

Wilkes Community College's



MerleFest®

Music. Moments. Memories.™

ON THE CAMPUS OF WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE, WILKESBORO, NC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MERLEFEST 25 NOW ACCEPTING VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS

WILKESBORO, N.C. (October 4, 2011)—Volunteer applications for **MerleFest 25** are now being accepted online. MerleFest volunteers are vital to the success of the festival. With over 800 individual donating their time to the festival each year, one must ask, "What is the appeal for volunteers?"

"As one faithful volunteer put it, 'Once you volunteer, you will never want to miss the chance to do it again every year,'" says Mona McRae, volunteer coordinator for MerleFest. "It is this endless dedication that makes MerleFest possible."

There are many benefits to volunteering at MerleFest. The most important is that volunteers are part of a worthwhile fundraiser for Wilkes Community College. "Anyone visiting our campus gets a glimpse of the buildings, gardens and instructional programs that the monies raised through MerleFest make possible each year," adds McRae.

One advantage of volunteering at MerleFest is free entry for each day the volunteer works one shift. Usually the shifts are three to five hours long, and the participation is fun. Volunteers may opt to work one, two, three or four days.

Volunteers get a jumpstart on the music and fun at the Volunteer Kick-Off and Training event to be held on Wednesday April 25, 2012, at 6 p.m. in the Mayes Pit/Cohn Auditorium in Thompson Hall. This is an opportunity for volunteers to meet one another and their team leaders, listen to some great music, enjoy some refreshments, receive training, and tour their designated volunteer areas.

To learn more about volunteering at MerleFest 25 and to access the online applications, visit www.merlefest.org/volunteers. To request a hard copy of the application, email Mona McRae at merlefest.volunteer@wilkescc.edu or call 336-838-6262. Volunteer applications will be accepted through April 13, 2012.

All volunteers are required to send a recent photograph. Anyone who has never worked as a MerleFest volunteer, or has failed to report to a scheduled volunteer position in previous years without notifying MerleFest, must send a personal check for \$35 made payable to MerleFest. Checks and photos must be received within two weeks of application submission. Deposit checks should be mailed to MerleFest Volunteer Coordinator, P.O. Box 120, Wilkesboro, N.C. 28697. After all shifts are completed, the deposit will be returned to volunteers at Flattop's Getaway. Volunteers will receive their schedule no later than six weeks after we receive the application.

“Volunteering at MerleFest is an exciting opportunity to experience a world-renowned festival of music, moments and memories,” says McRae. “Volunteers do more than just attend; they make the festival possible. Don’t miss this opportunity to volunteer at MerleFest 25 and be a part of this historic event!

PHOTOS:



Caption: Volunteers get a jump start on the music, moments and memories that make MerleFest one of the premier music festivals in the United States.

###

MerleFest Media Contacts:

Judy McDonough, Publicist: 615-243-5994 or mcdonoughmedia1@yahoo.com

Amber Herman, WCC Public Information and Relations Officer: 336-838-6292 or amber.herman@wilkescc.edu