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LOCASH headlines Island Hopper Songwriter Fest

Download free festival app for ticket information

LEE COUNTY, FL – AUG. 27, 2018 – The Island Hopper Songwriter Fest is kicking off its fifth year with an impressive lineup of talented singer-songwriters.

This year's headliner for downtown Fort Myers is LOCASH. The duo is made up of singer-songwriters Chris Lucas and Preston Brust. The artists will be performing at Pinchers Crab Shack at The Marina at Edison Ford on Sept. 26. LOCASH has opened for Tim McGraw and Faith Hill, and will hit the road with Billy Currington this year.

Rolling Stone has referred to LOCASH as "one of Nashville's hardest working acts." Some of the group's top hits include "I Love This Life," "I Know Somebody" and "Ring on Every Finger." They just released a new single called "Don't Get Better Than That." They have written for artists such as Tim McGraw ("Truck Yeah") and Keith Urban ("You Gonna Fly"). This will be their second appearance at the Island Hopper Songwriter Fest. They performed on Fort Myers Beach in 2015.

Opening for LOCASH is singer-songwriter Travis Denning. His songs have been recorded by top country artists such as Michael Ray ("Her World or Mine"), Chase Rice ("Everybody We Know Does"), Jason Aldean and Justin Moore. Earlier this year, Denning toured with Justin Moore on his "Hell on a Highway" tour and has opened shows for Rice and Alan Jackson. Later this year, he will hit the road with LANCO. Denning just released his debut single ("David Ashley Parker from Powder Springs").

Other headliners include Midland, who will perform at the Pink Shell Beach Resort & Marina on Fort Myers Beach on the evening of Sunday, Sept. 30.

This year, we are happy to welcome more than 30 brand new artists including Heidi Newfield ("Johnny & June"), Wendell Mobley ("Fast Cars and Freedom"- recorded by Rascal Flatts) and Lee Thomas Miller ("The World"- recorded by Brad Paisley).

“We are fortunate to have such talented artists play at our festival,” said Louis Kaplan, iHeartMedia, senior vice president of programming. “It’s a highly anticipated event for both songwriters and fans.”

New this year is the launch of the Island Hopper Songwriter Fest app. The free app will be the go-to guide for the festival, containing ticket information, trip tips, performer bios, schedules and more. The schedule is now available on the app available for iOS and Android users.

The festival is hosting its first ever “Girl Power” show at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center featuring Sheena Brook, Megan Linville, Heidi Newfield, Bridgette Tatum and Amie Miriello. There will also be a couple of house parties on Captiva with music performed by Aaron Barker, Phil O’Donnell, Wynn Varble and Earl Bud Lee. And, in downtown Fort Myers, The Barrel Room will host a songwriter dinner and wine pairing. While most of the festival is free of charge, a variety of ticketed shows are available on the Island Hopper app under the schedule tab. The ticketed events include the “Girl Power” show, the headliners and more found in the app.

Island Hopper is an award-winning festival. The 2017 Island Hopper Fest received three SunSational Awards through the Florida Festival & Events Association (FFEA), and the Southeast Tourism Society named Island Hopper one of their “Top 20 Events.”

The Florida festival kicks off on Captiva Island, Sept. 21-23, then moves to historic downtown Fort Myers, Sept. 24-27, and wraps up on Fort Myers Beach, Sept. 28-30. This year’s festival brings more than 75 singer-songwriters from around the country who will perform more than 100 shows.

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Note to media: If you would like to interview any of our singer-songwriters, do live shots or plan to attend, please contact Megan Contreras, communications manager, at mcontreras@leegov.com.

Island Hopper is produced by the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau, iHeartMedia, Cat Country 107.1 and BMI, the largest music rights organization in the U.S. For more information visit islandhopperfest.com or [click here](#) to access the media tool kit. Follow the festival hashtag #islandhopperfest as well as the event’s [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) feeds.