

Thank you for your interest in performing at Porch Stomp 2026! Please take the time to read these FAQs THOROUGHLY before submitting your application to perform at the festival:

THE BASICS

Q : What is Porch Stomp?

A : Porch Stomp is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting Folk Music and its community in NYC. With innovative and engaging programming, Porch Stomp has been connecting musicians and communities for over 12 years. We are entirely volunteer run and community funded, meaning that everything you see or hear from Porch Stomp is a product of the hard work of musicians and music lovers just like you!

Q : Wait a minute, I thought Porch Stomp was a festival?

A : It is! Our June festival and our organization share the same name. Porch Stomp (the organization) also hosts an annual parade with live music and dance every December called Flatfoot Flatbush, as well as limited programming throughout the year. Check it all out at www.porchstomp.com!

Q : When and where is this year's Porch Stomp festival?

A : Saturday, June 20th, 2026 on Governors Island

GETTING TO AND FROM GOVERNORS ISLAND:

Ferries run from:

- *Lower Manhattan: The Battery Maritime Building, located at 10 South Street (DAILY)*
- *Wall Street Pier 11*
- *Brooklyn: Red Hook/Atlantic Basin, located at the intersection of Pioneer Street and Conover Street*

You can find the ferry schedule and more information about taking the ferry here:
<https://govisland.com/visit-the-island/ferry>

PLAYING PORCH STOMP:

Porch Stomp is truly a one-of-a-kind festival. Artists perform acoustically in the beautiful green space of Nolan Park, Colonels Row, and other parts of Governors Island within eyesight of anywhere from 10 to 20 other performances.

Q: What is the booking process like for Porch Stomp 2026?

All Porch Stomp 2026 stages will be booked through our curators. So, if you know a curator whose stage you'd like to play on, please reach out to them directly. If you don't know any curators this year, or if you don't know which stage would be best for you, please submit a Porch Stomp 2026 Artist Application. Your information will be shared with all the Porch Stomp curators, who will use this artist portal (as well as their own resources) to book their stages.

Want to be a Porch Stomp 2026 curator? Want to volunteer at the festival or for other Porch Stomp events? Reach out to porchstompvolunteer@gmail.com, or fill out the volunteer application form: tinyurl.com/PS26Volunteer

Q: What happens if I don't get booked for Porch Stomp 2026?

There are still plenty of opportunities to participate in Porch Stomp! In 2026, we will be looking to book "buskers," who will play stand-alone sets on other parts of the Island to promote the event. There will also be several participatory jams and workshops, including a bluegrass jam, old time jam, and a slow jam. Additionally, there are volunteer opportunities to support day-of operations, and also limited opportunities to be a stage host.

Q: What if my band uses an electric keyboard, electric bass or another instrument that must be amplified?

A: Most of the Porch Stomp stage locations do not allow amplification. If you are booked at a location that does not allow amplification, please come up with an alternative version of your instrument for the festival. Keyboards can be exchanged for melodicas, electric bass can be exchanged for upright bass. Because of the proximity of the performances, amplification can be disruptive to nearby performers, and can negatively affect the overall vibe of the festival. We occasionally work with artists for whom amplification is critical to the nature of their performance — feel free to address mmnyporchstomp@gmail.com with questions or concerns regarding a request to utilize amplification. Also, please note that most Porch Stomp stages will not have access to power.

Q: Is there anything that isn't allowed?

A: Because of the proximity of stage locations in our festival, we GREATLY DISCOURAGE the use of tambourines, triangles, brass instruments, and drum kits, because they cause too much sound bleed. If you are planning to have any of these instruments as part of your act, we request that notice must be given directly to Porch Stomp at least a month in advance of the festival date to ensure performance locations can be placed at an appropriate distance to guarantee a quality festival experience for all participants.

Q: Is Porch Stomp a 'paid gig'?

A : Try not to think of Porch Stomp as a 'gig' but instead a 'family reunion'. In the past, Porch Stomp has presented 200+ acts on festival day, offering an opportunity for artists to have an amazing time, network and meet your next biggest fan. Since no one pays or is paid to be there, everyone at Porch Stomp is there because they love the community and they love music. We are excited to still offer artists giveaways in whatever way we can in the form of Porch Stomp merchandise, drink tickets, etc – to be determined! Note: some Porch Stomp stages may offer a stipend to artists: if you are booked to play Porch Stomp 2026, please discuss this directly with your stage curator.

Q : If we aren't paid, where does the donation money go? How can I or someone I know donate?

A: Porch Stomp is entirely volunteer run and operated, and funds raised go into things like marketing and promotion (design costs, printed postcards, flyers, business cards, social media advertising, merch), operations (website, physical signage, tent and table rentals, insurance, permits, etc), and artist support (artist giveaways and amenities). We pride ourselves in being run by the community for the community, so every dime you donate will be coming right back at you! To donate, visit our website: www.porchstomp.com

Q : How soon will I know the time and location of my performance?

A : You will know the exact time of your performance a week before Porch Stomp.

Note : *Some performances may happen on the porches of Nolan Park, hence the name "Porch Stomp". However, due to capacity issues and new protocols on Governors Island, we cannot promise a porch for any stage — some performances and set up out*

on the green or in various locations throughout the grounds. Thanks in advance for your understanding!

Q : What if it rains?

A : Porch Stomp takes place rain or shine. We will provide tents to shield performers from rain.

Q : Is there food and drink available at Porch Stomp?

A: Yes! There are also a number of food vendors a short walk from Nolan Park and Colonels Row near Liggett Terrace. Also, Nolan Park happens to be the best picnic location in New York. Feel free to invite friends and have them bring a spread to share. You won't regret it.

Q : Can I bring alcohol to the island?

A : "No".

Q : Should I plan to leave right after my set?

A : What an odd question! Naw, man! Porch Stomp is a community and has served as a support system for any number of up-and-coming folk arts. Stick around, make friends, and get ready for the magical finale jam that happens every year. Some of the best Porch Stomp moments happen when you least expect them! We also encourage you to come early and enjoy performances that take place before your set.

Q : Finally, is there a launch party/ after party this year?

A : TBD — stay tuned for details!

Note:

I understand that artist names and images may be used for current or future promotional materials, unless otherwise requested. Requests must be emailed to mmnyporchstomp@gmail.com.

And a special note:

Porch Stomp is not liable for your actions and decisions on Governors Island. Please be respectful to the grounds and courteous to all Governors Island and Porch Stomp staff and officials.

Thanks!

The Porch Stomp Team

Theo Boguszewski, Producer

Shane Walton, Volunteer Coordinator