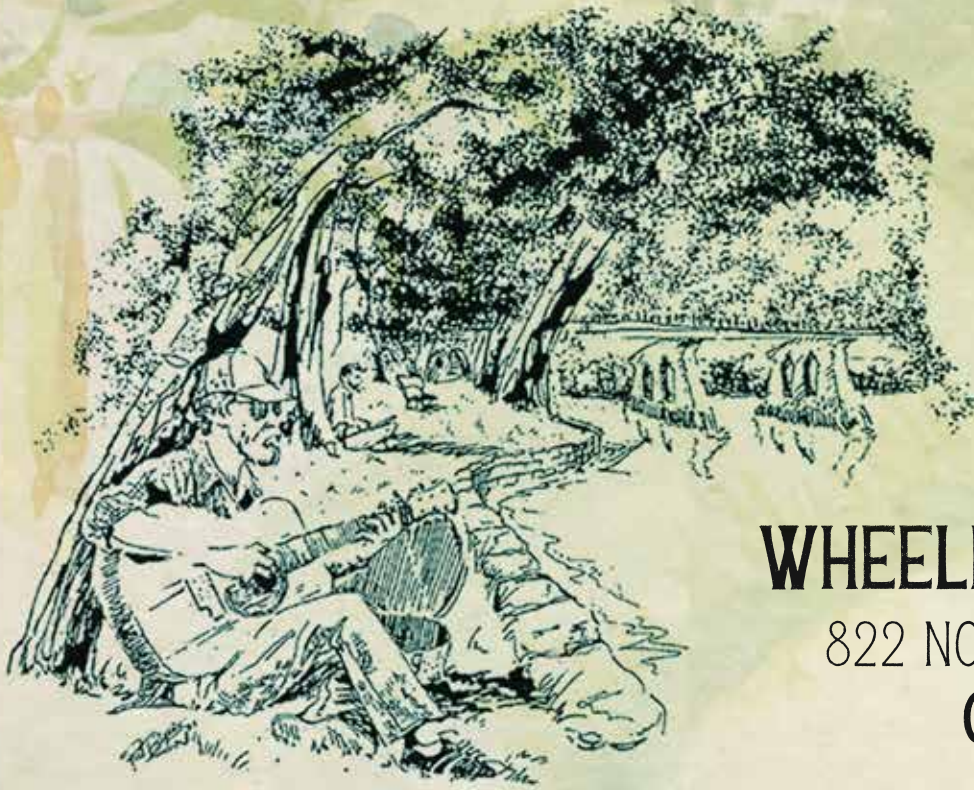


49TH ANNUAL
**FOX VALLEY FOLK MUSIC
& STORYTELLING FESTIVAL**

AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1, 2025



WHEELER PARK

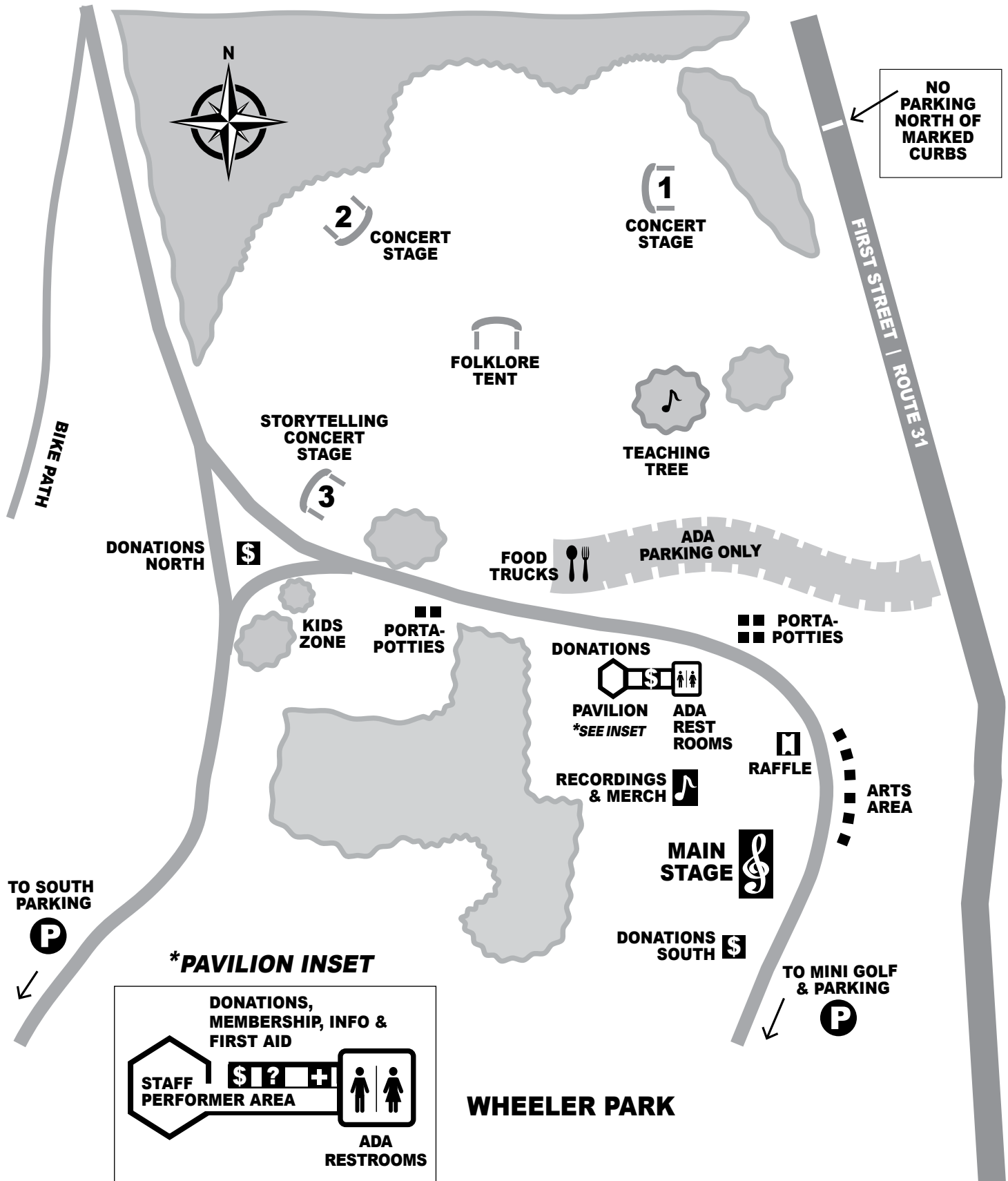
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GENEVA, IL

WHERE MUSIC, STORY, & COMMUNITY MEET

PRODUCED BY THE FOX VALLEY FOLKLORE SOCIETY
AND CO-SPONSORED WITH THE GENEVA PARK DISTRICT

Welcome To The 49th Annual Fox Valley Folk Festival

Produced by the Fox Valley Folklore Society in partnership with the Geneva Park District.



