



PRESS RELEASE

LITTLE MOUNTAIN HERITAGE FESTIVAL FREE FOR KIDS, FAMILY FOCUSED & FUN

July 25 and 26 mark the dates for the 24th annual Little Mountain Heritage Festival at the Lake County History Center in Painesville Township, adjacent to Riverside High School. The Festival, named a National Legacy Event, is supported by the Lake County Arts and Culture Fund of the county visitor's bureau and the Ohio Arts Council. These groups underwrite the Festival because it is one of the best family focused music, fine crafts and kid friendly events in the state.

Sponsored by the Lake County Historical Society, the festival features five music stages with continuous music all weekend. Some of Ohio's most outstanding artists will be appearing Saturday and Sunday including Steve Free winner of the Governor's Award in 2009 as Outstanding Individual Artist. Steve's combination of Native American and eco-music will keep families entertained throughout the weekend.

Families will also welcome a visit to the Family Frontier Village. This unique stop will take children into yesteryear as they try on pioneer clothing and pretend to live in their cabin on the Ohio frontier, learn to play jacks, shoot marbles and shop in the General Store booth. Children will have their own entertainment stage adjacent to the Village.

Traveling along the Festival's spacious walkways, the family will next encounter the Lake County Cultural Village. New in 2008, this area celebrates those ethnic groups whose early arrival in Lake County formed the backdrop for life today. Included will be celebrations of the Italian, Finnish, Hungarian, Hispanic cultures. Each area will present stories of their culture, examples of traditional costumes, foods and entertainment chosen by the groups themselves.

One of the most popular stops for families is the Ramrod Buster's Encampment. This heritage age area will allow families to view, visit and talk with characters from the past as these individuals recreate history from the earliest days of the Western Reserve through the Civil War. Children are special guests as the reenactors welcome families into their campsites to view their way of life and answer questions about the past.

No festival is complete without delicious foods, and Little Mountain Heritage Festival has some of the best festival food in Ohio from smoked turkey sandwiches to the famous Little Mountain Irish Nachos. The LCHS volunteer food booth presents a wide variety, but to keep food family friendly and inexpensive sells peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

The festival is held at the Lake County History Center, 415 Riverside Dr., Painesville Township, OH. Saturday hours are 10am-6pm and Sunday from 11am-6pm. New for 2009 is Festival After Dark, a time to take the kids home and come back for a beautiful summer's evening. The 12-piece Emperors of Swing will be filling the tables in the event barn and Fat City will be rocking the main stage with their brand of funky 60's. Hours for the evening event are 7-10pm and a separate admission of \$5 is charged. Festival admission is \$6 adults, \$5 for seniors and teens. Children 12 and under and parking are free. Parking is adjacent to the Center at Riverside High School with a free shuttle available. For more information, contact the Center at 440-639-2945 or www.LakeHistory.org.

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STEVE FREE
Ohio Performer of the year appears
at Little Mt. Heritage Festival