



# **W.C. Handy MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Music Preservation Society, Inc., P.O. Box 1827, Florence, AL 35631 • (256) 766-7642 • FAX (256) 766-7543

## FESTIVAL NEWS

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

Nancy Gonce, Executive Director

Haley Henslee, Festival Intern

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

May 24, 2006

### **W.C. HANDY MUSIC FESTIVAL'S THREE STATE BIKE RIDE SCHEDULED**

**FLORENCE, AL** – The W.C. Handy Music Festival's annual Three State Bike Ride is scheduled for Saturday, July 29, 2006. With 24, 36, 66, 74 and 103-mile options, the ride is sure to be a fun and energizing event.

The Handy Ride will start at McFarland Park in Florence. Riders will travel two miles on Highway 20 to County Road 2 and continue west on that road for approximately 13 miles to the newly paved Natchez Trace Parkway. Riders will travel south on the Trace across the Tennessee River to the first aid station at Colbert Ferry Park.

Riders will then continue to the Mississippi state line to the next aid station, turn around and head north on the Natchez Trace to the Tennessee state line aid station. Next, riders will go back to County Road 2 to return to McFarland Park.

The Three State Ride will be a 100-mile ride on rolling and flat roads. Riders have the option of riding out and back to one or more of the four aid stations.

Entry fees are \$25 per rider. This fee covers t-shirt, aid stations, map and food / refreshments after the ride.

Make checks payable to "W.C. Handy Festival" and mail to W.C. Handy Bicycle Ride at P.O. Box 1827, Florence, Alabama 35631 or pay at the registration booth on the day of the ride. Registration forms may also be hand-delivered to the Kennedy-Douglass Center at 217 East Tuscaloosa Street in Florence.

Registration booth will be open between 6:00 and 8:00 a.m. at McFarland Park. There will be a mass start at 7:15 a.m. Aid stations will close at 3:00 p.m.; route closes at 4 p.m.

As this is a ride and not a race, all traffic rules and signs are to be obeyed. All riders must wear helmets.

Visit [www.Handy100.com](http://www.Handy100.com) for more information and detailed route maps.

For accommodations and/or questions, e-mail [info@handy100.com](mailto:info@handy100.com), call the W.C. Handy Music Festival office at (256) 766-7642, contact Florence/Lauderdale Tourism at (256) 740-4141 or (888) 356-8687, or contact Colbert County Tourism at (256) 383-0783.