THE FOX VALLEY FOLKLORE SOCIETY WELCOMES YOU TO THE 49TH ANNUAL FOX VALLEY FOLK MUSIC & STORYTELLING FESTIVAL!

We are excited to welcome you to two days of music, storytelling, teaching workshops & mini-concerts and more ! Our featured performers come to us from all over the country and represent a cross section of the styles & traditions that are a part of the traditional folk arts and continuing folk community.

Visit and meet our Arts Exhibitors...enjoy the local food trucks...visit Kids' Zone for the smallest folkies...purchase your raffle tickets for a chance to win a new guitar! And please stop by the CD/merchandise tent where you can support our festival performers.

You may notice a few changes as the festival looks toward the 50th Anniversary in 2026 - we are reusing wristbands of past festivals, putting new faces on the stages, and offering special guest appearances by veteran performers. We even have a newly designed website!

We hope you will join us in launching the Society and Festival into the next 50 years by attending our other regular events, becoming a member (and hopefully a volunteer too!) and considering the Fox Valley Folklore Society in your charitable giving, and your estate planning. There is so much more we want to do and share as a community... Let's do it together!

**FOX VALLEY FOLKLORE SOCIETY ACKNOWLEDGES
SUPPORT FROM THE ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL**

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ARTS
Council

food truck food court

Fuel up for more dancing, singing, and listening with an array of deliciously diverse options!

Taco Motora Kool Kat Ice
Golden Eagle Hotdogs Wild Fries
Serna's Grill-Monster Gyros
Cousins Maine Lobster* **Monday only*



ARTS RIGHT ALONG THE PATH BY MAIN STAGE **AND**

EXHIBITORS

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**SURVIVING INTO OUR
50TH YEAR THANKS TO
YOUR DONATIONS!**



**Your donations are our primary
means of compensating our
featured working artists.**

**We are not a "free festival",
but our commitment to building community
means we do not turn anyone away
for lack of means.**

**Please give as generously as
you are able.**

Adults \$35 / 60 [day/weekend]

Seniors & Students \$20 / 30

Families \$80 / 140

Under 12 FREE



But we will gladly accept any amount!



The Fox Valley Folklore Society (FVFS) was formed in early 1975 by a dozen folks with a common interest in folk music and folk culture. FVFS engages the community by hosting nearly 100 regular participatory events per year. We welcome all ages and experience levels and encourage participation with the goal of inspiring people to become active in the folk arts community, and to help preserve this heritage and tradition for generations to come. The Fox Valley Folklore Society is an Illinois-based not-for-profit corporation. Charitable donations are recognized by the IRS as tax deductible as allowable by law. The Fox Valley Folklore Society gratefully acknowledges support from the Illinois Arts Council.

WEEKLY IN-PERSON SING AROUND *Every Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm*

Two Brothers Roundhouse Restaurant, 205 N Broadway, Aurora, Illinois

Created by FVFS founder Juel Ulven, the weekly sing around is a cornerstone of the society where everyone is welcome to play a tune, sing a song, learn from others, or just listen and enjoy the folk music.

WEEKLY VIRTUAL SING AROUND *Every Monday evening on Zoom, 6:30-9:30 pm*

Following the same format as the in-person gathering, this new Fox Valley Sing Around tradition started in 2020. Subscribe at <https://groups.io/g/FoxValleyZoomSing> and be on the lookout for the weekly email with the Zoom link.

THE FOX VALLEY STORYTELLING GUILD *4th Tuesday evening of the month on Zoom*

The Guild welcomes tellers and listeners to our meetings, where we provide an encouraging, supportive, nurturing, and compassionate peer group to growing storytellers of all experience levels.

OLD-TIME COMMUNITY BARN DANCES *2nd Sunday, Sept.- May 2-5 p.m.*

Grace Lutheran Church, 493 Forest Ave, Glen Ellyn, IL

Enjoy live fiddle tunes and easy to learn traditional dances for everyone. Our friendly callers will teach and lead each dance, so everyone can have a good time. \$5-15 sliding scale.

FOX VALLEY SEA SHANTY SING *1st Sunday each month, 2-4:30 pm*

Batavia Public Library, 10 S Batavia Ave, Batavia, IL.

An informal gathering to share all aspects of maritime music, but especially the shanties that were the driving soundtrack for the grueling work on the tall ships.

CONCERTS

Historically, the Fox Valley Folklore Society has hosted several concerts each year, featuring nationally known folk singers and groups. Our venues have ranged from intimate house concerts to cooperative presenting with area music venues and art centers. Mostly on hiatus since the start of the pandemic, the Folklore Society eagerly anticipates resuming these!

THE ANNUAL FOX VALLEY FOLK MUSIC AND STORYTELLING FESTIVAL is co-sponsored with the Geneva Park District on Sunday and Monday of Labor Day weekend. It features folk music, dance, and storytelling, from over two dozen of the finest folk musicians and storytellers in the country, including local and regional talent. With six stages and a Kids' Zone, we present over 100 hours of entertainment and education at beautiful Wheeler Park in Geneva, Illinois.

For more information on all of our events through the year and to join our email list(s) or Facebook groups, please see our new and improved website www.FVFS.org

BECOME A MEMBER OF FVFS

Join during the Festival and get a free T-shirt...while supplies last!

Membership forms are available at Raffle, Donations, or CD/Merch Tents

You don't have to be a member to attend our events — but your membership keeps them going! Annual memberships start at only \$25 for individuals and \$40 for families.

Over 98% of FVFS runs on your support!
Keep the stories told and the music alive - your membership makes it possible!

