

SQUARE ROOTS FESTIVAL RETURNS TO LINCOLN SQUARE JULY 7-9

Craft Beer and Music Experience Offers 50 Bands on 4 Stages and 30 Regional Craft Brews over Three Days in July

CHICAGO (June, 2017) – Square Roots, the one-of-a-kind craft beer and music experience, returns to Lincoln Square July 7-9 with more than 50 acts on 4 stages, and 30 regional craft brews paired with Lincoln Square's finest restaurants and local artisans. Presented by the Old Town School of Folk Music and the Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce, the three-day festival will feature music, dance parties, free music lessons and jams, and plenty of family fun activities.

Events Details:

Dates: Friday, July 7, 5-10 p.m.; Saturday, July 8, noon-11 p.m.; Sunday, July 9, noon-9 p.m.

Location: Lincoln Avenue, between Montrose & Wilson Ave.

Phone: 773-728-6000

Cost: Suggested donation of \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors/kids, \$20 for families

Website: www.squareroots.org

NEW THIS YEAR! 2017 marks the 60th anniversary of the Old Town School of Folk Music and Square Roots will host celebrations all weekend long. A keystone of the festivities will be part of Old Town School's summer project *Soundtrack Of The City*. Funded by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events IncentOvate grants, *Soundtrack Of The City* will explore Chicago's rich musical history and the neighborhoods in Chicago that connect to the social movements and cultural traditions that helped define world-changing musical genres.

As part of this program, Square Roots Festival features the world premiere of *Folk Music - Chicago's Legacy*, a look and listen to the welcoming role Chicago played (and still plays) in Folk music's influential history around the world. *Folk Music - Chicago's Legacy* was created specifically for Square Roots to show how the Chicago folk scene influenced the genre around the world. In addition to this multi-media performance, jams led by the school's teaching artists will show participants of all levels to sing and play the songs that made a difference. *Sunday, July 9 at 3 p.m.*

Old Town School is also celebrating the distinguished career of renowned children's performer **Ella Jenkins**. Ella's new Smithsonian Folkways recording, *Camp Songs*, features Old Town School teaching artists, students and friends. Square Roots guests can sing along to favorites like *This Little Light of Mine* and *The Cuckoo!* Documentary filmmaker Tim Ferrin will show clips from his upcoming movie about Ella's 60 year career. *Saturday, July 8 at 3 p.m.*

Proceeds from Square Roots support both Old Town School of Folk Music and Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber programs, including music education scholarships, local shopping initiatives, ongoing community events and public farmers markets, as well as free summer concerts and artist-in-residence programs at Chicago Public Schools.

The Music

Festivalgoers can expect multiple music stages, both inside the Old Town School and outside on Lincoln Avenue, programmed with an eclectic and vibrant mix of performers from local indie rockers to world music stars to Old Town School teaching artists and students.

Musical performances including Meat Puppets, Nikki Lane, Joan Soriano, The Accidentals, Explosión Negra, Parker Millsap, Texmaniacs, Oh! Pep, Femina, Los Vicios De Papá and many more. Kids' entertainment from Justin Roberts & Laura Doherty, Dreamtree Shakers, live band karaoke and more.

A full line-up of performers and featured headliners will be posted in the coming weeks at <http://squareroots.org/music/>.

The Beer

In addition to great music, Square Roots is proud to be one of Chicago's best craft beer festival of the summer. The festival features the best local and regional craft breweries with a wide variety of styles. With special tappings throughout the festival, there's something to quench every type of thirst.

Several popular Midwest breweries will have a presence at Square Roots including 5 Rabbit Cerveceria, Arcade Brewery, Empirical Brewing, Founders, Half Acre Beer Company, Hinterland Brewery, Lagunitas, Metropolitan Brewing Company, Northman House Cider, Penrose, Revolution, Sketchbook Brewing, Temperance Brewery, Ten Ninety, Tocaya, and Two Brothers. The full beer list will be available in the coming weeks at <http://squareroots.org/beer/>.

The Food

Lincoln Square's restaurant scene will also be on hand serving up amazing dishes for guests to enjoy with the craft beer pairings. New restaurants for Square Roots 2017 include Essence Of India, Art Tango, Jerry's Sandwiches and Carbon Arc. They round out the collection of Lincoln Square favorites like Gather, Bistro Campagne, Miku Sushi and many more. Expect 16 great food vendors at this year's festival from in and around the Lincoln Square & Ravenswood neighborhoods. A full list of menu offerings will be announced at <http://squareroots.org/vendors/#food> in the coming weeks.

The Market Vendors

Square Roots provides a large market area of vendors, all based in Illinois and nearly half from the Lincoln Square neighborhood and surrounding areas, making it a true community event.

Shop distinctive items from Square Roots vendors, many who only set up shop once a year. Experience unique retailers such as "Maker's Row," a partnership between Chicago Printmakers Collaborative, Tytin Jewelry and Everlasting Fire Studio with live demos and unique items for sale from these dynamic Lincoln Square neighborhood artisans.

Visit <http://www.squareroots.org/vendors/> in the coming weeks to view a full list of vendors.

The Family Fun

With the Old Town School of Folk Music leading the entertainment, there will be a lot of reasons to twist and shout. From Wiggleworms for the little ones to multicultural dance performances to drum circles, Square Roots is perfect for families.

Square Roots is one of the only festivals in the city to truly offer a kid-friendly environment.

There's a dedicated children's pavilion completed with interactive elements, so bring the whole crew for a Family Barn Dance with kid performers, sing along with the Dreamtree Shakers and Karaoke with Kids!

To view a full list of family fun activities, visit <http://www.squareroots.org/familyfun/>.

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ABOUT OLD TOWN SCHOOL OF FOLK MUSIC:

The Old Town School of Folk Music, considered the largest community school of the arts in the United States, teaches and celebrates music and cultural expressions rooted in the traditions of diverse American and global communities. Founded in 1957, the Old Town School offers classes in music, dance, theater and visual arts that span a wide range of artistic genres, presents over 400 concerts in two intimate and acoustically superb concert halls, and supports artist-in-residence programs in underserved Chicago Public Schools.

The Old Town School owns and operates three Chicago facilities – two situated in the Lincoln Square neighborhood and one in Lincoln Park. Facilities include 425-seat and 150-seat concert halls, 51 classrooms, two music stores, a cafe and a resource center. The School also offers its popular Wiggleworms® program at four suburban satellite locations.

For more information on the Old Town School of Folk Music please visit oldtownschool.org or reach Dave Zibell, Director of Marketing at dzibell@oldtownschool.org.

ABOUT LINCOLN SQUARE RAVENSWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Founded in 1948, the Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce is a professionally staffed not-for-profit association of approximately 300 local businesses, institutions, and professionals. In March of 2011, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce awarded the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce a 3-Star Accreditation. This prestigious honor puts the Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce in the top 3% of all Chambers nationwide.

The Chamber is organized to focus attention and initiate action on the major issues affecting the economic well-being and quality of life in the area. The Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce assists Chamber members with strategic planning, marketing, networking, and provides advocacy, training, area planning, and development. They sponsor more than 75 days of special events for neighbors each year and also serve as a resource to tourists, visitors and residents. In addition to this, they manage the day-to-day programs of the Lincoln Square Business Improvement District (SSA #21) and the Lincoln Square Foundation - a 501(c) 3 charitable organization.

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