

Band to play part of series

Local band Mindspine to take stage at gazebo show

By Zach Geiger
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A gazebo in the park may seem like a strange place to hear a rock concert, but don't let the location fool you: Sunday's concert is set to rock out in Bellefonte.

Bellefonte's Summer Sounds from the Gazebo is a series of free public concerts held at Talleyrand Park.

As part of a nine-concert series, every Sunday a different musical act is featured at the park's gazebo.

The idea for the event originated about 25 years ago when the gazebo was built in the park. Committee Chairwoman JoAnn Knupp said.

Since then, numerous bands have been featured at the concert series, including multiple bands that return each year.

"We try to vary what we're doing," Knupp said. "But we always have a community band."

One of the ways the Summer Sounds concert is varying the lineup is with the State College-based rock band Mindspine.

The group is playing at the gazebo at 7 p.m. on August 1.

"We like playing for anybody," said Mindspine lead singer Jason Eyer, Class of 2005.

The band's self-described symphonic progressive metal style might be different from the other bands featured in the concert series, but Eyer said he is confident the crowd will enjoy the show.

Since Mindspine mostly plays shows at bars, the group's under-21 fans will have an opportunity to see the band play live at Talleyrand Park.

And the band is already expecting a large crowd for Sunday's concert.

"Over 100 people are attending," Eyer said.

The group's Facebook event page for the

If you go

What: Mindspine performing at Bellefonte Summer Sounds from the Gazebo

When: 7 p.m. Sunday

Where: Gazebo in Talleyrand Park, Bellefonte

Details: Admission is free, lawn seating available.

concert has about 200 replies to the event, something that Eyer said he hopes will translate to a large turnout.

Even though the event mostly draws out the 55-years-old and older crowd, the addition of different types of musical genres and bands like Mindspine is a great addition to the Summer Sounds lineup, Knupp said.

"We've been saying for years, 'We've got to get younger people involved in this,'" Knupp said.

"Maybe the younger crowd will make it out for the concert."

The Summer Sounds concert series is free to attend, but the group asks for donations to keep the event running each year, Knupp said.

Even though Mindspine is being paid for the event, the chance to play for a local crowd is the main part of the show.

Mindspine has previously opened for punk act The Misfits and 1990s rock group Marcy Playground. The group is expecting to release its first CD this fall in addition to an East Coast tour ending in Alabama, Eyer said.

Even though the group is planning big things for the fall, Sunday's event is not going to be a practice gig for the band, Eyer said.

"This is no warm-up gig — we go 120 percent, full-out, all the time," Eyer said.

The band has more than an hour and a half of original content and multiple hours of cover songs to play during Sunday's one-hour set, so deciding what to play for the crowd is going to be a big part of the show, Eyer said.

"Bring your kids," he said.

"Yes we're a metal band, but we're also family-friendly."

But no matter what Mindspine ends up playing, Eyer said he is confident that the show is going to be a great concert for everyone who comes out, young and old.

"Come out and I guarantee you're gonna have a good time," he said.



Courtesy of myspace.com

Members of rock band Mindspine pose for a photograph.

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