

LOCAL / REGIONAL

Free Southside Music Festival Set for June 25

By Camm Ashford

Net Resource Foundation will host its first-ever music festival on Saturday, June 25, from 4-8 p.m. It will take place at the Southside Community Park, 3501 Central Ave.

The family-friendly concert is free and open to the public and features retail and food vendors. Security officers will be onsite.

The music festival will feature the Rare Coalition Band, Aerobic Soul Steppers, DJ Tony Dub and Caleb Golson, among others.

All proceeds from the festival will help fund the Net Resource Foundation’s Leadership for Life program. The six-week summer program provides students, grades 6-10, career preparation, life skills and work-based learning.

Executive Director Raquetta Dotley, who serves as Chattanooga District 7 Councilwoman, said the program is like a job.

“They must create a portfolio,



Caleb Golson, poet & spoken word artist.



The Southside Music Festival will feature DJ Tony Dub.

which includes a resume, mock job application and their bio,” she explained.

At the end of the course, the stu-

dents must make a three-minute presentation to a panel of judges. The top three students chosen by the judges will earn an additional bonus with

their final stipend.

The panel includes a variety of community leaders and the director of human resources for Cempa Community Care, Akil Lloyd.

“This allows me to uplift and pass advice on to the next generation,” Lloyd said. “I feel it would be very valuable for students to participate in a program like this because it equips participants with a necessary toolkit that many people don’t learn until later. As these students mature, their skills acquired from this program will continue to enhance.”

According to its website, “The mission of The Net Resource Foundation is to challenge systemic issues through mentorship and community-building programs in the South Chattanooga Community. Since our initial outreach in 2015, we have successfully impacted families through our after-school, summer youth, community feeding, and civic engager programs.”

Honored: from front

(UTC) Professor Roland Carter for his work in music. Carter told the audience how he became head of the music department at UTC, a school that would not allow him to enroll in the 1960s. He was especially grateful for the recognition from the festival at this point in his life. He turned 80 in May.

“I am without words,” Carter said after his former student and local prin-

cipal LaFrederick Thirkill announced him to receive the award.

Other artists honored included Writer, Producer and Creator Charles Patterson for theater, D. Williams Dance Academy founder Devante Williams for dance, and Rhyme N Chatt President Marsha Mills for literature.

Sheila Wofford, a local director, writer, producer and actress, won the award for film. Several people cheered and yelled words of encouragement as she shared her story.

“Someone who was my size who looked like me got supporting roles,” she said.

Wofford worked in Atlanta and New York, but still had a hard time getting the roles she wanted. She noted that she too could play a leading lady.

So when no one gave her an opportunity, she created her own film company in 2014 and began creating opportunities for herself and others.

“I can be the sexy Villain,” she said.

“Come on,” yelled someone from the audience in agreement. Other people cheered and applauded.

“I can be the doctor,” she said. “I can be a lawyer.”

For more events to celebrate Juneteenth, visit <https://www.blackartsandideasfest.com/>.

The Unity Group is also hosting Juneteenth events. For more information, go to <https://www.facebook.com/unitygroupofchattanooga/>.

Studdard: from front

UTC by inspiring positive change, creating a more inclusive and welcoming campus, engaging students, faculty and staff in meaningful experiences through campus and community partnerships,” Lightfoot said.

“This celebration underscores our

commitment to diversity and inclusion and is a significant way to acknowledge the historical context and persistent effects of slavery in America.”

Lightfoot’s reading will be followed by a choral performance of “Lift Every Voice and Sing”—known as the Black National Anthem—in an arrangement written by UTC Professor Emeritus Roland Carter and now considered

the standard arrangement at most historically Black colleges and universities.

Several other civil rights anthems also will be performed, followed by the concert by Studdard. Starting fall semester 2022, Studdard will teach two courses, one on the commercial side of the music business and one on the performing side.

Following the concert, Knoxville’s

African drumming and dance troupe Indigenous Vibes will perform.

Various food trucks will be at Chamberlain Field for the celebration.

For more information on other Juneteenth events organized by the Chattanooga Festival of Black Arts & Ideas, go to: <https://www.blackartsandideasfest.com>.

Slim + Husky: from front

proximity to downtown, UTC and the city’s Urban corridor. “The S+H team is proud to bring our homegrown, artisan pizza brand (infused with music, art and

fashion) to the Chattanooga community,” shared Chief Marketing Officer Clint Gray.

