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Popular Tahoe Bands Play El Dorado County Fair

Fairgoers from the Lake Tahoe region will surely recognize the names of a couple of popular local bands at the fair this year. “We’re excited to present the Midlife Crisis band and Jesse Kalin and the Cool Black Kettle Band,” says Fair Manager, Jody Gray. “Both of these bands lead singers hail from the Tahoe area, where they are each well-known and play often to packed houses. It’s exciting to be able share their music with the rest of El Dorado County.”

Fans of Midlife Crisis, like Jennifer DeSoto-Fitzgerald of Placerville, say they’re “amazing” and you should plan on dancing “a lot” when you see them. The band’s lead singer, Tullio Sarra went to school at South Tahoe High with Gray, and has spent much of his life in the local music scene. But, it wasn’t until a casual jam session with a bunch of guys at the Crossroads Coffee Shop in Somerset that the five-piece Midlife Crisis band was born. Sarra says there was just an unmistakable “chemistry” there that couldn’t be ignored. Today, Midlife Crisis is based out of Cameron Park. Their music is best described as a mix of rock (classic, southern, hard) and blues. They play Saturday, June 19 at 5:30pm, 7 p.m., and 9:30 p.m. on the Wells Fargo Stage.

Jesse Kalin and the Cool Black Kettle Band is an infectious rock band based out of South Lake Tahoe where they play often at Cabo Wabo and many other venues. The name Cool Black Kettle or “C.B.K.” has been in the mind of the band’s leader, singer, and songwriter Jesse Kalin for as long as he can remember. Growing up in Tahoe, he also went to school with Gray, Kalin says he was influenced by many artists and all kinds of music. “With a band or alone,” says Kalin, “my best music comes from the road... traveling and trying to reach all ages and musical mediums—hence the name Cool Black Kettle, the melting pot of music. C.B.K. plays a unique blend of rock and grass roots Americana groove music. They play Saturday, June 19 at noon, 1:30 p.m., and 4 p.m. on the Wells Fargo Stage.

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