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April 10-12, 2026



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**JANUARY**  
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Beethoven's noble classicism meets the jazz-infused energy of Gershwin and Bernstein

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**APRIL**  
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**FOLK FIRE & ROMANTIC VOICES**

Dvořák, Brahms, and Amy Beach's sweeping *Gaelic Symphony*

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**LINUS LERNER, MUSIC DIRECTOR**

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# TUCSON FOLK FESTIVAL

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# TUCSON FOLK FESTIVAL



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# WELCOME MESSAGE

**Happy Tucson Folk Festival!** On behalf of the Board and Staff of the Tucson Kitchen Musicians Association and Art State Arizona, I invite you to enjoy a weekend of incredible live and original music at the 41st Annual Tucson Folk Festival. Welcome to Arizona's largest free to the public music festival!

This year's celebration includes two stages on Jácome Plaza, the always picturesque Museum Stage at Presidio San Agustín del Tucson, our lively North Church Stage, and two stages, workshop areas and song circles on Court Avenue and Telles Street. We start our festivities Thursday night with a fundraiser concert at Monterey Court, followed by our Friday night Stefan George Memorial Songwriting Competition featuring eight talented finalists. Visit the Spirit of Sonora Agave Heritage Event at Wildflower on Friday night, share your story at the Tucson Meet Yourself 'We Hold These Truths' exhibit, and dance the night away at our North Church Stage Contra Dance on Sunday.

Across these six stages, we'll be featuring over 150 performances by more than 450 musicians including family shows, young artist showcases, and national and regional headliners. Our annual festival couldn't be possible without our community partners, generous sponsors and funders, annually donating members, dedicated Board of Directors, and tireless volunteers. Thank You!

We hope you enjoy this year's incredible lineup of singers, songwriters, storytellers, and performers from across the country.

Matt Rolland, TKMA Board President

## Tucson Kitchen Musicians Association Board of Directors

- Matt Rolland, President
- Melissa Hall-Cohn, Vice President
- Jonathan Frahm, Secretary
- Claud Blackburn, Treasurer
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- Mohammad Al-Sammak
- Brett Dooley
- Aspen Green
- Brian Hanner
- Ron Pandy
- Eric Schaffer
- Erika Segura
- Daniel Roth



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# 2026 FESTIVAL SEASON COMMITTEES

## **OPERATIONS, RENTAL & LOGISTICS PLANNING**

Daniel Roth, Greg Aiken

## **BEVERAGE SALES**

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## **SOCIAL EVENTS AND SONG CIRCLES**

Ron Pandy, Don Copler, Jeremy Gilliam, Jonathan Frahm, Greg Aiken, Eric Schaffer, Erika Segura, Brett Dodd, Joseph Brown, Michael Serpe

## **FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

Eric Schaffer, Jonathan Frahm, Jim Lipson, Pablo Rodriguez, Matt Rolland

## **DEVELOPMENT / SPONSORSHIPS / GRANTS**

Matt Rolland, Brett Dooley, Desiree Brown

## **EMCEES**

Eric Schaffer, Brett Dooley  
2026 Emcees: Admiral Radio (Becca Smith & Coty Hoover), Brett Dooley, Charlie Hall, Chris Baron, Darrell Elmer Rogers, Eric Douglas, Frank Powers, Greg Rogan, Jeremy Gilliam, Jon Frailey, Jonathan Frahm, Judith Meyer, Melissa Hall-Cohn, Mike Wozniak, Ron Pandy, Scott Gilmer, Sunny Gable, Susan Holden, T. Greg Squires, Tom Poley, Tucson Loves Music (Paul Munsen & Kathy Sinnott)

## **FAMILY SHOW / YOUNG ARTISTS**

Ron Pandy. *Thank you to our Family Show Presenting Sponsor: RIO NUEVO DISTRICT*

## **FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

Jonathan Frahm  
Festival Photographers: C. Elliott, Rex Scofield, Jeff Miller (SpryTime), Katherine Kwan, Katrina Emmert, Kerry Whelan, Paul Everett, David Anderson, Paul Everett, Aleksandar Ammerman, Steve Pope, Dara Israel

## **GREEN ROOM**

Carol Schaffer, Aspen Green

## **TKMA MEMBERSHIP**

Don Copler

## **PERFORMER SELECTION & RELATIONS**

Jerry Martin  
Greg Aiken, Laurin Gaudinier, Donna Anderson, Clio, Kathy Harris, Merribeth Persson, David Rossetter, Dennis Yanutz

## **HEADLINER SELECTION COMMITTEE**

Jonathan Frahm  
Aspen Green, Matt Rolland, Melissa Hall-Cohn, Ron Pandy, Erika Segura, Lizzie Reaves

## **HISTORY EXHIBIT & GALLERY**

Terri Edmonson, Don Copler, Ron Pandy, Linda Lou Reed, Lucinda Beckham, Emmy Creigh, Katie Popiel

## **KITCHEN STORE**

Nikki Chayet, Andrew Hines, Kathy Damstra, Stephanie Engs, Melissa Hall-Cohn, Jennifer Kienzle

## **PRINTED MATERIALS & T-SHIRTS**

Festival Art by Lee Ferris  
Program Design & Merch: Matt Rolland, Aspen Green, Erika Segura, Jonathan Frahm  
Program Ads: Matt Rolland

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS & MARKETING**

Jonathan Frahm, Matt Rolland, Melissa Hall-Cohn, Frank Powers

## **RAFFLES**

Melissa Hall-Cohn, Scott Cohn, Jonathan Frahm, Don Copler, Matt Rolland, Art State Arizona, Amanda Ma

## **SONGWRITING COMPETITION**

Jonathan Frahm, Eric Schaffer, Chris Baron

## **STAGE PRODUCTION**

Matt Rolland, Brian Hanner  
Stage Engineering by Arizona Pro Sound, Phil Cain, Marshall Jones, Luke Amble, Peter Dalton Ronstadt

## **STAGE RECORDING**

Brian Hanner, Syndenn Sweet

## **VENDORS**

Art State Arizona, Matt Rolland, Amanda Staples, Eric Richardson

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Melissa Hall-Cohn, Desiree Brown

## **WEBSITE**

Melissa Hall-Cohn, Jonathan Frahm, Matt Rolland, Art Dyer, Larry Peterson, Lister Potter III

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT | ASPEN GREEN



It's easy to overlook just how much goes into making the Tucson Folk Festival happen each year. Behind the music, the stages, and the crowds are more than 200 dedicated volunteers working year-round to bring this event to life.

While some roles are visible—performer selection, scheduling, emcees, publicity—many of the most essential contributions happen quietly, behind the scenes. This year, in an effort to pull back the curtain just a bit, we shine a spotlight on one of those extraordinary individuals: **Aspen Green**.



Aspen has been a long-time board member and a trusted collaborator to multiple TKMA presidents. Over the years, she has taken on the complex and often unseen work of coordinating our headlining artists—negotiating contracts, arranging travel and lodging, managing hospitality needs, and ensuring that every detail is handled with care—right down to those famously specific hospitality rider requests (including, on occasion, a bowl of green M&Ms).

And as if that weren't enough, Aspen has played a central role for many years in producing this very program—leading its design, layout, and advertising, and helping create an essential guide for festivalgoers.

She also oversees the Green Room for the Headliners Stage—managing purchasing, setup, and operations to create a welcoming space for performers throughout the weekend.

