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Prairie Voices Productions

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Iowa City, IA

Janis Ian set to play the 18th Annual Iowa Women's Music Festival

The 18th Annual Iowa Women's Music Festival, produced by Prairie Voices Productions, is set to showcase another great mix of women in music on September 9-10, 2011 in Iowa City, Iowa.

Fans of Janis Ian, who were disappointed by her late cancellation to play at the 2010 IWFM due to longer-than-expected recovery from hand surgery, will be thrilled to see that Ian has rebooked the IWFM in her tour schedule for 2011. Ian will be joined by an eclectic group of amazing women musicians from across the country, traversing a wide range of musical genres including folk, rock, new age, world music, blues and Americana.

The outdoor portion of the IWFM, the Day Stage in Iowa City's Upper City Park, opens at noon on September 10 and continues until approximately 5:30 p.m. Performers in the park include Iowa's Angie Pierce Jennings, Seattle's Camille Bloom, Boston's Lindsay Mac (who is originally from Iowa) and the Boom Booms, Seattle's Jami Sieber with Cedar Rapids' own Natalie Brown, Iowa City's Pieta Brown with Bo Ramsey, and New York City's Dawn Drake and ZapOte.

The Day Stage show is free to attend (no tickets are required), everyone is welcome, and families are encouraged to attend. A kids' area will be available, food and merchandise vendors will line the festival, and Iowa Shares will host a silent auction. Attendees should bring blankets or chairs for grass seating. The park is wheelchair accessible, and pets on leashes are welcome. In case of inclement weather, the Day Stage will be held at The Mill Restaurant, 120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City.

In the evening, the festival will move to The Englert Theatre for up-and-coming folk guitarist Natalia Zukerman supported by Garrison Starr, followed by the 2011 IWFM headliner, iconic troubadour Janis Ian. Tickets for the 8 p.m. Englert Theatre performance by Janis Ian and Natalia Zukerman are available for \$25 at the Englert box office, by phone at 319-688-2653, or online at www.englert.org.

To support the community further, Prairie Voices Productions partners with local businesses during the festival and throughout the year to encourage more live music in Iowa City and surrounding communities. As a lead-in to the festival, PVP is working with The Haunted Bookshop in Iowa City to present Fairfield singer-songwriter Sharon Bousquet and Beaucoup Shakti at The Haunted Bookshop's Grand Reopening and Seventh Anniversary Party on Friday, September 9 from 5 p.m. until 10 p.m. The Haunted Bookshop has been an independent mainstay in the Iowa City area as well as a strong supporter of the festival and other community events. In addition to the live music, the event on Sept. 9 will feature refreshments and presentations by

community members and customers. There is no cover charge.

For more information about the events of the 2011 Iowa Women's Music Festival, or to apply to be a vendor, go to www.prairievoices.net, call 319-335-1486, or e-mail festival@prairievoices.net. The festival is also seeking volunteers, who may call Laurie at 319-335-1486 to sign up.

For out-of-town guests, the Heartland Inn in Coralville serves as the festival's host hotel. Festival attendees will receive a special group rate when they mention "Iowa Women's Music Festival" when reserving. All group-rate reservations must be made by phone at (800) 334-3277 code 19.

The Iowa Women's Music Festival is one of the longest continuously running festivals featuring women performers in the country. Prairie Voices Productions has worked to bring some exceptional music to Iowa City over the years, including Joan Baez, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Laura Love, Ruthie Foster, Michelle Shocked, Carolyn Wonderland, and last year's headliner, The Refugees.

The mission of Prairie Voices Productions (PVP), the 501(c)3 non-profit organization that produces the IWFM, is to support and promote the work of women artists and musicians through accessible events for the community. PVP also strives to provide women diverse volunteer skill-building experiences in planning, organizing, producing, and implementing major public events such as the music festival.

The Iowa Women's Music Festival is supported by Toyota/Scion of Iowa City, Rockwell Collins, West Music and many other generous community businesses and individuals. Prairie Voices Productions, the producer of the festival, is a member of Iowa Shares, and the Women's Resource and Action Center of the University of Iowa is a presenting partner.