

## 2nd teen festival to feature skating, food and music

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By Lauren McLaughlin

June 19 teens will be taking over the Sammamish Commons. From 1- 9 p.m. the city, in partnership with the Sammamish Youth Board and the Boys & Girls Club, will be hosting the second annual Teen Fest.

Like last year's event, it will feature a skate competition and performances by live bands.

The city and the Sammamish Youth Board are in charge of the skating competition. The participants are required to sign a waiver form online and there is a participation fee, \$5 for residents and \$10 for non-resident but the event is free for spectators.

According to Recreation Coordinator Lynne Handlos, there will be free pizza and water at the event.

Andrew Hise, Boys & Girls Club Teen Director said, the Boys & Girls Club will be taking care of the music portion.

The entrance fee to the show is \$5 and students must show a local school ID.

"The event is targeted at teens," Hise said. Only people between 13-20 years of age will be allowed into the concerts, Hise said.

According to Hise, last year's headliner Blue Scholars will be returning this year and they will be joined by three other local bands; If I Were a Gladiator, Blunderbear, and Bo Tree.

"I think we've got a really good variety of bands playing," Hise said. "The music is meant to appeal to all people."

The bands were suggested through student input from both the Sammamish Youth Board and the Boys & Girls Club Keystone Club.

The winner of Eastlake High School's Battle of the Bands contest, Bo Tree, will also play, Hise said.

"We also got recommendations through Moore Brothers Music," Hise said. "They sent us some demos and we liked some of the bands we heard."

Scott Moore, one of the owners of Moore Brothers Music, said he was glad to help suggest bands for Teen Fest.

"I don't even remember how many demos we sent him," Moore said. "I also sent out the word to a bunch of our students to contact Andrew directly."

"I'm pumped we're playing right before Blue Scholars," If I Were a Gladiator member and Issaquah High School graduate Harrison Forss said.

Forss said the band got involved with Teen Fest through a friend at Moore Brothers Music.

If I Were a Gladiator member Emily Ruth said the band had been together for about a year and five months and the majority of the members are from Issaquah and Bellevue. The band plays melodic metal.

"Melodic metal is heavy metal but with a melody," Forss said. "When you walk away from our music you remember something."

The other three members of If I Were a Gladiator are Max McDevitt, James Carter, and Jamie Eide.

The winner of Eastlake High School's Battle of the Bands competition will also be playing at Teen Fest. Bo Tree is made up of four local teens, Dune Butler, Jay Bennett, Jeffery Marshall, and Andrew Cristallo.

"Teen Fest sounds like it's going to be a lot of fun," Butler said.

Bo Tree has been a band for two years.

Teen Fest is a good idea Butler said, "for all the teens in the area to get together and do something positive rather than destructive."

Blunderbear is an electro-rock band made up of local residents Nick Phillips and Kolton Moreno. They have been a band for four months Phillips said.

"It's a really good opportunity for us to get our name out there," Phillips said. Phillips said they plan to hand out free copies of their music at the event and also plan to sell T-shirts.

"Teen fest will probably be the largest audience we've played for as Blunderbear," Phillips said. Both Moreno and Phillips have played before larger audiences as part of different bands, Phillips said.

Phillips said he was looking forward to playing at Teen Fest.

In addition to the musicians, the Boys & Girls Club is also providing foosball tables, Pop-A-Shot, and pool tables as extra entertainment.

The city is still looking for volunteers to help at Teen Fest. If you would like to volunteer for the event contact Dawn Sanders by e-mail [dsanders@ci.sammamish.wa.us](mailto:dsanders@ci.sammamish.wa.us) or by phone 295-0556.

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