Artisphere announces music lineup

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This year's Artisphere festival will feature a diverse musical palette, with a focus on folk and indie-rock artists.

Artisphere goes on May 8-10 in downtown Greenville, and the headliners are Civil Twilight, an alt-rock band that hail from South Africa, which plays on opening night as part of the Artisphere After Hours Concert Series, and the Apache Relay, a folk-influenced rock band from Nashville, which performs May 9.

"We always do try to create some diversity in the lineup," said Kerry Murphy, Artisphere executive director. "The WYFF Main Stage, which is in the Peace Center amphitheater, always hosts our local performing arts showcase on Saturday and Sunday. But on Friday and Saturday evenings, we try to do some music that will appeal to the very diverse crowd that we have attending Artisphere. And we really look for some fantastic singer-songwriters, some unique artists, folks that are on their way up, that have a great following."

The Apache Relay, which has performed at Bonnaroo and opened for Mumford and Sons, has a large national following, said Murphy, who expects that the band's presence might draw some first-timers to Artisphere.

"It's always fun when I get a phone call saying, 'I hear the Apache Relay is coming to your festival. I've looked all over your site (searching for) how to buy tickets.' And then when I tell them it's free, their response is always, 'Well OK, we'll be there,'" she said.



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The Apache Relay will perform at this year's Artisphere festival May 8-10 in downtown Greenville.

Blues and folk musician Parker Millsap opens for the Apache Relay, and indie-rock band Kopecky will open for Civil Twilight.

Local and regional musicians, including Asheville's Underhill Rose and the Grammy-nominated Jeff Sipe Trio, will perform on the Broad Street Culinary Arts Cafe Stage throughout the weekend.