



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Blast Music Platform Accepting Artists Submissions**

**Huntsville, ALA – September 13, 2024** – The Huntsville-Madison County Public Library’s (HMCPL) Blast Music Platform is now accepting artist submissions. Blast Music is a free music streaming service showcasing the work of North Alabama musicians. Out of the many entries each year, only 50 individuals and bands are selected to join the platform. The deadline to apply is September 30, 2024.

Founded in 2021, Blast Music now boasts over 160 juried artists and over 180 albums and EPs across a wide variety of genres. Artists and bands from all categories of music will be considered, including Americana, Bluegrass, Blues, Country, Children’s, Classical, Folk, Gospel, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Latin, Pop, R&B, Rap, Religious, Rock, Soul, and World. Artists are encouraged to submit an application along with one sample track for the curator team to review during the judging period.

The platform’s Music Curators include HMCPL staff and representatives from the local music community. Past and current curators include Alli Johnson (Seeking Babylon/Artemis Music Productions), Marcus Sims (Host and Producer at 90.9 WJAB), Annie Phillips (HMCPL Digital Services Librarian), and Mario Maitland (The Maitland Conservatory).

Once the artist selection has been made, inductees will be invited to upload their EP or album, sign a license to stream (artists retain FULL ownership of their work), and will be paid an honorarium.

Blast artists have been featured at events such as PorchFest \*FivePoints, Winter Blast at the Orion Amphitheater, MidCity’s Camp to Amp Festival, and on WLRH 89.3’s Valley Sounds. The platform features both up-and-coming artists and established mainstays in the community.

Blast is funded by the Marguerite Cartwright Hawthorne Endowment, which is dedicated to purchasing music resources for the HMCPL. Thanks to this generous gift, and with the support of the Huntsville Music Office, Blast is able to pay each artist a \$300 honorarium, helping to contribute to the local music economy.

For detailed entry requirements and submission guidelines, please visit the Blast Music [website](#).

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### **About Huntsville-Madison County Public Library:**

This is the public’s library. Huntsville-Madison County Public Library (HMCPL) is a nonprofit

10 branch library system that serves all of Madison County, Ala. For 200 years, the library has been dedicated to enriching the educational, recreational and cultural lives of communities in Madison County through materials, information and programs that foster a lifelong love of learning. In addition to the collection of over 500,000 items, HMCPL also provides outreach services, a BookMobile and BookBike, online services, training, an extensive digital collection, public-use computers, free Wi-fi, meeting spaces and much more. For more information about HMCPL and its services, please visit [hmcpl.org](http://hmcpl.org).

For more information contact:

Jay Hixon, Public Relations Director

Huntsville-Madison County Public Library

[jhixon@hmcpl.org](mailto:jhixon@hmcpl.org)

256-970-6266