

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Home County Folk Festival Fuses Talent for 2009

London, ONTARIO – Home County Folk League is gearing up for yet another dynamic year for the Home County Folk Festival's 36th anniversary to be held in Victoria Park, London, Ontario between July 17 – July 19, 2009. The theme this year is: ***Experience The Fusion*** which epitomizes the 35 year history of the festival's first patrons, their children and now grandchildren as generations come together in one celebratory FREE admission music and arts festival. Over the years, the different styles of folk music have evolved with younger generations. This year's festival will fuse the sounds of traditional and contemporary styles of folk with the new genres of today's younger generations.

Catherine McInnes, the Artistic Director stated, "Programming independent Canadian artists to attract diverse demographics is a wonderful creative challenge. There is no shortage of talent to choose from, and I'm thrilled about the potential for new artistic collaborations with this year's line-up."

With 5 stages across the park, you'll experience a wide selection of some of Canada's best musicians in contemporary folk, indie folk/rock, blues, bluegrass, roots, and east coast cultures with stages dedicated to different genres throughout the weekend.

INDOOR CONCERT SERIES:

To kick-start the festival, Home County hosts an indoor concert series to fundraise for the FREE festival in Victoria Park. On **Friday, April 17, 2009** The Home County Folk League presents **Ndidi Onukwulu** at Aeolian Hall 8:00pm. Tickets are available online at www.aeolianhall.ca and at Grooves, L'Atelier Grigorian, The Village Idiot and The Aeolian Box Office 519 672 7950. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

Ndidi Onukwulu is a blues, soul singer and as quoted by the Detroit Metro Times, "...this is what a real soulstress sounds like". Her album "The Contradictor" was nominated for a JUNO in the Roots & Traditional Solo category.

Another indoor concert will be **A Tribute to Bruce Cockburn, 8:00pm Friday, May 15, 2009** featuring Jason Fowler, Catherine McInnes, Andy Shepperd, and Jennifer Thorpe at Aeolian Hall. There will also be a fundraising silent auction. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Tickets are available with credit card online at www.aeolianhall.ca or at The Aeolian Box Office 519 672 795 - cash only at Grooves, L'Atelier Grigorian and The Village Idiot.

PERFORMER LINE-UP FOR 2009 INCLUDES:

Murray McLauchlan, Jill Barber, Matthew Barber, The Sadies, Elliott Brood, Danny Michel, Anne Lindsay, Little Miss Higgins, Troy MacGillivray, The Good Lovelies, David Essig, Dust Poets, Betty & The Bobs, The Undesirables, Alistair Brown, David Leask, Jory Nash, Mike Stevens and Lindsay Jane and includes local artists Allison Brown, Paul Langille, Andy Magoffin, New Cumberland, Fraser, and Sam Hurrie. (plus a few more to come)

The festival opens with a special tribute set to Jackie Washington featuring Paul Langille & David Essig, long-time musical friends of Jackie's, in honour of Jackie's priceless contribution to the festival.

The festival also has a large artistic component with over 150 juried Canadian craft artisan displays, a large variety of over 30 food vendors, retail vendors and a vibrant expanded children's area with musical performances, craft demonstrations and a play area.

Having recently won the **Festival and Events Top 100 designation**, 2009 is sure to please the community and tourists of all ages. Once Victoria Park closes for the evening, the festival has once again expanded to include late night venues on Friday and Saturday nights into the festival with performances at The Aeolian and The London Music Club.

Home County Folk League is a non-profit volunteer driven organization which provides artists the ability to showcase their talents in the folk based tradition. More information can be found at www.homecounty.ca for more details.

For more information please contact:

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