

# FEATURES

Adam Turner, Editor

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## Music festival sets sights on Richmond

By ADAM TURNER

[adam\\_turner66@mymail.eku.edu](mailto:adam_turner66@mymail.eku.edu)

Bonnaroo. Lollapalooza. Coachella. And, of course, the inimitable Woodstock. Massive, sprawling, outdoor music festivals have only grown in popularity over the years as new generations look for fresh and exciting ways to experience the music they love.

Hoping for a noteworthy festival close to home has long been a pipe dream for many a Kentucky native, but thankfully, the team behind the Jubilo Music & Arts Festival has that very same dream.

As stated on their website, the Jubilo Music & Arts Festival is “an innovative, new, grassroots project created by veteran festival producer and director, Robyn Burkett Baker, together with a team of 10 college students, recent grads and other mega-talented young folks from the Appalachian region of Kentucky.”

Their goal? To bring thousands of fans to Richmond September 13-16 for a weekend of camping and live music.

Baker, born and raised in Somerset, moved to Richmond six months ago with lofty ambitions for her new home.

“The idea actually arose about three years ago when I was still with the Master Musicians Festival in Somerset,” Baker said. “I wanted to kind of find a way to grow that festival and to incorporate a scholarship program, to do some good work for kids in Appalachia, and obviously because of the move we didn’t get a chance to do that down there, but because of Richmond’s proximity to ECU, UK, Morehead State, it just felt like it would be a fantastic place to try to do something of this scope.”

With a location in mind, Baker said it was time to test the waters.

“We actually wanted to try to begin Jubilo last year before my family actually moved to Richmond,” Baker said. “We got on Facebook around January or February and started a couple of pages, just trying to gauge what the interest would be, and within no time we had 2,500 to 3,000 people who had either liked one page or friended the other. We’ve really had nothing but encouragement.”

Setting up at Fort Boonesborough State Park, Baker said she anticipates a roster of 60 to 75 bands, both regional and some national headliners, and a substantial crowd turnout.

“Obviously it’s going to depend on what kind of bands we’ll be able to book, but I would love to see this first year audience somewhere between 10,000 to 15,000,” Baker said. “I think that’s realistic. It would thrill me to sell out and have to close the gates. I think that would be a great problem to have our first year.”

Of course, a festival is only as good as its lineup, and Jubilo’s is still very much in-progress. In addition to numerous notable local acts such as The Sooners, The Greatest of These and Corey Kenton, one national headliner has been booked thus far: New York-based roots rockers Big Leg Emma.

Though their wish list includes the likes of The Civil Wars,

The Avett Brothers, Cage the Elephant and Yonder Mountain String Band, Baker said her team is hard at work to secure a very popular festival staple at the moment.

“The headliner we’re trying hardest to book is Old Crow Medicine Show,” Baker said. “I feel like that will be a great bill in this area. They have a tremendous amount of fans in these parts. I feel like once we have a solid anchor like Old Crow we’ll really be able to start picking up some other big national acts as well.”

The hope, Baker said, is that this festival can one day blossom into something greater for the Appalachian community.

“Once we get this festival built to the point that we have an audience of 20,000 to 25,000 people, we’ll be doing about a million dollar a year scholarship program from those festival proceeds,” Baker said. “We’ll be looking for students that are interested in music majors and journalism and web design and graphic design, anything that you can think of that would go into producing an event like this. We need all of those kinds of people and what we intend to do is to require a minimum number of hours per week during the school year from those students. The whole theory is who better to market an event like this primarily to college students than college students? But we also realize that doing this work for the festival in exchange for tuition and other expenses, it’s going to provide some great on-the-job, real world experience.”

None of this can be fully realized in the future, however, without the support of the public today. Jubilo has started a Kickstarter campaign to help raise the funds to finance this ambitious festival. Anyone can pledge any amount to the project, both people and businesses, and the goal to reach is \$25,144 by April 30.

“It’s a really innovative program and it’s just a few years old,” Baker said. “It’s not about collecting donations or anything like that; you get on there and select a reward, whether it’s a t-shirt, a ticket, a VIP ticket, some original artwork. I think it takes about 30 or 45 seconds to sign up, but you pledge for the level of reward you’re interested in. You are not charged. At the end of the campaign, if we reach our

funding goal, then you are charged and your reward is sent to you.” Ultimately, the entire Jubilo Music & Arts Festival is



DANIEL SHEILDS/JUBILO

about bringing more possibilities and prospects to students in the region.

“I just think that eastern Kentucky students deserve more creative opportunities,” Baker said. “Everybody on our staff has their roots in eastern Kentucky, and we just see a lot of things that could and need to change. We have got some truly ambitious goals and have every intention of meeting them.”

