

MEDIA RELEASE

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ROCK GARAGE BANDS @ THE VOGUE!

Amateur rockers take the stage at iconic Vogue to raise funds for local independent music venues

INDIANAPOLIS – With cool band names like **The Pandemics, Einstein and the Positrons and Electric Blue Octopus** ... this Friday promises to be a great night to celebrate amateur rockers – many of whom used the COVID-19 Pandemic to dust off their guitars and drum sticks to join new bands with the help of <u>The Rock Garage</u>, a new music lesson center and rock band program based in Castleton.

More than two dozen amateur bands will get the chance to play on the stage of one of Indy's most historic venues as The Rock Garage presents a night of great music at The Vogue this coming









Friday, April 30 from 6 p.m. to midnight! Tickets are on sale now for just \$10 and proceeds will go to the Indiana Independent Venue Alliance. You can purchase tickets here.

"This will be a historic night for so many of our musicians who have been working together and honing their skills at smaller venues during the pandemic," said Dave Foellinger, one of three co-owners and promoters of amateur music for The Rock Garage. "We have more than 125 members who are either taking lessons from our experts or have been placed in one of our bands, or both. They bring different talents and different skill levels, but they all share a love of playing live music on stage!"

Many central Indiana stages have been quiet for the past year, thanks to the Pandemic shutdown, which led The Rock Garage to partner with the non-profit <u>Indiana Independent Venue Alliance</u>, whose mission is to help small businesses whose livelihoods depend on live music.

The Rock Garage itself was born out of the Pandemic shutdown when Dave & Kate Foellinger, Steve & Kimberly Klinger and Preston & Rocky Nash joined forces to start a Facebook group for musicians to talk about music,

upload their songs and share ideas. The group grew to more than 800 members from all over the world and eventually led to establishing a new website and a physical location in the summer of 2020. The Castleton business, located at 8115 Center Run Road, has three large rooms for bands to rehearse and record their music, and smaller rooms for private lessons.

"Our band program is built upon the principles of band chemistry, live experience, and having a good time," said Foellinger. "We place our members into bands, who under the guidance of one of our professional music directors, choose and even create their own music. Then we play concerts at a variety of awesome venues – including small establishments in Anderson, Carmel and the Melody Inn at 38^{th} & Illinois Street. There is no shortcut to the live experience.

"And besides, Rock and Roll is fun, and while our mission is to help musicians improve their skills, our goal is for them to simply have a good time doing it!"

In addition to being placed in bands, individuals who are just starting out can choose online or in-person lessons for guitar, bass, drums, ukulele, mandolin, banjo, and vocals. All lessons and band assignments are open to both adults and children, however the event at The Vogue is a 21-and-over affair, so only adult bands will be featured, and you must be 21 to attend.

The event at The Vogue will feature 25 bands, most of them playing rock and roll music from the 70's through today's heavy metal. A few of the bands are focusing their sounds on the blues, Latin fare and acoustics. Here is a preliminary lineup of bands set to play:

Pandemics
Cyberculture
Zene
Blues Locos
Heather's Exes
Einstein and the Positrons
Rhino Down
Surge
Interim Project
Rain Dogs
Emesis

Almost Fameless
Pilot Lights
2 Minutes
Batwangers
Street Smart
Cold Coffee
Calling London
Voyager
Electric Blue Octopus
After Midnight
Phineas Gage