In recognition of her extraordinary dedication and lasting impact on our festival and community, TKMA is proud to name and dedicate the green room behind the Headliner Stage as the **Aspen Green Room and Hospitality Suite**.

Her work has shaped this festival in ways both seen and unseen—and we are forever grateful.



## BE PART OF THE FESTIVAL

Each year, more than 200 volunteers help bring the Tucson Folk Festival to life.

From stage support to hospitality—and through our year-round concerts, fundraisers, and community events—it's a chance to be part of something meaningful and connect with an incredible community.

Learn more at: [tucsonfolkfest.org/tkma-volunteers/](https://tucsonfolkfest.org/tkma-volunteers/)

# FESTIVAL RAFFLES

## RAFFLE TICKETS

1 for \$5 | 3 for \$10 | 7 for \$20

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## CASH RAFFLE

Winner receives \$1000!

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**\$20**



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Festival Art by Tucson Artists **Lee Ferris (2026), Sydnenn Sweet, David Fitszimmons, & Jessica Gonzales.**



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**9**



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# HEADLINERS | PLAZA STAGE

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## TOM RUSH

**Performing Saturday April 11, 8:00 PM**

Tom Rush is a legendary singer-songwriter whose warm voice, distinctive guitar style, and wry humor have captivated audiences for decades. A key figure in the folk revival, Rush has influenced generations of artists, with James Taylor calling him "one of my main influences." He introduced the world to talents like Joni Mitchell and Jackson Browne, and his Club 47® concerts continue to spotlight emerging musicians. With a career spanning from the 1960s to today, Rush's performances blend storytelling, ballads, and blues, celebrating the evolving tradition of American music. He is joined by accompanist Brendan Cleary.



## JERRON PAXTON & DENNIS LICHTMAN

**Performing Saturday April 11, 7:00 PM**

Jerron Paxton and Dennis Lichtman are acclaimed multi-instrumentalists and vocalists whose partnership began in 2017 at the Louis Armstrong House Museum. Together, they deliver energetic sets of acoustic blues, ragtime, Tin Pan Alley pop, 1920s jazz, and original compositions, drawing on a deep love for the history and stories behind their music. Paxton, a Smithsonian Folkways artist, shares, "I write and sing about the culture I come from. It seems a bit neglected."



## TOW'RS

**Performing Sunday April 12, 7:00 PM**

Tow'rs is an indie folk band from Flagstaff, Arizona, led by front-couple Kyle and Gretta Miller, joined by Dan Bagley (drums), Kyle Keller (guitar), and Emma Riebe (cello). Known for their honest songwriting and evocative imagery, Tow'rs explores themes of self-acceptance, love, and growth. Their latest album, *Joy Alchemy*, was recorded live in-studio, capturing the energy and vulnerability of their music. "What I want our music to be about is something that is inclusive to everyone," says Kyle.



# HEADLINERS | PLAZA STAGE

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## CW AYON

**Performing Sunday April 12, 5:00 PM**

CW Ayon, hailing from the deserts of New Mexico, channels the spirit of Mississippi Hill Country Blues through his dynamic one-man band performances. With foot drums, guitar, vocals, and harmonica, he crafts a sound that feels much bigger than its parts. Influenced by legends like Junior Kimbrough, R.L. Burnside, and John Lee Hooker, Ayon's music is both rooted and fresh. He is a two-time New Mexico Music Awards winner, recognized for his songs "Seen My Baby" and "End of My Rope."



## DAVID HUCKFELT & FRIENDS: THE SONGS OF RAINER PTACEK

**Performing Saturday, April 11, 7:00 PM -  
North Church Stage**

David Huckfelt is a Minneapolis-based singer, lyricist, and folk activist known for his poetic songwriting and deep commitment to community and environmental causes. A founding member of The Pines, Huckfelt's solo work blends indie folk with activism, drawing on his Midwestern roots and collaborations with Indigenous artists. His latest project, "The Songs of Rainer Ptacek," honors Tucson's legendary slide-guitarist, joined by Billy Sedlmayr, Gabriel Sullivan, Beth Goodfellow, and Nick Augustine.



## REMI GOODE

**Performing Sunday, April 12, 3:00 PM**

Remi Goode is an indie-folk artist whose debut album, *Things I've Said Before*, bridges classical guitar training with contemporary American roots music. Raised in Tucson and now based in Nashville, Remi draws inspiration from artists like Suzanne Vega and Kathleen Edwards, blending intimate, acoustic songs with cinematic, full-band arrangements. "When I'm writing music, I'm just following a whim or a melody," she says.



## **RISING SUN DAUGHTER**

***Performing Saturday April 11, 5:00 PM***

Rising Sun Daughter is the musical project of Mesa-based singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist Grace Rolland. Raised in a family of musicians, Rolland blends her classical training and folk roots into evocative soundscapes, described as “the space between” and “sound under the silence.” Her debut EP, *I See Jane*, was named one of PopMatters’ “20 Best Folk Albums of 2019” and showcases her powerful vocals, poetic songwriting, and a mix of acoustic and electric textures.



## **MARIACHI AZTLÁN DE PUEBLO HIGH SCHOOL**

***Performing Saturday April 11, 12:00 PM***

Mariachi Aztlán de Pueblo High School, founded in 1992 by Richard Carranza, is a celebrated student ensemble from Tucson, Arizona. Under the direction of John Contreras for 18 years, the group has earned recognition including the Governor’s Arts Award for Arts in Education. Comprised of dedicated students ages 14 to 18, Mariachi Aztlán performs traditional mariachi music and has shared the stage with renowned artists like Linda Ronstadt and Pink Martini.



## **THE BROTHERS REED**

***Performing Friday, April 10, 6:00 PM  
& Saturday, April 11, 4:00 PM***

The Brothers Reed, a dynamic duo from Oregon, blend comedic brotherly banter with impeccable harmonies and a wide range of musical influences. Their performances invite audiences to reflect, laugh, and leave thoroughly entertained. Whether fingerpicking through heartfelt ballads or igniting the stage with high-energy bluegrass, The Brothers Reed deliver songs that feel both familiar and original, showcasing their mastery as singer-songwriters and entertainers.



## **ADMIRAL RADIO**

***Performing Friday, April 10, 8:30 PM  
& Saturday, April 11, 3:00 PM***

Admiral Radio is the award-winning folk/Americana duo of Coty Hoover and Becca Smith from Columbia, South Carolina. Named after their old wooden radio, this husband-and-wife team crafts heartfelt performances with tight harmonies, lyrical storytelling, and acoustic instrumentation. Their sincere approach has led them to share stages with artists such as Del McCoury and Molly Tuttle.



## BRUCE PHILLIPS FAMILY SHOW

### **FAMILY SHOW HEADLINER**

***Wildflower Stage Saturday at 3:00 PM***

Bruce Phillips returns to the Tucson Folk Festival for his 41st year, delighting audiences as a beloved children's musician, educator, and songwriter. With over 30 years of experience, Bruce brings joy to kids and adults alike through silly songs, imaginative stories, and danceable tunes. His performances are filled with warmth and fun, making music an engaging experience for the whole family.