The Fox Valley Folklore Society is an Illinois-based nonprofit. Your donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law - thank you for your support!

FVFS All Ages Barn Dance

2nd Sunday 2-5 pm

Grace Lutheran Church

493 Forest Ave., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

September 14, 2025 January 11, 2026
October 12, 2025 February 8, 2026
November 9, 2025 March 8, 2026
December 14, 2025 April 12, 2026

Join the Fox Valley Folklore Society for an afternoon of fun dancing to LIVE fiddle tunes performed by area musicians. All dances taught; no partner needed. Come at 2pm for an hour of kid-friendly dances, followed by contras, squares, and more.

Suggested donation \$5-\$20
Children 12 and under are free
(Must be accompanied by an adult)

www.fvfs.org/events



**THE FOX VALLEY
STORYTELLING GUILD**



4TH TUESDAY
OF THE MONTH*
7:00 P.M. ON ZOOM
*WE USUALLY SKIP
DECEMBER
AND SOMETIMES
JANUARY AS WELL

 **LISTEN TO LIVE STORIES**
TELL ONE OR MORE OF YOUR OWN
GET FEEDBACK AND MENTORSHIP
ALL IN A FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT AND
THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND A ZOOM LINK,
CONTACT MARIE RINGENBERG: MTRINGEN@JUNO.COM
ANY TIME PRIOR TO THE 4TH TUES. OF THE MONTH.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS

The extra support from these organizations, businesses, and individuals are vital to the survival of The Fox Valley Festival. Please go out of your way to let them know you appreciate them, and support their endeavors as well.

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Headliners (\$500 - \$999): Ted Geiss & Martha Cook, Rick & Theresa Cremer, Bruce Hirsh, Tony O'Connell
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*In grateful dedication to the memory of
our recently departed friends who have
sung and jammed with us here on earth
for the last time.*

*We miss them dearly and their spirits
sing on with ours.*

Eddie Adcock	Kris Kristofferson	Tracy Schwarz
*Linsey Alexander	Spider John Koerner	*Alan Shaw
*John Allan	*John Lebbing	Jimmy Neil Smith
Sara Armstrong	Gwenda Ledbetter	Jill Sobule
Cynthia Changaris	Tom Lehrer	Randy Sparks
*David Child	Dave Loggins	*Heather Wood
*Barbara Dane	Frank Maher	Peter Yarrow
*Bruce Hecksel	David Mallett	Jesse Colin Young
Michael Hurley	Sam Moore	
*Doris Ireland	Tom Prasado-Rao	
*Ella Jenkins	Bernice Johnson Reagon	
	*John Roberts	

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- String band practices and get togethers
- Barn Dances
- Workshops
- Music festival attendance
- Quarterly newsletter

An open, friendly environment for
experienced and beginning
musicians- all are welcome to join in.

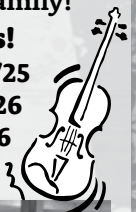
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40 years of traditional folk music!

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Save the Dates!

10/11/25	11/15/25
2/7/26	3/21/26
4/25/26	5/9/26



PERFORMERS



BOBCAT OPOSSUM

"Eatin' trash and playin' fast!" is the tagline of this newcomer duo to the Festival, made up of Sean Hoffman and Ellen Coplin with their fiddle, guitar, piano, vocals, and delightful sense of humor. Midwest-raised, these two bring vocal harmonies to songs and a blend of classical, folk, bluegrass, and Irish to their original tunes and will have you tapping your feet by the chorus, if you're not already on your toes, dancing and clapping along. www.bobcatopossum.com



ANNIE & ROD CAPPS W/JASON DENNIE

A blend of diverse styles rooted in folk, rock, jazz, and bluegrass inform a unique sound that have earned Annie and Rod Capps top spots on the Folk Radio charts, two Kerrville New Folk Finalists awards, and the acclaim of fans all over the country. Weaving unforgettable melodies, Annie's disarming delivery of thoughtfully, layered lyrics and solid guitar grooves are punctuated by Rod's effortless accompaniment on both guitar and viola as well as Jason Dennie's exquisite mandolin. Their 10th release "*Enjoy the Ride*" is due out this Fall. <https://annieandrodccapps.com>



JASMIN CARDENAS

Jasmin is an international voice using her storytelling, theater, and cultural work to uplift humanity and fight for the most vulnerable. Jasmin has had an incredible few years crisscrossing the country as a featured teller, for adults and children alike, at The National Storytelling Festival (TN), St. Louis Storytelling Festival (MO), Midland Storytelling Festival (TX) and Corn Island Festival (KY), among others. Her newest album "*Cuentos From The Americas*" won the 2023 Storytelling World Award. As winner of the 2022 Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation Grant, Jasmin toured Africa performing her new documentary solo play, "*Disposable*" and teaching theatre master classes in Zimbabwe and South Africa. www.JasminCardenas.com



CURTIS & LORETTA

Husband and wife duo Curtis and Loretta Simonet have spent over four decades sharing the stories of those they've met on their travels with their ensemble of harp, ukulele, guitar, harmonica, mandocello, and kazoo. Full of humor and heart, they have performed with Pete Seeger, Arlo Guthrie, Claudia Schmidt, and other folk legends. Their original music fills ten albums, with their latest, *Lift The World*, being crafted during the pandemic and an uplifting celebration of life's most important things. <https://curtisandloretta.com>



KATIE DAHL

Katie Dahl brings a wide range of talents to the Fox Valley stage, being a talented singer/songwriter, playwright, and radio-charting touring artist. Her music is unflinchingly honest and vulnerable, with a witty humor that brings levity to the profound topics and questions she explores—love, land, grief, body image, and more. Katie was a finalist in the Kerrville New Folk Competition in 2024, and won the prestigious contest in 2025. Her five albums and two live cast recordings are a testament to the power of Katie's voice. <https://katiedahlmusic.com>





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Sam Robbins

A rising star, live at
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SEPT 27

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Songwriters inspired
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haiku poetry

NOV 11

**Ben Bedford +
C. Daniel Boling**

Double bill at
Acoustic Renaissance
(Hinsdale)

DEC 6

**Anne Heaton +
Sean Kiely**

A fan favorite
and a new favorite

DEC 27

**New Year's Steve
w/Sons of the
Never Wrong**

Bruce Roper's
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Steve Goodman songs

