

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 24, 2009
EVENT DATE: AUGUST 13-16, 2009
Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival

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For Detailed Up-to-Date Festival Information, Visit www.DanEmmettFestival.org

Knox Idol Finalists to Perform at Festival

MOUNT VERNON – The 2009 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival will hold its 4th annual Knox Idol competition. It's that time of year to showcase local talent and find the top musical performers of Knox County.

The auditions were held at ThePlace@TheWoodward Thursday evening, July 24th. The Knox Idol finalists were selected by a panel of qualified judges – Bruce Jacklin, Leah Andrews, and Lynn Jurkowitz. The finalists selected in the 19-29 year old category are Jennifer Casner (Centerburg), Kurt Chaney (Martinsburg), Mary Vonck (Mount Vernon). Those chosen in the 14 to 18 year old category are Alex Ashbrook (Mount Vernon), Ally Black (Mount Vernon), KC Horn (Mount Vernon), Becka McCarthy (Howard). Video clips of each of the winning contestants will be available at DanEmmettFestival.org by August 1st.

The final competition will be held at the Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival on Friday, August 14th at 9:00 p.m. All finalists will perform and then be voted on by the audience at the event. Ballots, with two ballots sets, will be available for purchase for those wishing to vote for a \$1 donation, with all proceeds being donated to the Woodward Opera House restoration project. This year, the field of contestants will be narrowed to two in a preliminary performance, with each giving a second performance. The audience will then vote one last time to select the divisional winners and the runner-ups.

The first place winner for each age group will receive the Knox County Idol award and a cash prize. All finalists receive a Knox Idol commemorative etched clear glass mug.

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Highlights of this year's Festival will include performances by Sonny Geraci and The Outsiders, Phil Dirt & The Dozers, a wide variety of local musicians such as Kokosing River Surf Club, Autumn Daze, Sweet Adelines, Mount Vernon Heritage Singers, KnoxSquares, Knox Idol, as well as the popular Chautauqua program, a new motorcycle show, all with a wide variety of delicious foods for your tasting pleasure.

The 2009 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival runs August 13th – 16th in Downtown Mount Vernon with various activities each day. The 2009 Festival is made possible through the contributions of Ariel, First-Knox National Bank, Time Warner Cable, WMVO, Eagle 93, WNZR, I-Conn Video Productions, Mount Vernon News, the Knox Partnership for Arts & Culture, and the Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau. For additional information, contact the Festival at (740) 392-FEST (3378) or email at director@DanEmmettFestival.org.

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