



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Florida Strawberry Festival Battle of the Bands Top Nine Selected

PLANT CITY, Fla. (Feb. 23, 2019) – The Florida Strawberry Festival has announced the nine finalist bands who will battle it out in the festival’s first ever Battle of the Band’s competition.

“We love involving local talent in every aspect of the festival,” said President Paul Davis. “This battle competition is a great opportunity for those who want to share their abilities with our guests and gain exposure at the same time.”

In early December, the top 20 bands were selected from a field of over 30 based upon eligibility and specific selection criteria. Those bands were then voted upon by the public in an online fan voting process via social media.

On February 12 the top nine bands were announced on the festival’s Facebook group. The top nine bands are as follows: Almost There, Angie Rey and the Countrydelics, Bound No More, DBMK, G.W. Souther, Kayla Ember, Kingsway, OakLee and Reach City Worship. These bands will participate in preliminary rounds of battle on Thursday, February 28, Tuesday, March 5 and Thursday, March 7 in the Publix Showcase Tent. The band finalists will be evaluated by a select panel of qualified judges and fan ballots.

By midnight on Thursday, March 8, the Florida Strawberry Festival will announce the top three finalists. One honorable mention will be recognized as well as the top two who will move on to the final battle competition which will take place on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. on the Wish Farms Sound Stage.

The first place winner will receive \$10,000 in prize money and a trophy. Additionally, the grand prize recipient will receive 25 hours of recording time with All Access Recording. The runner up will receive \$5,000, a trophy and 10 hours of recording time, and the honorable mention band will receive \$1,000 and a plaque.

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About the Florida Strawberry Festival

The Florida Strawberry Festival is an 11-day community event celebrating the strawberry harvest of Eastern Hillsborough County. Each year, over 500,000 visitors enjoy the festival's headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its strawberry shortcake. The 2019 Florida Strawberry Festival where "It's A Hit!" will take place February 28-March 10 in Plant City, Fla. For more information, visit www.flstrawberryfestival.com, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (#berryfest19).

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