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Saturdays, 9:00 PM

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2025

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2026

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SEP
27**

ANNALEE KOEHN and CHUCK COX
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7:00 PM | \$20

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Celebrating 51 years
3:00 PM | \$25

**SUN
JAN
4**

**SAT
OCT
18**

JAMES GORDAN
7:00 PM | \$20

**DYNAMIC DUOS OF THE 60's Featuring
ZACHARY STEVENSON & KIERAN McCABE**
7:00 PM | \$20

**SAT
JAN
24**

**SAT
NOV
15**

LEE MURDOCK & his
34th Annual Christmas Ship Show
7:00 PM | \$20

**PATCHOULI &
TERRA GUITARRA**
7:00 PM | \$20

**SAT
APR
25**

**SAT
DEC
6**

JBj SING-ALONG
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5:30 - 7 PM | Donations

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PERFORMERS



JOE GORKA

Joe Gorka made his first appearance as a surprise guest on a Fox Valley stage in 2024 and is appearing as an invited artist. Joe, a rising voice on the Chicago folk scene, brings an unencumbered style and classic folk influences to his original works as a singer/songwriter of piano ballads and fingerstyle folk songs. He draws in listeners' attention whether in person or on his debut EP, "Evergreen". Joe was selected as an Emerging Artist at the 2025 Falcon Ridge Folk Festival. <http://joegorkamusic.com>



JOHN GORKA

John Gorka is authentic, warm, and a masterful storyteller whose work leaves an impression while resonating with a familiarity at once comforting and timeless. His ability to weave humor and insight into his lyrical depictions of human experience transcends generations and fills over a dozen albums. An enduring testament to the power and importance of music, John tours all over North America and Europe and his live performances are a heartwarming, soul-filling pocket of time that are not to be missed. <https://www.johngorka.com>



TIM GRIMM WITH SERGIO WEBB

When you pair one of the finest songwriters the country has to offer with a masterful guitarist, you get the magic that is Tim Grimm and Sergio Webb. Tim's new album *Bones of Trees* is less than a year old, following on the heels of the #1 song of the year on Folk Radio, *Broken Truth*. The "truth of our political world...tales of place...beauty, grace and freedom" enveloped in "nuance and fire" fill the air with Americana, tradition, and storytelling that draws audiences in and creates a connection that won't soon be forgotten. <https://timgrimm.com>



ANNE HARRIS

Folk, spirituals, blues, gospel...are just the beginnings of the masterful weaving of sound and spirit that is Anne Harris' music. Hailed as a breath of fresh air, she has been garnering rave reviews for her insightful and poignant music, and racking up awards, acting and composing credits, and media appearances in some of the leading journals of music today. Her high-energy and deeply soulful artistry make her a must-see on the main stage and beyond. Featuring Ernie Hendrickson and Ryan Carney on Monday. www.anneharris.com



JOE JENCKS

From Carnegie Hall to Kerrville Folk Fest and venues large and small, Joe's deep baritone has blended with his instrumental work to captivate audiences. Working class Irish roots and a conservatory education balance his writing and fill it with beauty, strength, and a deep consciousness of social circumstances and spiritual reflection. Joe's warm approachable style encourages hearts to open and lives to be transformed and has garnered accolades and awards across America. <https://www.joejencks.com>





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PERFORMERS



JOEL MABUS

Often labeled singer-songwriter, he doesn't much sound like one, defying the stereotype. His 28 albums spring from fertile soil – a 1930's fiddle champion father and banjo-playing mother - and the influence of decades spent in the hallowed halls of folk music's greatest venues. *Lonesome Road: Songs of the Lost Generation 1924-1928* is just the latest in Joel Mabus' career replete with original and traditional music. Whether it's tender pondering or biting satire, on guitar, uke or banjo, Joel's music is a treat for all who hear. <http://joelmabus.com>



KATE MACLEOD

Singer, songwriter, and coxer of music from the fiddle, guitar and mountain dulcimer, Kate Macleod has brought her eclectic melange of music, her "strong, sweet magic" to audiences around the world. Accomplished across a number of genres - Appalachian, Old-Time, Contemporary and Traditional Songs - her work has been awarded by the Best of the West and Folk Alliance International, and graced PBS programs as well as local music stages. Her latest single is less than two weeks old and she's already got another being released this week! (Or maybe at the Festival...?) www.katemacleod.com



DEIDRE MCCALLA

A soulful but powerful feminist voice singing songs that celebrate diversity, resilience, power, longing, and hope, sometimes all in one song! Topping the charts in 2022 with folk radio's highest charting album and single, Deidre "has long been in the forefront of Black musicians redefining the understanding of how Black folk do folk" from the smallest of venues to Carnegie Hall. Her album *Don't Doubt It* has been enshrined in the Smithsonian's Museum of American History. <https://deidremccalla.com>



JENNIFER MUNRO

Once upon a time...is not the way that most of Jennifer Munro's stories begin. Oh no! Her rollicking tales of diverse and richly embodied characters are much more evocative than that. "Her language transports us to locales and circumstances that would be familiar to Dickens, Twain, and even J.K. Rowling." An English childhood full of myth, legend, yarns, and gossip set the stage for a lifetime sharing the truth of "what it means simply to be human." while years honing her craft make her truly a master of the spoken word and the worthy recipient of a Circle of Excellence award from the National Storytelling Network. www.jennifermunrostoryteller.com



BILL ROBINSON

Bill Robinson can play dobro, guitar, banjo, fiddle and mandolin, but his true calling and heritage is the hammered dulcimer. The third generation of a dulcimer-playing family, he adopted it as his chosen instrument in his teens. He not only plays masterfully, but teaches and builds instruments as well, despite being allergic to the wood components! <https://www.billrobinson-dulcimer.com/>



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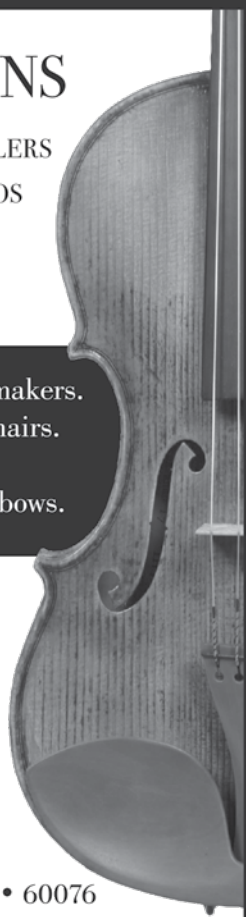
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Mary Gaines & Chris Wagoner co-bill with
Robin & Jenny Bienemann

