

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release May 20, 2019 Contact: Pete Woody (804) 285-9495 x237

Dominion Energy Riverrock festival concludes with estimated attendance of 100,000 at Brown's Island and Historic Tredegar

RICHMOND, VA — <u>Dominion Energy Riverrock</u>, organized by local non-profit organizations Sports Backers and Venture Richmond, wrapped up its 11th year with an action-packed weekend full of outdoor adventure sports and live music. An estimated crowd of 100,000 spectators and participants visited Brown's Island and Historic Tredegar over the course of the weekend to be part of the nation's premier outdoor sports and music festival.

In addition to the sports events and concerts, Adventure Zones were packed throughout the three-day event with spectators of all ages trying a variety of outdoor sports and experiencing the full array of active living opportunities available on the James River and surrounding trail system. The festival aims to build a strong appreciation for the value of outdoor recreation and active living on the James River and throughout the Richmond region while promoting Richmond's unique riverfront, downtown trails, and whitewater rapids to outdoor enthusiasts.

The Bouldering events once again featured a field of elite athletes competing on a custom-built cage in front of thousands of fans. Alex Waterhouse, a member of the Dartmouth University Climbing Team who has also competed internationally for Great Britain's climbing team, took first place in the Boulder Bash competition on the men's side, while Arabella Jariel, a 17-year-old Herndon, Virginia, native, took first place on the women's side. In Sunday's Speed Comp, Jariel completed an impressive sweep with a first-place finish, while Ben Hanna was the top male finisher.

The James River also took center stage during the festival. Both the Sierra Nevada Kayak Boatercross and the Stand Up Paddleboard Cross events took place in the river adjacent to Brown's Island on Saturday, with paddlers performing beneath hundreds of spectators gathered on the T. Tyler Potterfield Memorial Bridge. On Sunday, kayakers showed off their best tricks in the Sierra Nevada Kayak Freestyle event in the same rapids.

Music fans flocked to the festival for a great lineup of free concerts from a diverse array of artists. Billy Strings, one of the most beloved young bluegrass guitarists performing today, was the Friday night headliner and his unique talents were on full display during his performance. The Chris Robinson Brotherhood headlined the festival on Saturday night and shared their infectious energy and musicianship on stage in front of an excited and energetic crowd.

Other crowd favorites at Dominion Energy Riverrock included the Subaru Ultimate Air Dogs, Slackline, Monster Energy Freestyle Bikes, Mountain Bike Time Trial, and Urban Assault mountain bike race. The Filthy 5k Mud Run and Belle Isle Blitz both took place on Friday evening with more than 700 participants, while the James River Scramble 10k Trail Run drew more than 550 finishers on Saturday morning, and Sunday's Bust the Banks Trail Half Marathon had over 230 finishers. Some participants took the weekend trail running to the extreme by completing the Trail Takedown challenge, finishing the Belle Isle Blitz 5k, Scramble 10k, and the half marathon.

Dominion Energy Riverrock will return to Brown's Island and Historic Tredegar May 15-17, 2020. For more information about Dominion Energy Riverrock or for full results from each of the events, please visit www.riverrockrva.com.