## ADMIRAL RADIO FAMILY SHOW

### **FAMILY SHOW HEADLINER**

***Wildflower Stage Sunday at 2:00 PM***

Admiral Radio Family Show, led by South Carolina duo Coty Hoover and Becca Smith, brings their acclaimed kids' music program to the Tucson Folk Festival for the first time. Known for warm harmonies, homespun charm, and engaging storytelling, Admiral Radio invites families to sing, laugh, and learn together. Their performances blend heartfelt folk/Americana with interactive songs that delight audiences of all ages.

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# STEFAN GEORGE MEMORIAL Songwriting Contest



**Friday April 10, 2026 at 6 PM – 9:00 PM**

## **Plaza Stage**

*The Tucson Folk Festival songwriting competition began in the early 2000s and is named in tribute to one of its founders, Stefan George. Past Winners include: Phil Reed (2025), Admiral Radio (2024), Fox and Bones (2023), Chris Baron (2022), Annie Sorrells & Jerry Green (2021), Nick and Luke (2019), Sophia Rankin (2018), Eric Ramsey (2017), Janelle Loes (2016), Jen Hajj (2015), Robby Roberson (2013), and Mitzi Cowell (2012)*

## **2026 SONGWRITING COMPETITION COMMITTEE:**

Preliminary Round: Eric Schaffer, Becca Smith, Coty Hoover, Chris Baron, Laura Kepner-Adney

Final Round: Brian Lopez, Coty Hoover, Eric Ramsey, Grace Rolland, Nancy McCallion

Live Show Emcees: Chris Baron & Jonathan Frahm

## **2026 FINALISTS**

### **BEN RENEER – Phoenix, Arizona**

Ben Reneer is a self-produced indie-folk singer/songwriter who loves almond butter very much. He grew up in Utah, and currently resides in Phoenix, AZ. His childhood influences include Peter Gabriel, Coldplay, and Pete Dinklage. More recently he's been drawn to the delicate songwriting of Donovan Woods and Gregory Alan Isakov. Ben's mom forced him to take piano lessons as a kid – which Ben violently resisted. But her persistence paid off – he may have won some battles, but she won the war.

### **CARLOS A OLMEDA – Fryeburg, Maine**

Carlos hails proudly from the acoustic singer songwriter school of performance. The big difference between Carlos' songwriting and performance styles and that of so many others is that Carlos' music transports you to a wide spectrum of emotional and cultural destinations. He's quick to point out that Tricultural Pop is all about changing gears and realigning perspectives.

### **GREAT AUNT – Bathurst, New South Wales, Australia**

Great Aunt is a genre-bending folk duo from Australia, known for their soaring harmonies, dynamic instrumentation, and heart-felt live performances. Winners of the 2024 Folk Alliance Australia Duo of the Year, Great Aunt—comprising Megan Bird and Chelsea Allen—craft music that is rooted in folk, bluegrass, and roots traditions, yet refreshingly shaped by their diverse backgrounds in punk, jazz, soul, and rock.

### **KAM BUGGER – O Fallon, IL**

Kam recently released four independent acoustic singles – a collection of original songs that are professionally produced while staying true to her raw, rootsy essence. Recorded in St. Louis, these songs reflect the lifeline of themes she loves to write about, grounded in honesty, freedom, and real life experience. She's currently working with the legendary Jeff Huskins on a series of three new full-band songs, marking the next chapter of her sound.

### **LANE NORBERG – Portland, OR**

Lane Norberg is a singer-songwriter from Portland, OR. Growing up in Montana, he took lessons learning to play piano and drums, but didn't begin playing the guitar or singing until college. After graduating from college in 2016, Norberg shifted his focus towards his music career, and got connected with Basecamp Recording Studio, a recording space located in beautiful Bozeman, MT, where Norberg recorded his first EP: "Under the Trees".

### **LYDIA SHAE – Cincinnati, OH**

Lydia Shae is a Cincinnati singer-songwriter who's spent over a decade writing and performing around the Midwest. With roots in bluegrass and pop, she focuses in on straight-forward songwriting and story telling about life and its events. Inspired by the songwriting of artists like Brandi Carlile, The Avett Brothers, and Taylor Swift, she strives to bring unfiltered emotion into her lyrics.

### **SARAH ADAMS – Los Angeles, CA**

Sarah Adams is a sapphic folk, Americana, and rock artist originally from South Carolina, now based in Los Angeles, California. Influenced by musicians such as Brandi Carlile, Eva Cassidy, and Sara Bareilles, Adams' music cracks you right open. Winner of the 2024 Great American Song Contest (singer songwriter category), Sarah's warmth and tenacity on stage will captivate you, and her lyrics will linger with you long after you see her perform.

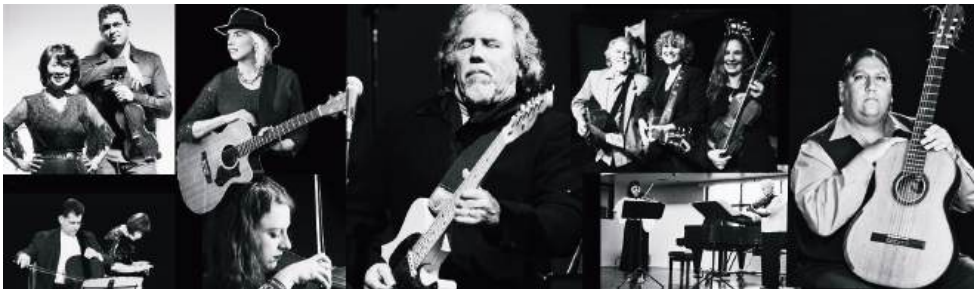
### **TASHI T – Durango, CO**

Tashi Trueheart (it's a family name, believe it) grew up in the mountains of Colorado. They are inspired by the intense landscapes that they have called home. Tashi's music explores themes of loss, longing, and the mysteries of where time, movement, death and re-encounters take us. Although their musical background was more classical and jazz leaning, Tashi has since embraced writing songs within the folk/Americana traditions.



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# WILDFLOWER STAGE

## Roger Mikulas Young Artist Showcase

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026**

- 12:00 PM Jam Pak
- 1:00 PM *Songwriting Finalists in the Round*
- 3:00 PM Bruce Phillips Family Show  
*FAMILY SHOW HEADLINER*
- 4:00 PM Jam Pak - Blue Genes
- 4:30 PM Ayla Moreno
- 5:00 PM Birdie Nichols
- 5:30 PM Lynnea Morales
- 6:00 PM Stella Eftekar

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026**

- 11:30 AM Jam Pak - The Would Bees
- 12:00 PM Tyson Krauss
- 12:30 PM Sophia Schoeberle
- 1:00 PM John Collins
- 1:30 PM Asa Madden
- 2:00 PM Admiral Radio Family Show  
*FAMILY SHOW HEADLINER*
- 3:00 PM Jam Pak - "603"
- 3:30 PM Maya McLeod
- 4:00 PM Claire Wertenberger
- 4:30 PM Micah
- 5:00 PM Pioneer Anderson
- 5:30 PM Gwen Ryan
- 6:00 PM Kaia & Micah

---

## **FAMILY SHOW HEADLINERS**

*Family Show and Young Artist Showcase Sponsor*



**BRUCE PHILLIPS FAMILY SHOW**  
*Wildflower Stage Saturday at 3:00 PM*



**ADMIRAL RADIO FAMILY SHOW**  
*Wildflower Stage Sunday at 2:00 PM*

**Roger Mikulas** was a strong supporter and one of the originators of the Young Artist Stage that began in 2006. He passed away in 2010, but his larger-than-life spirit is still remembered and inspires the provision and teaching of folk music for young people today.