Oct. 4, 2025

Sons of the Never Wrong

Nov. 1, 2025

C. Daniel Boling and Ben Bedford co-bill

Jan. 31, 2026

Ellis Paul \$22

Feb. 21, 2026

Katie Dahl, RJ Cowdery and Hope Dunbar

Mar. 7, 2026

James Kellaghan

Apr. 18, 2026

Emma's Revolution

May 2, 2026

Susan Werner \$30

Season Ticket \$160, front-row seats

PERFORMERS



SPARKY & RHONDA RUCKER

Sparky is a 2025 Governor's Arts Award winner in Tennessee and with his wife Rhonda, an acclaimed educator and performer all over the country. They inspire thousands of young people (and adults, too!) through story, song, and their deep understanding of the power of both to educate minds and effect change. The Kennedy Center and Smithsonian Folklife Festival, the International Storytelling Festival, and hundreds of schools have welcomed them, ready to hear the tales of social justice, civil rights, history, environmental stewardship, and sometimes, even ghosts.
www.sparkyandronda.com



SUSAN STONE

With over 30 years of experience telling stories, leading workshops, and teaching people to share and connect, Susan Stone is adept at bringing teachers, librarians, adults, and children to enchantment and inspiration with her tales. She has created women-centric interfaith story sessions, won a Jewish Book Award, appeared internationally as well as in some of the most respected Chicago cultural spaces—"In her hands the tales, no matter how ancient, come hauntingly alive where every tale can be heard as if for the first time."



DENNIS STROUGHMATT ET L'ESPRIT CREOLE

When you think of "Cajun" and "Creole", you likely don't think of Illinois—but Dennis and L'Esprit are here to show you why you should! A blend of Celtic, Cajun, and Canadian styles is the unique hallmark of the French Creole pioneers who settled along the Mississippi in the southern reaches of the state, a tradition that Dennis is proud to be both deeply steeped in and passionate about carrying into the future. Don't miss the toe tapping, heart-lifting, and inspiring tunes from a little-known tradition not far from home but world's away from anything you've heard before. <http://www.creolefiddle.com>



CHRIS WALZ (SUNDAY ONLY)

Described as "a rare combination of past and present", musician and educator Chris Walz can strum a guitar, play a mandolin, and pick a banjo like nobody's business. He has toured both with the Grammy-nominated Special Concensus, as an actor portraying Woody Guthrie, and has thrilled audiences with each performance. and is a popular instructor at Chicago's renowned Old Town School of Folk.
www.chriswalzmusic.com



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We are extremely thankful for our community of local organizations, musicians and storytellers who contribute their time and talents to our stages, including:

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GUEST TELLERS: Janine Ashley, Margaret Burk, Janice Del Negro, Stacey Hartin, Mary Schmidt, Megan Wells

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SUNDAY STAGE SCHEDULE

MAIN STAGE SUNDAY		CONCERT STAGES ON THE HOUR	CONCERT STAGE 1	CONCERT STAGE 2	STORYTELLING CONCERT STAGE 3 <i>Hosted by FVFS Storytelling Guild</i>	TEACHING TREE	FOLKLORE STAGE	KIDS ZONE <i>Sponsored by American Science and Surplus</i>
11:00 AM	TWO WAY STREET FAVORITES HEATHER STYKA	11:00 AM	PLANK ROAD FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY <i>Offering Participatory Music and Dance in the Western Suburbs</i>	LAKE COUNTY FOLK CLUB <i>The Cream of the Crop from the Grayslake Area</i>	FOX VALLEY FOLKLORE SOCIETY <i>Enjoy A Sampling of Our Weekly FVFS Sing-Around</i>		CHICAGO SACRED HARP SINGERS <i>Learn to Sing Shape Note Harmony</i>	
11:30 AM	- FEATURED TELLERS - SUSAN STONE JENNIFER MUNRO	11:30 AM						
12:00 PM	JOHN GORKA <i>with Joe Gorka</i>	12:00 PM	FIDDLE TUNES ... WITH OR WITHOUT A FIDDLE Joel Mabus Bobcat Opossum Chris Walz	SONGS OF SELF REVELATION Joe Jencks Katie Dahl Deidre McCalla	FOX VALLEY GUILD TELLERS Ursa Miles Carolyn Thomas- Davidoff Anita Blake Pam Schumacher	COMMUNITY SING <i>The power of singing... the power of song</i> Matt Watroba		ALL DAY EVENT: * DECORATE THE KIDS FESTIVAL BANNER * Draw What Makes You Happy about Festival
12:40 PM	CURTIS & LORETTA							FUZZY FESTIVAL FRIENDS <i>Make a Fuzzy Festival Critter Pal</i>
1:20 PM	KATIE DAHL	1:00 PM	HONORING TRADITIONS Sparky and Rhonda Anne Harris Dennis Stroughmatt et L'Esprit Creole	SONGS I WROTE... OR WISH I HAD Kate MacLeod Tim Grimm Annie and Rod Capps with Jason Dennie	FEATURED TELLERS Susan Stone Jennifer Munro	LEARN ABOUT THE HAMMERED DULCIMER <i>Talk, Tunes ,and Traditions</i> Bill Robinson and Friends	SEA SHANTY SING <i>Everyone is invited to join in the song circle - sing great chorus songs and play along if you wish!</i> Hosted by John Morris and members of The Fox Valley and Chicago Sea Shanty Groups	FAMILY SING ALONG <i>Come and sing some favorites songs</i>
2:00 PM	CHRIS WALZ	2:00 PM	LIFE JOURNEYS AND MILESTONES John Gorka Joe Jencks Joe Gorka	TWO WAY STREET FAVORITES <i>The Sons of The Prairie</i> Heather Styka	STELLAR TELLERS Stacee Hartin Janine Ashley Dennis Stroughmatt	NOTE READING MUSIC FOR EAR MUSICIANS - SIMPLIFIED - Doug Hawf of L'Esprit Creole		LEARN AND PLAY MOUNTAIN DULCIMER <i>Try playing mountain dulcimer with a sing-along! For "kids" of all ages</i> Carole Ehrman
2:40 PM	DEIDRE MCCALLA							
3:20 PM	DENNIS STROUGHMATT et L'ESPRIT CREOLE	3:00 PM	ORIGINAL SONGS AND UNUSUAL INSTRUMENTS Curtis & Loretta Annie & Rod Capps with Jason Dennie Bill Robinson	CHASING THOSE BLUES... Chris Walz Anne Harris Joel Mabus Sparky and Rhonda	FEATURED TELLER Susan Stone	IRISH FIDDLE <i>Learn a new tune! From jigs to reels.... Irish ornaments and bowing! Guitars & others welcome also</i> Bobcat Opossum	SONG WRITING & PLAYING WITH "THE LEGENDS" <i>Journey though songs co-written with David Olney and others...</i> Sergio Webb	NOISEMAKER INSTRUMENTS & SING- ALONG SONGS <i>Make Your Own</i>
4:00 PM	KATE MACLEOD	4:00 PM	THE TRADITION CONTINUES... Bobcat Opossum Heather Styka Joe Gorka Lisa Medina	SONGS OF PROTEST & SOCIAL CONSCIENCE Tim Grimm & S. Webb Deidre McCalla Sparky and Rhonda Joe Jencks	GREENMAN THEATER Cassy Beach Marilyn Connolly Tom Kaiser Larry Vietsky Carolyn Thomas- Davidoff	BLUEGRASS BANJO HANDS-ON <i>Use the five Scruggs rolls to create your own solos. Tab Provided</i> Chris Walz	OPEN SING AROUND CIRCLE <i>Sing your own kind of song... Share with new and old friends!</i>	SENSORY CALMING TOYS <i>Make & Take Your Own Sparkling Calming Toy</i>
4:40 PM	ANNIE & ROD CAPPs with JASON DENNIE	5:00 PM						
5:20 PM	JOEL MABUS		SONGS THAT MAKE ME WHO I AM Katie Dahl John Gorka Joe Jencks	SONGS OF HEART AND HOME Tim Grimm Anne Harris Curtis & Loretta	FEATURED TELLER Jennifer Munro	OLD TIME FIDDLING <i>Learn an Old-Time Tune including rhythm, bowing, and intricacies of the melody</i> Kate MacLeod	OLD TIME JAM & BARN DANCE BASICS <i>Learn basics for the dance or jam along</i> The Back Porch Crew Lynn Garren	
6:00PM to 7:30PM	OLD TIME BARN DANCE - MAIN STAGE			Music by Bobcat Opossum, Kate MacLeod, Joel Mabus, and Chris Walz Calling by Lynn Garren				
7:30PM to 9:00PM	SPINE-TINGLING TALES - STORYTELLING STAGE			with Ursa Miles, Carolyn Thomas-Davidoff, Janice Del Negro, Megan Wells, and Jennifer Munro				

