

Oct. 13, 2020 Contacts: Francesca Donlan, Jackie Parker 239-338-3500

## Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau MEDIA ALERT Ben Allen to perform in *Songs from the Sofa* virtual concert series Oct. 15

**What:** The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau, iHeartMedia and Cat Country 107.1 welcome **Ben Allen** to the *Songs from the Sofa* virtual concert series. The Instagram live event, hosted by DJ Mike Tyler from Cat County 107.1, will feature Allen's music, interviews and stories behind the songs.

*Songs from the Sofa* debuted in May with music sensation Sam James. The monthly live performances have included Jay Allen, Maia Sharp, Dave Pahanish and Clint Daniels. All performances are archived on the <u>Island Hopper Songwriter Fest Instagram page</u>.

**Who: Ben Allen**, a recent contestant on NBC's "The Voice," also fronts one of the most popular bands in Southwest Florida, the Ben Allen Band. For 10 years, Allen has worked as a construction inspector by day and musician by night. Growing up, he sang in the church choir and school chorus. Then at age 31, he performed at an open mic on a whim and loved every second of it. That led him to form a duo, then later his own five-piece band. Allen has opened for many major acts, including Lady A, Darius Rucker and Jordan Davis.

When: 8 p.m. (EDT) Thursday, Oct. 15

Where: Island Hopper Songwriter Fest Instagram page

**Why:** To celebrate with one of the singer-songwriters who will perform at Island Hopper Songwriter Fest, Sept. 17-26, 2021, on Captiva Island, historic downtown Fort Myers and Fort Myers Beach. For now, on the third Thursday of every month, *Songs from the Sofa* should provide an exciting way to experience a quality performance in your own home.

For more information: Please visit <a href="https://islandhopperfest.com/">https://islandhopperfest.com/</a>

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Island Hopper is produced by the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau, iHeartMedia, Cat Country 107.1 and BMI, the largest music rights organization in the U.S. Visit IslandHopperFest.com or access the media tool kit. Follow the festival hashtag #islandhopperfest as well as the event's Instagram, Facebook and Twitter feeds.

\*Ben Allen photo attached