

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MADISON RIBBERFEST BBQ & BLUES MUSIC FESTIVAL

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Madison Ribberfest BBQ & Blues Update

July 30, 2020 – Madison, IN..... Madison Ribberfest BBQ & Blues Festival, known as one of Indiana's 'Best Music Festivals' and Madison's annual celebration of BBQ competitions and blues music is now added to the list of festivals canceled due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

This decision was not made lightly. Event Coordinator Katie Burress said, "Our committee has remained very hopeful throughout the last few months that we would be able to have our event this year, albeit a bit differently than usual. Now that we are almost to August, and seeing that our local, statewide, and national positive COVID-19 cases are on the rise, we believe that it is in the best interest of our volunteers, patrons, and our entire community to cancel our event this year." Visit Madison, Inc. Board of Tourism President Cara Fox adds, "It is unfortunate that we are having to make exceptionally difficult decisions this year. We have all been faced with impossible decisions throughout the last few months, and sadly, canceling Ribberfest this year is the best choice for us at this time."

Festivalgoers that purchased 2020 Wristbands can expect to receive a refund. Please see our website or social media for more information.

The Ribberfest committee still plans to move forward with 'Pigmania,' the concrete pig decorating contest that supports the annual Madison Ribberfest Scholarship program. Pigs can be seen around town in front of the participating businesses. A list of businesses and directions for voting on the 'People's Choice' Pig will be shared soon.

Committee members will be reaching out to vendors, artists, BBQ competitors, and other stakeholders in the coming days as we look toward 2021.



About Madison Ribberfest BBQ & Blues:

Madison Ribberfest BBQ & Blues has been held annually for 18 years on Historic Madison, Indiana's riverfront and Bicentennial Park. It was voted 'Best Music Festival' in Indiana in 2016. Along with great food and Friday and Saturday nights full of national, regional, and local blues music, Ribberfest is also the home to the Indiana State BBQ Championship, proclaimed by the Indiana Governor and sanctioned by the Kansas City BBQ Society (KCBS). Amateur cooks compete in the *Backyard BBQ Blast competition*, and kids from 8-15 compete in the *KIDZ-Q*. Fans join in for the "Good to the Bone" rib eating contest, where the reigning champion is always in "suit". Ribberfest is a family-friendly fun festival, kids enjoy voting on the best dressed concrete pigs in the "Pig Corral", and entertained in the kids "Pig Pen" play area. Patrons and fans also participate in the annual 5K RibberRun/RibberRide. For more information on past entertainers and BBQ competition winners visit www.MadisonRibberfest.com. Follow on social media at:

Facebook: [@MadisonRibberfest](https://www.facebook.com/MadisonRibberfest) , Twitter: [@Ribberfest](https://twitter.com/Ribberfest), and Instagram: [@MadisonRibberfest](https://www.instagram.com/MadisonRibberfest).

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