MONDAY STAGE SCHEDULE

MAIN STAGE MONDAY		CONCERT STAGES ON THE HOUR	CONCERT STAGE 1	CONCERT STAGE 2	STORYTELLING CONCERT STAGE 3 <i>Hosted by FVFS Storytelling Guild</i>	TEACHING TREE	FOLKLORE STAGE	KIDS ZONE <i>Sponsored by American Science and Surplus</i>
11:00 AM	- TUNES AND TALES - DENNIS STROUGHMATT et L'ESPRIT CREOLE	11:00 AM	PLANK ROAD FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY <i>Offering Participatory Music and Dance in the Western Suburbs</i>	LAKE COUNTY FOLK CLUB <i>The Cream of the Crop from the Grayslake Area</i>	CHICAGO SONGWRITERS COLLECTIVE <i>Many of Chicagoland's Best Writers</i>	APPALACHIA AND BEYOND Kate MacLeod Bobcat Opossum	OPEN SING AROUND AND JAM CIRCLE <i>Make your own kind of music...and share with new and old friends!</i>	
11:30 AM	JENNIFER MUNRO JASMIN CARDENAS							
12:00 PM	SERGIO WEBB	12:00 PM	TRADITIONAL TO CONTEMPORARY FOLK ... A CONTINUUM Kate MacLeod Curtis & Loretta Bobcat Opossum	CELEBRATING WORKERS Joel Mabus Sparky and Rhonda Deidre McCalla Joe Jencks	FOX VALLEY GUILD AND STELLAR TELLERS Errol McLendon Mary Schmidt Karen Schmidt Margaret Burk	SERVING THE SONG Annie Capps Rod Capps Jason Dennie	UKE-ALONG <i>Bring your Uke (or borrow ours). Join the Uke Song Circle Hosted by Kathi Murphy</i>	ALL DAY EVENTS: * DECORATE THE KIDS FESTIVAL BANNER * Draw What Makes You Happy about Festival *MAKE MUSICAL JANGLE BELLS*
	ERNIE HENDRICKSON							
12:40 PM	JOE GORKA							
	LISA MEDINA	1:00 PM	WRITING YOUR WAY HOME Tim Grimm & S. Webb Katie Dahl Joe Jencks	SONGWRITERS CIRCLE John Gorka Deidre McCalla Annie and Rod Capps with Jason Dennie	FEATURED TELLERS Jennifer Munro Jasmin Cardenas	ILLINOIS & MISSOURI FIDDLE TUNES <i>Bring your fiddles or guitars or just listen Dennis Stroughmatt</i>	I WANNA BE LIKE MIKE <i>Learn to Play Michael Smith Songs Hosted by Jim Gary</i>	MEET THE PERFORMERS AND THEIR UNUSUAL INSTRUMENTS Curtis & Loretta Bobcat Opossum PLUS... AN INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO! <i>Meet and play a variety of instruments</i>
1:20 PM	SPARKY AND RHONDA RUCKER							
2:00 PM	BILL ROBINSON AND FRIENDS	2:00 PM	FIDDLE FADDLE Dennis Stroughmatt et L'Esprit Creole Kate MacLeod Anne Harris with Ernie Hendrickson and Ryan Carney	IT'S SPUD TIME! A MINI-CONCERT WITH SMALL POTATOES Rich Prezioso Jacquie Manning	THE PEOPLE TREE Pam Schumacher Thomas J Riley Errol McLendon Mike Rossi Erica Katz <i>Emcee: Simi Krishnan</i>	FINGERSTYLE GUITAR <i>Across folk genres from Americana to Blues Sergio Webb</i>	CHICAGO SPELMANSLAG <i>A tour of Scandinavian music and traditions, with introductions to the nyckelharp and other unique instruments</i>	
2:40 PM	BOBCAT OPOSSUM	3:00 PM	ROCK 'N' ROLL HEART Annie & Rod Capps Trio Sparky and Rhonda Anne Harris with Ernie Hendrickson and Ryan Carney	AND THE RIVERS ROLL Kate MacLeod Joe Gorka Joel Mabus Katie Dahl	FEATURED TELLER Jennifer Munro	AN INTRODUCTION TO FOLK HARP <i>Discussion & demonstration with songs accompanied by mandocello Curtis & Loretta</i>	BALFOLK <i>A hands-on workshop of social folk dances from Western Europe. Music & teaching by Meg Dedolph, Jonathan Whitall & friends.</i>	FAMILY STORYTIME <i>Stories that will engage and delight all ages Marie Ringenberg Ursa Miles Karen Schmidt</i>
3:20 PM	JOHN GORKA							
4:00 PM	TIM GRIMM WITH SERGIO WEBB	4:00 PM	4:00 - 5:30PM CELEBRATE MIDWEST SONGWRITERS Joe Jencks Joel Mabus Katie Dahl Lisa Medina Tim Grimm	MUSICAL WHIPLASH Joe Gorka Curtis & Loretta Deidre McCalla John Gorka	FOX VALLEY GUILD Carolyn Thomas-Davidoff Ursa Miles Anita Blake	OPEN SING AROUND AND JAM CIRCLE <i>Make your own kind of music... share with new and old friends!</i>	OLD-TIME JAM WITH "BOBCATS & OTTERS" Join Bobcat Opossum and The Cosmic Otters for all-instrument Jam- Along of Old-Time, Celtic and Other Tunes!	
4:40 PM	ANNE HARRIS featuring Ernie Hendrickson Ryan Carney	5:00 PM			4:30 - 5:30PM FEATURED TELLER Jasmin Cardenas			FUZZY FESTIVAL FRIENDS <i>Make a Critter Pal to take home with you</i>
5:20 PM	JOE JENCKS							

