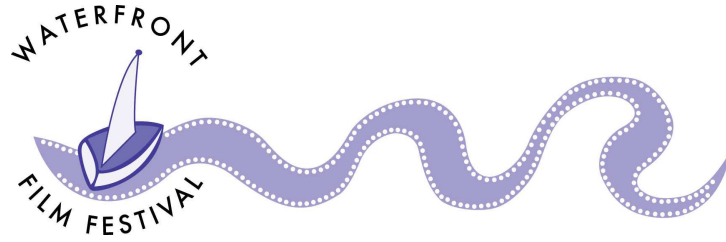


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Beverly McClellan to headline Waterfront Film Festival's Opening Night Party

Tickets available now at waterfrontfilm.org

Saugatuck, Michigan, April 30, 2012 – Beverly McClellan, a talented multi-instrumentalist and a finalist on “The Voice”, will headline the Opening Night Party for the 14th annual Waterfront Film Festival, June 14-17 in Saugatuck, Mich.

McClellan’s honest lyrics and raw sound gained her a following in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and her powerful performances on NBC’s “The Voice” have won her comparisons to Etta James, Janis Joplin and Bonnie Raitt. She has collaborated with Keb Mo, opened for BB King and will return this week to “The Voice” performing “Money Changes Everything” Tuesday night with Cyndi Lauper.

McClellan is touring in support of her fifth release “Fear Nothing”.

“I believe that I have a message,” McClellan said. “It’s simple: be yourself, love yourself, always be honest, and let the rest come naturally. That’s the way I live my life and make my music.”

The Opening Night Party also offers musical performances from Grand Rapids’ Valentiger and Grand Haven’s Garrett Borns.

For tickets to the Opening Night Party, passes for the festival, or tickets to a Special Engagement screening of “Virginia”, shot and produced in West Michigan, go to waterfrontfilm.org.

Waterfront Film Festival was named in Screen Actors Guild Magazine by SAGIndie as one of the top 5 film festivals in the world, alongside Sundance and Cannes. Waterfront Film Festival has premiered a long list of award-winning films in unique venues throughout Saugatuck’s friendly and walkable resort setting. Thousands of independent film lovers, including dozens of actors, directors, writers and producers make the annual pilgrimage to the lakeshore for the more than 70 feature films, documentaries and shorts that have been meticulously selected for screening.

The Opening Night Party kicks off at 6 p.m. at Saugatuck's Coghlin Park, near the intersection of Culver and Griffith streets. Advance tickets are \$10, and all proceeds go to benefit the non-profit organization.

Live music continues until sundown when the film projector starts up for an outdoor showing of "Shorts Spectacular", a collection of award-winning short films, on a 50-foot inflatable movie screen.

Food and drinks for purchase will include a wide selection of drafts in the beer garden and a barbecue cookout by The Hickory Pit.

For exclusive access to film and music throughout the weekend, the Patron Pass can be purchased for \$500. It provides entry to Thursday's Opening Night Party, Special Engagement screenings, select VIP mixers and first entry for all films. Each Patron Pass also allows for a tax deduction of \$200.

The *FastPass* is \$300 and entitles the holder to first entry to all films, as well as admission to the Opening Night Party, Special Engagement screenings and exclusive entry to two VIP mixers. The Super Pass for \$200 allows the holder priority entry to all general-programmed films and admission to the Opening Night Party.

Day passes, \$70 for either Friday or Sunday, and \$75 for Saturday also are available. Individual film tickets for \$10 will go on sale in late May when the full lineup of films is announced.

Purchases of passes can be made at www.waterfrontfilm.org, and beginning Memorial Day weekend passes and tickets will be available at the Waterfront Film Festival Summer Box Office in the Chemical Bank Building at 249 Mason Street in Saugatuck.

About Waterfront Film Festival

Now in its 14th year, Waterfront Film Festival celebrates independent film and filmmakers in a non-competitive environment. Located in Saugatuck, Mich., WFF is one of the leading destination film festivals in the Midwest, regularly hosting Midwest premieres of Academy Award-winning and nominated documentaries. Recognized as a top five film festival, WFF is a volunteer-run, non-profit event committed to creating a "middle coast" venue for independent filmmakers while further enhancing the artistic draw of West Michigan. For more information on the 2012 festival, June 14-17, visit www.waterfrontfilm.org.

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