



May 27, 2020

Dear Sisters Folk Festival supporter,

Thank you for hanging in there with us as we've taken time over the past 2½ months to observe, read and learn more than we ever wanted to know about the spread of COVID-19. We've watched as our fellow festivals around the world have made the excruciating call to cancel or postpone their events, one after the next. We've witnessed the musicians and organizations we love struggle as their livings and revenue streams evaporated almost overnight. Watching this has been devastating to all of our psyches -- including yours, as someone who thrives on the fellowship that comes through the shared experience of live music.

We waited for guidance from our state health officials on what this fall might look like, and we got that on May 7, when the Oregon governor announced there would be no concerts, sporting events or large gatherings taking place at least through the end of September without major modifications. Since that day, our team has been exploring what those modifications might look like for the Sisters Folk Festival (Masks? Social distancing? Micro-sized, assigned venues? A virtual festival?) and, simply put, we just can't imagine that for you. The very idea of not seeing your smiles and not hugging our festival family members just doesn't feel very... festive.

We in no way want to put the health of our festival community and citizens of Sisters at risk, no matter how much we could all use a burst of positivity and live music right now. So, it is with deep sadness that we have decided to postpone this year's Sisters Folk Festival until September 10-12, 2021. We are disappointed, but we know this is the right decision. **We are confident that we will be able to retain most, if not all, of our spectacular lineup of performers for next year.**

Knowing that we can't deliver on the experience for which you purchased a festival ticket, our team has come up with the following options for you, as a current ticket holder. As you make your decision, please keep in mind that -- if you are in a position to do so -- not requesting a refund would be tremendously helpful to our nonprofit organization as we navigate this period of drastically reduced revenue. If that is not possible for you, we certainly understand and know that you will make the right decision.

1. "Bear With Us" package in lieu of a refund (one package per ticket; items will ship in late August):
 - a. \$25 ticket credit for 2021 festival
 - b. "Beargrass" festival poster signed by artist Dennis McGregor
 - c. SFF branded stainless steel pint cup – good for use at a future festival!
 - d. SFF t-shirt with Bear design; choice of colors and styles will be sent in early July

2. Full or partial tax-deductible donation of ticket purchase price to SFF, a nonprofit organization
3. Carryover of ticket to 2021 festival (no action required)
4. Full Refund

Please respond to info@sistersfolkfestival.org with your preferred option no later than June 30, 2020. If we do not hear from you before that date, your ticket(s) will automatically be rolled over to 2021; you do not need to take any action if you would like your tickets to roll over to 2021.

Let us know if you have any questions; we hope you are staying well, both physically and mentally. We can't wait to see you next year!

Sincerely,
The Board and Staff of Sisters Folk Festival