



University Park Art Fair at Grace Park Announces 2008 Entertainment Line-up

The 3rd Annual University Park Art Fair at Grace Park on Saturday, August 16th, offers great entertainment, spotlighting several of the area's best musical acts and performers. Bands featured on-stage in the Triad Communications Performance Area this year are:

10 – 11:45AM: Pete Nischt (acoustic/pop/folk rock) <http://www.myspace.com/petenischt>

Life is strange... that is the quintessential message in Pete Nischt's newest 10-song collection of music. It's a record detailing just how twisted and unpredictable life can really get. The most amazing thing about it, though, is that for an album forged amidst the misery and frustrations of its writer, the outcome was extremely positive. The tone is hopeful and confident. The songs are eclectic and groovy. Written over two years starting when Pete was just 18, "Life is Strange" exudes all of the qualities of a masterpiece in that it is exactly how it was meant to be.

To clear up any confusion... after a year of traveling the country solo and with a band, Pete decided in September of 2007 to opt out of his contract with former record label Regular Music due to obligations that weren't being met. He began attending classes in the fall again at the University of Akron as an Accounting major specializing in Music Business. He stayed busy playing solo gigs out of town almost every weekend throughout the midwest, and is continuing to do so. He is taking things slow this winter to write and demo a new record of undetermined length... to be released independently, unless something else comes up!

12 – 1:45PM: Ira Jazz Project (jazz/funk/blues) <http://www.myspace.com/irajazzproject>

Enthusiastic young musicians from Universities including Berklee College of Music, OSU, U of M, and bands Swamping Bobulous, and The Vibes. Instrumentals include drums, bass, guitar, alto sax, tenor sax, piano, and singer.

2 – 3:45PM: Dolson (folk rock/indie/pop) <http://www.myspace.com/dolsonmusic>

After recording his first EP in Nashville, TN, with Grammy Award winning producer Mitch Dane in 2005, North East Ohio native, Andy Dolson shook the regional music scene with his melodic hooks and catchy beats. Songs like "Maybe This Time", "Apology", and "Butterfly" became regular plays on WAPS 91.3 The Summit, and WZIP 88.1.

His newest album "89" is the result of one and a half years of dreaming about living. The 13 track album tells the story of a naive young man set out to live his life, but who's dreams are shattered along the way. Amidst his confusion, threads of love and despair are woven together in the all too familiar journey from hope to cynicism.

Dolson produced and recorded over half of the album in his basement with the help of long time friend, Jonathan Penn. But once his eyes adjusted from his 17 month nap, he headed for Nashville, TN, to seek the help of artist/producer Andy Osenga. In the end "89" is a diverse collection of musical wanderings, and Dolson's best work yet. The album is set to be released this November.

4 – 6PM: Nate X Ten (folk rock/acoustic) <http://www.myspace.com/natex10>

Coming together from vastly different musical backgrounds, each band member of Nate X 10 adds their own flare to the group, creating a colorful musical ensemble that cannot be tagged to just one genre. Centered on the backbone of acoustic guitar, the sound builds from there with the addition of percussion, piano, cello, banjo, mandolin, and bass. The strong instrumental basis is met by a powerful lyrical collection that seeks to personally involve the feelings of the listeners. Nate X 10's music stems from the love of those who influence their lives every day. The music they play is affected more by the people who inspire them than the music they listen to. The band aims to create a connection with the audience and provide a live performance that begs to be experienced, not just observed.

Admission to the University Park Art Fair at Grace Park is free. On-street parking is available in the surrounding neighborhoods, and parking lots are open for use at adjacent businesses. For more information about the University Park Art Fair at Grace Park visit www.universityparkartfair.org.

The art fair is sponsored by the Brennan Family Foundation; Summa Health System; City of Akron; University Park Alliance; Boomerang LLC; Jill's House of Information LLC; iMMiX STUDIo (web design sponsor); Triad Communications (print design sponsor); WAPS 91.3 (media sponsor); United Way of Summit County; CommonGood Consulting, Inc.; WKSU 89.7FM; Welty Family Foundation; Akron Legacy Real Estate Development LLC; Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP; Huntington Bank; Maynard Family Foundation; Patrice Lange; Northeast Ohio Nephrology Associates ; Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority ; OMNOVA Solutions Fondation ; Oriana House; Aramark; Cintas; BW Rogers Company Fund; and Greenleaf Family Center.

About University Park Development Corporation

The University Park Development Corporation (UPDC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the renewal and rebirth of the University Park neighborhood and serves the people who live, work and play in the area.

UPDC strives to strengthen the economic, civic and environmental capabilities the University Park district through residential development, rehabilitation of the area and renovation of existing housing stock.