



BLUE RIDGE MUSIC FESTIVAL RETURNS TO SALEM WITH BRANTLEY GILBERT AS HEADLINER *Tickets on sale Friday through Ticketmaster*

SALEM, Va. (December 10, 2013) – On **Saturday, May 31**, ACM's Top New Male Artist **Brantley Gilbert** will headline the second annual Blue Ridge Music Festival at Salem Stadium.

Joining Gilbert will be **Thomas Rhett, Colt Ford, Parmalee, Jukebox Mafia, DeeJay Silver**, and other exciting guests to be announced. The daylong country festival will be hosted by GAC and SiriusXM's **Storme Warren**.

Tickets are on sale Friday, December 13 at 10:00 AM at the Salem Civic Center box office, all Ticketmaster locations and charge by phone at 1-800-745-3000. General admission field tickets are \$40 plus additional fees. There will also be reserved seat tickets and a limited number of VIP tickets available.

"This is great news for the entire region," says Carey Harveycutter, Salem's Director of Tourism. "We can't wait for the festival to return to Salem Stadium, and we're already making plans to enhance the fan experience."

"We're excited to be back," states Mike Smardak, President of Outback Concerts.

Recently crowned Top New Male Artist by the Academy of Country Music, **Brantley Gilbert** is showing no signs of slowing down. With three gold singles off of his sophomore album "Halfway to Heaven", he promises to impress with his upcoming single "Bottoms Up".

After a successful first year of the Blue Ridge Music Festival, the second year of the festival will bring exciting new artists to Salem. Additionally, onsite parking will be increased and an additional offsite parking lot with a shuttle to the festival will be added. The festival also will offer more food options and additional points of sale.

Salem has played host to a number of major stars in the past, including Bob Dylan, Willie Nelson, Miranda Lambert, Zac Brown Band, and Dierks Bentley. Within the past year, they have brought popular country acts Florida Georgia Line and Merle Haggard to the Civic Center.

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