

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EVOLVE BANK & TRUST COOPER YOUNG FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 15

MEMPHIS, TN, August 24, 2018 - Join us for the annual Evolve Bank & Trust Cooper Young Festival on Saturday, September 15 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. When you make your way to the corner of Cooper and Young in Midtown Memphis, you'll have arrived at a place both traditional and trendy, cosmopolitan and casual. It's where art, culture, cuisine and commerce intersect in a fabric that weaves its way throughout this historic neighborhood to create a lifestyle district all its own. What better day to visit than during the Cooper Young Festival! On this day, annually, we kick it up a notch with a free, family-friendly, music, arts and crafts street festival. It's the biggest party of the summer!

Cooper Young Business Association hosts this one and only fundraiser for the area to make the District known both locally, nationally, to draw homeowners and merchants into the neighborhood. The proceeds from the Festival are redistributed back into the infrastructure of the neighborhood, business websites, and community non-profit organizations. Home to over 187 independently owned businesses in Memphis; Cooper Young is home grown, locally led and community raised.

Shuttle services and parking are being offered by our partners Premier Transportation and Christian Brothers University. Park your car in the CBU parking lot entering off Central Avenue and catch the shuttle over to the entrance of the Festival. Handicap parking is available. Shuttle services will run from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Be sure to pack up the kiddos and strollers and head over for some Memphis College of Art fun in the Sprouts Farmers Market Kid Zone! The Kid Zone is hosted annually by volunteers with the Civitians, the area will offer an assortment of hands on art projects as well as games of chance and prizes. All proceeds from the Sprouts Farmers Market Kid Zone goes toward helping children in our community with developmental disabilities.

Innovate Memphis encourages you to ride your bike and park it in their "Bike Corral" hosted by Bluff City Sports just on the right as you enter the Festival site at Central Avenue. Volunteers will be on-hand to make sure your bike stays safe and is waiting on you when you get ready to leave. Bikes, scooters or any type of motorized vehicles are not allowed in the Festival site.

The Cooper Young Festival is all about the unique art finds from 425 artists and the sounds of local music. With seventeen musical acts, there is something for everyone! The Main Stage kicks off at 11:15 a.m. with Tony Manard and His Big Ole Band followed by the Rice Drewry Collective, Nick Black Band, Jason Lee McKinney, The Fast Mothers, and FreeWorld with Dr. Herman Green on the sax. Fuzzy Jeffries and the Kings of Memphis are the 2018 Headliners starting at 5:15 p.m. Fuzzy was awarded runner up in the International Blues Challenge.

At the corner of Young and Meda, you will find the Memphis Grizzlies stage which will be highlighting bands that are with Cooper Young recording studio, 5 and Dime Recording. Maddie Caldwell starts this stage off at 12:30 a.m. followed by 45-minute sets starting every half of the hour to include Ellie Badge, Switchblade Kid, The Rough Hearts and Negro Terror.

The Congo Stage located in the First Congo Church parking lot is serving up a plethora of up and coming artists. Starting the day at 12:15 p.m., we have Me and Leah, a wildly popular duo that released a debut album in July 2017 followed by Shufflegrit, Low Country Nationals, Land Divided and Laramie.

Each year the Festival is preceded by pre-festival events. The Art Invitational will be Thursday, September 13 at EpiCenter Memphis located at 902 South Cooper Street. The Art Invitational is a Festival tradition dating back to 1988 and highlights the talent of local CY artists. This event is free to the public; please join us for wine and cheese, beer bar and music by local blues artists, Shayla and Frank Shaw, from 6 – 9 pm. On Friday, September 14, the Festival 4-Miler is scheduled to begin at Midtown Autowerks at 795 South Cooper at 7:00 pm. Come cheer on the runners at one of our many patios!

Thank you to our sponsors for making the Cooper Young Festival possible and supporting our Historic District in the heart of Midtown Memphis. The 2018 Evolve Bank & Trust Cooper Young Festival sponsors are Commercial Appeal, A.S. Barboro, Memphis Grizzlies, Sprouts Farmers Market, Methodist University Hospital, Albert Cook Plumbing, Jim Keras Subaru, Summer Winds Resorts, Semmes Murphey Clinic, Hattie B's Hot Chicken, Southland Park Gaming and Racing, Lasik Vision Institute, ProShow Systems, Memphis Animal Clinic, AT&T, Choate's HVAC, Lowe's, Focal Point, MetroPCS, Mold Terminators, Direct Auto and Life Insurance, Rock 102.7, 101.9 KISS FM, 600 WREC, CW 30, Local 24 and Toof American Digital Printing.

This is the biggest party of the year in one of the great historic neighborhoods of Memphis. Mark your calendars you don't want to miss it! For the safety of everyone, please do not bring pets, bikes, scooters, drones or backpacks into the Festival site.

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