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## **The Inaugural Oceanside Culture Festival Premieres as a Virtual Event**

*A celebration of the art, culture, and people of Oceanside and the downtown Cultural District*

OCEANSIDE, CA – Oceanside Culture Festival will be streamed online on Saturday-Sunday, October 17-18, 2020. The event will feature a performance by Watkins Family Hour recorded in the historic Brooks Theater, as well as video highlights from Oceanside’s musicians and artists, arts and culture organizations, museums and culinary scene. Sponsored by Visit Oceanside and hosted by the Oceanside, CA, Cultural District (OCCD). For information visit [www.osideculturefest.com](http://www.osideculturefest.com).

The headlining music act is the North County San Diego-grown sibling duo Watkins Family Hour. With Sean Watkins primarily on guitar and Sara Watkins on fiddle, and both sharing vocals, their new album, *brother sister*, is duo-centric–yet feels bigger than just two people. Moving from one landscape to the next–literally and musically–is nothing new to the Watkinses, who have performed separately and together for nearly their whole lives. Growing up in Vista, they played countless shows at a local pizza place in Carlsbad, California, with their childhood friend, Chris Thile. As young adults, the three musicians broke out nationally as Nickel Creek, an acoustic ensemble that sold millions of albums, won a Grammy, and toured the world. As an outlet to try out some original songs and a few covers that wouldn’t work in Nickel Creek, Sean and Sara formed Watkins Family Hour in 2002.

Also performing in the Brooks Theater is Dead Feather Moon, a North County San Diego-based psychedelic alt-country rock band. Their second full-length record, *//// The Finder*, was released digitally and on vinyl in July 2016. On the heels of several West Coast tours and showcases at South By Southwest, the band won Best Alternative Band at the San Diego Music Awards in 2014. Dead Feather Moon’s first full-length record, *Dark Sun*, won Best Alternative Album at the San Diego Music Awards in 2012.

Oceanside-based Shane Hall and his band will record live at the Brooks as well, and will also debut a new music video for the Oceanside OCCD anthem, “The O.” Hall grew up in Harrisburg, PA and then traveled around the world as a member of the U.S. Marines, honing his skills and sound as a musician.

He rolls a wide range of inspiration into his own multi-layered sound, from West Coast blues to Americana to funky, fuzzed-out soul, he plays it all. It's a diverse musical mix that shines a light not only on Hall's guitar playing and larger-than-life voice, but on his sharply-written songs, too. That songwriting reaches a new high-water mark with the San Diego Music Award-winning *West, River*, and *Queen*, three interconnected EPs that serve as his first releases for LAW Records.

The festival will also feature videos from Cadence Dance Project, Cupstacking sport (invented in Oceanside), Fil-Am Cultural Organization, Hill Street Country Club/LinkSoul, Noche Mexicana, Oceanside High School's show choir, Oceanside Cultural Arts Foundation, Oceanside Museum of Art, Oceanside Theatre Company, Pride by the Beach, Samoan Cultural Celebration, Visit Oceanside's Cooking Show Series featuring local chefs and restaurants, and more local and regional artists and organizations.

The event is produced by Becky Goodman (TenPints Entertainment, Carlsbad Music Festival), Steve Kader (Adams Avenue Street Fair/Adams Avenue Unplugged) and Lou Niles (Oceanside International Film Festival, In Your Neighborhood, 91X). Title sponsorship is by Visit Oceanside ([www.visitoceanside.org](http://www.visitoceanside.org)), Mainstage Sponsor is Frontwave Credit Union ([www.frontwavecu.com](http://www.frontwavecu.com)), with additional sponsorship by City of Oceanside Economic Development.

## OCEANSIDE CA CULTURAL DISTRICT

One of California's first 14 designated cultural districts, **Oceanside CA Cultural District** is home to an eclectic, emerging art scene. Along historic Highway 101 and the Pacific Ocean, with an iconic pier and amphitheater, you will find a unique destination with an abundance of cultural resources.

The Oceanside Public Library is in the heart of the District and serves as the lead organization of OCCD. Oceanside Museum of Art is a premier regional art museum and a leader of arts and culture. The California Surf Museum connects with nontraditional arts audiences while honoring local surf culture. The historical Brooks and Star theaters provide opportunities for all ages and introduce professional theatrical expression to thousands of schoolchildren each year.

Cultural events are varied, colorful, and celebratory as well as educational, featuring dance, music, and food. The district is home to MainStreet Oceanside's Farmer's Market and Sunset Market, San Diego County's top weekly food and music street fair. Tattoo artists recognize the area's military historical heritage with much of their work, and Artist Alley provides an interactive experience for all with practicing artists and artisans. Restaurants, wineries and breweries in the district highlight local artists and musicians.

[www.oceansideculturaldistrict.org](http://www.oceansideculturaldistrict.org)



Watkins Family Hour (L-R: Sean Watkins, Sara Watkins)



Dead Feather Moon



Shane Hall (center front)

EVENT INFORMATION:

**Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18, 2020**

Featuring: Watkins Family Hour, Dead Feather Moon, Shane Hall

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CELEBRATING THE CREATIVITY AND ORIGINALITY OF OCEANSIDE, CA. • OCTOBER 17-18

TITLE SPONSOR: VISIT OCEANSIDE • THIS EVENT PRESENTED IN THE OCEANSIDE CA CULTURAL DISTRICT