

G.W. Pierce and The Rusty Bucket Band Perform at CoolKidz Expo on April 17

APEX, N.C. (April 7, 2010) – G.W. Pierce and The Rusty Bucket Band wrap up the first day of entertainment at the CoolKidz Expo by performing on Saturday, April 17 at 6:45 pm on the Busch Gardens Stage at the Raleigh Convention Center.

Center Sound Records recording artist G.W. Pierce is the co-writer and performer on the soundtrack to “The Rusty Bucket Kids,” including the title track “All Aboard.” The Raleigh-based singer and songwriter also will perform another song from the soundtrack “Last Ride.” The songs were recorded and produced by Craig Brandwynne and Center Sound Records is the record label that released the soundtrack.

Pierce’s music reflects humility as well as his love for family and friends as he will be performing original music and a few covers with his band at the Expo. His voice possesses the honesty and soul of country music’s classic male vocalists: George Strait, Kenny Chesney and Randy Travis.

Two members of The Rusty Bucket Band also appear in the “The Rusty Bucket Kids” television show. Roxanna Demers, star of the show, will perform “I’ll Always Remember This Ride.” Cast mate Marissa Begin co-wrote and will perform “Take me for a Ride” from the soundtrack and is currently working with Brandwynne on a few of her new songs.

The Rusty Bucket Band also features drummer and vocals Jason Damico (guitar and piano), bass Jared Jackson (trumpet), lead guitar Mike Laney, rhythm guitar Matt Lower and piano Alan Thompson (sax and flute). The band will perform four songs with G.W. Pierce at the Expo: “All Aboard,” “I’ll Always Remember This Ride,” “Take Me for a Ride,” and “Last Ride.”

Roxanna Demers has been acting on stage and for film since age two. Most recently, she played the role of Brigitte in North Carolina Theatre’s, “The Sound of Music,” and in several of Raleigh Little Theater’s productions of “Cinderella,” as well as PlayMaker Theatre’s “The Music Man.” She has worked on a number of industrial videos, PSAs, commercials and voice-overs. She enjoys hand bell choir and Suzuki violin, but most of all, she loves singing.

Marissa Begin is an honors student at Wakefield High School who has been performing since she was five years old. She had her first acting role in a church play where she played a mouse. She has performed in over seven plays and numerous singing and acting competitions. Marissa has enjoyed the roles of Marian the librarian in “The Music Man,” Gertrude in “Seussical Jr.,” and Sophia in Neal Simon’s “Fools.”

Jason Damico is a sophomore at Northwood High School in Pittsboro and was homeschooled for eight years. The actor, dancer, musician and singer/songwriter landed his first professional modeling job at eight months old and at seven years of age secured his first acting role. Jason continues to book and pursue acting in the TV/film and theatrical venues including past projects

for Discovery TV and HBO. He has recently been cast in “Fame” at North Carolina Theatre for a lead musician role. As a toddler, Jason’s fascination with the science of sound became apparent with his ability to discern individual instruments in a score of music. Beginning formal piano lessons at three, drums at four and guitar at nine, he started performing professionally at 13 in local coffee shops, private parties, weddings and church where he is affectionately known as Drummin’ Damico. Jason enjoys singing/songwriting and recording original music in his own recording studio with several copyrights which allows him to combine his love for music with his aptitude and curiosity towards science and technology. He is working on his first CD and will soon have his original music available on iTunes, Amazon.com and CD Baby. Jason is an honors student actively involved in jazz band, theatre and a member of Tri-M Music Honor Society and Duke University Jazz Ensemble.

Jared Jackson is a native Floridian who recently relocated to Greensboro and is now a senior at Page High School. His first exposure to music was in kindergarten while attending an after school program and learning rhythms, drums and how to read notes. He learned to play trumpet in sixth grade and taught himself how to play the acoustic guitar in seventh grade and eventually how to play and read music for the bass guitar. He is actively involved in the Triad music scene as a member of the Marching Page Pirates marching band, Page High School jazz band and wind ensemble, playing trumpet and bass guitar of his church band, Destiny Christian Center, and participating in numerous honor bands such as the North Carolina Central Regional and Guilford County Jazz Bands as well as the Guilford County Wind Ensemble.

Mike Laney grew up in a small town in western North Carolina (Tobaccoville) prior to attending and graduating from North Carolina State University. The multi-instrumentalist and composer started from scratch working on composition while teaching himself music theory and guitar on his own five years ago as he had no prior musical experience or training. In the fall of 2009 he studied music composition with Rodney Waschka II, an American composer known for his algorithmic compositions and his theatrical works. As a guitarist, Mike is known best for his speed, sense of tonality and improvisational ability.

Matt Lower was born in Wisconsin but lived in Apex most of his life as the Apex High School junior is a five-time honor roll member with a 4.2 grade point average. His other band, The New World Jive, plays contemporary world music all over the Triangle and will play in the Rock for Darfur event in May. Experienced in different African styles and in jazz, Matt also plays classical guitar with the Apex High Guitar Ensemble. Aside from teaching guitar or playing live, he is an aspiring musical writer who currently has two musicals in the works. Before music, he was an accomplished swimmer ranking as high as fourth in the state and swimming at Nationals.

Alan Thompson is a senior at Dudley Senior High School in Greensboro who will enroll at North Carolina Central University this fall and major in Music. Alan started playing the violin in second grade, followed by piano and then the saxophone in middle school – which he continues to play every Sunday morning at Mt. Pleasant Christian Church. For the past four years, Alan has

received the Conductor's Award from the Triad Youth Jazz Society. He made history by becoming the first black student to make first chair in the Guilford County All-County Jazz Band in 2009. He was also the youngest student to perform on the Greensboro College Senior Recital and also has several copyrights of original songs.

The CoolKidz Expo hours are Saturday, April 17 from 9am-8pm and Sunday, April 18 from 10am-5pm. Admission is \$9 for Adults, \$7 for Seniors (age 65+), \$4 for CoolKidz (ages 3-15) and free under age 3. Discount coupons are available online.

Web site: www.CoolKidzExpo.com

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/coolkidzexpo>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CoolKidzExpo>

About The Rusty Bucket Kids

"The Rusty Bucket Kids" is a new family friendly, web-based television show combining educational content with family entertainment – edutainment. A brother and sister learn they can travel back through time in American History to meet teenagers who become some of America's greatest historical heroes. The show also represents a new method for providing local content to broadcast television stations and the Internet working with local sponsors.

Web site: www.TheRustyBucketKids.com

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/rustybucketkids>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Rusty-Bucket-Kids-Club/92995172086?ref=sgm>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/TheRustyBucketKidsTV>

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