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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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American Folk Festival Needs Volunteers

3-day festival in late August runs on the efforts of volunteers

BANGOR, MAINE – The American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront has announced an immediate need for volunteers to orchestrate a successful 2017 festival.

"In years past, this festival has required around 800 volunteers to pull off a flawless festival" said American Folk Festival executive director Heather McCarthy. "This year, we are a little more than a month away and we only have about 25 percent of the volunteers we need. We're asking this community to try volunteering if they haven't [already](#), or to revisit volunteering if you have done it before. It's incredibly rewarding and fun, and the sum of all the parts creates a festival that is earning praise around the world."

Praise for the American Folk Festival recently came in via Conde Nast Traveller's *Best Festivals Around the World*, including the 3-day festival on the prestigious list alongside other big name events like Lollapalooza in Chicago, Puck Fair in Ireland, The Helsinki Festival in Finland and Burning Man in Nevada.

"The reason The American Folk Festival has become a 'must-see' is because of the efforts of volunteers," said Festival board chair Rick Fournier. "We hear time and time again from artists, visitors, and locals alike that this festival is a top-notch world class event. As a Mainer, I'm proud that it attracts so much attention, praise, and talent to the Bangor waterfront. But the need right now is for volunteers to keep it running smoothly."

Volunteers can sign up for shifts as short as a couple of hours, or for the entire weekend. Responsibilities can include anything from backstage support to being a member of the famed "Bucket Brigade," encouraging donations from festival-goers to keep the American Folk Festival as a no-admission event.

“The term ‘volunteer’ can sometimes be saddled with ‘work,’” said McCarthy. “And there’s no doubt about it...there is work involved. But it’s fun work. Many of our volunteers return because it’s such a good time, and there’s a lot of pride that goes along with this festival. But now that we’re in the sixteenth year of this festival, it’s a good time to seek a new wave of volunteers to ensure that the American Folk Festival continues to be of the quality and caliber that people have come to expect in Bangor.”

People interested in volunteering for the American Folk Festival should call the office at [207.262.7765](tel:207.262.7765), or online at www.americanfolkfestival.com.

About the American Folk Festival:

The American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront is scheduled for August 25th, 26th, and 27th, 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 2017 American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront, please visit www.americanfolkfestival.com or call [207-262-7765](tel:207-262-7765).