If interested in helping bring an awesome music festival to Richmond, check out Jubilo’s Facebook page or [www.kickstarter.com/projects/576128168/jubilo-music-and-arts-festival](http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/576128168/jubilo-music-and-arts-festival).



COURTESY OF SKYLAR DAVIS/JUBILO

## Finding *Higher Ground* in Kentucky

By ELISE SVOBODA

[progress@eku.edu](mailto:progress@eku.edu)

Communities take pride in their history and their heritage, but sometimes they have trouble addressing issues such as drugs and young people leaving.

For the people of Harlan County, such issues can be better explained through music and the creation of their own musical series *Higher Ground*.

Robert Gipe, the director of the Appalachian Program at Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College (SKCTC) and executive producer of the series, said the *Higher Ground* series started in 2001.

“In 2001, I had some students in Appalachian Studies and a teacher and they went to Washington and went to present it at this conference,” Gipe said. “They were asked to come up with a plan that addressed how to deal with building a sustainable future for our coun-

ty. The plan that they came up with is very arts centered because, those students at that time, felt like the creativity of the community was underutilized.”

Gipe added those same students and others were given the opportunity to write a grant to the John D. Rockefeller foundation the following spring of 2002, about a critical issue in their community.

The students chose to address drug abuse.

The county received a \$150,000 grant to bring the community together. The stories told in the musical are based on interviews from people within the community.

Forrest Hollins, 21, environmental studies major from Harlan and a member of the house band, Kudzu Killers, said the stories came from people within the community.

➤ SEE HIGHER GROUND, PAGE B3



SONYA JOHNSON/PROGRESS

## MTV’s *MADE* comes to Eastern’s campus

By MICHAEL EMERSON

[progress@eku.edu](mailto:progress@eku.edu)

For many, college starts with a dream But some people have goals that go beyond their education.

One student at Eastern may have the opportunity to try and reach one of those personal goals as the MTV show “MADE” visited campus April 9.

A casting call was 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. for all interested students. Each student had approximately ten minutes to explain why their dream should be met on national televisions.

The self-improvement reality television series follows teens and sometimes college students who have a goal and want to be “made” into things like singers, athletes, dancers, skateboarders and any desire imaginable.

The participants are joined by a “Made Coach,” an expert in their chosen field, who coaches them on their path to meeting their goal.

MADE documents the process participants undergo as they try to achieve their goal. While the show used to go to high schools in search of potential dreamers, the producers have turned their attention towards older college students in order to broaden their demographic to new audiences.

More often than not the show will instigate a bit of drama in each episode as it shows both the good and bad sides of what it takes to fulfill one’s dream, and can lead to many frustrating moments in the person’s life and seem real in a sense.

Katrina Maglio, 18, forensic science major from Lynfield, Massachusetts expressed her dream of becoming a professional singer.

Maglio said her dream is one that stems from a lifelong

➤ SEE MADE, PAGE B3



COURTESY OF MTV



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# **TOMORROW**

# Record Store Day observed throughout Lexington April 21

By AUSTIN ANDERS  
progress@eku.edu



Once considered a dead format, vinyl records are now resurfacing as a premium choice for audio listening. Whether being purchased by vinyl enthusiasts or just general music lovers, vinyl records are once again becoming a popular medium for how listeners enjoy their favorite music artists.

The retro trend of collecting vinyl records has become so popular that records and the record stores that sell them have their own holiday, known as Record Store Day. Record Store Day, also referred to as RSD, occurs

the third Saturday of every April.

This year, Record Store Day will take place April 21 marking its sixth year of celebration.

The holiday signifies the celebration of artists who have the guts to record to the vinyl format and the independently owned record stores who still carry and sell those records. Independent record stores across the country take part in the festivities in a variety of ways including special sales, live musical performances and cookouts.

Some of Lexington’s own locally owned record stores are included in this year’s Record Store Day festivities.

“It’s always a huge day for us,” said Steve Baron, owner and manager of CD Central. “This year we will have four to five bands playing throughout the day as if it were a big free concert.”

CD Central, located on 377 S. Limestone St., is one of the three independently owned record stores in Lexington that celebrates the annual event.

“This year we’re having two local bands play,” said Tony Manuel, an employee of POPS Resale and Eastern alumnus. “The bands are James Marinelli, The One Man Band and Surfinger, which is made up of former members of The Royal Batfangs.”

With live music aside one of the biggest events

associated with RSD is the sale of special limited vinyl and CD releases. These releases are only purchasable in-store at record stores participating in Record Store Day and will usually never be released again.

“We will have some limited releases probably around 20 to 25 of them, last year they ran out before even getting to us,” Manuel said.

