

The Local Strangers Kick Off Family Friendly Matinee Concert Series | Washington Events – CultureMob

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by Gemma Alexander | 01/15/12 |

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Sat, Feb 04 • 05:00 pm | Cost: \$8 adults; children under 10 free

Q Cafe | 3223 15th Ave W, Seattle, WA

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Poster for the Family Friendly Matinee concert series

Kevin Sur and Morgan Lipe of [Artist Home](#), the local company that produces Doe Bay Fest and the Summer Bonfire Series, saw few opportunities for young parents to take their families to shows featuring great bands that they themselves love. They intend to fill that void with the “Family Friendly Matinee” Saturday afternoon concert series at the [Q Café](#), a nonprofit coffee shop and music venue just south of the Ballard Bridge. Designed to help parents share their love of live music with their kids, the monthly concerts will begin at 5 pm and finish by 8 pm. The cover is only \$8, and children under 10 get in free. Advance tickets are not being sold for the first show.

[The Local Strangers](#) and [Squirrel Butter](#) will kick off the series on February 4. The Local Strangers are a Seattle-based duo who plays their soulful brand of Americana/alt-country music throughout the Northwest. Squirrel Butter, comprised of two members of The Tallboys, performs old-timey music with Appalachian, early country, jugband, and blues influences. Sur says they booked these bands because, “We’d be happy to see them on any given show night. We’re happy to have two artists on board who are really excited about the idea and are eager to play in front of an audience they haven’t had the opportunity to play in front of yet.”

For future shows, they are going to try to present all sorts of styles. Several bands are already confirmed for the spring. Sur won’t name names yet, but says, “You can expect to see some soul, hip hop, rock n’ roll, and indie rock, along with good ol’ Americana.”

The series was organized specifically with families with

young children in mind, so in addition to the early hour and low cost, Sur says they aren’t booking extremely loud acts. However, parents might want to invest in some noise blocking headphones for their kids – a strategy he says is very popular at Doe Bay Fest. Noting that they hope to create an atmosphere where children can get excited about and involved in local music, Sur has a final piece of advice, “Parents should have fun and engage their kids in the music – maybe even buy a CD at the show and enjoy the music at home. Perhaps kids can see that music is something that they can discover rather than absorb through the television or radio.”



The Local Strangers photo by Andria Lindquist