

Christian music concert Saturday in Pekin

Written by George Browning

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Adonai Fest is becoming an annual tradition in southern Indiana.

The Christian music festival is always held on the last Saturday in August and this year is no different.

“We want people, churches and youth ministers to know that every summer on the last Saturday in August Adonai Fest will take place,” said concert organizer Luke Elrod. “We want the community to embrace this and help support it each and every year.”

Elrod wasn't involved during the first year when the bands “Sanctus Real” and “The Afters” played at Salem Speedway.

He did become involved last year when Addison Road and Vota headlined the show.

This year, the headline band will be Seabird, whose hit “Don't You Know You're Beautiful” has been getting a lot of play on Christian radio.

Seabird will be joined by Harlend and Submerged.

In year's past event organizers were holding their breath about the weather, but Elrod said this year that won't be an issue as Adonai Fest will be held inside at the Performing Arts Center at East Washington.

“It's really a perfect venue for us,” Elrod said. “I am really glad that we can offer air conditioning and no threat of rain.”

Elrod said he thinks fans will enjoy the show. He said the plan is to bring one band who has made it and two others who are on the cusp of making it on a larger scale in the Christian music industry.

Some money raised from the event will benefit the Adonai Fest Scholarship Fund through the Washington County Community Foundation.

Elrod is hoping to be able to award a student in Washington County between \$500 and \$1,000 in scholarship money.

Helping to make the concert possible this year are local sponsors.

Elrod said Christie's on the Square in Salem and Tele-media Solutions in Pekin have stepped up with big sponsorships.

In addition to music, Elrod said there will be prizes.

There will be a guitar given away, which was donated by Guitars, Strings and Things in Salem. Elrod's company, Sevendayentertainment donated an ipod touch and the organization Help Heal Haiti has donated a professionally designed skate dock.

“We want to do this because there are a lot of aspiring musicians in the area and it might make all the difference for one of these kids to talk to a band member and hear their stories,” Elrod said. “These are the kind of bands who are playing for the Lord and are willing to meet and interact with the fans.”

Tickets to the show are \$10 a person, or \$8 for a group of 10 or more.

For more information, or to order tickets, Elrod can be reached at 812-219-6926.

Tickets are also available at Heaven Sent Gifts and Guitars, Strings & Things.

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