac Park in the Main Stage area.

In other news, Ol' Front Porch Music Festival, Inc., is proud to announce that it is now officially a nonprofit with tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code. With the IRS designation, contributions to the Ol' Front Porch Music Festival are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. The corporation was formed to organize musical and educational events to support our region's diverse musicians, while also fostering economic vitality in Pamlico County, and bringing people of different racial and cultural backgrounds, young and old, together to perform and share their musical heritage.

Ol' Front Porch Music Festival, Inc., receives support from the Pamlico County Arts Council and the North Carolina Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources and the National Endowment for the Arts. The NCAC this year celebrates its 50th Anniversary. The Ol' Front Porch Music Festival has been selected for NCAC's 50th Anniversary events calendar.

For more information, including schedules, maps, performer bios, please visit olfrontporchmusicfestival.org

END