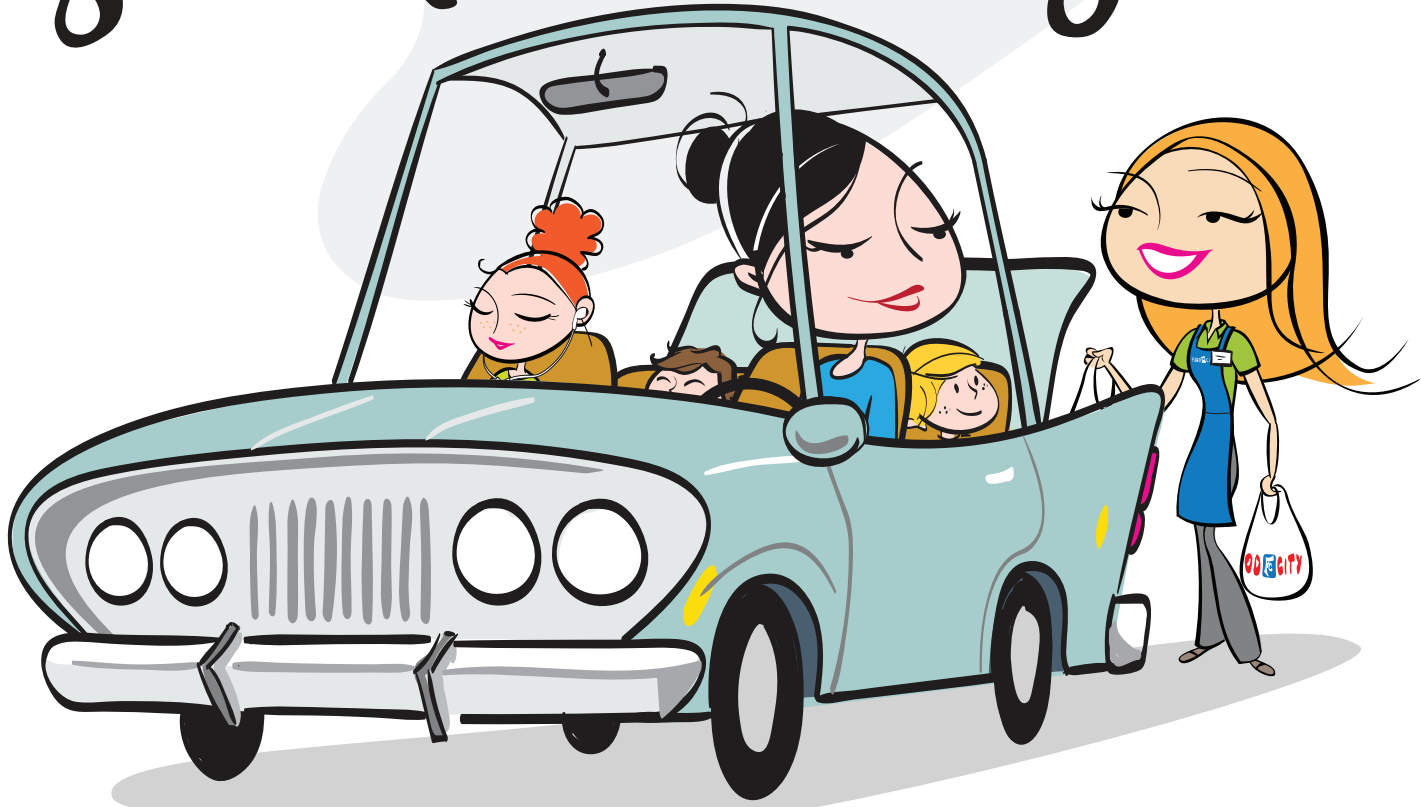
To celebrate the grand opening and the trio’s commitment to public education, Slim + Husky’s will offer Chattanooga educators 50% off during

a Teacher Soft Opening event on Tuesday, June 21, from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM and 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Proof of school ID is required to obtain the promotion. (Chattanooga location only)

Slim + Husky’s Chattanooga hours of operation are Sunday-Thursday

(11:00 AM – 9:00 PM) and Friday-Saturday (11:00 AM – 11:00 PM). In addition to dine-in and carry-out, delivery options will be available through Uber Eats and DoorDash. Slim + Husky’s encourages customers to order carry-out through www.slimandhuskys.com.

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