

For Immediate Release:

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Rusted Root

Donna the Buffalo

Performing live on the Main Stage

Friday, June 9, 2017, at the

41st Annual Norfolk Harborfest®

The Largest, Longest-Running, FREE Maritime Festival in the Nation!
June 9-11, 2017 on the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront

Norfolk, Virginia (March 7, 2017) –Norfolk Festevents is proud to announce that National recording artists Rusted Root and Donna the Buffalo will each perform live on Friday, June 9, 2017, at the **41st Annual Norfolk Harborfest®** at Town Point Park, along the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront, Virginia.

The **41st Annual Norfolk Harborfest®** will mark the celebration of the Norfolk Navy 100 homecoming event during the 3-day festival. Guests will be amazed by events such as a special fleet of Navy ships in the Friday Parade of Sail, a mighty Destroyer, state of the art US Navy Coastal Riverine demonstrations, a Navy aircraft flyover, Navy ships open for free public tours, landside Navy exhibits and demonstrations, ceremonial events at the Armed

Forces and Homecoming Memorials, Saturday night's fireworks show choreographed to a musical score honoring the Norfolk Naval base Centennial, video messages taped from the public to be sent to our deployed commands and special Navy 100 themed entertainment and family activities throughout the weekend. Along with international majestic tall ships in the Parade of Sail, local, regional and national live entertainment, family activities, unique and unusual performances, water activities and much more.

The 41st Annual Norfolk Harborfest® in conjunction with Sail Norfolk, will astound the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront with radiant summer excitement as it brings the community together to enjoy the largest, longest-running, and free maritime festival in the Nation. This exhilarating, FREE, family-friendly, fun, outdoor extravaganza is stocked full with activities on land, sea, and in the sky!

Rusted Root will perform live on Friday, June 9, 2017, at approximately 8:30pm on the main stage

Having collaborated for two decades, Rusted Root has honed the perfect combination of musical intuition, freedom and virtuosity, which has allowed them to organically shape their music into it's own distinct and undeniable vision. With eight albums under their belt, over three million records sold and countless nights on the road, Rusted Root transcends age, cultures and musical styles. Liz explains that the members of Rusted Root are drawn to and have explored virtually every form of music. "I am very inspired vocally by anything from Indian to African to Middle Eastern sounds and scales having grown up with a lot of Hebrew music" she says. Michael Glabicki cites the Bee Gees, Elvis Costello, Neil Young, Toni Childs, Black Keys, Black Sabbath and various Afro Pop music as among his influences. The powerhouse ensemble's hypnotic live performances have allowed them to tour alongside Santana, Dave Matthews Band, The Allman Brothers Band, Plant & Page and many others. Glabicki concludes, "I hope our music will help lighten people's load and elevate them!!"

For more information and a list of upcoming tour dates, please visit <http://www.rustedroot.com/>

Donna the Buffalo will perform live on Friday, June 9, 2017, at approximately 6:00pm on the main stage

One of the most dynamic and determined bands continuously touring America for since 1989, Donna the Buffalo has created a community environment at their shows through their distinctive, groove-heavy, and danceable music. Donna the Buffalo is a band for the people that is accessible, positive, and memorable. With roots in old time fiddle music that evolved into a soulful electric American mix infused with elements of cajun/zydeco, rock, folk, reggae, and country, Donna's music often contains social and moral responsibility as core beliefs, and they are just simply fun to get out and celebrate life with.

"For the dizzying array of styles and genres with which they work, Donna the Buffalo maintain a surprising level of consistency... over the course of their 25-year career, they retain a sharp focus that has helped them create some truly lasting music..." writes Elmore. "Few groups are this comfortable as performers, and even fewer would take as many risks."

Donna the Buffalo is Jeb Puryear (vocals, electric guitar) and Tara Nevins (vocals, guitar, fiddle, accordion, scrubboard) joined by David McCracken (Hammond organ, Honer Clavinet & piano), Kyle Spark (bass) and Mark Raudabaugh (drums). "It's been really fun with this lineup," Puryear says. "You get to the point where you're playing on a really high level, things are clicking and it's like turning on the key to a really good car. It just goes." "You have to do just what you want to do, and everyone likes different things," Nevins says. "Both Jeb and I come from this background of old-time fiddle music, which is very natural, very real, very under-produced, and all about coming from the gut—flying by the seat of your pants. So, we have that in us, too."

The band has released ten albums and are affiliated with several others, including Puryear's 2007 solo album Hopes and Dreams and a 2003 release, Wait Til Spring, with Jim Lauderdale. The band's 2008



release Silverlined, as well as the 2013 release (both on Sugar Hill) did well on the Americana Music Chart, each placing well into the top ten. In 2011 Nevins released Wood and Stone, produced by Larry Campbell in Levon Helm Studios, and Mule to Ride in 1999 on Sugar Hill Records.

Donna the Buffalo drew its original inspiration from a cherished part of the American heritage: the old-time music festivals of the south that drew entire towns and counties together. Not only was it playing music at these events, it was the vibe and the togetherness that bonded the people that attended. Donna the Buffalo plays music that often moves listeners physically and spiritually. In the words of a longtime fan, "Their songs are well known to contain lyrics offering poetry and sage commentary on the attractions and struggles with love and politics in this life. Their magnetic musical mix has often been described as dance music, and, for sure, there is everything from foot-tapping to get-up-and-feel-ecstatic moving in their sound; but there is also some deeply satisfying solace in what DTB has to say and how they say it."

Jeb talks of his inspiration "rolling off all the great protest songs and the socially conscious music like Bob Marley and The Beatles and Bob Dylan – all of that stuff. So that, to me, is sort of like a tradition to write from that angle as a way of reflecting on what you feel about the world and how you feel it could be better and getting to a different place as a society. There's also the strength that comes from music and gives you the feeling like you can change those things and make some progress, and then express some of the particulars about what you'd like to change."

Additional local, regional and national performances will be announced in the coming weeks.

Festival hours: Friday, June 9th from Noon – 11pm, Saturday June 10th from Noon – 11pm, and Sunday, June 11th from 10am – 6pm.

The **41st Annual Norfolk Harborfest®** presented by AT&T, is produced by Norfolk Festevents, Ltd. and sponsored by the City of Norfolk, Waterside District, Southern Auto Group, Norfolk Waterside Marriott, and the Virginia Lottery.

For more information visit www.Festevents.org or call 757-441-2345.

Norfolk Festevents, Ltd., based in Norfolk, Virginia, is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating the most dynamic urban waterfront community in America through innovative programming and imaginative uses of its historic waterfront spaces. An extensive 10-month schedule of diverse outdoor cultural events, festivals, concerts, entertainment, holiday programs, tall ship visits, sports and recreation are presented in two popular and welcoming waterfront environments; Town Point Park located in downtown Norfolk on the banks of the Elizabeth River and Ocean View Beach Park situated on the shore line of the Chesapeake Bay. Norfolk Festevents has served as the City of Norfolk's official event marketing agency since the city's downtown waterfront revitalization initiatives began in 1982. The organization has garnered international acclaim for its advocacy for public access to waterfronts, outstanding quality programming and development of public spaces, transforming Norfolk into one of the most progressive, fun and livable waterfront communities in the country. Residents, workers, and visitors to Norfolk and the Hampton Roads region are invited to experience all the fun and excitement of the 2017 season!

