

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF **ADAM J. BELLO** MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

For Immediate Release Friday, February 3, 2023

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ADAM BELLO ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF COMMUNITY FESTIVAL FUNDING

At least \$200,000 is available to support community festivals

ROCHESTER, NY — Monroe County Executive Adam Bello today announced the launch of an online application portal for Community Festival Funding, a new grant program established in the 2023 Monroe County Budget. The application deadline for events taking place this year is noon on Friday, March 3. Details are available at <u>monroecounty.gov/festivalfunding</u>.

"Monroe County is a community that loves to join together, whether it's to honor our history, celebrate our rich culture or enjoy listening to live music. We are fortunate to have so many engaging festivals and opportunities to gather together all year long," **said County Executive Adam Bello.** "This year, Monroe County is expanding its support of the festivals that enhance our quality of life and keep people coming to our region."

At least \$200,000 in festival funding was included in the 2023 Monroe County Budget. This is the first time the county is offering dedicated support for these events. Qualifying events must meet the following requirements:

- Festivals must fit into one or more of the following categories: (1) armistice, memorial, or other recognized national patriotic observance; (2) commemorate historical events of countywide interest and concern; (3) showcase music, dance, arts, or other artistic performance; and/or (4) publicize the advantages of Monroe County.
- Festivals must have a free public component.
- Festivals must serve a minimum of 1,000 individuals.
- Festivals must take place in Monroe County between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023.

A full list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and eligibility criteria is available at <u>monroecounty.gov/festivalfunding</u>.

-30-

Media inquiries:

Gary Walker, Director of Communications GaryWalker@MonroeCounty.gov (585) 753-1064 Meaghan M. McDermott, Deputy Director of Communications <u>MeaghanMcDermott@MonroeCounty.gov</u> (585) 469-4365