

January 15, 2010

Bands chosen for fair's big playoff

Erica Felci
The Desert Sun

It's down to the final five to compete for bragging rights and a \$1,000 prize at the Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival's Battle of the Bands.

The competing bands, announced Tuesday, are Caxton, out of Palm Desert; Arise from Ruin, out of Moreno Valley; Bodegas, out of Indio; Cake and Brains, from La Quinta; and Rip Torn, from Palm Desert.

The contest will held from noon to 4 p.m. Feb. 12 as part of the fair's opening day festivities.

At least 10 bands -- whose musicians are county residents between 16 and 26 years old -- applied for the contest.

The county's Fourth District Youth Advisory Council -- which provides county officials with insight on local issues important to teens -- picked the final five.

"Battle of the Bands will feature our local talented artists and attract young people to attend the date festival," county Supervisor John Benoit said in a statement.

The 64th annual fair runs from Feb. 12 through Feb. 21 in Indio.

Information: www.datefest.org