



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SUMMER AND MUSIC BRINGS BUSKERFEST FOR ITS TENTH YEAR TO  
DOWNTOWN LONG BEACH'S EAST VILLAGE**

***September 8 event closes out fan favorite free summer music series  
with local bands competing for \$2,500 prize package***

**LONG BEACH, Calif.** (August 29, 2018) Presented by Downtown Long Beach Alliance (DLBA), Summer and Music's (SAM) Buskerfest reigns supreme in its tenth year of showcasing regional bands competing for the most votes through busking, a reference to a person who entertains in a public space for donations.

Taking place on Saturday, September 8 from 5 PM to 11 PM, the four headlining bands are [The Blasters](#), [Psychic Temple](#), [Mike Watt & The Secondmen](#), and [Trulio Disgracias](#). The eight competing bands for this year's busker competition are [Brother Pines](#), [Chief White Lightning](#), [Delta Nove Productions](#), [Janie](#), [Leann Skoda](#), [The Nectarines](#), [Slice](#), and [Steppe Bison](#).

"Through the 10 years of SAM, Buskerfest has been the constant, and it has served us well as the season's finale," shared Rand Foster, SAM co-producer and owner of Fingerprints Music. "Getting local talent in front of Long Beach audiences has always been our mission, and Buskerfest has provided us the platform to celebrate not only our local music scene, but our local scene in a much larger sense. This year's lineup is our best yet, and as good as it looks on the poster, the magic really happens when we all come together to celebrate this amazing community."

The year's event is again located in Downtown's East Village Arts District, where multiple bands will perform atop four raised flatbed trucks that serve as stages. The audience is encouraged to vote throughout the night using wooden nickels, which are provided for free to toss to one's favorite competing bands. After performing, each band will collect its nickels and submit to SAM producers for counting. Approximately at 9:00 PM, the band with the most nickels will be announced as the Buskerfest winner for 2018. While all competing bands are paid for playing, the winner of Buskerfest will receive a prize package of \$2,500 to support furthering their career through a variety of options like studio time, record pressing, building out a merchandise table, or any number of other efforts to further the "business"-side of music.

"Buskerfest and the SAM series has grown into a great legacy and created a special narrative for Downtown," commented Kraig Kojian, DLBA President and CEO. "We are proud to be in our tenth year of producing great music and presenting art and culture as the fabric of our Downtown, and equally honored to present it as a gift to the greater Long Beach community."

**Headliner Bands for Buskerfest:**

The Blasters – The Blasters exemplify the best traditions of American Music, performing with passion and honesty that has won the hearts and souls of fans worldwide. Their influences range from the likes of George Jones and Carl Perkins to Ike Turner, Howlin' Wolf, James Brown and Big Joe Turner, all blending into a sound that ignores the lines between Rock & Roll, Country, Blues and Rockabilly. Fronted by Phil Alvin's powerful vocals, the band follows through with spontaneity, power and grit that make their live performances into experiences not to be missed.

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Psychic Temple – Labeled as “unclassifiable” by NPR and “a new Californian pop marvel” by Uncut Magazine, Psychic Temple is the musical cult of producer and Long Beach musician, Chris Schlarb. The band is currently working on its upcoming double album, Houses of the Holy, with Cherry Glazerr, Chicago Underground Trio and many more. The band's previous album, IV, debuted at #11 on the Billboard Americana charts.

Mike Watt & The Secondmen – Mike Watt’s bio starts much earlier, but it was with The Minutemen ('80 to '85) and FIREHOSE ('86 to '94) that the world took notice. Since that time Watt has become the everyman bassist: fronting bands, backing bands, and occupying just about every space between. Solo albums? You bet. Sessions and shows with legends of the rock, punk and jazz worlds? Yeah, that, and bands you’ve never heard of, too. If ever a man’s essence was contoured to fit into a hard shell bass case, that man is Mike Watt. Most recently, Watt has been playing with the enigmatic Secondmen.

Trulio Disgracias – Fronted by Fishbone’s Norwood Fisher, Trulio Disgracias is as tasty a musical gumbo as you’re likely to find. Combining the flavors of funk, rock, soul, and the world at large, Trulio Disgracias is quite simply all the reason you need to call your friends and call whatever follows a party. The rotating Trulio Disgracias line-up has featured current and former members of Fishbone, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Bad Brains, Parliament Funkadelic, The Pharcyde, Miles Davis, James Brown Band, Eek-a-Mouse, Joe Strummer’s Mescaleros, and Breakestra.

In addition to enjoying the musical performances, audiences can purchase food and drink from local businesses such as Taco Rog, Wa Wa, Modica’s, and Beachwood Brewing. Happy hour will feature discounted food and drink between 5-6PM. SAM t-shirts will be available for purchase.

Buskerfest will be held on First Street between Linden and Elm Avenues, and on Linden Avenue between First Street and Broadway. Parking is available at paid surface lots, City East Lot at 335 E. Broadway for \$5 (fee subject to change), or at The Streets/City Place parking lots for 2 hours free. Additionally, a free bike valet station courtesy of Pedal Movement will also be available.

Buskerfest’s generous event sponsors are Councilwoman Jeannine Pearce, Beachwood Brewing, Fingerprints, intertrend, MADE by Millworks, and Total Production Group.

For more information on SAM, visit [www.summerandmusic.com](http://www.summerandmusic.com).

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**About DLBA:** The Downtown Long Beach Alliance is a non-profit, community-based organization whose mission is to cultivate, preserve and promote a healthy, safe and prosperous Downtown. By balancing the interests of the residents, as well as businesses, the DLBA creates tangible progress by way of vested interest and solidified partnerships across local, municipal, and commercial lines. For additional information, visit [www.downtownlongbeach.org](http://www.downtownlongbeach.org).

**About SAM:** Now in its tenth year, Summer and Music (SAM) is Downtown Long Beach’s homegrown concert series, providing an entire summer of free music to the public. Produced by the Downtown Long Beach Alliance (DLBA), SAM has been voted OC Weekly's "Best Music Festival" three times in a row for its display of local acts at outdoor venues. With performances spanning all genres over its ten years, SAM truly has something for everyone to listen to and love all summer long.

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