



For Immediate Release:

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Meridian, MS (February 15, 2019) - The annual Jimmie Rodgers Music Festival is pleased to announce details for the 2019 Jimmie Rodgers Music Festival. The festival begins Thursday, May 2 and will be hosted at a variety of downtown venues thanks to partnerships with many downtown organizations, including the MAX, the City of Meridian, and the Meridian Temple Theatre.

The festival began in 1953 with the Jimmie Rodgers' Day, which attracted more than 50,000 attendees, and has provided live music entertainment by premier musicians throughout the years. Due to his influence on all genres of American music and the rich legacy he left behind, the Jimmie Rodgers Music Festival has a unique opportunity to draw a wide regional – and even international – audience. “Through thoughtfully-planned promotional and operative efforts, the festival has grown to incorporate diverse music acts which represent the many genres of American music influenced by Jimmie Rodgers and will continue to prove itself as a major contributor to tourism and have a positive economic impact for our state,” says Jimmie Rodgers Foundation board president Ed Snodgrass.

We are looking forward to a great weekend of music and fellowship from May 2nd through May 4th, 2019. The festival includes live performances by renowned music artists, thanks to our partnership with Ardenland and TK Productions, two of Mississippi’s premier music promoters. We are proud to partner with our outstanding local venues.

Back by popular demand, we are excited to kick off the festival on Thursday night, May 2, at the MAX with **Saint Paul and the Broken Bones**. Opening for Saint Paul will be **Los Coast**. The weekend continues on Friday night, May 3, with our partners at the MAX with the annual gala with returning musical artist, **The Compositionz**. Tickets may be purchased at www.msarts.org.

Saturday morning, May 4 the Foundation will begin a new partnership with Earth’s Bounty and the Radio People to host our annual Jimmie Rodgers Talent Competition at Singing Brakeman Park. The event will be followed Saturday evening at the Temple Theatre with an opening performance by returning Nashville artist **Paul Burch** promoting his album “Meridian Rising.” Paul was one of our most popular acts last year. Rounding out the festival Saturday night, May 4, will be a long overdue performance by Meridian’s own **Steve Forbert**. Steve is an inductee into the Mississippi Music Hall of Fame. In addition to Steve’s

Grammy Nominated tribute album to Jimmie Rodgers, he will also perform releases from his new album "The Magic Tree."

We are excited to announce that in 2019 the Foundation will be opening the Jimmie Rodgers Museum in its new location at Singing Brakeman Park on Front Street in the historic REA Depot Building. With the revitalization of downtown Meridian, our plan is to promote Meridian by continuing to utilize the incredible venues that Meridian has to offer.

For ticket information visit jimmierodgers.com

Jimmie Rodgers Foundation Board

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