

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Virginia Key GrassRoots Festival of Music, Art and Dance Launches Culture Camp

Beach camping, dance, cooking and movement workshops will precede the festival beginning Sunday, February 15

Miami, FL – January 20, 2015 – The new **GrassRoots Culture Camp** is but one of the highlights of this year's **Virginia Key GrassRoots Festival of Music, Art and Dance**, set to begin the Sunday before the actual festival, which will run Thursday, February 19 through Sunday, February 22, 2015. Billed as a "warm-up week", the camp was designed to allow visitors to make a destination vacation out of the festival and to allow locals a taste of the interactive style of entertainment and learning that the festival promotes. The host site is the **Historic Virginia Key Beach Park**, located at 4020 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL 33149, and Culture Camp tickets are available online at virginiakeygrassroots.com/event/virginia-key-grassroots-culture-camp-2015. The cost to attend each day of unlimited workshops is \$25 and includes dinner and a dance. Children under 12 are admitted free to all events.

Beginning February 15, Culture Camp attendees of all ages can participate in music and dance workshops throughout the day beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday's kick-off event features a special **Community Building Project / Workshop** co-hosted by **Ben Cohen**, founder of **Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream**. Cohen will demonstrate the late, great **Pete Seeger's "Giant Seesaw Parable,"** which will operate throughout the GrassRoots Festival.

Music workshops will cover songwriting, percussion, various string instruments and duets, featuring many of the festival's high-profile performers: **Tara Nevins** and **Jeb Puryear** from **Donna the Buffalo**, **Claire Byrne**, **Joey Arcuri** and **Joe Kollar** from **Driftwood** and the multiple Grammy and Americana Music Association Award-winning **Jim Lauderdale**. Dance workshops will cover Latin dance with **Cintia Lovo** (Monday), line dancing with Nevins on Tuesday and wrap with Zydeco dance lessons on Wednesday.

Movement workshops begin each day with guided morning meditation led by **Saranpreet Kaur**, who will also conduct a Kundalini Yoga class and a Kirtan workshop, and will also include **Tensegrity Practice** with **Jordan Puryear**. The dinner and cooking palate will vary each day: Italian on Sunday, Latin American on Monday, Vietnamese on Tuesday and Cajun Gumbo styles on Wednesday. The camp dances begin each night at 8:30 p.m.

To view the full schedule of events, visit virginiakeygrassroots.com/yoga-movement-workshops/grassroots-culture-camp. For more information, call [786.409.5261](tel:786.409.5261).

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ABOUT GRASSROOTS

The original **Finger Lakes GrassRoots Festival** began in 1990 as a benefit concert to support a local AIDS organization in Ithaca, NY. Encouraged by the success of that night, a decision was made to create an annual festival dedicated to raising money for the fight against AIDS, while supporting arts and education. With the help of countless volunteers, the Finger Lakes GrassRoots Festival has become an internationally-recognized event with a focus on traditional and contemporary roots music and dance from all over the world. For four days every July, the festival hosts more than 60 performing groups on four stages at the **Trumansburg Fairgrounds** in central New York, near the university town of Ithaca.

Twelve years later, the **Shakori Hills GrassRoots Festival** was launched on a 75-acre farm in rural North Carolina near the triangle cities of Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill. Twice a year, in April and October, thousands of people attend the event to revel in great music, sweat it out on the dance floor, celebrate the arts, and build community. The site has since become the **Shakori Hills Community Arts Center**, a non-profit organization created to strengthen the community through music, arts and education.

The festival is down south for the winter once again, having found an amazing site, the **Historic Virginia Key Beach Park**, just off the coast of Miami, FL. It's the ideal spot for the fourth annual **Virginia Key GrassRoots Festival**. For more information, navigate to virginiakeygrassroots.com call [786.409.5261](tel:786.409.5261).

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