## Young Artist & Family Show

### **Asa Madden | Sunday 1:30 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Asa Madden is a young artist whose music blends folk and classic rock influences. Inspired by artists like Ryan Adams, Indigo Girls, and his father, Sean Madden, Asa brings heartfelt energy to every performance.

### **Ayla Moreno | Saturday 4:30 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Ayla Moreno, a Tucson-based pianist and violinist, began her musical journey at age three. By six, she was performing solo, and her talent has since taken her to stages across the USA, Europe, and Japan, including Carnegie Hall and the Chopin Festival in Poland. Ayla has played with numerous orchestras in Arizona and Europe, recently recording an album with Orchestra Manhattan. She is a top prizewinner at national and international competitions, such as the Chopin International Competition (Connecticut), the Krystian Tkaczewski International Piano Competition (Poland), and the WPTA Spain International Piano Competition.

### **Birdie Nichols | Saturday 5:00 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Birdie Nichols is a young country artist and songwriter from Arizona, inspired by the wide-open spaces and Western heritage of her home state. Her music captures the grit, grace, and storytelling traditions of the American West, reflecting her deep connection to cowboy culture and the beauty of desert landscapes. Through heartfelt songs and authentic performances, Birdie shares stories of cowboys, outlaws, and country life, inviting listeners to experience the spirit and timeless traditions of the West.

### **Claire Wertenberger | Sunday 4:00 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Claire Wertenberger is a Tucson-based singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist whose heartfelt pop and indie-inspired songs reflect her life and experiences. A freshman at Tucson High Magnet School, she studies dance, choir, and ASL, and is currently recording her first studio release of original songs. Raised in a musical family, Claire studies piano and voice with local musician Gabrielle Pietrangelo and draws inspiration from artists like Laufey and Gracie Abrams.

### **Gwen Ryan | Sunday 5:30 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Gwen Ryan, a 15-year-old musician from Tucson, returns to the Young Performer Stage at the Tucson Folk Festival for her fifth year. A dedicated guitarist, keyboardist, arranger, and singer, Gwen has studied with Shawn at Sonoran Music Academy since age five and now plays guitar with Mr. Good at Catalina Foothills High School. Inspired by artists like Noah Kahan, Billie Eilish, Taylor Swift, and Lucy Dacus, she enjoys discovering new songwriters and performers as she continues to grow her musical voice.

[youtube.com @gwenryan](https://www.youtube.com/@gwenryan)



# YOUNG ARTIST SHOWCASE

## **"603" – Jam Pak | Sunday 3:00 PM – Wildflower Stage**

603 is a young bluegrass band from the Jam Pak Blues 'N' Grass Neighborhood Band in Chandler, Arizona. Having grown up immersed in traditional bluegrass, they are self-led and bring vibrant, enthusiastic performances to every stage. 603 has entertained audiences at the Tucson Folk Festival, Tempe Care Fair, Laveen Folk Festival, and more, sharing their joyful spirit and love for the music as an accomplished young ensemble.

## **Blue Genes – Jam Pak | Saturday 4:00 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Blue Genes is a six-member bluegrass band from Phoenix, Arizona, featuring young musicians who began their musical journey with Jam Pak. Known for their engaging performances at festivals and community events, Blue Genes earned recognition by winning the Bluegrass Band Contest at the 2024 Wickenburg Bluegrass Festival. The band continues to share their love of bluegrass and connect with audiences throughout the community.

## **The Would Bees – Jam Pak | Sunday 11:30 AM – Wildflower Stage**

The Would Bees, Jam Pak's youngest and perhaps hardest-working band, features Thomas Leon, Alan Moreno, Nazarena Delgado, and Paul Lopez. These dedicated young musicians are learning their instruments and singing the heart of bluegrass traditional music. They arrange their own music and embrace the Servant Leader philosophy, sharing their knowledge with younger Jam Pak members as they grow within the bluegrass tradition.

## **Jam Pak Blues 'N' Grass Neighborhood Band | Saturday 12:00 PM – Wildflower**

Jam Pak Blues 'N' Grass Neighborhood Band, based in Chandler, Arizona, has spent nearly three decades bringing together people of all ages, backgrounds, and walks of life to share in the joy of bluegrass music. Under the guidance of Anni Beach, the group gathers twice a week to teach, practice, dance, and perform, united by a singular goal: to bring happiness to themselves and others through music. Grateful for the support of the Arizona bluegrass community, Jam Pak continues to celebrate music, community, and connection.  
jampak.org • Facebook: JamPakBluesNGrass

## **John Collins | Sunday 1:00 PM – Wildflower Stage**

John Collins is a Tucson-based singer-songwriter whose reflective, soulful style draws inspiration from folk legends like Tom Chapin. Deeply influenced by folk music's themes of awareness and social justice, Collins blends genres—including world music—while honoring the genre's roots in meaning and musicality. "I love folk and world music and am currently able to sing in 20 languages," he says. A regular performer at Virginia Canon's songwriting shows and local venues, Collins is grateful for past appearances on the festival's youth stage and looks forward to sharing his music at this year's event.

## **Kaia & Micah | Sunday 6:00 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Kaia & Micah are a sibling duo from Tucson who bring a stripped-down, intimate feel to popular songs, inviting listeners to experience familiar music in a fresh, personal way. Their acoustic pop repertoire spans multiple decades, featuring classics from The Beatles, George Michael, Tracy Chapman, and The Eagles, as well as modern hits by Taylor Swift, Ed Sheeran, Harry Styles, and One Republic. As students at Veritas Academy, Kaia & Micah share their love of music through heartfelt performances that highlight both their close harmonies and genuine connection.

**Lynnea Morales | Saturday 5:30 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Lynnea Morales is a 16-year-old junior at Tucson High Magnet School, where she participates in Advanced Choir and Musical Theater. She regularly performs at Virginia Cannon Presents Young Superstars Show at Tesoro Tucson and sings the National Anthem at local sporting events, including Tucson Roadrunners hockey games. At age six, Lynnea won Child Singer of the Year and Most Sought Out Talent at the IMTA Los Angeles Talent Competition. She has also acted in Los Angeles, appearing in TV shows such as Crazy Ex-Girlfriend and I Knew Her as Mandy.

**Maya McLeod | Sunday 3:30 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Maya McLeod is a young musician from Tucson, currently an 8th grader and student council president at Miles ELC. She studies guitar and voice with local artist Gabrielle Pietrangelo and enjoys performing in local theater and singing in her school choir. Inspired by The Wailin' Jennys, Indigo Girls, and Broadway musicals, Maya finds joy in expressing herself through music and hopes her songs bring more happiness into the world.

**Micah | Sunday 4:30 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Micah is an 8th-grade guitarist and emerging songwriter from Tucson, making his third appearance at the Tucson Folk Festival and his debut as a solo performer. A student at Veritas Academy, he shares a blend of acoustic covers and original songs, drawing inspiration from both contemporary and classic artists.

**Pioneer Anderson | Sunday 5:00 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Pioneer Anderson is a 12-year-old vocalist from Tucson known for her powerful, expressive voice and remarkable confidence. A student of local singer-songwriter Gabrielle Pietrangelo, Pioneer weaves together folk and pop influences in her performances. Currently a 7th grader at Flowing Wells Junior High, she is also passionate about visual arts. Pioneer draws inspiration from artists like Taylor Swift, Noah Kahan, and Benson Boone—musicians who, she says, “give me chills.”