This year’s limited releases include vinyl records from pop icons such as Bruno Mars and Katy Perry and a collection of indie rockers including The White Stripes and The Black Keys. Even legendary soul singers Aretha Franklin and Otis Redding will be releasing a rare duet of “Respect” as a single limited to only 5,000 copies worldwide with the possibility of a few being in Lexington.

“We’ll have a lot of limited releases, most of [what’s listed on Record Store Day’s website], but some of it’s going to very limited,” Baron said. “Last year we had probably around 50 people or more waiting in line before we opened. But this year we’ll be ready for it when it happens.”

For more information on the event, the participating stores in Lexington, specific limited releases and how you can be part of Record Store Day check out Record Store Day’s website at recordstoreday.com.

# What you should be watching: *Frozen Planet* on Discovery

By STEPHANIE COLLINS  
stephanie\_collins64@eku.edu



To say Greenland’s glaciers generate tens of thousands of icebergs each year is simple. But as the saying goes, you’d have to see it to believe it. Now, thanks to a collaborative documentary from the BBC and Discovery Channel-you can see that and much more.

*Frozen Planet*, a seven-episode nature documentary on the Discovery Channel, takes its viewers on a visually arousing adventure across Arctic and Antarctic regions of the world. Viewers will find themselves entranced by the mesmerizing scenes that appear before them, such as icebergs the size of Manhattan.

And if you happen to have high-definition technology, the experience is indescribable.

Narrator of the show, David Attenborough, traveled against the harsh weather to certain polar regions during the making of the documentary. The facts he relays during *Frozen Planet*’s episodes will make viewers shake their heads in disbelief. For example, the population of a school of fish in the Arctic Cod can be greater than the number of people populating the United States.

But as amazing as the graphics and facts of the show may be, the “awe” factor grows higher once spring time

rolls in and the polar wildlife face new challenges to survive.

Imagine one of those tear-jerking commercials with polar bears, thin ice and a sad background song, only with the science and truth to go along.

To cap the series, an exclusive episode authored by Attenborough himself, “On Thin Ice,” will explore the effects on polar regions brought by climate change and what melting ice means for the animals, the people and ultimately, the entire planet.

Considering the sensitivity surrounding topics of climate change, it was debated whether or not the seventh episode should air in the United States or not. But the final episode will air this Sunday, despite critics that challenge the findings of Attenborough’s documentary, for instance that in the last 40 years, the area of the Arctic sea ice has seen a drop of 30 percent at the end of each summer.

If you have been watching *Frozen Planet*, Sunday night’s episode at 8 p.m. will be one you can’t miss. But don’t panic if you haven’t tuned in yet. All of the episodes are available on the BBC’s website at www.bbc.co.uk, and the Discovery Channel’s at dsc.discovery.com/tv/frozen-planet.

Many other features can be enjoyed by the website as well, including Penguin Cam, Frozen Facts, a constant streaming of videos, games and more.

Tune in to the Discovery Channel, this 8 p.m. Sunday for “the ultimate polar expedition.”



COURTESY OF DISCOVERY.COM

## HIGHER GROUND

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“We go around and interview people who have either worked in the coal mines or had experiences like that or just basically interesting people. That is where we get all the stories from.”

The original Higher Ground was about a drug problem within the community. *Playing with Fire* continued to deal with the drug problem within the community, and it included some stories about the coal miners. The third in the series, *Talking Dirt*, talked about the decisions young people face about staying in or leaving Harlan and also the county’s African American history.

Natasha Painter, 20, psychology major from Harlan, said working with the cast was like working with family, which was one of the themes of the production.

“Family doesn’t have to be blood, it can be just people that love you, like the people in this play love everybody,” Painter said.

Sean Greene, 21, piano performance major from Harlan, said, “In the end, everybody comes together and is able to help each other out and pull everybody through the hard times. That’s kind of what Harlan is: Everybody is always there for each other.”

Gipe said there is a fourth Higher Ground in the works, which would take place at various parts of the county.

“Each place that it happens, it would be specific to that community throughout.”

For more information about the Higher Ground series, contact SKCTC Appalachian Program’s Robert Gipe or Theresa Osborne.

## MADE

CONTINUED FROM B1

love of singing, and finding more self-confidence within her talent and abilities.

“I just want my voice to be heard by everyone and be known for something,” Maglio said.

Maglio admitted she has never really seen much of the show but still decided to give it a try in an effort to accomplish her goal.

Sarah Hogue, 21, English major from Danville, expressed her love of writing and how this chance inspired her to follow her dream.

“I want to be the next J.K. Rowling,” Hogue said, adding she wanted to start a career as a writer because she is passionate about it.

She has watched the show and says she is worried about the constant filming that goes on throughout the time of making the episode but still wishes to go through with it in order reach her goal of becoming a successful writer.

These two as well as over forty other students came to the casting in an effort to get the help they need in fulfilling their dreams.

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