

CITY of Stillwater News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monty Harper sings “Songs from the Science Frontier” at Stillwater Public Library concert Aug. 17

(STILLWATER, OKLA. / July 23, 2010) –Children’s songwriter Monty Harper will perform his “Songs From the Science Frontier” at the Stillwater Public Library August 17 at 6:30 PM. While everyone of any age is invited to attend, the songs will be most appropriate for kids age 8-12 and their parents.

Harper will perform songs he wrote based on interviews with Stillwater scientists about their research. The songs were written as part of the library’s “Born to Do Science” program, which Harper hosts.

“Most of us don’t really know what a scientist does every day,” says Harper. “These songs are designed to show how scientists actually operate - the words they use, the concepts they work on, their motivations and methods.”

The topics Harper sings about include phototactic bacteria, stress hormones, wheat genomics, bacterial biofilms, bat taxonomy, x-ray crystallography, and luminescence dating.

“These aren’t the usual topics you’ll find in science songs for kids,” admits Harper. “But I’m not expecting to teach content with the songs. I mainly want to entertain and pique interest. The deeper message here is that science is a process done by real people, and that it’s cool, fun, relevant, and accessible.”

Harper hopes to release his science songs on CD later this year, and has begun a “crowdfunding” campaign on Kickstarter.com. Kickstarter is a popular website used by independent artists to raise the money needed to fund their projects by collecting small contributions from large numbers of fans. Contributors to Harper’s project will receive CDs and other rewards in return for their financial pledges.

If Harper reaches his funding goal, recording will begin at the end of August, and the CD is scheduled for release in October. Harper is slated to record with producer Chris Wiser of the Oklahoma City band The Sugar Free Allstars.

Harper’s August 17 performance at the library will be his first chance to perform some of the songs in public since they were originally used in the “Born to Do Science” program.

For more information, visit library.stillwater.org or www.MontyHarper.com, call the Help Desk at 405-372-3633 x106 or email askalibrarian@stillwater.org.

The program is free and open to the public. Library programs are co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library and KOSU.

The Stillwater Public Library is located at 1107 S. Duck St. (the corner of Duck and 12th Ave.). Library hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.