

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 20, 2017

EVENT DATE: AUGUST 10-13, 2017

Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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For Detailed Up-to-Date Festival Information, Visit www.DanEmmettFestival.org

Lee Greenwood Headliner for Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival

MOUNT VERNON – A warm welcome from the 2017 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival includes the headline performance of country music ICON Lee Greenwood. The concert will be held on Saturday, August 12th at 9:30 p.m. on the square in downtown Mount Vernon.

Music has always been a part of Lee Greenwood's life. He started playing piano when he was seven and was discovered in 1979 by Larry McFaden, who saw him performing in a show at the Nugget Casino in Sparks, Nevada. Since then Greenwood has more than 30 albums to his credit. With seven #1 songs & 25 charted singles, some of his hits include "It Turns Me Inside Out", "Dixie Road", and duet with Suzie Boggus, "Hopelessly Yours", that was nominated for a Grammy. His CD "American Patriot", recorded and released in 1992, went platinum in 3 months.

Greenwood's most recognizable piece of work is "God Bless the USA" which won him CMA Song of the Year in 1985. "God Bless the USA" has been voted the most recognizable patriotic song in America. "God Bless the USA" went far beyond what Greenwood expected when he wrote it in the back of his tour bus in 1983. The song has been in the top five on the country singles charts three time (1991, 2001, and 2003), giving it the distinction of being the only song in any genre of music to achieve that feat. In 2011, Beyonce offered her version of "God Bless the USA" as a download, with the proceeds going to the 9/11 firefighters fund in NYC.

Greenwood has won numerous other industry awards that include, Male Vocalist of the year for Academy of Country Music in 1983, two Male Vocalist of the Year awards from the Country Music Association, 1983 & 1984 and a Grammy for Top Male Vocalic Performance in 1985 for his song "I.O.U."

Reserved seating for the **Lee Greenwood** performance is available. The Friend of the Festival reserved area is preferred, up close seating, available on a first come first serve basis. The cost will be \$20 per seat. Friend of the Festival Tickets will be available starting June 9th on the

Festival website at www.DanEmmettFestival.org or at the Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau, 107 South Main Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050, by phone at (740) 392-3378 or Toll Free at 1-800-837-5282. Advanced purchase is recommended to guarantee seating. Advanced reservations require prepayment. Space for bring-your-own-chair seating is available behind the reserved seating at no charge.

Highlights of this year's Festival will include performances by Lee Greenwood, Phil Dirt & The Dozers, a wide variety of local musicians and performers (such as Kokosing River Surf Club, Derek Posey Band, Elvis' Long Lost Brother, King Darwin), the Knox Idol competition, fiddle, banjo, and flat-pick guitar contests, a cheer competition, a flower show, a quilt show, arts, crafts, homemades, a motorcycle show, and the annual antique & classic car show, all with a wide variety of delicious foods.

The 2017 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival runs August 10th-13th in Downtown Mount Vernon with various activities each day. This year's Festival is made possible through the contributions of Ariel Corporation and First-Knox National Bank. For additional information, contact the Festival at (740) 392-FEST (3378) or email at director@DanEmmettFestival.org

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