

YOUTUBE MUSIC AND NIVA KICK OFF #SOSFEST 3-DAY VIRTUAL FESTIVAL TODAY

ADDITIONAL APPEARANCES BY ALEXIS KRAUSS, FLUME, JIMMY BUFFETT, JIMMY FALLON, JIM JAMES, QUINCY JONES, SLASH, SHAED, STANTON MOORE, SHANNON POWELL AND MORE

NEW TRAILER FEATURING AND NARRATED BY NEIL YOUNG LIVE NOW

Tune In To #SOSFEST Tonight at 5PM PT / 8PM ET On NIVA's Official YouTube Channel



WHAT:

Today, YouTube Music and the National Independent Venue Association (NIVA) kick off Save Our Stages Festival (#SOSFEST), a three day virtual music festival. The festival will include performances from 35 artists recorded live from more than 25 of the most storied independent concert venues across the United States, all in support of NIVA's Save Our Stages advocacy and relief efforts for members of the independent music community devastated by pandemic closures. The full schedule of performances can be found on NIVA's Official YouTube Channel.



The #SOSFEST is a fundraiser for the NIVA <u>Emergency Relief Fund</u>, which will benefit independent venues in peril of shuttering permanently as they await federal relief. Donations can be made on NIVA's Official YouTube Channel now.

Watch #SOSFEST today starting at 5 PM PT / 8 PM ET on NIVA's Official YouTube Channel.

Today #SOSFEST unveiled a new exclusive trailer narrated by Neil Young, featuring the earliest known footage of the iconic artist performing live at the late American Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford, CT. Additionally, the trailer features a variety of celebrated artists performing career defining concerts on independent stages across the country. Watch Here.

#SOSFEST has also announced that in addition to the weekend's musical performances, appearances will be made by Alexis Krauss of Sleigh Bells, Flume, Jimmy Buffett, Jimmy Fallon, Jim James of My Morning Jacket, Quincy Jones, Shaed, Slash, Shannon Powell, Stanton Moore and more to help amplify the critical and imminent situation that independent venues across the country are currently facing. These artists and icons will share NIVA's call to action and illustrate the impact that these spaces have had on their careers and on our cultural landscape throughout history.

Watch powerful folklore videos from DC's 9:30 Club featuring Donna Westmoreland, COO of I.M.P. shares how 9:30's proximity to the Nation's Capitol helped define its activist roots, New Orleans' Preservation Hall featuring Shannon Powell, who shares his story of a childhood spent learning from New Orleans' jazz giants at the venue and Los Angeles' Troubadour featuring Slash, who shares his life-long relationship attending, playing, and returning to the venue for a Guns N 'Roses reunion tour. All live now HERE!

About NIVA

Formed at the onset of the COVID-19 shutdown, National Independent Venue Association (NIVA), now represents more than 2,800 members in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. These independent venues and promoters were the first to close and will be the last to fully reopen. NIVA's mission is to preserve and nurture the ecosystem of independent live venues, promoters and festivals throughout the United States. When surveyed, 90% of NIVA members reported they'd be forced to shut forever without federal assistance. Mom and Pop businesses were the first to close when the pandemic hit, have no revenue and enormous overhead. To learn more about NIVA's quest to gain federal funding for independent venues, visit https://www.nivassoc.org/take-action. To learn more about the NIVA Emergency Relief Fund, visit https://www.nivassoc.org/erf.



For More Information, Please Contact:

NIVA Press: Audrey Fix Schaefer, audrey@930.com / Leslie Hermelin, lesliehermelin@gmail.com YouTube Music Press: Marni Greenberg, marnigreenberg@google.com / Lauren Resnick, Lres@google.com