MEDIA ALERT:
June 7, 2013

For immediate release:
Through June 22, 2013

For more information:
Laura Lieberman, 770/949-2787
Wayne Foster, 404/573-7826

2013 SURF FEST –
Ten Bands in Ten Hours & More…

Douglasville, Georgia – On Saturday, June 22nd, from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m., the Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County, Inc., partners with Foster Productions, Inc., to present our second annual music festival in Douglasville --- 2013 SURF FEST, showcasing ten bands in ten hours including Caroline & The Ramblers, Surge!, Gravitron, The Monterreys, Kill Baby…Kill, The Mystery Men?, Strato Geezer, and The High Fidelics. This free day-long event on the O’Neal Plaza in historic downtown Douglasville features good food from a variety of food trucks and food vendors, a beer garden sponsored by Atlanta Beverage Company, lots of activities for children, and plenty of surf music. SURF FEST is free and open to the general public. Listeners are reminded to bring their own chairs.

“Bands from all over the United States perform in this event,” stated festival founder Wayne Foster who moved to Douglas County three years ago. “In the past, Foster Productions had produced SURF FEST in Clarkston, Georgia, but now with our partnership with the Cultural Arts Council we can offer the Douglasville community a unique opportunity to hear great surf music. We are especially proud that this year we have a major media sponsor in Garage71, an online radio station that reaches the gearhead community with a million listeners statewide!”

“Our first Surf Fest last year had incredible musicians,” commented Laura C. Lieberman, Executive Director of the Cultural Arts Council. “Unfortunately, that day broke all heat records in Georgia, and it was 110 on O’Neal Plaza…This year we expect a much cooler event, and we hope everyone will come out – we will have great kid’s activities, wonderful vendors, and of course terrific music. Wayne really knows his music, and through his network we are bringing great bands in from Alabama, Tennessee, Florida, North Carolina, Ohio, and Georgia. Beyond the music, there will be a wading pool and a sand beach for the younger crowd, ‘mister stations’ to cool off the older set, and lots of festival food and other vendors, and activities (like the hula competitions) for everyone in the family.”

The Cultural Arts Council is also offering a fun festival kick off party, Tiki Taki, at the Chamber of Commerce through a new partnership with its Young Professionals, on Friday, June 21st, from 6 until 9 p.m. The Mutations and The AmpFibians will be performing; tropical beverages and surfside appetizers will be served; tickets are available at the Chamber and the Cultural Arts Center for $15 per person ($12 CAC and Chamber members).

THE CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL OF DOUGLASVILLE/DOUGLAS COUNTY
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MORE ABOUT THE 2013 SURF FEST BANDS

The AmpFibians (Cincinnati, OH)
The AmpFibians emerged from the primordial ooze performing and recording original music. Guided by cosmic vibes and a driving hunger for reverb, they found surf rock to be the perfect habitat. Soaring guitar, uplifting melody, relentless groove, and reverb is how they describe their music.

Caroline & The Ramblers (Atlanta, GA)
Caroline & the Ramblers have been a mainstay in the Atlanta music scene for years. They are a true Americana quartet who mix Rockabilly, Country and a bit of Swing Blues, providing a sound steeped deep in the roots of Americana music. Led by vocalist Caroline Engel, their versatility is evident to everyone who has seen them perform.

Crazy Aces (Nashville, TN)
This band created to celebrate the excitement and joy of making instrumental music with a 60's psycho surf, eleki, twang fuzz informed sound.

Gemini 13 (Marietta, GA)
Gemini 13 came together in the late summer of 2012 after Bill and Enrico (aka Klaatu and Osato) came to know each other through their association at other work and discovered their common interest in surf music. After playing around with recording tracks in their ersatz studio, they decided the world would be a substantially better place if there existed just one more surf band from the South. A couple of false starts led them to Lester and Bobby (aka Lestredamous and Savante), who agreed with this approach, sharing their interest and bringing with them their years of experience. The band, now known as Gemini 13, evolved with the generous support of friends and associates who have become known collectively as the Sub-Orbitals, without whom things would be demonstrably less interesting.

Gravitron (Columbia, SC)
At first, Gravitron existed as a technological monster - all tubes and wires. But by 1939, manufacturers began to market it as a piece of fine furniture. To own a gravitron was prestigious. It was something to brag about, but now it (aka Mr. Fulmer, Mr. Nuzum, Mr. Steppling and Mr. Woods) has evolved into a great band performing “instrumental indie/surf/reverb-soaked madness,” combining technology and old world surf. “You'll be listening and ask yourself, "Whoa! What was that???,” followed closely with "Whoa! What was that?!?!?"

The High Fidelics (Birmingham, AL)
Playing early sixties and instrumental surf music, this retro-fresh all-instrumental band will make you feel like you’re basking on a California beach, hanging out in a no-wave NYC club, and eating grits at a Memphis soul club -- all at the same time. The High Fidelics, like many other inspiring things these days, came about as a result of an advertisement on craigslist.com. Jeff Waites wanted to start a surf band and was looking for musicians to collaborate. Jeff had been in numerous groups throughout the 1990's in and around Birmingham. Fortunately for Jeff, Edwin Cleverdon saw that ad and answered it. At the same time Lars Esperson who had just moved to Alabama from New York City also contacted Jeff through the same ad. Edwin, Jeff and Lars got together with a drummer that Jeff knew and started the group. The first drummer didn't work out so Edwin suggested they contact Ken Adams. Edwin knew Ken Adams because the two had been in the group Club Wig in Tuscaloosa in the mid 80's.

