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EXUBERANT GRAND OPENING OF ALLEGHENY OVERLOOK BEGINS WITH THREE NIGHTS OF FREE MUSIC IN NEW POP-UP PARK

- **POP-UP VENUE OFFERS LIVE MUSIC, PERFORMANCES, ART, AND RECREATION ON FORT DUQUESNE BLVD.**
- **GRAND OPENING RUNS JUNE 24-26 AND LAUNCHES WITH JIM DONOVAN AND THE SUN KING WARRIORS**
- **RIVERSIDE BEER GARDEN FROM BEER GENTLEMEN WILL COMPLEMENT MADE-TO-ORDER FOOD**

Downtown Pittsburgh – Summer in the city heats up with the cool sounds of live music on the river, as the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership announces its grand opening at Allegheny Overlook, a Pop-Up Park on Fort Duquesne Blvd. The park is part of ongoing efforts to welcome the safe return of performing arts, and a new way for residents, workers, and visitors to experience live music and performances Downtown. Sporting a vibrant street mural from Pittsburgh artist Janel Young, this Downtown oasis will include a fixed stage, and encompass a beautiful green area with tree-lined canopy and expansive views of the river. Also branded as the ‘AO’, the park will offer outdoor recreation, food, beverages, picnic tables and rocking chairs, along with a steady stream of programming curated by a myriad of music presenters and performing arts groups. The new marquee destination was developed by the PDP with support from the **City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Duquesne Light, Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority, Flyspace Productions, Riverlife,** and the **Office of Public Art.**

The PDP’s CEO and President, Jeremy Waldrup commented that, “this pop-up park would not be possible without the great leadership and support of the City of Pittsburgh and the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure and Office of Public Safety and the tremendous support of Duquesne Light and Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority in ensuring the venue’s success.” He continued, “the Allegheny Overlook provides a great new destination for people to safely gather and enjoy throughout the summer, and an exceptional starting point for exploring all the retailers and restaurants Downtown has to offer.”

The AO will certainly have a strong opening, with three nights of free concerts, representing a broad cross-section of the local music scene. The grand opening launches Thursday, June 24 with a high-energy blend of rhythm heavy roots rock from **Jim Donovan & Sun King Warriors**. Rusted Root alum, and band leader, Donovan also co-authored the Sun King Warriors biggest hit, “Send Me on My Way,” which has been streamed over 100 million times on Spotify, and is used as the wakeup music for NASA’s Mars rover. Pittsburgh born and raised guitar prodigy, **Elias Khouri**, will open the show with his scorching mix of funk, soul, and rock ‘n’ roll.

The free music continues Friday, June 25 with a night of alt-country from headline act, Bindley Hardware Co., a self-dubbed, “Rust-Belt Americana” band that has earned a stellar live reputation for delivering music at the intersection of alt-country and heartland rock. The night will open with, West Virginia singer-songwriter, **William Matheny**, who has been praised in Rolling Stone, NPR and Paste, and other national media.

The AO will get its groove on Saturday, June 26 with a free performance by Pittsburgh hip hop artist, **Jordan Montgomery** with special guests **Brittney Chantele** and **Cam Chambers**. A rising talent in the city’s hip hop scene since the release of his critically acclaimed debut album, *Driving While Black*, Jordan has expanded his efforts via a local

hip-hop label known for thought provoking lyrics and stellar production. Local R&B stand-out, **Sierra Sellers**, named by NPR as one of its *20 Artists to Watch In 2020*, will open the night.

Various community collaborators will provide programming for the AO, which will include theatre, dance, and comedy, along with regularly scheduled showcases of a variety of musical genres as part of PDP's ongoing **Downtown Pittsburgh Sound** initiative. An initial list of programming partners will include; the **Pittsburgh Public Theater. Mr. Smalls, Arcade Comedy, Drusky Entertainment, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Driving While Black Records, MCG Jazz, Women Who Rock, Moondogs, Blues Society of Western PA and the Office of Public Art.**

Most performances at the AO will be free, but several special ticketed events will include touring artists and other stage productions. Just announced, Drusky Entertainment will present multi-platinum recording artists, **Fitz & The Tantrums** at the AO for an e-ticketed, rain or shine, performance on July 7. The LA-based band has brought their infectious energy to music festivals around the world, including Coachella, Bonnaroo, Lollapalooza, and Austin City Limits. The LA-based band is best known for their 2x Platinum single, "HandClap," which logged more than 400 million global streams and went top 5 on both the Hot AC and Alternative Radio charts.

The Allegheny Overlook will offer exceptional views of the Allegheny alongside the musical entertainment, but the food and drink will not be overlooked. There will be a beer garden installation from Braddock based **Brew Gentlemen** – well known for their soft, balanced beers and flagship IPA, 'General Braddock's'. Made-to-order food will also be available at the location.

Live music will continue to be central to the PDP's programming for the summer with plenty of opportunities popping up all over Downtown. Weekly performances at the Saturday Night Market on the Pittsburgh City Paper Stage, Happy Hour performances every Tuesday on Penn Avenue at Ninth Street, lunchtime performances presented by Dollar Bank with Happy Hour shows every Friday in Market Square, and even more lunchtime music at the Market Square Farmers Market every Thursday on the PNC Bank Stage, will all complement the expanding AO line-up.

Stay tuned for additional announcements. An evolving list of all the Downtown performances at the AO is available at alleghenyoverlook.com, with all Downtown events, and happenings listed in the PDP's weekly e-newsletter, at DowntownPittsburgh.com, and on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram: @DowntownPitt.

About the Allegheny Overlook

The Allegheny Overlook (the "AO") is a pop-up park located in Downtown Pittsburgh on Fort Duquesne Blvd between 7th and Stanwix Street operating from June-September 2021. Produced by the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP), the AO was created to support the safe return of performing arts into Downtown, and welcomes residents, workers, and visitors back into the heart of the city. Anchored by a full-time stage, it offers visitors expansive riverfront views, fresh food, drinks, live music, performances, art, and recreational activities in a park-like setting. The AO was developed with support from the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Duquesne Light, Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority, Flyspace Productions, Riverlife, and the Office of Public Art. For more information, visit www.AlleghenyOverlook.com or www.DowntownPittsburgh.com

About the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership

Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) is a dynamic, nonprofit organization comprised of business and community leaders, property owners, civic organizations, foundations and residents who provide energy, vision and advocacy for Downtown Pittsburgh. Working collaboratively with its partners, the PDP strives to create a positive Downtown experience for residents, workers and visitors alike. The PDP's strategic initiatives include clean and safe services, transportation, and economic development and advocacy. For more information, visit www.DowntownPittsburgh.com, follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/downtownpitt> and "like" us on Facebook.

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