**Sophia Schoeberle | Sunday 12:30 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Sophia Schoeberle is a 16-year-old songwriter and multi-instrumentalist from Tucson. A sophomore at CDO High School in Oro Valley, she is known for her beautiful, smoky vocal tone that suits a variety of genres. Sophia is an accomplished pianist and guitarist, and also plays the ukulele. She performs regularly at Virginia Cannon Presents Young Superstars at Tesoro and is sought after by several venues in Oro Valley.

**Stella Eftekar | Saturday 6:00 PM – Wildflower Stage**

At 14, Stella Eftekar has written over 200 songs, reflecting the experiences of teenage life with honesty and creativity. She composes on both guitar and piano, and regularly performs around town, connecting with audiences through her soulful voice and authentic style. Stella's passion for music is evident in her dedication, from late-night songwriting sessions to live performances that inspire listeners.

**Tyson Krauss | Sunday 12:00 PM – Wildflower Stage**

Tyson Krauss is an 11-year-old instrumentalist from Marana, Arizona, who has been playing music by ear since the age of four. A student at Sonoran Music Academy, Tyson brings youthful energy and a natural talent for music to every performance. As a solo young artist, he continues to develop his skills and share his passion for instrumental music with audiences of all ages.  
[youtube.com/youngestkrauss](https://youtube.com/youngestkrauss)

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- Portland's Folk Festival - January 30 & 31
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- Desert Bluegrass Festival - March 13 - 15
- KXCI's Baila el Pueblo - March 21
- Tucson Folk Festival - April 10 - 12
- MerleFest - April 23 - 26
- Music City Bluegrass & Roots Festival - May 16
- Kerrville Folk Festival - May 21 - June 7
- Flagstaff Folk Festival - June 13 & 14
- Telluride Bluegrass Festival - June 18 - 21
- Newport Folk Festival - July 24 - 26
- Americanafest - September 15 - 19
- Pickin' in the Pines - September 18 - 20
- Richmond Folk Festival - October 9 - 11

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# WORKSHOPS & SONG CIRCLES

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- Workshop Area #1 is in the JoJo's back patio
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- Song Circles are under umbrellas in the pedestrian area north of JoJo's Restaurant.

More workshop details at [TucsonFolkFest.org/Workshops](http://TucsonFolkFest.org/Workshops)

## SATURDAY APRIL 11, 2026

	WORKSHOP AREA JOJO'S BACK PATIO	WORKSHOP TENT NEAR TELLES STAGE	SONG CIRCLES
2 PM	<b>THE ODDBIRDS' JENNIFER MORACA</b> <i>Two Guitars Are Better Than One</i>	<b>JAMES MCCARRY</b> <i>The Legend of El Tirradito</i>	1 PM - 2:30 PM Hosted by Larry Kraus
3 PM	<b>MARCUS OX WILLIAMS</b> <i>Rhyming Patterns</i>	<b>NANCY ELLIOTT</b> <i>The Importance of Telling Your Story</i>	
4 PM	<b>TED WARMBRAND</b> <i>What Can The Folksinger Do in the Present Situation?</i>	<b>LIZ PAINTER</b> <i>Harmony Singing</i>	2:30 PM - 4 PM Hosted by Pat Madea
5 PM	<b>LIZZIE OAKWOOD</b> <i>Fixing Writer's Block</i>		

## SUNDAY APRIL 12, 2026

	WORKSHOP AREA JOJO'S BACK PATIO	WORKSHOP TENT NEAR TELLES STAGE	SONG CIRCLES
1 PM	<b>MARTY PROVINCE</b> <i>Dangerous Songs: Peace, Protest, &amp; Politics</i>	<b>ROLAND MENDEZ</b>	1 PM - 2:30 PM Hosted by Sue Schnitzer
2 PM	<b>DON SIMPSON</b> <i>An Introduction to Travis Picking</i>	<b>ANASTASIA LOPEZ</b> <i>How to Collect Money From Your Music</i>	
3 PM	<b>BENJI WILKINSON</b> <i>Hearing Songs Before They're Written</i>	<b>ARIA RATCLIFF</b> <i>Singing and Harmonies</i>	2:30 PM - 4 PM Hosted by Erika Segura
4 PM	<b>DIAMONDBACK JACK</b> <i>DIY Stompboxes</i>	<b>SCOTT GILMORE</b> <i>DIY Tour Booking &amp; Routing</i>	



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## ENJOY A BEVERAGE!

Alcoholic beverages are available in the Jácome Plaza, North Church and Presidio Museum Beer Gardens. All purchases help support the festival! Please enjoy responsibly.

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- Archer Rose Wine
- Sun Cruiser Iced Tea Vodka

### Non-Alcoholic Beverages (\$2)

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- Soda
- Seltzers

## FOOD

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- **Big Sexy's Chicken Wangs and Thangs**
- **BlackJack Citrus Infusions** - Lemonade
- **Hot Pops** Kettle Corn
- **Hungary Express** - Funnel Cake
- **Pam's Kitchen** - BBQ, Caribbean
- **Yum Yum Pocha** - Korean Ramyeon
- **La Bufadora** - Mexican / Seafood
- **The Outside Scoop** - Ice Cream

Near North Church Stage

- **Col. Mustard's & Mr. Ice Guy** - Hot Dogs & Italian Ice
- **Eatgypt** - Egyptian / Vegetarian
- **Lovin' Spoonfuls** - Vegan / Health Food
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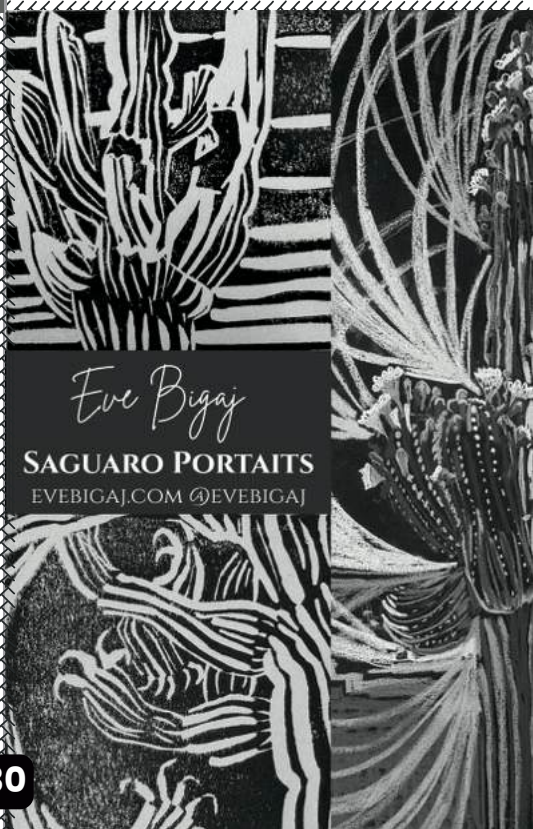
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# SATURDAY, APRIL 11 | STAGE SCHEDULE

