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**Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau
MEDIA ALERT**

Julia Cole performs in *Songs from the Sofa* virtual concert series April 15

What: The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB), iHeartMedia and Cat Country 107.1 welcome **Julia Cole** to the *Songs from the Sofa* virtual concert series. The livestream event, hosted by Miriam Dotson, VCB communications manager, will feature Cole's music, interviews and stories behind the songs.

Who: **Julia Cole**, BMI singer-songwriter and Nashville recording artist is gaining thousands of followers on TikTok from her recent hit, "Side Piece." Cole has earned more than 20 million streams and has been featured on CMT, Audience Network, The CW, Spotify's Hot Country and more. The musician/athlete got her start performing the national anthem before her own high school volleyball games and was soon performing for NFL, MLB and NASCAR events. She has toured the world opening for Dan + Shay, Carrie Underwood, Kenny Chesney and Kane Brown.

When: 8 p.m. (EDT) Thursday, April 15

Where: New! [Island Hopper Songwriter Fest Facebook page](#), [Twitter](#) and [The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel YouTube](#) channel.

Why: *Songs from the Sofa* is a great way to preview the singer-songwriters who will be performing at Island Hopper Songwriter Fest, Sept. 17-26, 2021, on Captiva Island, historic downtown Fort Myers and Fort Myers Beach. For now, on the third Thursday of every month, *Songs from the Sofa* or *Songs from the Sand* provides an exciting way to experience a quality performance in your own home.

Background: *Songs from the Sofa* debuted in May 2020 with music sensation Sam James. The monthly live performances have included Jay Allen, Maia Sharp, Dave Pahanish, Ben Allen, Clint Daniels, Parmalee, Danny Myrick, Bridget Tatum and Hannah Ellis. All performances are archived on the [Island Hopper Songwriter Fest Instagram page](#).

Songs from the Sand debuted in February 2021 with local favorite and Island Hopper alum Sheena Brook at the Pink Shell Resort & Marina on Fort Myers Beach. *Songs from the Sand* gives music lovers a chance to see the beautiful beaches of Southwest Florida.

For more information: Please visit <https://islandhopperfest.com/>

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Island Hopper is produced by the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau, iHeartMedia, Cat Country 107.1 and BMI, the largest music rights organization in the U.S. Visit IslandHopperFest.com to access the media tool kit. Follow the festival hashtag #islandhopperfest as well as the event's Instagram, Facebook and Twitter feeds.

*Julia Cole photo attached