

Historic Half Entertainment Lineup to Cover Every Mile of the Course

Twenty-Eight Entertainers to Bring Excitement to the Entirety of the May 20 Event Route

QUANTICO, VA (May 15, 2018) – The Marine Corps Historic Half, Semper 5ive and Devil Dog Double courses feature local and regional musicians, performers, vehicle displays, colonial groups, cheer squads and the new Marine Motivation Zone to entertain and inspire participants along the scenic course through historic Fredericksburg, VA, blending patriotism with local flair.

While this year's course will feature many familiar returning entertainers, it will also welcome many new volunteer performers eager to add energy to the day. The musical entertainers include Massaponax High School, Bruiser, University of Mary Washington Pipe Band, Equals Conquest, Marantha Touring Choir, Dixie Power Trio, Doug Marshall, WFLS Radio, In Step Entertainment, Greensville County High School and James Monroe High School, which is new this year.

“Equals Conquest is excited to perform at the 2018 Marine Corps Historic Half and enthusiastically supports participants, service members and their friends and family.” Says Imix Lucian Shish of Equals Conquest, a local rock band.

Five cheer groups will line the quaint streets of Fredericksburg to encourage runners including Stafford Stealth, Baffa Academy of Irish Dance, Colonial Heritage Society Dancers, and new to the course this year, Dynamic All-Star Majorettes and Stafford Performing Stars.

“We are always excited to see the smiling faces of the runners at the Marine Corps Historic Half. It's a time where my dancers can relax and have fun, help someone else dig deep to reach their goals, and give back to our community and the Marines. They especially get a kick out of runners that stop and dance a jig with them.” says Jessie Baffa, Owner of Baffa Academy of Irish Dance.

Each packed mile provides a vast array of entertainment. Two car displays will be coordinated by the USMC Band of Brothers and Pohanka Nissan, who's five cheer vehicles will feature surprise personalized cheers for six unsuspected runners. Runners will also be met with warm noses and short tails from Rappahannock Area Comfort Canines, Blue Gray Therapy Dogs and the Fidelis Bulldogs.

New this year is the Marine Motivation Zone located along mile 12. During this inspirational stretch of the course, runners will be able to pay tribute and draw inspiration from Marines past and present, historical and personal. To runner right, 40 photo tributes of Marine leaders throughout history will be intermingled with 15 images of Marines shared by participants as a way of honoring the service of a loved one.

With the Historic Half course set in the heart of Civil War territory, the event beams with patriotism and this will be enhanced with the two large American flags displayed by Coleman Motor Company and the Fredericksburg Fire Department. Actors from the Washington Heritage Museums will boost the colonial feel of downtown Fredericksburg, dressed as characters from that era ready to take photos with eager runners along Prince Edward Street.

The course leads to the uniformed U.S. Marines at the finish line who will greet each and every finisher before presenting their medal. Limited registrations remain available for the Marine Corps Historic Half, Semper 5ive

and Devil Dog Double. Visit www.marinemarathon.com to register or for more information about Marine Corps Historic Half Weekend.

For media interested in covering the Marine Corps Historic Half Weekend from May 18-20, please contact Ashley Topolosky, Public Relations Coordinator at ashley.topolosky@usmc-mccs.org or 703-987-3191.

The Marine Corps Historic Half Weekend hosted annually in Fredericksburg, VA, includes thousands of participants and spectators from all over the United States and the world to partake in the Historic Half Marathon, Semper Five and the Devil Dog Double which encompasses both distances. Considered "The Greatest Half in History," the Marine Corps Historic Half boasts a course featuring landmarks dating back to our nation's beginnings and the early homes of Presidents George Washington and James Monroe. A production of Marine Corps Marathon Organization, the Historic Half is sponsored by GEICO Military, Wegmans, Pohanka Nissan, Brooks and Mary Washington Healthcare. The Semper Five is presented by Navy Federal Credit Union. No federal or Marine Corps endorsement implied. #RunWithTheMarines