	JÁCOME PLAZA	NORTH CHURCH	PRESIDIO MUSEUM	COURT	TELLES	WILDFLOWER
12:00 PM	Mariachi Aztlan de Pueblo High School	Arizona Balalaika Orchestra	Eb's Camp Cookin	Naomi Vernon	Austin B. Sweeney	Jam Pak
12:30 PM		Bolero Jonze	John McGill with Whiskey & Honey	Tom Walter	The Odd Birds	
1:00 PM	Baba Marimba	Ruta Verbena	Ice-9	Abby K	Annie English	Songwriters in the Round Songwriting Competition Finalists
1:30 PM		Southbound Pilot	Carlos Angeles Olmeda	Christine Santelli & Heather Hardy	Arielle Silver	
2:00 PM	Engel Indo & The Tucson All Star Ensemble	smoot-mahooty	Don Armstrong and the Whiskeypalians	Robby Roberson	Nancy Elliott	Songwriters in the Round Songwriting Competition Finalists
2:30 PM		Dry Wash Anglers	Heather Hardy	Woman Song	Salinas Road	
3:00 PM	Admiral Radio	Barnaby and the Butcher	Brian Fate	JC & Laney	Megan and Shane	BRUCE PHILLIPS FAMILY SHOW
3:30 PM		Baja Caravan	The Steady Kind	Ryan David Orr	Eric Douglas	
4:00 PM	The Brothers Reed	Chick Blundy & The Tryin' Times	Mean Irene	Brittany Jean	Brown Mountain Lightning Bugs	Blue Genes
4:30 PM			Eric Schaffer & The Other Troublemakers		Daniel Bracken	Ayla Moreno
5:00 PM	RISING SUN DAUGHTER	Roth D'lux	Chris Baron And Many Secrets	Teodoro Ted Ramirez	Fox and Bones	Birdie Nichols
5:30 PM						Lynnea Morales
6:00 PM	Songwriting Winners	Kevin Pakulis Band		The Glass Hours	Eric Ramsey	Stella Eftekar
7:00 PM	JERRON PAXTON & DENNIS LICHTMAN	DAVID HUCKFELT & FRIENDS				
8:00 PM	TOM RUSH					

# SUNDAY, APRIL 12 | STAGE SCHEDULE

	JÁCOME PLAZA	NORTH CHURCH	PRESIDIO MUSEUM	COURT	TELLES	WILDFLOWER
11:30 AM	Ryan-hood	Mariachi Nuevo Azteca	Brett Dooley	Annie & Jonny Rosen	Sandy Hathaway	The Would Bees
12:00 PM	Gabrielle Pietrangelo	The Fretbenders	Blue Prairie Dogs	Rebekah Rolland	String Cheese	Tyson Krauss
12:30 PM		KLEZMER-KABA	Music These Days	Determined Luddites	Humanjones Review	Sophia Schoeberle
1:00 PM	Grupo Tradiciones	EarthPicks of Cochise County	Couldn't Be Happiers	Great Aunt	Tori Parks	John Collins
1:30 PM		Rave Review	Darrell Elmer Rodgers and the Recliners	Mike Berman	Fresh Apples	Asa Madden
2:00 PM	Cat Mountain	Mustang Corners	The Wally Lawder Experience	Koda Krause	Peter, Paul, and Mary Remembered	ADMIRAL RADIO FAMILY SHOW
2:30 PM		The Out of Kilters	The Colin Trio	Annie Anna	Peter Dalton Ronstadt	
3:00 PM	REMI GOODE	Lizzie Oakwood	Frankly Scarlett	Secret Harbor	Alison Wahl	603
3:30 PM		Hank Abbey & The Pearl Snaps	Juliette Stewart	Corrie Lynn Green	Dharm-apoke	Maya McLeod
4:00 PM	Sparrows & the Last Train	Ripatti Rose Band	Leila Lopez	Madeleine Kelson	Kam Bugger	Claire Wertenberger
4:30 PM		Laura Jean Band	The Heart Collectors	Don Simpson	Ryan David Green	Micah
5:00 PM	CW AYON	The Arnold/Klingenfus Ensemble		The McCallion Band	Act 3	Jeremy Gilliam of Grand Dorado
5:30 PM			Gwen Ryan			
6:00 PM	Dorsten	Mark Insley & The Broken Angels		Ten Dollar Wedding	Ron Pandey & the Wild-pitch Band	Kaia & Micah
7:00 PM	TOW'RS	Tucson Contra Dance				



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# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Abby K | Saturday 1:00 PM – Court Stage**

Abby K is a Mercer Island-based singer-songwriter whose “Heart-Rock” sound blends heartfelt vocals, melodic harmonies, and storytelling inspired by her Kentucky roots and the Pacific Northwest. Joined by Chris Klimecky, Abby’s performances feature soulful guitar and harmony-driven Americana, exploring themes of love and heartbreak. With four albums and appearances at festivals including Northwest Folklife, Tumbleweed, and Tucson Folk Festival, Abby is also the founder of Mosaic MI, a music community on Lake Washington. “I write songs to stay connected,” she says, inviting audiences into an uplifting, toe-tapping experience. More at [abbykmusic.com](http://abbykmusic.com).  
[abbykmusic.com](http://abbykmusic.com) • Facebook: [abbykmusic](https://www.facebook.com/abbykmusic) • Email: [lawndaisy31@gmail.com](mailto:lawndaisy31@gmail.com)

## **Act 3 | Sunday 5:00 PM – Court Stage**

Act 3 is a Tucson-based vocal trio accompanied by acoustic guitar, electric bass, fiddle, and percussion. Known for their harmony-driven sound, they perform an eclectic mix of original folk songs and unique arrangements of blues and swing covers. Act 3 regularly appears at local events such as the Festival of Books, Porchfest, and Park-fest, as well as private gatherings, sharing music that blends jazz, folk, and social justice themes.  
[www.YouTube.com/@Act3Music](http://www.YouTube.com/@Act3Music) • Email: [kathybudway@gmail.com](mailto:kathybudway@gmail.com)

## **Alison Wahl | Sunday 3:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Alison Wahl is a Berkeley-based singer-songwriter, composer, and vocalist whose music spans folk, classical, and experimental genres, centering authentic human presence. Praised by the Chicago Tribune for her “appealing, bright, vibrant soprano,” she has performed with ensembles such as the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Boston Pops. Alison’s songs, described as “earnestly human, stubbornly optimistic, intricate, and thoughtful,” explore connections between people and their environments. She holds advanced degrees from Northwestern University and the Peabody Institute, and hopes her music “makes people feel connected, helping to heal feelings of loneliness and isolation.”  
[alisonwahl.com](http://alisonwahl.com) • YouTube: [@alisonwahlsoprano](https://www.youtube.com/@alisonwahlsoprano)

## **Annie & Jonny Rosen | Sunday 11:30 AM – Court Stage**

Annie & Jonny Rosen, a duo from Schenectady, NY, have performed together for decades, beginning in Wisconsin and continuing in upstate New York. As key members of Annie & the Hedonists, they are known for their interpretations of vintage blues, jazz, and a range of Americana genres. Their duo performances highlight songs by great female blues and jazz artists of the early 20th century, as well as contemporary folk music, blending storytelling and symbolic songwriting in a warm, engaging style.  
[annieandthehedonists.com](http://annieandthehedonists.com)