6:00 - 6:20 PM AT MAIN STAGE ALL PERFORMER FESTIVAL FINALE
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KEYNOTE BY NICKY MEHTA
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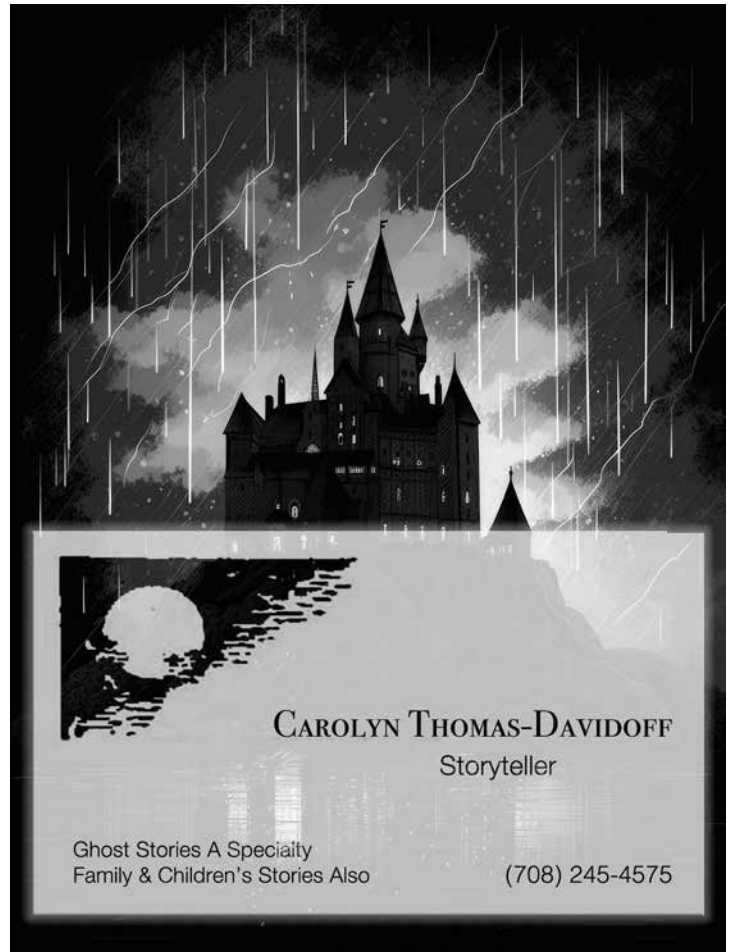
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For more information or tickets, scan the QR code or visit SandwichOperaHouse.org

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www.woodstockfolkfestival.org

The Festival extends our deepest thanks to the following community partners and sponsors, particularly the Geneva Park District, whose active cooperation and support has helped make this event possible for over 40 years.

The Fox Valley Folklore Society acknowledges support from the Illinois Arts Council.



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Dangling Particles

Sunday, October 12
2pm



Jonas Friddle

Monday, November 17
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More information at the
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website: OPPL.org



This event is presented in part
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To anyone we overlooked or who joined at the last minute, know that we appreciate you and look forward to working with you again!



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Sept 13, 2025
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SamRobbinsMusic.com
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Oct 11, 2025
The Dangling Particles

TheDanglingParticles.com
Lansing, Michigan-based duo with a diverse song set ranging from indie folk/Americana to jazz and pop.



Nov 15, 2025
The Oh Boys

ZacharyStevenson.com/The-Oh-Boys
Chicago-based trio powerhouse of pop, rock, folk and doo-wop, whose songs feature inventive arrangements and poignant lyrics.



Feb 14, 2026
Naomi Ashley
with Jon Williams

NaomiAshley.com
With her cream-and-Kahlua voice, Chicago singer-songwriter Naomi Ashley captivates audiences with her diverse range of songs.



March 14, 2026
Mother Banjo

MotherBanjo.com
Featuring banjo and vocals, Mother Banjo, a.k.a. Ellen Stanley, is a New England-raised, Minneapolis-based songwriter.