KILL, BABY…KILL! (Anniston, AL)
Visions of the apocalypse, filtered through the reverb-drenched sounds of the early 1960’s surf explosion, with a backdrop of 1980’s hardcore/punk… That is the most vivid and accurate description of KILL, BABY…KILL! that can be made. With equal parts love of artists such as Eddie and the Showman, Dick Dale, Fugazi and Sonic Youth, KILL, BABY…KILL! has created a sound that both stands out and sits quite comfortably within the current 4th Wave Surf Revival. Combining the instrumental rock of the early 1960’s and the drive-in horror culture of the 1950’s, KILL, BABY…KILL! delivers a brand of instrumental madness unmatched in the current music scene. While their claims of being resurrected shine runners from the late 50’s Alabama is best left for debate among fans, what cannot be disputed is that when Kill, Baby…Kill! first unleashed their reverb-drenched music to modern audiences in late 2010, the rock scene was never to be the same. Their live shows are an audio and video assault that blurs the line between live performance and Hollywood horror.
The Monterreys (Charlotte, NC)
With a wink and a nudge, through the past and into the distant beyond, The Monterreys will sweep you into their sonic spectrum of sound and transform you back to another time -- or perhaps forward into another galaxy. Their reverb-drenched, six-string mayhem, courtesy of guitarist Johnny "Rocket" Stewart, with the driving raucous rhythms of Jason Dickey matched in fury by crazed bassist Leon Daniel, form a wall of virgin and vintage voodoo music to create HEAVY SURF. Sinister and sweet sounds merge, and The Monterreys will have listeners champing at the bit to get up and boog-a-loo! Be ready to have the time of your life with this great band.

The Mutations (Knoxville, TN)
Dick Dale, Beach Boys, Bo Diddley, Man or Astroman, Ventures, Ramones, Jan and Dean, are all bands who have influenced The Mutations. For two years The Mutations (including Tommy Goss, Harold Heffner and Joel Thompson) have brought the coast to the landlocked, picking up some well-deserved acclaim along the way. From its surf rock sound to its projected stage backdrops and recorded intros taken from '60s beach movies, The Mutations transport audiences not only to a sun-soaked summer locale but to a bygone era. Using surf riffs as a jumping-off point, The Mutations’ catalog incorporates everything from instrumental surf guitar tunes to sitcom cover medleys but is most recognizable by its crisp, precisely executed, three-part doo-wop-style harmonies reminiscent of The Beach Boys or Weezer’s better days. While many aspiring bands seem overly fearful of “pigeonholing” themselves or creating a distinct sound, The Mutations have established a well defined style without creative limits. Having performed in nearly every venue in Knoxville, the act looks to increase its emphasis on out-of-town romps, and we are glad to have them in Douglasville this year.

The Mystery Men? (Atlanta, GA)
Formed from the far corners of the Atlanta music scene, these shadowy figures (Mr. JaGa, guitar; Mr. RiHa, guitar; Mr. JaWa, bass; and Mr. TeBa, drums) play their own brand of ‘reverb-y instro’ surf music. Always with a mind toward the creative, The Mystery Men? are continuously looking to hypnotize new and old fans alike!

The Novarays (Orlando, FL)
This traditional instro-surf band has been providing surf music for the masses since 2003. Great guitar work and rhythmic drums combined with their stylish presence makes them unforgettable. These players -- Lewis Bailey, Geno Katko, Fred Kramer, Pierre Andre, Tripp Andre and Randy Bushee -- have a powerful punk energy with a real edge, along with a clean reverberated sound. As they recently demonstrated as the opener for the master Dick Dale at his Orlando show in April, the Novarays are a real asset to the surf music scene.

The SURGE! -- Eddie Katcher (aka John McCorvey, lead guitar), Mitch Matrix (aka Mike Mitchell, bass), Woody J (aka Jack Booth, rhythm guitar), and Link Missing (aka John Ladshaw, drums) have played all over the USA --and on beaches by both oceans as well. From the East Coast Surfing Championships in Virginia Beach to the Huntington Beach Pier in SoCal, they have opened for such notables as The Beach Boys, Delbert McClinton, Cracker, The Blue Jays, The Cigar Store Indians and many others -- and headlined many, many shows as well.

StratoGeezer (Norcross, GA)
Rob Kaufman, Mike Perez and Thom Brewer form a mind-blowing instrumental surf trio. Heavily influenced by the early early '60s sounds of bands like The Ventures, Dick Dale, and Link Wray, they have created a unique, dance-able good-time sound. Don’t miss them in Douglasville.
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CALENDAR LISTINGS: CONCERTS

TITLE: SURF FEST


PLACE: O’Neal Plaza in Downtown Douglasville

DATE: June 22, 2013

TIME: 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

COST: Free and open to the public

CONTACT: Laura Lieberman, 770.949.2787
Wayne Foster, 404.573.7826

Photographs available upon request.

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CALENDAR LISTINGS: CONCERTS

TITLE: TIKI TAKI
        SURF FEST Festival Kick Off

PERFORMERS: The AmpFibians & The Mutations

PLACE: Chamber of Commerce of Douglas County
       6658 Church Street, Douglasville

DATE: June 21, 2013

TIME: 6 – 9 p.m.

COST: $15 to the general public ($12 for CAC and Chamber members)

CONTACT: Laura Lieberman, 770.949.2787
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Photographs available upon request.