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**KASABIAN, CCS & FRIENDS HELP NME.COM
CELEBRATE 10th BIRTHDAY IN TRUE ROCK 'N' ROLL STYLE
WITH WALKMAN NME BREAKING BANDS WINNERS AS
SUPPORT**

NME.COM is the music industry's leading music news service provider; for a decade, **NME.COM** has continually pushed the boundaries and set the standard. To celebrate an incredible 10 years at the top, **NME.COM** is throwing a big **10th Birthday bash** for it's closest friends, biggest fans and idols on **12th September** at London's **KOKO**.

KASABIAN and **CCS** will take to the stage, **Babyshambles**, **The Long Blondes**, **The Horrors** and **Simian Mobile Disco** will take to the decks and host **Colin Murray** will take control of the mic to introduce a few big birthday surprises throughout the night!

NME.COM'S exclusive birthday do will be filled with the biggest and best bands. As well as connecting music fans with bands, **NME.COM** also nurtures new talent and has been running a competition for unknown bands to post their tunes to **NME.COM** as part of the **WALKMAN NME Breaking Bands** initiative. The 20 bands with the most votes have now been shortlisted and an esteemed panel of judges will pick the winner to perform live at **NME.COM's** 10th Birthday in the next few days.

NME.COM Editor **Ben Perreau** says: "***NME.COM's** landmark tenth anniversary deserves to be celebrated in style – and what better way to have the cream of today's storming indie bands in the form of Kasabian showing the new young bloods how its done!*"

Judges include: NME's **New Music Editor James Jam**, **Bloc Party's Kele Okereke**, **Kasabian**, **Alan McGee** and **Whiskas of iForward Russia!**

The next generation of A&R talent will also be there on the night with 300 nominating fans having won VIP tickets.

When it comes to music news, new bands, festival coverage or music videos, **NME.COM** is the first port of call for music fans the world over. Its origins date back to early 1996 when **NME.COM** realised that the internet was THE FUTURE.

So while the music world was caught up in britpop wars, Oasis were taking over the world and Jarvis was delivering witty one-liners, **NME.COM** was developing the blueprint for what would become our world-beating website. **NME.COM** has since been through various guises and now sits proudly at the top the list of commercial music websites in the UK. It was the first place you could hear about John Peel's sad death, Coldplay's immense Glastonbury performance and the rise of Arctic Monkeys.

WALKMAN NME Breaking Bands opportunity gives music fans the chance to spot the next big thing, and win an exclusive ticket to the star-studded **NME.COM** 10th anniversary bash! WALKMAN NME Breaking Bands is the biggest ever new music competition and the winner will be announced on **NME.COM** next week (5th Sept).

It's only Rock 'n' Roll, but we like it! Let the birthday binge begin!!!

NME.COM 10th Birthday Bash, KOKO, 12th September

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Notes to Editors:

Judging Panel:

James Jam New Music Editor, NME

NME New Music Editor James Jam began his obsession with new music as a teenager, sneaking out of his bedroom window after dark to catch emerging talent in seedy Doncaster dives and writing page after page of giddy pop prose in his fanzine, Boyeater. Later, upon arriving at university in Sunderland he expanded the title to put on regular club nights, radio shows, and bizarrely, cake-baking evenings, hosting shows by a fledgling Futureheads and working tirelessly to bring the northeast underground and overground into the bosom of the wider populace. In 2001 he

started writing for, 'his favourite magazine ever'. James has been NME New Music Editor since early 2006.

Alan McGee Poptones

Alan McGee is a British music industry legend, famed for running the legendary independent Creation Records, managing the likes of The Jesus And Mary Chain and The Libertines, founding and running the Poptones label, and being a super nice bloke in an industry where such a thing is rarer than you would imagine. As the man who 'found' Oasis, Primal Scream, Teenage Fanclub, Boo Radleys, St Etienne, Super Furry Animals and The Hives, thereby soundtracking at least two generations youth, Alan McGee has almost 25 years of hunting out top rock'n'roll talent.

Whiskas of iForward Russia!

When not playing guitar in New Yorkshire hero's iForward, Russia!, Dance To The Radio label boss Whiskas spends the rest of his time lording it up in his West Yorkshire castle, pulling the strings that have seen the kingdom of Leeds the place for top new music these last few years. Whilst the first bit of that last sentence is, quite obviously, bobbins, the second part is very much a fact. It's a truth that the work of the tireless bearded uber geezer is directly responsible for the clutch of good bands racing into our consciousness from the western flung part of Yorkshire. A true champion of new music, Whiskas is our kind of guy.

Kele Okereke of Bloc Party

Twenty five year old Kele Okereke is singer and guitarist in much loved art rockers Bloc Party, a band who, along with The Libertines, led the charge of great new British guitar music that has been charging out of London these last few years. Notoriously opinioned, inspiringly righteous, and a fabulous singer to boot, Kele's band not only stormed in at number one in the NME writers 'Albums Of The Year' poll, and played alongside the likes of The Kaiser Chiefs, The Futureheads, and The Killers our 2005 NME Awards Tour, but is one of the coolest, smartest, most utterly awesome people we know.

Kasabian

Encompassing guitarist Serge Pizzorno, singer Tom Meighan, bassist Christopher Edwards and drummer Ian Mathews, Leicester's Kasabian are on course to be the biggest band in the country. They're supported celebrity fans Oasis countless times, fallen out with The Rolling Stones opening for them on their world tour, and appeared on the cover four times in the last year alone. If 2005's 'Kasabian' album, their debut and initial statement of intent, made them stars, then this years follow up, 'Empire', is a certainty to add a preface of 'super' to that title.

