

5th Annual Ritz Fest NEWBERRY Business Partnership Package



The 5th Annual Ritz Fest Music Festival for Mental Health wants your support!

In partnership with The Jason Foundation (JFI), our multi-day benefit festival allows us to continue to support suicide prevention and mental health awareness by engaging with attendants and partners as we highlight our commitment to healthier youth directly in our home state of South Carolina. Help us make it a community event!

♥ According to the South Carolina Department of Public Health, there were 141 youth suicides in our state in 2021. The rate of youth suicide has increased by 32.3% over the last 10 years. Mental health problems are the number one circumstance leading to youth suicide.

♥ According to the CDC's WISQARS National Data Report from 2019, suicide is the third leading cause of death of 10-24 year olds in South Carolina, and the FIRST leading cause of death of youths aged 10-14.

♥ South Carolina ranks 29th in the nation in suicide rates, 26th in suicides in ages 12 to 19, and 39th in drug-related suicides in the United States.

♥ According to the Jason Foundation, a young person between the ages of 11 and 24 dies from suicide in South Carolina every 2.96 days.

♥ The Jason Flatt Act, signed into law in 2012, mandates training and certification for South Carolina middle and high school educators in suicide awareness and prevention.

About Us:

♥ Started in 2023, Ritz Fest was South Carolina's only youth annual suicide prevention benefit festival that just rebranded to *Ritz Fest Music Festival for Mental Health*.

♥ Ritz Fest is always held on the first Saturday in February.

♥ Ritz Fest operates as a non-profit under the Newberry Community Players' 501c3 (EIN 57-0605450, est.1980).

♥ Ritz Fest '27 will benefit **Love Like Alissa**, a local non profit scholarship foundation set up in the honor of Alissa Charpentier, and **The Jason Foundation, Inc.** (JFI) a non-profit that provides training and resources across the country to fight youth suicide. JFI offers professional training to South Carolina middle and high school teachers on suicide awareness and prevention to meet certification requirements.

♥ We continue to grow each year and have raised over \$31,000 for JFI since our inaugural event in 2023.

Here are some highlights for the **5th Annual Ritz Fest Music Festival for Mental Health!**

♥ *Ritz Fest* is always held on the **first Saturday in February** at the **Ritz Theater**, 1511 Main Street, Newberry SC. This year our event is **Saturday 6 February from 3:00-10:00 PM**. Doors open at 2:00.

♥ Tickets are **\$9.88**.

♥ The 2nd annual **Ritz Fest Eve at The Newberry Opera House** will send a portion of the proceeds directly to JFI. Musician Cody Webb is performing on Friday, 5 February 2027. This is the second year NOH has sponsored and hosted *Ritz Fest Eve*. Visit www.noh,

♥ *The City Of Newberry's* Accommodation Tax Funds awarded us with funds to procure headline acts. Visit www.theritzfest.org for the whole lineup as it is updated.

♥ *Newberry County's* Accommodation Tax funds awarded us with funds for advertising 50 miles outside of Newberry County.

We are striving to make the **5th Annual Ritz Fest Music Festival for Mental Health** a larger community event. Your business can partner with us by providing SOMETHING when ticket holders show you their JFI bracelet. We can promote your business on our website and during the event as a merchant partner and request you to promote our event as well. Reach out to me to discuss how your business can be involved.

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