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Additional Performers Announced for 2018 American Folk Festival

Annual 3-day festival set for end of August on the Bangor Waterfront

BANGOR, MAINE – The American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront has released the second wave of artists scheduled to appear at the three-day event in August. Genres released today include Juke Joint Swing, a cappella Gospel, Bluegrass, and Hip Hop Dance.

“As the American Folk Festival has evolved over the past fifteen-plus years, so has the variety of music featured,” said American Folk Festival executive director Heather McCarthy. “This festival continues to pride itself on bringing top-notch performances that – in some cases – cannot be seen anywhere else in our state. But in the first nine performers announced so far, I would say that our variety of quality acts is incredibly wide ranging. And we’re not done yet.”

The artists announced today are:

Wayne “The Train” Hancock (Juke Joint Swing) blends honky-tonk, western swing, blues, Texas rockabilly and big band to create a sound that has brought crowds to the conclusion that he is the undisputed king of Juke Joint Swing. Hancock began writing songs at the age of 12 and now has 12 albums since his debut in 1995. Hancock’s website describes him as “the embodiment of genuine, house rocking, hillbilly boogie.”

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VhKw9dcJaYc>

The Fairfield Four (a cappella Gospel) might be best known for their appearance on the soundtrack and on-screen appearance in “O Brother Where Art Thou,” though the Grammy Award winning group’s presence is much more than what is seen and heard in the film. The Fairfield Four have existed as a group for nearly 100 years, known for singing a traditional African American a cappella gospel style. The group has been featured on a John Fogerty album and was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1999.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QZY5R-hsMgo>

Jeanette & Johnny Williams (Bluegrass) have played and sung bluegrass all over the world for nearly 30 years. Jeannette has performed with the likes of Ralph Stanley, Alison Krauss, and Larry Sparks, and Johnny is a powerful singer and songwriter who has performed with soul and blues bands before returning to his roots to perform bluegrass. The married duo perform independently and together, creating a force of musical collaboration and inspiration.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQCBF3C9ZWM>

The Floorlords (Hip Hop Dance) uses the positive aspect of hip hop dance to reach and empower young people world wide. The Floorlords have performed for nearly 40 years and have focused on the positive impact of dance, specifically helping inner city and local youth to understand how to direct their energy toward positivity.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D37tINATHK4>

The American Folk Festival is set for August 24 – 26 on the Bangor Waterfront, with the first major fundraiser of the year – Color Bangor 2018 – scheduled for May 12. The cost is \$50 for adults through the day of the race. Individuals can register for Color Bangor at <http://ColorBangor.AmericanFolkFestival.com>.

The acts announced today join other artists in the genres of Blues, Irish, Quebecois, Puerto Rico Salsa, and New Orleans Ragtime. Additional performers covering a range of cultures and genres will be announced later in the Spring.

About the American Folk Festival:

The American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront is in its 17th year and celebrates the roots, the richness and the variety of American culture through music, dance, traditional crafts, storytelling and food. The Festival is supported entirely by public donations that make it possible to continue to present the Festival in our community.

For more information about the 2018 American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront, please visit www.americanfolkfestival.com or call [207-262-7763](tel:207-262-7763).

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