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Media contact: Lori Cox
lcox@idahofair.com
ph: 208.287.5654



5610 Glenwood, Boise ID 83714

CHOOSE YOUR FAVORITE ROCK BAND Western Idaho Fair Opens Band Contest for KISS Listeners

Boise, ID – **Garage bands go wild** this summer at Western Idaho Fair in the first annual “Not Even Once Night” (NEON) to be held **opening Friday, August 21**. Presented by the Idaho Meth Project, the day’s activities include local bands chosen by KISS-FM listeners.

“This is a chance to support your favorite local band,” said Mike Oster, event coordinator for the Fair. “The next Nickelback could be in our midst.”

KeKe Love, program director for KISS-FM who recently finished seven marathons in seven days, said it’s easy for bands to participate. “Send an e-mail with your attached MP3 file to neon@1033kissfm.com,” he said. “We’ll take submissions until Friday June 12 at 5 p.m.” PEAK Broadcasting, home of KISS, will select the top rock bands to submit to listeners.

Voting will begin June 22. Upon final selection, up to four bands will perform Friday evening, August 21 on the Project Filter Stage at Western Idaho Fair. **A headline rock act will conclude the evening**.

“This event is part of a bigger picture,” Oster added. “While fairgoers are rocking out to their favorite group, they will learn a little more about one of the most challenging drug problems of our time.”

Oster said Western Idaho Fair has **teamed with the Idaho Meth Project**, a prevention and public awareness program aimed at reducing first-time methamphetamine use among teens and young adults. Teens—as well as parents—can gather facts about meth devastation, pledge against meth use and seek guidance toward positive influences.

“This is the first time we have focused on a specific teen experience with such a critical message,” said Lori Cox, marketing and development manager for the Fair. “While having a great time, patrons can get involved in drug prevention.” Many of the activities set forth by the Idaho Meth Project can be carried into the subsequent school year.

“We want kids talking about this experience – we want them to have a great time, but we need to make a difference in their lives,” Cox said.

Current band standings for the voting contest will be **posted at 1033kissfm.com** and the Fair’s Web site, along with planned activities for the day. Fair officials expect the bands to be selected by mid-July and will announce those results along with the headline act.

Admission on August 21 is discounted to \$5 at the gate for anyone 12 years and older. At-the-gate fees for 6-11 years are \$4 and children 5 and under are always free. **At discounted rates**, advance fair tickets (including Butler Carnival wristbands, Family Packs, the Mighty Mega and more) **go on sale July 6 at idahofair.com**. For additional information, call 208-287-5650 or log on to Western Idaho Fair’s Web site at idahofair.com.

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Western Idaho Fair is a property of Expo Idaho, dba Ada County, Boise, ID. The regional event is the largest in Idaho drawing more than 250,000 patrons. Concerts, livestock shows, Butler Carnival, dozens of national free grounds acts and exhibits showcased from the community are all just a part of this ten-day-long event.