



AthFest Educates

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Partners Announced for AthFest 20th Anniversary Public Mural

AthFest Educates announced that partners have been selected for a large-scale public art mural project to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the AthFest Music & Arts Festival this year. The artist who will oversee the project is David Hale, and the Lyndon House Arts Center will facilitate the mural art-based youth programming. Together Hale and the Lyndon House will work with youth during after school, weekend, and summer classes that focus on the content and layout of the mural.

The majority of the mural will be created at the Lyndon House and then moved and installed in its permanent location on the outside east-facing wall of downtown clothing store Philanthropy at Pulaski and Washington. Hale will be joined by three high school aged student interns in overseeing the project. The mural will be dedicated during the 20th Annual AthFest Music & Arts Festival, which takes place June 24-26th in historic downtown Athens, with affiliated events starting June 22nd.

Jill Helme, Executive Director of AthFest Educates said, “we are so grateful to have David and the Lyndon House help commemorate this milestone in a way that honors the festival, our community's local artists and artistic culture, and the AthFest Educates mission of supporting music and arts education for youth. The mural project allows us to proudly showcase the artistic talent of both professional and young emerging artists here in Athens, while also beautifying our great city with a large-scale public art piece that everyone can enjoy. AthFest lets us put our city's musicians on stage for the community to enjoy and the mural does the same thing for our artists. We're especially excited that Philanthropy generously donated wall space so the mural will be right next to the AthFest stage!”

Didi Dunphy, Program Supervisor at the Lyndon House, said she, “is so very pleased to have been selected as the Youth Organization partner in this celebration of 20 years and all that AthFest has contributed to our town. Our Youth will be working on the mural with a professional working artist. This shared experience--the learning from and hearing stories directly from working artists--provides an inspirational and invaluable experience that we are so happy to be able to offer them.”

Hale said, “it is a huge honor to get selected to be a part of the AthFest 20th anniversary mural project. I am excited about the opportunity to co-create a work of art with the younger generation, that hopefully they will one day get to share with their kids. AthFest is such an amazing way to bring the community together through art and music, and this mural will prominently stand to represent this amazing event and the sonic landscape that makes Athens such an incredible place.”

AthFest Educates advances high-quality music and arts education for local youth and the Athens community through direct support of school and community-based programs and events, including an annual music and arts festival.