



10th Cannabis Liberation Day with top speakers from three continents

AMSTERDAM - Cannabis Liberation Day, the biggest cannabis and hemp event in the Netherlands, will celebrate its tenth edition on June 17 in Amsterdam. The program boasts some of the biggest names in the cannabis world, top bands from Bosnia and France and a new addition: the Cannabis Olympics.

Cannabis Liberation Day is organized by Dutch non-profit organization VOC, the Union for the Abolition of Cannabis Prohibition. The free *protestival* is a celebration of international cannabis culture and a showcase for all the good this plant has to offer. Cannabis Liberation Day is aimed at a wide audience: anyone who wants to know more about cannabis as a medicine, a sustainable raw material or an alternative to alcohol is welcome. The venue is one of Amsterdam's oldest and greenest parks, Flevopark. Dutch Member of Parliament Vera Bergkamp (D66) has called Cannabis Liberation Day 'the most relaxed festival I have ever visited'.

The main stage, with speakers and artists from home and abroad, forms the heart of the event. Over fifty cannabis and hemp related companies and organizations are represented at the Hemp Market. The 'Cannabis University' features a full program of panel debates, Q&A's and master classes with some of the biggest names in the cannabis world. Visitors can try vaporizers in the Vape Lounge, get higher in an antique giant's stride and enjoy great food and non-alcoholic beverages from a large number of small vendors. New this year: the Cannabis Olympics, with five fun games, including Bungee Run and 'Stoned Stormbaan' (inflatable obstacle course). The first 500 participants win a cannabis medal.

A selection of the speakers at the 10th Cannabis Liberation Day:

Ed Rosenthal (USA), 'The Guru of Ganja', is the world's leading expert on cannabis cultivation. He has published about sixty books since 1974, inspiring and educating generations of breeders. Henk de Vries, founder of The Bulldog, is another living cannabis legend. His brainchild grew into an empire with global fame and he left his mark on the coffeeshop phenomenon like no other. Bestselling author Doug Fine (USA) wrote two great books about the plant, 'Too High To Fail' and 'Hemp Bound'. Dana Larsen is one of Canada's best known cannabis activists. Jules Stobbs and Myrtle Clarke, better known as The Dagga Couple, are fighting for legalization through the courts in South Africa.

Over the years, some great bands have played at Cannabis Liberation Day. For our anniversary we welcome Amsterdam based street orchestra Fanfare van de Eerste Liefdesnacht, the African spectacle Nusodia and singer-songwriter Lotte Walda. Le Peuple de l'Herbe, France's answer to Cypress Hill, will take to the stage around seven at night. The grand finale will be provided by one of Eastern Europe's best live bands: Dubioza Kolektiv from Bosnia. With their blend of Balkan Beats, ska, punk and hip hop, they have triumphed at pretty much every major European festival, from Sziget to Glastonbury. Extensive information about this year's program: www.cannabisliberationday.org

Cannabis Liberation Day 2018: Sunday, June 17, 14-22 hours, free admission

Note to the editors / not for publication:

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