



**MATTIE KELLY ARTS FOUNDATION PRESENTS THE
22ND ANNUAL CONCERTS IN THE VILLAGE SERIES**

***Nine local and regional music acts to perform Thursday evenings in the
Mattie Kelly Cultural Arts Village in Destin, May 4–June 29, 2017***

DESTIN, FLORIDA — (April 19, 2017) Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation presents nine wonderful ways to simultaneously celebrate friends and family, the great outdoors and ... music under the summer sky.

This year MKAF presents the 22nd annual installation of the nine-week Concerts in the Village series every Thursday from May 4 through June 29 at the Mattie Kelly Cultural Arts Village located at 4323 Commons Drive West in Destin, Florida.

Entertaining local, regional and national touring artists will hit the Dugas Pavilion stage to perform everything from Motown to modern rock and from Caribbean rhythms to beachy blues and from folk to funk. This year's rocking roster includes two talented bands paying tribute to the timeless classic music of The Eagles as well as rock legend Joe Cocker.

The 2017 season schedule opens on May 4, Emerald Gold (Motown revue); May 11, Flow Tribe (Cuban-Caribbean with R&B); May 18, Fountain City Players (Motown oldies and classic rock); May 25, Alter Eagles (Eagles tribute band); June 1, The Embers (beach music); June 8, The Maxx (classic oldies and pop tunes); June 15, Tyler Kinchen & the Right Pieces (R&B and funk); June 22 Triggerproof (popular pop, rock & Top 40) and The Joe Band (tribute to rock legend Joe Cocker).

"We invite everyone to come dance and sing your way into the summer season! If you haven't come to the Concerts in the Village or haven't been in a while, we invite you to gather with us among family and friends for a true summertime celebration of music, food and fun," said Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation CEO Marcia Hull.

Gates open at 6 p.m. and concerts start at 7 p.m. for this come-as-you-are family-friendly outdoor concert series. Purchase tickets on-site to MKAF; proceeds benefit MKAF's community outreach programs. Live drawings for nearly a dozen exciting prize packages during intermission.

Bring a lawn chair, picnic and wine or purchase soft drinks and dinner prepared by a featured restaurant or food trucks on site. Admission is \$15 for adults; children (12 and under) and MKAF members are free. Children under 17 must be accompanied by parent or guardian. All sales are final, sorry, no refunds. Pets, tables larger than two feet and drones are not permitted.

“No question about it, the arts are integral to having a whole community. All of MKAF’s signature cultural events go a long way towards funding empowering arts programming for children, youth and adults with special needs, and emerging therapeutic programs for our local disabled veterans,” said Hull. “We are so proud that our stellar outreach programs serve all kinds of deserving populations with impactful arts experiences.”

Altogether the 2017 Concerts in the Village series includes 15 concerts that span from spring through fall. The family-friendly series continues with the 9th Annual Labor Day Weekend Concert (Sunday, Sept. 3) and new this year a four-concert Fall Series on Thursdays from Sept. 14 through Oct. 5.

After the Concert in the Village series ends, the 2017 MKAF season of cultural arts continues with the 22nd Annual Festival of the Arts (Oct. 28-29) and the 22nd annual holiday offering, Sounds of the Season (Dec. 1) at Village Baptist Church in Destin.

The Concerts in the Village series is made possible by the generous support of local individuals, businesses and media partners. For more information on how you can become a member of MKAF, gain benefits as an event sponsor, provide a donation or explore opportunities to get involved on a committee of the Board of Directors, call (850) 650-2226 or visit mattiekellyartsfoundation.org. Join the conversation and follow us on Facebook at MattieKellyArtsFoundation and use hashtags #MKAF and #MKAFCLV.

The 2017 LINE UP

May 4 Emerald Gold, Niceville, Fla.

Lead vocalist, Rodney Wilson, performs his popular Motown Revue, including other genres of R&B, classic rock and blues.

May 11 Flow Tribe, New Orleans, La.

This group of rising artists performs second line brass and Cuban-Caribbean rhythms meld with R&B, soul, rock, and hip-hop beats in a high-energy performance.

May 18 Fountain City Players, Columbus, Ga.

This top-notch group of musicians perform a wide range of music from Motown, Top 40, Pop, classic rock, oldies to variety songs.

- May 25 **Alter Eagles, Largo, Fla.**
The best of The Eagles! As one instant fan noted, "These guys sounded so close to the original band it was scary."
- June 1 **The Embers featuring Craig Woolard, Raleigh, N.C.**
Known as the heart and soul of beach music, their showmanship and musical chops have earned them multiple industry awards, including Inductee in South Carolina Beach Music Hall of Fame and North Carolina's Official Ambassador of Music.
- June 8 **The Maxx, Atlanta, Ga.**
This amazing group brings the audience to their feet! Energetic choreography and eclectic sound with classic oldies to today's pop music that is just infectious.
- June 15 **Tyler Kinchen and the Right Pieces, Ponchatoula, La.**
This emerging and dynamic group of musicians are making their mark with their energetic style of R&B and Funk, but also tap into Jazz, Soul, World, Pop, Latin, Blues and Folk.
- June 22 **Triggerproof, Gulfport, Miss.**
Back by popular demand, this talented cover band puts pop, rock, dance and Top 40 through the musical blender to recreate both popular and classic hits that appeal to everyone.
- June 29 **The Joe Band – Joe Cocker Tribute, Ann Harbor, Mich.**
A powerhouse tribute to Joe Cocker – one of the greatest Rock icons of all time with favorite hits like "With a Little Help From My Friends."

PHOTOGRAPHY

[Follow this link for images of Concerts in the Village entertainers and MKAF promotional material.](#)

ABOUT MATTIE KELLY ARTS FOUNDATION

Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation (MKAF), a 501-c-3 not-for-profit charitable arts organization, was founded on the cultural, educational and spiritual beliefs of the late Destin matriarch, Mattie Kelly. MKAF's mission is Northwest Florida's champion of cultural arts and arts education for all. Since it formed in 1995, its art programs have reached and inspired more than 300,000 children in over 61 schools, and United Way agencies, children and adults with special needs, and wounded warriors.

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