

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Home County Folk League Seeks Local Musicians On May 22<sup>nd</sup> For Spot Light On London Auditions to Perform at Festival Workshops**

London, ONTARIO – Home County Folk League announces the opportunity for local London and area musicians to participate in the Home County Folk Festival to be held in Victoria Park, London, Ontario between July 16 – 18, 2010.

The Spot Light On London auditions will be held on Saturday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Gigs Restaurant at 420 Talbot, London from 1:00pm to 6:00pm.

“With larger names such as Bruce Cockburn and other established artists in this year’s festival, it is also important to recognize local area musicians. Over 350 CDs are submitted each year for consideration. Normally, Home County Folk Festival books between 15 % and 25% local musicians for the festival”, states Catherine McInnes, Artistic Director of the Home County Folk Festival. “This year, we want to provide more local area musicians, who may or may not have recorded CDs, the opportunity to showcase their music. It is our mandate to recognize and present local, regional and national musicians. This opportunity allows more local artists to be exposed to a wider audience”.

### **Spot Light On London**

May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. From 1:00pm to 6:00pm

Auditions must be made in person. A \$10 fee reserves the audition spot. 24 spots are available. *Chosen performers will be paid an honorarium for their festival performances.* Each performer/group (Trio max. for groups) will perform 2 songs for a team of judges made up of festival board members and the Artistic Director. Between 8 and 12 musicians will be selected from auditions to either perform on a workshop stage and/or potentially as a tweener between mainstage sets. Gigs is equipped with a sound system. Registrations will be made **in person only** at: Gigs Restaurant: 420 Talbot St. London, Ont. No telephone reservations will be permitted. A second audition date may be added.

For the past thirty-seven years, the Home County Folk League, a London-based non-profit volunteer driven organization, has presented great Canadian roots artists. Home County has won Festival and Events Ontario Top 100 designation and was recently on the Top 20 Best Music Festivals in Canada list established by CBC Radio3’s Searchlight Contest. With music performances on six stages in Victoria Park and over 150 juried Canadian crafters and artisans, the park comes alive in a vibrant celebration of Canadian music and art. With an interactive theme, “Explore Your Roots 2010”, This year’s enhancements include professional high profile performances for adults and children, a Canadian Pow-Wow, and historical folk re-enactments with the participation of Fanshawe Pioneer Village. The festival is also expanding outside of Victoria Park into Centennial Hall on Saturday July 17<sup>th</sup> with dance performances and high profile children’s entertainers such as CBC’s Yamma Mamma, Patti & Bo on the Go as well as Chris McKhool. There will also be a “Walking Home County Passport Tour” to arts and heritage locations in downtown London displaying folk based art and music.

For more information please contact:

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