

# Kicking out the jams downtown

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On a hot and muggy August afternoon, power chords rang out through the streets of downtown Warren. Tight bass lines echoed across Courthouse Square. The pounding of drums bombarded the ears of eager listeners. The Music is Art Festival was ready to rock.

The weeklong event featured a huge list of local artists. Each artist performed a 30-minute set of original songs and covers.

Although each day of the festival was great in its own right, Saturday was by far the best day to be there.

The festivities started off slow as the audience was small at first. That didn't last long, though. Soon, more and more people arrived, anxious to hear which band had the most to offer.

One such band was Sonic Age. The Sharon, Pa., quartet had the crowd on their feet and banging their heads throughout their entire set. And it didn't stop there.

Smack Alice, a Godsmack and Alice in Chains

cover band, followed up Sonic Age's amazing performance with accuracy and precision. Their cover of Alice in Chains' "Man in the Box" and their own original song "Release the Demons" sent the crowd over the edge and back. It appeared as if the show couldn't get any better than that, but the following band disproved that very theory.

Love Turns Hate took the stage after Smack Alice and rocked the growing crowd to the core. Their performance of "Suffocation" catapulted the audience into rock and roll heaven.

Towards the end of the band's set, they surprised everyone by welcoming to the stage a surprise guest: Dave Grohl of Foo Fighters and Nirvana fame. Grohl joined Love Turns Hate on a second set of drums to play "Get Away" and a cover of Led Zeppelin's "Rock n' Roll."

Once Love Turns Hate concluded their performance, the dedication of David Grohl Alley commenced. And after receiving the key to the city of Warren, Grohl picked up an acoustic guitar and



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Sonic Age was one of the bands that played prior to the appearance of Dave Grohl on the Saturday afternoon of the Music is Art Festival in downtown Warren.

jammed to three songs from the Foo Fighters: "Times Like These," "My Hero" and "Everlong."

After Grohl left the stage and proceeded to the autograph table, the House Band took over and closed out the festival. The concertgoers left downtown Warren sporting huge smiles of satisfaction.

"Made me happy to be here," said Poland high school sophomore Josh O'Neill.

Labrae High School senior Aleeah White also enjoyed herself at the concert. "[It was] pretty awesome," she said.

"Fantastic," said Bristol High School junior Bree Adams.

Not only was the Music is Art Festival filled with local musicians, hardcore fans, and a local rock legend, but also great music and great memories for everyone involved in the event.