

**For Immediate Release:**

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# The Defibulators

## Performing at the 2016 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Norfolk Harborfest®

*The Largest, Longest-Running, FREE Maritime Festival in the Nation!*  
June 9-12, 2016 on the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront

**Norfolk, Virginia (May 16, 2016)** –Norfolk Festevents announces National Recording Artist The Defibulators to appear on the main stage Saturday, June 11, 2016, at the 40th Annual Norfolk Harborfest® at Town Point Park, along the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront, Virginia.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Norfolk Harborfest® transforms the downtown Norfolk waterfront into a distinctive, FREE, family-friendly fun outdoor extravaganza stocked full with activities on land and sea! Norfolk Harborfest® includes majestic tall ships in the Parade of Sail, one of the largest waterfront fireworks shows on the East Coast, local, regional and national entertainment, family activities, unique and unusual performances, water activities and much more.

## National Recording Artist The Defibulators to appear Saturday, June 11, 2016, on the main Stage:

### The Defibulators

Described as everything from “**Hee-Haw on mescaline**” to “**Carter Family-meets-Ramones**”, The Defibulators unique brand of country has made them pioneers in the Brooklyn country music scene.

The band is currently touring on the heels of their latest LP release, **Debt’ll Get’em**, co-produced with Brian Bender (Langhorne Slim, Jose James). The album is a striking, au courant take on classic country, channeling the frenetic energy of their legendary live shows into tight, punchy hooks and foot-stomping sing-alongs.

From “**Pay For That Money**,” a pedal steel and fiddle lament about debt, to “Let Me See That Ponytail Run,” a dreamy ode to beauty just out of reach, the album is full of gorgeous harmonies and razor-sharp wit. “**Everybody’s Got a Banjo**” is a biting, swamp funk-inspired nod to the instrument’s recent ubiquity (“If you don’t know how to play it, well it still looks cool”), and “**Cackalacky**” is the tongue-in-cheek story of an Appalachian musician who moves to New York City to make it big in roots music.

The band’s infectious energy and originality earned them a nod as one of Brooklyn’s best emerging bands in VICE Magazine, and a devoted following in a city not known for its love of country. “It’s fun to play for people who don’t think they like country music,” says singer Erin Bru. Guitarist/singer/songwriter Bug Jennings agrees, adding, “There’s something about the fast-paced, frantic, neurotic energy of New York that fuels our sound.”

Their debut album **Corn Money** garnered immediate critical notice from **Buzzfeed** to **CMT**, with **New York Magazine** raving that “[Bug] and singer Erin Bru slip into harmonies that recall the storied Gram Parsons-Emmylou Harris duets,” **Under the Radar** hailed it as “a boozy concoction worth swigging until last call,” and **PopMatters** describing it as “a drunken square dance on speed.”

Call it what you will, Americana, indie honky-tonk, truckerpunk, or Brooklyn Country, the proof is in the listening. There is a unique familiarity that percolates throughout *Debt’ll Get’Em*. The reverence for traditional country forms combined with an irreverent rock and roll attitude is a trademark of the Defibs sound. Gear-grinding twang and sawing fiddles saturate songs rooted in the debt-laden and downtrodden, the moods swinging between satirical and sentimental, with unpredictable outbursts into total country chaos.

When not on the road together, The Defibulators reside in individual, non-mobile homes in Hoboken, Harlem, and Brooklyn.

### Additional Harborfest performances include:

Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Thursday, June 9, 2016

The SheepDogs, June 10, 2016

The Subdudes, Friday, June 10, 2016

Grace Potter, Friday, June 10, 2016

Oh Honey, Saturday, June 11, 2016

The Last Bison, Saturday, June 11, 2016

Rick Springfield, Saturday, June 11, 2016

The Drifters, Cornell Gunter’s Coasters, and The Platters, Sunday, June 12, 2016

Wild Adriatic, Sunday, June 12, 2016

The Wailers, Sunday, June 12, 2016

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

**Festival hours:** Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-10:00pm, Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> from Noon – 11 pm, Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup> from Noon – 11 pm, and Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 6 pm.



The **40<sup>th</sup> Annual Norfolk Harborfest®** presented by AT&T, is produced by Norfolk Festevents, Ltd. and sponsored by the City of Norfolk, Southern Auto Group, Lumos Networks, Miller Lite, Norfolk Waterfront Marriott, Virginia Lottery, and CFE Equipment.

**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 2016 season!

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