

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 5th, 2008

EVENT DATE: AUGUST 7th-10th, 2008

Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Pat Crow – Festival Director

Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival

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

21st Annual Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival Announces Lineup

MOUNT VERNON – The 2008 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival will be held in the streets of downtown Mount Vernon August 7th – 10th, marking the 21st year for the event. Named for Dan Emmett, the author of “Dixie”, the Festival's mission is “Celebrate the Legacy” of his life and career by presenting a varied format of performing and creative artists to Festival goers.

The Festival will begin on Thursday with the 4-day Homemades & Trades Show with local merchants, vendors, and crafters displaying their wares. Senior citizens are invited to spend “A Day on The Square” with special entertainment beginning at lunchtime with the Mount Vernon Players Youth Showcase taking to the stage. The afternoon will be filled with activities and music for our honored seniors. The evening theme will be “**Dance to the Oldies**” featuring The Caffiends at 7:00 p.m. - and then the Rock ‘n Roll rocks the stage when *Phil Dirt and the Dozers* step on at 8:30 p.m.

Friday’s theme is “**Stars & Stripes and Pearly Lights**”. The evening features one of the best youth bands in the USA - *The All-Ohio State Fair Band*. After the best musicians from the State of Ohio stir your patriotic spirit, the youth of Knox County will take the stage to compete for the title of **Knox Idol**. The Emmett award will be presented to the audiences choice at evenings end. In addition, the three day **Fine Arts & Craft Fair** opens featuring nationally known artisans, selected by a jury of their peers to assure the quality and originality of the arts products. Friday will also feature a Civil War Era Ball for the civil war buffs.

Saturday’s Festival theme will be “**Art, Bluegrass, Rock, and More**” for a fun filled day in Downtown Mount Vernon. The afternoon will feature area bluegrass performers and the traditional fiddle, banjo, and flat pick guitar contests. Later in the afternoon, many local singers will share their vocal talent with the crowd. Remembrances of the civil war era will begin with a flag honor guard to raise the flag on the Square at 10:00 am.

- more -

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An authentic civil war era parade will step off from the Square at 10:30 leading to the birthplace home of Dan Emmett on the banks of the Kokosing River. At 11:00 a.m., a Dan Emmett Dedication Ceremony will be held in honor of his contributions to American music. A living history exhibit and demonstrations will fill the afternoon at Emmett's home. And finally, at 9:30 p.m., ***Micky Dolenz of The Monkees*** will grace the stage to entertain young and old alike.

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Children activities this year will include a bouncing inflatable playland, **COSI “Science Spot”** (Saturday), the **Columbus Zoo** (Sunday), Veggies tales (Sunday), performances by dance students and karate kids, a Lip Sync Contest, and many other fun things.

On Sunday, the Festival will feature the theme **“Arts, Crafts, Gospel, & More.”** Kids activities continue with 3 separate shows featuring Veggie Tales at ThePlace@TheWoodward. The **Columbus Zoo** returns with their mobile zoo demonstration. The cars will line the street to participate in the **Antique and Classic Car Show**. The **Motorcycle Show** will be held on Sunday at the same time and as part of the Car Show. The registration for this event is from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The shows are open to the general public from Noon to 4:00 p.m. with an awards presentation for the favorites at 4:00 p.m. Kokosing River Surf Club and Autumn Daze will rock the Square throughout the shows. Also featured on the First-Knox South Stage will be the best in praise and pure gospel music during **“Gospel Sunday”**.

The 2008 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival runs August 7th-10th in Downtown Mount Vernon with various activities each day. Preferred seating is available for a modest fee for those wishing guaranteed seating to ***Micky Dolenz of The Monkees*** concert.

For general information, contact the Festival at (740) 392-FEST (3378). For detailed scheduling information, visit the Festival website at www.DanEmmettFestival.org. The 2008 Dan Emmett Music & Art Festival is made possible by the contributions of Ariel, First-Knox National Bank, Time Warner Cable.

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THANK YOU!

Please visit the Festival website at www.DanEmmettFestival.org for all Festival news releases.

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MEDIA RELEASES FOR 2008 DAN EMMETT MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL

Thursday - August 7th thru Sunday - August 10th, 2008

Version A – 80805

All of the following news releases and photo downloads
are available on our detailed website at
www.DanEmmettFestival.org

1. **Basic Overall** - Intro announcing line up (this news release)
2. ***Micky Dolenz of The Monkees*** Ticket Sales - Saturday
3. ***Micky Dolenz of The Monkees*** Headliner – Saturday
4. **Festival Bell Auction** – Saturday Night
5. **Phil Dirt and the Dozers Headliner** – Thursday
6. **All-Ohio State Fair Band** Returns - Friday
7. **Knox Idol** Competition - Friday
8. **Juried Arts and Crafts Show – 3 Days**
9. **Homemades & Trades Show** – All 4 days
10. **UPI 5 Mile Run & Walk** - Saturday
11. **Civil War Parade & Living History** – Saturday
12. **Dan Emmett Dedication Ceremony** - Saturday
13. **Woodward Opera House** Historic Tours – Saturday & Sunday
14. **Antique and Classic Car Show** - Sunday
15. **Motorcycle Show** - Sunday
16. **Lip Sync Contest** - Saturday
17. **Gospel Sunday** - Sunday
18. **VeggieTales for the Kids** – Sunday
19. **Cheerleader Competition** - Saturday
20. **New! – A Day on the Square – for Seniors** - Thursday
21. **Food Concessions** - All 4 days
22. **Special Micky Dolenz Auction** Items Announced - Saturday
23. **Street Closings** during the Festival
24. **Handicap Accessable Parking** during the festival