

Important Note for Bands

PorchFest is one of the most loved events in Somerville, and the Somerville Arts Council wants to keep it alive – but we truly can't do it without you.

Here's how you can help us preserve this beautiful community event:

Sound Levels

- Keep your volume reasonable. Think: loud enough to be heard from 20 feet away, not the entire block.
- If you're using amps or PAs, remember this is a porch, not a concert venue.
- Work with nearby bands, not against them. Reach out and coordinate. Avoid sound bleeding by staggering start times or setting volume expectations together.

Respect the Agreement

- Stick to your assigned time zone. Playing outside of it may result in you and your host being disqualified from future events.
- Ensure your guests/audience are not in your neighbor's yard or driveway.

You're the voice of the porch!

Take a moment between songs to remind guests:

- To be safe and stay out of the street.
- There are porta-potties located throughout the city (locations available on our online map). Public urination or defecation is strictly prohibited and gross!
- No littering or trespassing – respect your host's neighbors and property.
- No public drinking – open container laws apply and PorchFest is not an exception.

Final Tips

- Be mindful of kids and families nearby. This is a community event, and they're watching and listening too.
- Promote yourself! Sell your merch, ask for tips, share your social links.
- Be a good guest to your porch host. Thank them, clean up after, and leave things better than you found them.

Thank You! This event wouldn't exist without your talent and energy. Let's keep the vibe fun, safe, and sustainable for this year and many more to come.