April 11, 2026
James Lee Stanley

JamesLeeStanley.com
An American singer, songwriter, producer, and freelance human being whose six-decade career spans numerous artistic mediums.

FOLK MUSIC, STORYTELLING & FOLK DANCE ORGANIZATIONS

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CHICAGO SACRED HARP SINGERS
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www.shape-note.uchicago.edu

CHICAGO SONGWRITERS COLLECTIVE
www.meetup.com/vocalists-151

CHICAGO STORYTELLERS' GUILD
Chicago-storytelling.com

CHAMPAIGN URBANA FOLK AND ROOTS
folkandroots.org

FOLK ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL
www.folk.org 816-221-3655

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ILLINOIS STORYTELLING INC,
storytelling.org links to more story guilds

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER
<https://irish-american.org/> 773-282-7035

THE LAKE COUNTY FOLK CLUB
thelakecountyfolkclub.org

MADISON FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY
madfolk.org

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK STORYTELLERS (NABS) www.nabsinc.org

THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION nibaweb.org

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FOLK PUBLICATIONS

AUTOHARP QUARTERLY
autoharpquarterly.com

BANJO NEWSLETTER, banjonews.com

BLUEGRASS TODAY, bluegrasstoday.com

DULCIMER PLAYERS NEWS, dpnews.com

LIVING BLUES, www.livingblues.com

LIVING TRADITION
www.livingtradition.co.uk

MUDCAT CAFE, mudcat.org

NO DEPRESSION, nodepression.com

OLD TIME HERALD, oldtimeherald.org

QUARTER NOTES: local newsletter by Plank
Road Folk Music Society, plankroad.org



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** denotes locally produced programming

WDCB 90.9 FM - wdcb.org - 425 Fawell Ave. Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 630-942-4200

**Ireland Tonight	Monday	8:00-9:00 pm
**House Party	Monday	9:00-10:00 pm
**Folk Festival	Tuesday	8:00-11:00 pm
**How the West Was Strung	Tuesday	11:00-Midnight
American Routes	Thursday	7:00-9:00 pm
American Backroads	Thursday	9:00-10:00 pm
**Hambone's Blues Party	Thursday	10:00-Midnight
**Blues Time	Saturday	7:00-9:00 pm
Blues From the Red Rooster	Saturday	9:00-10:00 pm
**Blacks & Blues	Saturday	10:00-11:00 pm
**Night Train	Saturday	11:00-Midnight
Steve Cushing's Blues Before Sunrise	Sunday	Midnight--5:00 am

WFMT 98.7 - wfmt.com - 5400 N. St. Louis, Chicago, IL 60625 773-509-1111

**Folkstage	Saturday	8:00-9:00
**Midnight Special	Saturday	9:00-Midnight

WNUR 89.3 - wnur.com - 1920 Campus Dr. Evanston, IL 60208 847-866-9687

**Breakfast with the Bagels (Americana)	Saturday	7:00-9:00 am
**The Folk Show	Sunday	10:00am-noon
**Both Kinds (Country)	Sunday	Noon- 2:00 pm
**The Blues Show		

Wisconsin Public Radio -
wpr.org/programs/simply-folk -
Madison and statewide WI

**Simply Folk [wpr.org/listen live](http://wpr.org/listen-live)
Sunday 5:00-9:00 pm

WLWU 88.7FM - wluw.org - Loyola
University Chicago

Somebody Else's Troubles
Saturday 11:00am - Noon
New Orleans Music Hour
Saturday 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

WNIJ FM 88.5 - wnij.org -
Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL
815-753-9000

World Cafe Mon-Fri + Sun 7:00-8:00 pm

**Friday Night Blues Friday 9:00-Midnight

**Saturday Blues Saturday 1:00-4:00 pm

American Routes Saturday 5:00-7:00 pm

Mountain Stage Saturday 7:00-9:00

**Saturday Night Blues Saturday 9:00-
Midnight

Internet / Satellite Radio

Many, if not most, radio stations presently offer a "listen live" link. Here are just a few of the options that reach out for a national and even international audience.

FOLK ALLEY

www.folkalley.com
24 hour music programs & podcasts

SIRIUS XM

xmradio.com by subscription
The Village - Ch. 471 (online only)
Bluegrass Junction--Ch. 77

THE FOLK MUSIC NOTEBOOK

folkmusicnotebook.com
24 hour folk music streaming.

SING OUT! RADIO

[singout.org/sing-out-radio-](http://singout.org/sing-out-radio-magazine/)
magazine/
One hour weekly program via iTunes



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DONATIONS



EVENTS



FVFS WEBSITE



MEMBERSHIP



VOLUNTEER



Wesley's Place

Live Music Listening Room
100 West Cossitt Avenue
LaGrange, Illinois
www.wesleysplacemusic.com

**Shows
at 7pm
Friday**



FALL 2025

Friday, Sept. 12

Jim Gary * Roger Kotecki

Friday, Oct. 17

Annie & Rod Capps

Friday, Nov. 14

Anne Hills

join our mailing list to get
upcoming concert information!

Wesley's Place is a live music listening room hosted by the First United Methodist Church of La Grange. Featuring singer-songwriters and a range of acoustic music including Blues, Country, Folk, and Old Time, shows are Friday nights at 7 pm, and adults usually pay \$15. Refreshments are available for purchase including coffee, soft drinks, and cookies, and performers usually have a variety of merchandise for sale.



**LAKE COUNTY
FOLK CLUB**

TheLakeCountyFolkClub.org

Sunday Evening Concerts Grayslake Village Hall, 2025

September 21 - Jonas Friddle

October 19 - Annie & Rod Capps

November 16 - Mustard's Retreat

December 15 - Small Potatoes

Open Stage

2nd Sunday of Every Month
Grayslake Heritage Center
6:30 - 8:30 (sign up at 6)
Hosted by Wattle & Daub

Song Circle

4th Sunday of Every Month
Grayslake Heritage Center
6:30 - 8:30
Hosted by TLCFC Members



Join us for our 9th year
celebrating the Ukulele!

Dates for the festival
will be posted by November.

Follow the links below for all updates!



Please visit us at:

<https://auroraukefest.com>

Or Facebook/Instagram at:

<https://www.facebook.com/auroraukefest>

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