## **Annie Anna | Sunday 2:30 PM – Court Stage**

Annie Anna is a Tucson-based singer-songwriter whose music blends folk and rock influences, drawing inspiration from artists like Hozier, Matt Maeson, and Shakey Graves. Known for her prominent vocals, dark acoustic tones, and auxiliary percussion, Annie Anna crafts songs that explore themes of love and heartbreak. She was a finalist in last year’s songwriting competition at the Flagstaff Folk Festival. Learn more at [www.annieannamusic.com](http://www.annieannamusic.com).  
[annieannamusic.com](http://annieannamusic.com) • Email: [annieannamusic@gmail.com](mailto:annieannamusic@gmail.com)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Annie English | Saturday 1:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Annie English is a Tucson-based singer-songwriter whose musical journey began on the coast of New England. She has opened for renowned artists including Tom Rush and Jonathan Edwards, and has performed at the Tucson Folk Festival both as a solo artist and with various groups. Annie was a top 10 finalist in the 2019 Stefan George Songwriters Competition. This year, her solo performance is dedicated to the memory of Shep Cooke. Facebook: AnneEnglishMusic

## **Arielle Silver | Saturday 1:30 PM – Telles Stage**

Arielle Silver is a Los Angeles-based singer-songwriter whose music is inspired by the troubadour traditions of Laurel Canyon and Greenwich Village. Her performances blend storytelling, song, and audience connection, with her latest album, *Watershed*, drawing from experiences along the Florida coast, Appalachian Trail, and Pacific shoreline. Recognized as an Official Showcase Artist at SERFA and a multiple songwriting award winner, Silver's work has been featured in *Americana Highways* and *The Bluegrass Situation*. "Superb stage presence. A born communicator," says Music Connection. Silver is also a Pushcart Prize-nominated writer. [ariellesilver.com](http://ariellesilver.com) • Facebook: [ariellesilvermusic](https://www.facebook.com/ariellesilvermusic)

## **Arizona Balalaika Orchestra | Saturday 12:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Now in its 47th year, the Arizona Balalaika Orchestra is a spirited, nonprofit community folk ensemble based in Tucson. Founded in 1980 within the University of Arizona's Russian Department, the group features native Slavic instruments and vibrant costumes. With 11 members, they bring traditional, upbeat, and playful music to audiences across Arizona and Mexico. The orchestra is a proud member of the Balalaika and Domra Association of America, participating in conventions throughout North America and Europe. [azbalalaika.org](http://azbalalaika.org) • Facebook: [Arizona-Balalaika-Orchestra-100063508413536](https://www.facebook.com/Arizona-Balalaika-Orchestra-100063508413536)

## **Austin B. Sweeney | Saturday 12:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Austin B. Sweeney is a Pacific Northwest-born Americana artist based in Mesa, Arizona, who travels the country in his fifth-wheel camper, *The Bandwagon*. Blending acoustic influences like Mumford & Sons and Sturgill Simpson with the electric West Coast sounds of the Eagles and Pearl Jam, his songwriting is deeply personal yet universally resonant. In 2025, he completed his first nationwide tour, performing from Texas to the Florida Keys, Nashville, and the Oregon coast. Sweeney has played the Tucson Folk Festival and many others, and says, "I would love to come back to Tucson." [austinbsweeney.com](http://austinbsweeney.com) • Email: [austinbsweeneymusic@gmail.com](mailto:austinbsweeneymusic@gmail.com)

## **Baba Marimba | Saturday 1:00 PM – Plaza Stage**

Baba Marimba is a Tucson-based seven-piece band known for their vibrant "World Beat Fusion" sound. Blending baritone and soprano marimbas, kalimbas, electric viola, conch shells, and a wide array of African, Latin, and Middle Eastern percussion with drums, bass, guitar, horns, and flute, they create original compositions inspired by Latin, jazz, African, reggae, and R&B traditions. Regular performers at local venues and past closers of the Tucson Folk Festival's main stage, Baba Marimba's music is designed to get audiences moving. "We love to make people dance!" they say. [babamarimba.com](http://babamarimba.com) • Facebook: [babamarimba](https://www.facebook.com/babamarimba) • [admin@babamarimba.com](mailto:admin@babamarimba.com)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Baja Caravan | Saturday 3:30 PM – North Church Stage**

Baja Caravan is a Tucson-based indie trio blending desert vibes, coastal roots, and melodic rock. Drawing on backgrounds from San Diego and Southern Arizona, they craft warm, storytelling-driven songs inspired by the Southwest and borderland culture. Their groove-oriented, playful sound reflects both grit and atmosphere, with a debut album set for release soon.

Facebook: [BajaCaravanBand](#) • Email: [bajacaravanband@gmail.com](mailto:bajacaravanband@gmail.com)

## **Barnaby and the Butcher | Saturday 3:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Barnaby and the Butcher blend Alt Country and Americana with high-energy performances and heartfelt lyrics, creating a sound that is both nostalgic and refreshingly new. Featuring Damon Barnaby's skilled guitar and Joshua Butcher's rich vocals, their music explores themes of love and heartbreak with a touch of dark country and rock. In the past year, they released two albums, recorded at Jim Dickinson's Zebra Ranch with Jimbo Mathus, and opened for acts like Los Lobos and The Young Dubliners. Their latest album, *Live at Poe's*, celebrates their fans and Tucson's creative spirit.

[barnabyandthebutcher.com](http://barnabyandthebutcher.com) • Email: [andrea@kindlingfirespromotions.com](mailto:andrea@kindlingfirespromotions.com)

## **Blue Prairie Dogs | Sunday 12:00 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Blue Prairie Dogs have been a Tucson favorite for 30 years, performing family-friendly Western and folk music that celebrates the culture and landscape of the Southwest. Led by Dan Oved, with Pete Fine, Charlie Mac, and Pete Schnitman, the group blends original songs about people, relationships, and nature with lively instrumentals and classic covers. Their joyful, danceable performances have made them regulars at the Tucson Folk Festival and earned recognition including a Sheet Music magazine award and induction into the Tucson Hall of Fame.

[danovedmusic.com](http://danovedmusic.com) • Facebook: [blueprairiedogs](#) • Email: [cactusdan14@gmail.com](mailto:cactusdan14@gmail.com)

## **Bolero Jonze | Saturday 12:30 PM – North Church Stage**

Bolero Jonze is a psychedelic bolero/lounge trio from Tucson, Arizona, blending Latin rhythms with nostalgic 80s new wave covers and original songs for a "gothic psychedelic cumbia" vibe. Featuring Brian Lopez (vocals/guitar), Miguel Melgoza (Latin percussion/drums/vocals), and Ryan Alfred (upright bass/vocals), the group is known for joyful, community-focused performances and a fun, "abuela-approved" energy. "It's an idea I've had for a long time," says Lopez. Bolero Jonze has built a dedicated local following through lively shows and their "Summer of Jonze" residency series.

