

## \*\*EMBARGOED UNTIL 5PM, TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022\*\* MEDIA CONTACT: Rachel Allen <u>media@athfesteducates.org</u> (706) 490-7188

## ATHFEST EDUCATES ANNOUNCES ATHFEST MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL TO TAKE PLACE IN DOWNTOWN ATHENS JUNE 24-26, 2022

(ATHENS, GA) ---- AthFest Educates announced that the AthFest Music & Arts Festival will take place June 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2022. After two years of hiatus due to the pandemic, the free outdoor festival returns to downtown Athens to celebrate Athens' vibrant music and arts scene, featuring live music on three outdoor stages, a juried Artist Market and KidsFest, with its own stage of performances by and for young people. This year's festival will also include ticketed shows Friday and Saturday nights at two of Athens' most iconic music venues, the Georgia Theatre and the 40 Watt Club, after the outdoor stages close.

Announcements about performers are coming soon and will heavily feature Athens-based and Athensaffiliated acts. The Artist Market will showcase booths with work by over 55 artists, makers and artisans. The festival will include food trucks and retail vendors, as well as beer gardens. KidsFest includes activities and performances for children, as well as ticketed bounce houses and inflatables.

AthFest weekend kicks off Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm with performances on the two main stages, and the UpNext Showcase on the KidsFest stage from 6pm to 9pm, featuring middle and high school aged performers. The main stages will have music until around 10pm. On Saturday, KidsFest opens at 10:00 am with the rest of the festival starting at noon, and wraps up around 10pm. Sunday the festival takes place from 12:30pm until around 8pm.

The 2022 festival was recently awarded a National Endowment for the Arts "Grants for Arts Projects" award, which supports projects like the AthFest Music & Arts Festival that help bolster the community's creative economy. The AthFest Music & Arts Festival is supported in part by a Georgia Council for the Arts grant through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Learn more at gaarts.org and arts.gov.

Those interested in performing at AthFest or participating as an Artist Market vendor, retail vendor, or sponsor can find out more on AthFest.com. The AthFest Music & Arts Festival raises money for the nonprofit AthFest Educates, which awards grants for music and arts education for k-12 youth in Athens. ####

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.