





Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP Successfully Hosts 6th Annual Charitable Concert "Sound of Summer" at House of Blues Chicago, Benefitting Musically Fed

Benefitting non-profit Musically Fed in an effort to mobilize the music industry in the fight against hunger

CHICAGO — July 23, 2024 — Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP's Entertainment and Media Law Practice Group hosted its sixth annual music showcase, Sound of Summer, on June 13, 2024, at the House of Blues Chicago.

Founded in 2015, Sound of Summer is an annual event dedicated to raising money for charitable causes through a celebration of music. This year's charitable recipient was <u>Musically Fed</u>, a non-profit organization whose mission is to mobilize the music industry in the fight against hunger. Musically Fed works with artists, promoters, management, and venues nationwide to donate unused backstage meals to community organizations comprised of at least 50% veterans and who focus on feeding people facing homelessness, hunger, and food insecurity.

Sound of Summer drew more than 700 people to the House of Blues Chicago to support our incredible line-up and cause. Through ticket sales, raffle ticket collections, and generous donations from donors, Swanson, Martin, and Bell successfully raised over \$12,000 for Musically Fed and more than 750 pounds of dry food and goods to a local Chicago Food Drive organization.

"This event plays a crucial role in Swanson, Martin & Bell's mission to enhance our community. We are thrilled with the results and cannot wait until next year," said Jeff Becker, Founder of Sound of Summer and Chair of SMB Entertainment & Media Law Practice Group.

The firm welcomed five amazing artists who performed at House of Blues on June 13, 2024, including:

- Natalie Jane. The New Jersey native began studying music at a young age, performing in musicals and learning piano. Natalie Jane is all about being honest—even when the feelings she's plunging into are murky and unsettled. On her Capitol Music Group / 10K Projects debut EP Where Am I?, the 20-year-old singer-songwriter lets her instincts and emotions guide her as she pursues life's truths. The larger-than-life accusation "AVA," which vibrates with envy from its scream-along opening line—"Who the fuck is Ava?"—helped establish Natalie Jane as a galvanizing force in pop, amassing more than 730 million TikTok views, landing on the charts in four countries since its release, and inspiring concertgoers who saw her open for Bishop Briggs and Misterwives to get into a frenzy where they yelled the lyrics at top volume. "Bloody murder in there," she says of the pandemonium her live sets inspired.
- **Kid Quill.** A recording artist from Indianapolis, IN, whose sound is a hybrid of hip-hop, pop, and alternative. He has grown a core fanbase from touring in the early stages of his career. Over recent years, he's performed at festivals such as Firefly, Electric Forest, Breakaway, and Lollapalooza, where he broke the record for highest attendance at the BMI Stage. As an independent artist, he has amassed over 200 million streams, become a global ambassador for the Indiana Pacers, and was selected for Soundcloud's "First On Soundcloud" Class of 2021. He will be releasing new music leading up to his highly anticipated upcoming album slated for Spring 2024.

- Capital Soirée. An indie pop band from Chicago, which started as a childhood trio between best friends James Kourafas (vocals/guitar), Max Romero (bass), and Steven Rejdukowski (guitar). The band has grown from practicing in their basement to playing some of the most acclaimed stages in Chicago, all while maintaining the enthusiasm of some neighborhood kids with a dream. With the addition of Dean Sinclair (drums), Capital Soirée's latest EP, "Reruns," demonstrates the band at their most current: a bit melancholic, weathered by change, and nostalgic for the past but still hopeful for the future.
- OSTON. OSTON's music feels like you're reading a page straight from her diary. Now residing in LA, the Park City, Utah native is known for her punchy, vulnerable lyricism that resonates with the masses. OSTON's music has been consistently featured on Spotify's 'New Music Friday' and various other playlists across streaming platforms. Her latest EP, "Melancholia," landed her the cover of Spotify's 'SALT' playlist and has amassed nearly 11M streams since its release via Virgin Music. With US tours supporting JORDY, The Greeting Committee, and VÉRITÉ under her belt and festival appearances such as Lollapalooza, OSTON is set to support Hunter Hayes on his US tour in May.
- Nico Segal. A Trumpeter and Producer from Chicago, kicked off his steady ascent as a founding member of the highly regarded band Kids These Days with Chance the Rapper and Vic Mensa. Nico has thereafter built a sneakily impressive resume over the next ten years, touring with Frank Ocean, founding The Social Experiment and producing their 2015 album "Surf," writing and producing for Chance the Rapper, as well as occupying a myriad of high-profile stages, including three performances on Saturday Night Live, a Tiny Desk performance, the 2016 National Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Obama White House, the NBA All-Star game, the ESPYS, NY Jazz Fest, and TEDxChicago. Coupled with multiple Grammy Nominations and winning for Production on Chance The Rapper's "Coloring Book," one would be hard-pressed to find heights Segal has yet to reach. Despite an already well-established career, his smile has frequently gone unseen. All that luster he needed to take center stage is often spared for collaboration with others; Nico Segal's latest solo project, "Tell the Ghost Welcome Home," will serve as a Grand re-introduction to an artist of luminary presence and humble beginnings.

To learn more about Sound of Summer, visit www.soundofsummer.live.

About Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP

Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP, a nationally recognized litigation firm in Chicago, is dedicated to resolving contested matters for our clients. Jury trial experience is the hallmark of the firm. Our attorneys have tried hundreds of cases to verdict in a variety of complex civil and commercial disputes. Many large corporations, prestigious institutions, business owners, and talented individuals retain Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP in jurisdictions across the United States. Since its inception in 1992, the firm has grown to 130 attorneys in 30 practice areas, including Entertainment and Media Law, with offices in Chicago, Lisle, Libertyville, Madison County, Ill., Kansas City Metro Area, and St. Louis, Mo.

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