

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 22, 2008**

**EVENT DATE: August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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**For Detailed Up-to-Date Festival Information, Visit [www.DanEmmettFestival.org](http://www.DanEmmettFestival.org)**

## **Knox Idol Finalists to Perform at Festival**

MOUNT VERNON – The Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival has announced the finalists for the third annual vocal music competition entitled “Knox Idol.” The 2008 contest is being sponsored by Ohio Rental.

The auditions were held at ThePlace@TheWoodward last Friday evening. The Knox Idol finalists were selected by a panel of qualified judges – Bruce Jacklin, Marcy Rinehart, and Jenney Murray. The finalists selected in the 19-29 year old category are Jason Beaver - Mount Vernon, Kenda Brand - Utica, Kurt Chaney - Martinsburg, and Chad DeBlasio - Fredericktown. Those chosen in the 14 to 18 year old category are Erin Bell - Mount Vernon, Shelby Gonzalez - Danville, KC Horn - Mount Vernon, and Becka McCarthy - Howard. Video clips of each of the winning contestants will be available at [DanEmmettFestival.org](http://DanEmmettFestival.org) by this Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>.

The final competition will be held at the Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival on Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 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 younger 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 – ***The Emmett*** - and a cash prize. All finalists receive a Knox Idol commemorative etched clear glass mug.

The 2008 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival will run August 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> in Downtown Mount Vernon with various activities each day. For information, contact the Festival at (740) 392-FEST(3378). For up to date scheduling information as the Festival draws closer, visit the Festival website at [www.DanEmmettFestival.org](http://www.DanEmmettFestival.org).

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