



## **CUYAHOGA LIVE! CALL FOR MUSICIANS Rediscover Veterans Memorial Bridge Event June 27, 2026**

### **Event Overview**

Downtown Cleveland and Cuyahoga County invite local musicians to participate in the [Rediscover Veterans Memorial Bridge](#) public activation on Saturday, June 27, 2026, a signature event of America 250 celebrating the bridge's cultural and historic importance. This one-day opening of the lower streetcar level—an extraordinary 3,112-foot public space with sweeping views of the Cuyahoga River's industrial valley and Lake Erie—offers residents a rare opportunity to safely experience a nationally registered historic structure that is closed to everyday use. The Rediscover Veterans Memorial Bridge activation on June 27<sup>th</sup> is a free, family-friendly event, comprised of self-guided walking tours.

This activation is part of Cuyahoga County's ongoing initiative to reconnect the public with the lower level of the 1917 double deck reinforced concrete bridge, once the world's largest of its kind and historically home to Cleveland's streetcar system until 1954.

### **Role of Musicians in the Activation**

Live local performers are central to bringing public spaces to life. Downtown Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, in partnership with the Cuyahoga Live! network, is seeking busker-style musicians whose work embraces the long tradition of street performance as a form of public art that animates civic spaces, fosters social connection, and reflects Cleveland's vibrant creative culture.

Performances will take place in 2-hour increments between 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Musicians will be placed in designated performance areas along the lower deck. See **Appendix A** for photos of the performance spaces. Electricity and modest sound amplification equipment including a pair of speakers on tripods, a small mixer with 8 inputs, a direct box, and microphones (maximum of 3) will be provided at each performance area. Drums are permitted, but drum sound will not be amplified. Musicians will be responsible for transporting their equipment to the designated performance areas. Carts or other instrument transport needs will be the responsibility of the musicians.

## **Why Participate**

The activation of the lower deck of the Veterans Memorial Bridge will draw a significant public audience and provides an exceptional opportunity for musicians to share their work in a high-visibility civic celebration. Funding from the America 250-Ohio Commission will support compensation for performers and setup needs, ensuring local artists are integrated into the public experience. Artists are welcome to promote their work onsite and may collect tips.

## **Eligibility**

Open to all local musicians and groups who have experience performing in unique spaces. Due to an approximate 12 x 12 ft performance area for each musician or group, non-individual performers will be restricted to groups of three or fewer people. Performances should be consistent with an all-ages event.

## **Compensation**

Artists will be compensated \$500 per 2-hour set for their performance time with AM250-supported funds.

## **Proposal Requirements**

Applicants should submit:

- A name, email address, and phone number for the primary point of contact representing the applicant.
- The musician or group's name.
- The artist or group's musical genre.
- A brief statement of interest describing why they wish to perform at the June 27<sup>th</sup> Rediscover Veterans Memorial Bridge event.
- Representative music or video samples demonstrating past performance experience. Include URL links (ie. YouTube, Vimeo etc.) or audio/video files with the proposal.
- The number of performers included with the submission and any instruments that will accompany performers.
- Any additional sound or musical equipment that you would bring beyond the equipment provided.

All proposals must be submitted electronically to [RVMB@cuyahogacounty.gov](mailto:RVMB@cuyahogacounty.gov) using subject line: 2026 RVMB MUSICIAN PROPOSAL.

## **Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated on responsiveness to the solicitation, capacity, experience, and providing a variety of musical styles. The proposal must include a written

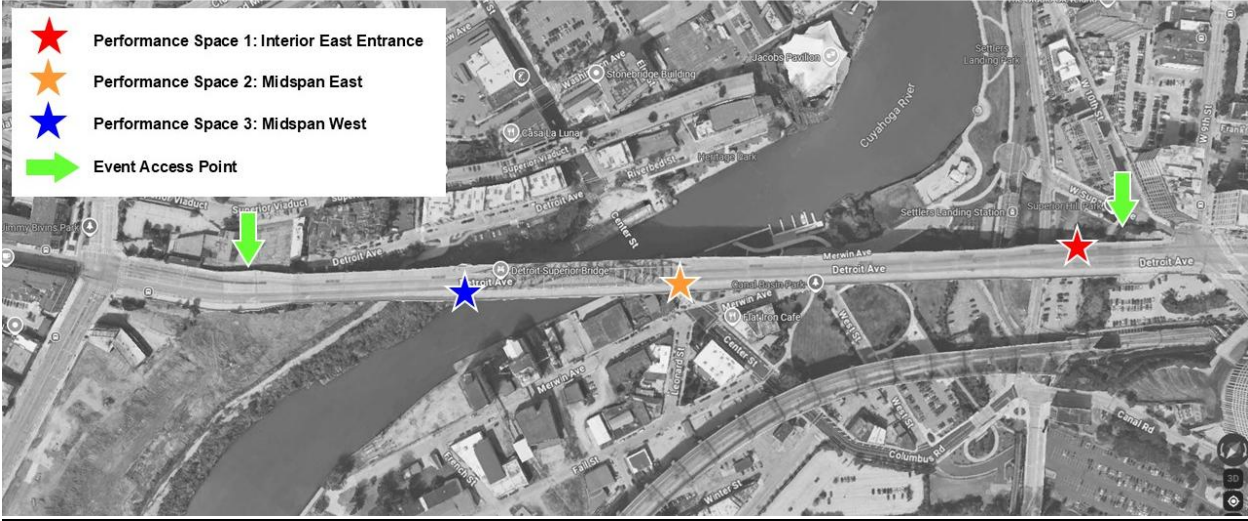
description of your interest in performing on the lower level of the bridge and representative samples (music or video clips) of past performances.


**Proposal Due Date – Friday, June 5, by 3:00 PM (EST)**

Selected artists will be notified by Friday, June 12.

Any questions about the *Cuyahoga Live! Call for Musicians* should be directed to: Jackson Bartlett, [jbartlett@cuyahogacounty.gov](mailto:jbartlett@cuyahogacounty.gov)

**APPENDIX A: Performance Areas**



 Performance Space 1: Interior East Entrance





Performance Space 2: Midspan East





Performance Space 3: Midspan West

