



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
October 5, 2009

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HONK! IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS

Bands from around the world kick off festival downtown

Boston, MA – The fourth annual HONK! Festival kicks off this Friday, October 9 in your neighborhood! Starting at 4 p.m., street bands from around the world will gather in Boston Common, City Hall Plaza, and Maverick Square to play alongside local musicians and celebrate Boston's downtown.

"The Friday HONKS in the neighborhoods are a really exciting new feature of the festival," said Reebee Garofalo, a HONK! Festival organizer, "We wanted to broaden our audience by taking the festival directly to people who might not be able to make it to Davis Square."

New York's Rude Mechanical Orchestra and Chicago's Environmental Encroachment will perform in Boston Common to support Food not Bombs, a local organization that serves free food every Friday at the corner of Park and Tremont Street. Peace and Social Justice, a student run organization from Emerson College, will perform in the Common with puppets borrowed from the local Puppeteers Collaborative.

"We're very excited to be part of HONK!," said Rachel Freedman, a member of Emerson's Peace and Social Justice, "Food not Bombs is an important organization and the bands are amazing."

A few blocks away, Banda Roncati, hailing from Bologna, Italy, will perform in City Hall Plaza. Baltimore's Barrage Band Orchestra and Vancouver's Carnival Band will march

in the East Boston parade from Maverick Square to Bremen Street Park for Zumix, a non-profit, after school music education program.

"Zumix is inspiring," said Ken Field, who helped organize HONK! Festival, "This organization gives young people the chance to explore music and use it to make a positive impact on their community."

The three-day festival of activist street bands continues Columbus Day weekend on Saturday and Sunday in Somerville's Davis Square. HONK! is a grassroots, non-profit event made possible by more than a thousand local residents, businesses, and volunteers.

To learn more about HONK! and see the full schedule of events, visit Honkfest.org and follow us on twitter.com/honkfest.

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