

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Library Adds 50 New Local Albums to Its Streaming Platform

Huntsville, ALA – December 12, 2024 – On December 12, Blast Music, the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library's streaming platform for local music, will expand its library with 50 new albums from artists across North Alabama.

This new induction marks the sixth addition to Blast's collection since its launch in August 2021. The new class of artists includes several talented returning acts and an array of exciting newcomers, bringing the total to 209 artists and 230 albums.

From metal and Afrobeats to punk, spiritual, and more, Blast offers something for every music lover. Listeners can stream their favorite tunes anywhere with an internet connection—no library card or sign-in required. Blast is proud to support its artists, who retain all rights to their music and receive a \$300 honorarium for their contributions, thanks to the Marguerite Cartwright Hawthorne Endowment and the Huntsville Music Office.

Highlights from Blast Music in 2024

- *SPIN* magazine article featured Blast in February.
- Nine Blast artists were featured and performed in *Hear To Be Seen*, an art exhibition at The Orion Amphitheater in September.
- Blast artist and Huntsville Music Office board member Kim Tibbs reached #1 on the UK Soul Chart in October.
- Blast artists, Kelly Abraham Joyner, Keyton, LUNA KOI, and The Wanda Band, are part of Huntsville Music Office's Music Ambassador Program showcasing their talent while touring nationwide.

The next submission round for Blast Music opens in September 2025 as part of Huntsville Music Month. For details, email <u>blast@hmcpl.org</u>. Start exploring the sounds of North Alabama today at <u>blast.hmcpl.org</u>!

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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 <u>hmcpl.org</u>.

For more information contact:

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