

River Roots Live Announces Lineup

Written by Jason Gilliland
Friday, 15 June 2012 12:18

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Better Than Ezra, Los Lobos, and Keller Williams with the Travelin' McCourys Headline RRL

River Roots Live is the Quad-Cities' premiere music festival featuring top national bands and barbeque and it returns for its eighth year in downtown Davenport's LeClaire Park August 17 & 18! Admission to the park each day is only \$5 after 5 p.m. and FREE from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Better Than Ezra, Los Lobos, and Keller Williams with the Travelin' McCourys will headline River Roots Live's 17 bands with support from a strong lineup of outstanding national artists including Julia Nunes, The Nighthawks, Eric Sardinas, Joe Robinson, The Steepwater Band, The Congress, Maps & Atlases, Quiet Corral, and Family Groove Company. The Quad Cities' own talent will also be on display when American Dust, Jason Carl Band, The Low Down, and the Jordan Danielsen & The Great Space Coasters take the stage. Two more acts will be announced soon. Keller Williams with the Tavelin' McCourys will headline Friday night and Better Than Ezra and Los Lobos will anchor the Saturday lineup.

To say the past 20 years have been 'Good' for New Orleans-based rock band Better Than Ezra would be an understatement. The band had been selling out venues across the country since forming at Louisiana State University in 1988 where the band started touring on the Southern college circuit. After self-releasing their first album Deluxe in 1993, major record labels expressed an interest in the band. But it wasn't until after two years of touring and creating an intense loyal fan base that dubbed themselves the "Ezralites," that Better Than Ezra signed with Elektra Records. Elektra rereleased Deluxe and its single 'Good' which reached the #1 position on the Hot Modern Rock Tracks chart driving the album sales to platinum status.

Los Lobos' lineup has remained uninterrupted since 1984, when saxophonist/keyboardist Steve Berlin joined original members Pérez, Hidalgo, Rosas and Lozano, each of whom had been there since the beginning in 1973. More than three decades have passed since Los Lobos released their debut album, Just Another Band from East L.A. Since then they've repeatedly disproven that title—Los Lobos isn't "just another" anything, but rather a band that has consistently evolved artistically while never losing sight of their humble roots. The band is a rare example of longevity in a volatile music world that stresses style over substance,

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Keller Williams is known as one of the most innovative solo singer/songwriters of this generation. The Travelin' McCourys are the latest incarnation of the most awarded band in the history of bluegrass. What happens when the two join forces? With Keller Williams and The Travelin' McCourys, fans will see Keller playing his music with one of the best live bands

on the touring circuit. McCoury fans, used to seeing the boys tour with Del McCoury in the lead, will now get to see them playing their songs with Keller on guitar. It's a perfect marriage of instrumental virtuosos, memorable songwriting, infectious musical camaraderie, and undeniable energy.

"We're excited to bring yet another talented and diverse lineup to the festival this year," said Kyle Carter, Director, Downtown Davenport Partnership. Our headliners have both well known hit songs and critical acclaim from diehard music fans; meanwhile, the full lineup also features young national acts making a big impression like Julia Nunes. Of course, the Quad Cities has no shortage of its own top-notch bands that will take the stage, too."

For less than the price of an adult beverage at some festivals (or for FREE), you can hear more than six hours of music. That's either only 71 cents an hour or nothing at all!

It wouldn't be River Roots Live without Rivbest BBQ! Get hungry for your favorite mouth-watering national and local Ribfest barbeque vendors, too! This isn't your neighbor burning some hotdogs and calling it BBQ. Our vendors travel the nation and represent the top tier of professional BBQ cooks in the United States. BBQ doesn't get much better than this. So loosen your belt, and we suggest trying every single one of 'em throughout the weekend.

The West Music Jr. Jam Tent will offer fun educational workshops for kids and performances from the River Music Experience's Rock Camp bands. Living Lands & Waters will be present throughout the weekend sharing information regarding how to join their river cleanup efforts.

With an estimated 30,000 attendees in 2012, River Roots Live has continued to grow every year since its inception in 2005. With that in mind, additional vendors and beverage tents will be added to the fest this year. For complete details regarding band bios and festival activities, please visit www.RiverRootsLive.com.

Produced by the Downtown Davenport Partnership, a division of Quad Cities Chamber, River Roots Live is supported by partners Living Lands & Waters and the River Music Experience – all nonprofit organizations. River Roots Live is proud to help promote music education programs at the River Music Experience, environmental clean-up efforts on the Mississippi River by Living Lands & Waters, and the growth of historic downtown Davenport.

River Roots Live is presented by Rhythm City Casino and Riverboat Development Authority. Major Sponsors include U.S. Cellular, Nerdwerx, Mediacom, 97X, Budweiser, The Quad-City Times, WQAD Channel 8, and West Music. Please visit www.RiverRootsLive.com to see the complete list of our generous community sponsors!