

For Immediate Release

Contact: Sharon R. Hoggard Marketing Manager 757-393-5143 EXT. 6265 hoggards@portsmouthva.gov

30th Annual Umoja Festival Returns for 2022 After 2-Year Hiatus

(PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA – February 10, 2022) – Umoja is a Kiswahili word meaning unity – unity in the family, community, and nation. In Portsmouth, Umoja is an annual festival and celebration of family and African American heritage, culture, and customs. The festival was canceled in 2020 and 2021 due to the coronavirus. With origins dating back to the 1990s, city leaders realized the importance of cultural diversity, and the benefits of community exploration. Welcoming everyone to the historic port city, the 30th Umoja Festival starts Friday, May 27 through Sunday, May 29.

The one-and-only Chaka Khan will headline the Friday, May 27th's entertainment at the Atlantic Union Bank Pavilion. Tickets go on sale Friday, February 11. Call 757-393-8181 for more information or visit the box office at 16 Crawford Circle. All other performances will take place on the Umoja Stage in Festival Park and are FREE and open to the public.

Make plans to bring the whole family to Portsmouth for the 30thth Annual Umoja Festival. Enjoy amazing food, live music, and market-styled shopping. Visit the website https://umojafestportsmouth.com/ for periodic updates. For more information, call 757-393-8481.

###