



12TH ANNUAL ART & SOUL OAKLAND

August 4 & 5, 2012
Downtown Oakland

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Downtown Street Closures Announced as Oakland Preps for Art & Soul, the Bay Area's Best Festival

OAKLAND, California (July 30, 2012) – In preparation for the City of Oakland's 12th Annual Art & Soul Festival, event organizers will close a few streets in downtown Oakland. A one-block section of **Clay Street from 11th to 12th streets** will be closed beginning at **9 a.m. on Thursday, August 2, 2012**. **12th Street between Broadway and Clay Street** will be closed beginning at **6 p.m. on Thursday, August 2, 2012**. The balance of the street closures will begin at **10 a.m. on Friday, August 3, 2012**, with the closure of **14th Street** between Broadway and Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, **12th Street** between Clay and Jefferson Street, **Clay Street** between 11th and 16th streets and **Jefferson Street** from 11th to 15th streets. These streets will re-open in time for the morning commute on Monday, August 6, 2012.

All downtown parking garages will remain open and accessible on Thursday, August 2, and Friday, August 3. AC Transit riders are encouraged to check bus stops for detour information.

The City of Oakland's wildly successful flagship festival, **Art & Soul Oakland**, ventures into its 12th year by **adding a late-night bash and cutting-edge art show** to its long established reputation as one of the region's top music festivals. Named among the top 12 "must-see summer festivals" in Northern California by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Art & Soul Oakland 2012 – slated for **August 4 & 5 in downtown Oakland** – goes boldly into the night on Saturday, with audio-video art installations and multimedia performances to accompany DJ Dylot broadcasting from the rooftop of Oakland City Hall.

Previously announced performers for the 12th Annual Art & Soul Festival include **Luce, Souls of Mischief, Lalah Hathaway, Duets: Meshell Ndegeocello and Chris Bruce, Oleta Adams, Lyrics Born, Zendaya & PopLyfe, Blame Sally, Forrest Day, Sweet Talk Radio, Dear Indugu, Vetiver, Saviours, Garrison Starr, Tia Carroll, Lady Bianca and Kellye Gray** among the 50 bands on five stages. The ever popular Bay Area Blues Society and Edwin Hawkins Gospel stages return as well. Visit ArtandSoulOakland.com for this year's exciting musical lineup.

Art & Soul will encompass 10 city blocks in and around Frank H. Ogawa Plaza and City Center. In addition to **great live music** and **epic art installations**, the event features artisan booths, food vendors and mobile food trucks as well as the ever-popular **Family Fun Zone** with pint-sized rides, hands-on activities and much more. Since launching in 2000, the festival has attracted more than 250,000 people to downtown Oakland and has helped fuel the growth of downtown – particularly the Uptown district – as a nationally-recognized dining destination and arts & culture hotspot.

Taking BART directly to Art & Soul Oakland is a great way to avoid traffic. The festival is directly accessible via the 12th Street/City Center BART station. For those that choose to drive, there is free

parking for hundreds of cars in the City Center West parking garage at 12th Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Way.

The 12th Annual Art & Soul Festival runs from 2 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, August 4, and from noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday, August 5. Advance tickets, available online at ArtandSoulOakland.com, are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors (65+) and youth (ages 13-17). Tickets at the gate will cost \$15 for adults and \$8 for seniors and youth. Kids 12 and under enjoy free admission to the festival.

Art & Soul Oakland 2012 is produced by the City of Oakland in association with the *East Bay Express*.

For more information on Art & Soul, visit ArtandSoulOakland.com or call (510) 444-CITY.

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