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The Manzanita Music Festival is produced by, from left, Marci Russo, Dawn Lind and Beth Carter-Boyer.

make this a beach festival for the ages.

Carter-Boyer promises no one will go home disappointed.

“We’ve got some amazing acts lined up,” she says. “This area is home to a plethora of incredible musicians, artists who are mentors.”

Bands include many well-known Oregon favorites, as well as a couple national recording artists. Looking at the roster, the only problem one might have is finding the time to see them all: Kate and the Crocodiles (featuring Gavin Bondy of Pink Martini), Julie Amici, Jenny Don’t and the Spurs, Maggie and the Katz, The Sextones, Sol Seed, and The Junebugs are just a few.

That makes for a pretty killer lineup for a first-time festival.

“At first we were recruiting bands,” Carter-Boyer says. “Musicians all know each other, and the word got out.”

Plus, organizers of the Portland Waterfront Blues Festival have been mentoring the Manzanita team, something Carter-Boyer says gave their efforts serious gravitas, not to mention invaluable advice. “We tried to find people who had been down this road before,” Carter-Boyer says.

She hints that there are also a few surprise guests

slated to perform, though attendees won’t know who until they hit the stage.

While many of the acts are higher profile, there will be space set aside for local musicians to introduce themselves to a wider audience.

The idea of multi-genre artists inspiring one another is one of the festival’s key components. All of the musicians are excited to come to the beach, see who’s at the festival and, of course, play.

“We want to bring emerging artists out to work and collaborate with established artists,” Carter-Boyer says. “It’s something they all want to do, not something they’re doing just for a paycheck.”

MANZANITA MUSIC FESTIVAL

1 to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 23

1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, July 24

Main stage: Division Street and Laneda Avenue

Second stage: Third Street and Laneda Avenue

Food and kids area: North Fifth Street and Laneda Avenue

manzanitamusicfestival@gmail.com

No alcohol, coolers, chairs or dogs are allowed at the two stages, but leashed dogs are allowed in the food and kids area

Free admission

VOLUNTEER

The Manzanita Music Festival still needs volunteers in many capacities, such as crowd control, security, information, recycling and more. For more information, contact Karen McCarty at 503-440-4055.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Eugene band Sol Seed adds elements of rock, hip-hop, soul, world music and psychedelic jam to its reggae foundation.



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY JOHN ALCALA/BLUESJOHNPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

North Coast favorite Maggie & The Kats, featuring vocalist Maggie Kitson, will bring its blues sound to the Manzanita Music Festival.

‘A REAL FESTIVAL’

This isn’t just a few bands gathered together in a dusty parking lot or sidewalk with a single battered amp.

Held on multiple stages throughout Manzanita, the layout encourages attendees to wander and take it all in, extending up and down Laneda Avenue. One stage will be set up at Third Street and Laneda, and a main stage will be at the Hoffman Gardens near the top of Laneda Avenue, next door to the North Tillamook Library.

A third venue, located in the parking lot of Cascade Realty where the weekly farmers market is held, will be a non-music area featuring a massage booth, food vendors, regional wine and beer

vendors, and a first aid station hosted by the Rinehart Clinic. The space will also host a Kids Zone with activities for kids such as face painting, dancing, yoga and sing-alongs. There will also be a drum circle with The Tsunami Drummers.

As if all that wasn’t enough, after-parties will commence at Manzanita Lighthouse Pub & Grub and the San Dune Pub.

It won’t cost you an arm and a leg to find your groove; admission to the festival is free. In keeping with the spirit of making this a community event, donations of canned food for the North County Food Bank as well as monetary donations for the festival will be accepted. Proceeds will go toward running the festival and funding various local outreach programs, such as the Mudd-Nick Foundation and Tillamook Secret Angels, as well as organizations that make music education accessible to children in local schools.

Portland-based photographer Anthony Pigeon, who has worked with rock ‘n’ roll royalty such as David Bowie and Steven Tyler, will be on hand to film the festival, something that Carter-Boyer says gives the event an exciting high-quality aspect.

“Everyone involved putting this together is a professional and is just fantastic,” Carter-Boyer says. “This is a real festival.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Julie Amici, fresh off a gig at the Portland Waterfront Blues Festival, will bring jazz vocals and upright acoustic bass to Manzanita. The group is a collaboration between Julie Yanko and Dean Mueller.

LOOKING AHEAD

The close-knit community of Manzanita — residents and merchants alike — has embraced the festival and offered a variety of support, everything from sponsorships to property use.

“I can’t say enough how grateful we are for all the support, merchants, city council, everyone,” Carter-Boyer says.

With that outpouring of support, she sees the festival’s potential as nearly limitless. She already envisions adding more days, venues and bands to future festivals.

There’s also the possibility of using the festival to celebrate other artistic endeavors.

“We’d like to integrate

more art into the festival,” she says. “I’d love to see sculpture outside, see more color, just some really visual things.”

For now, organizers’ wish-list for the inaugural event is pretty simple: Get the first year under their belts, have everything go smoothly and not have too many things happen at once.

So don’t be shy, shake the dust off the ol’ air guitar, find a dance partner, and hold those lighters high and proud. Rock ‘n’ roll is alive and well on the North Coast.

For additional questions on the music schedule, admission or T-shirt purchases, email manzanitamusicfestival@gmail.com