Instagram: [@bolerojonze](#)



# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS



## **Brett Dooley | Sunday 11:30 AM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Brett Dooley is a Tucson-based singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist whose music bridges Americana, folk, and roots rock. A Navy veteran turned storyteller, Brett draws on his Midwestern roots, travels, and life in Tucson to craft songs rich in honesty and heart. With nearly twenty years of live performance experience, he is known for his dynamic stage presence and ability to connect across genres. His debut solo album, *The Long Road*, explores pivotal moments from his life, blending grit, warmth, and authenticity in every performance.

brettdooley.com • Instagram: @brettdooley

## **Brian Fate | Saturday 3:00 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Brian Fate's music explores the moments that lead us to "The End," the title of his new EP. Blending Americana and traditional influences, his songs reflect on love and life, featuring a rich mix of acoustic and electric guitars, strings, keyboard, and female harmonies. Based in Tucson, Brian has performed at folk festivals across Arizona for many years, including the Tucson Folk Festival.

reverbnation.com/brianfate



## **Brittany Jean | Saturday 4:00 PM – Court Stage**

Brittany Jean is an indie folk singer-songwriter from Brewster, Washington, known for her exquisite vocals, intricate guitar work, and meaningful lyrics. With six full albums recorded in Nashville and a seventh planned for release in June 2026, her music blends storytelling and nostalgia. Brittany has performed nationwide, including opening for Three Dog Night in New York City, playing the Bluebird Cafe in Nashville, and touring internationally on Vancouver Island. She has also been a finalist at the Kerrville Folk Festival and featured at numerous festivals and venues across the U.S. and Canada.

bjeanmusic.com • Facebook: bjeanmusic

## **Brown Mountain Lightning Bugs | Saturday 4:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Brown Mountain Lightning Bugs, the duo of Zack and Kendra Harding from Germanton, NC, deliver high-energy Appalachian fusion with a playful, danceable twist. Described by blues legend Henry Turner Jr. as "funky mountain music," their sets blend trippy and traditional sounds, featuring songs about love, loss, broken-down vans, and plenty of dogs. Recent tours have taken them across the Southern US and the UK, and they are winners of the 2024 Mallarme Dynamic Duos competition. Audiences can expect to clap, sing, and groove along to their infectious folk rock.

brownmountainlightningbugs.com • Email: brownmountainlightningbugs@gmail.com



# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Carlos Angeles Olmeda**

### **Saturday 1:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Award-winning singer-songwriter Carlos Angeles Olmeda invites audiences on a vibrant, multicultural musical journey, blending genres, languages, and cultural influences. Hailing from Fryeburg, Maine, Carlos is known for his engaging performances and “Tricultural Pop” style, which he describes as “all about changing gears and realigning perspectives.” “My job is to entertain people, and I LOVE my job!” he says. With accolades from the SDMA, H.A.T. Award, and WMWV Songwriters Contest, Carlos connects with fans of all backgrounds, aiming to “keep imagination and human connection alive” through refreshingly unique and empowering original music.

[carlosolmedamusic.com](http://carlosolmedamusic.com)

## **Cat Mountain | Sunday 2:00 PM – Plaza Stage**

Cat Mountain, founded in 2018 by Tucson songwriter Jon Frailey, has grown into a dynamic folk rock band featuring bassist Terry Kyte, drummer Justin Donaldson, vocalist Syndenn Sweet, and a rotating cast of guest musicians. With three full-length albums and national radio features, Cat Mountain’s music reflects the beauty and mysteries of the Sonoran Desert. The group performs regularly throughout Tucson and the surrounding region, sharing their upbeat and reflective sound with audiences from coast to coast.

[catmountain.us](http://catmountain.us)

## **Chick Blundy & The Tryin' Times**

### **Saturday 4:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Chick Blundy & The Tryin' Times are a Scottsdale-based band bringing classic country to life with original songs and favorites from the 60s, 70s, and 80s. Their performances are known for a groovy, danceable energy, inspired by bluegrass, rock and roll, and jam bands like the Grateful Dead. “We think music should feel good and our performance reflects that,” says the band. Having played venues across Arizona and the Bisbee Country, Blues, and Bluegrass Bar Crawl, they invite audiences to join in for a good time—and don’t forget your dancing shoes.

Instagram: [@chicknthetryintimes](https://www.instagram.com/chicknthetryintimes) • [chicknthetryintimes@gmail.com](mailto:chicknthetryintimes@gmail.com)

## **Chris Baron And Many Secrets**

### **Saturday 5:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Chris Baron And Many Secrets brings an energetic blend of indie folk and empowering sounds from Portland, Oregon. Led by singer-songwriter Chris Baron, the group features a core string trio, with special performances by a Taiko drumming team and a choir of local Tucson singers. Known for “ferocious acoustic guitar and mountain high melodies,” Baron’s music is all original and all heart. A past Tucson Folk Festival competition winner, he continues to share his love for the festival and community. “All Original. All Love. All Ways.”

[chrisbaronmusic.com](http://chrisbaronmusic.com) • Facebook: [ChrisBaronMusic](https://www.facebook.com/ChrisBaronMusic)



# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS



## **Christine Santelli and Heather "Lil' Mama" Hardy**

**Saturday 1:30 PM – Court Stage**

Christine Santelli, a Grammy-nominated songwriter and New York Blues Hall of Fame inductee, joins forces with Arizona Blues Hall of Fame violinist Heather "Lil' Mama" Hardy for a dynamic Americana collaboration. Santelli is known for her soulful guitar, evocative songwriting, and global performances, while Hardy brings expressive violin, powerful vocals, and energetic stage presence. Together, they blend blues, country, and roots influences, recently releasing "Live in the Parlour" and performing at the Hudson West Music Festival. Their music is praised for its passion, storytelling, and genre-spanning sound.

[christinesantelli.com](http://christinesantelli.com)



## **Corrie Lynn Green | Sunday 3:30 PM – Court Stage**

Corrie Lynn Green is an Appalachian folk songwriter from Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, known for her storytelling rooted in the region's working-class traditions. She crafts songs that strip away stereotypes, highlighting both the beauty and struggles of her homeland. "I focus on storytelling from the specific region of Appalachia I grew up," she says. Corrie Lynn was a 2021 Tucson Folk Festival Stephan George Songwriting Contest third-place winner, a 2023 NewSong Early Bird pick, a 2024 Native DSD Folk Album of the Year recipient, and an emerging band invitee for Merlefest 2025.

[corrielynnngreenmusic.com](http://corrielynnngreenmusic.com) • Email: [corrielynnngreen@gmail.com](mailto:corrielynnngreen@gmail.com)



## **Couldn't Be Happiers | Sunday 1:00 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Couldn't Be Happiers is a married indie-folk/Americana duo from Winston-Salem, NC, featuring Jodi (vocals, harmonica, percussion) and Jordan (guitar, vocals). Their music blends storytelling, protest, and homespun harmonies, described as "Johnny and June meets Violent Femmes." They craft songs about fantastical worlds, untold histories, and vanishing folklore, bringing infectious joy to every stage. Recent honors include finalist and showcase spots at major festivals and songwriting contests, such as Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, the Great American Song Contest, and the International Songwriting Competition. "In this case, the name really does say it all."

[couldntbehappiers.com](http://couldntbehappiers.com) • Facebook: [couldntbehappiers](https://www.facebook.com/couldntbehappiers) • Email: [colin@feistyfolk.com](mailto:colin@feistyfolk.com)

## **Daniel Bracken | Saturday 4:30 PM – Telles Stage**

Daniel Bracken is a songwriter and finger-style guitarist whose music reflects his background as a recordist and producer for Public Media, as well as his experiences performing in the US and Ireland. In recent years, he has focused on personal song-craft, blending spirituality, wistfulness, and humor. Bracken's songs draw on the storytelling traditions of Irish and American roots music, offering an intimate and empowering listening experience.

Facebook: [danbracken](https://www.facebook.com/danbracken) • Email: [djbracken@gmail.com](mailto:djbracken@gmail.com)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Darrell Elmer Rodgers and the Recliners** **Sunday 1:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Darrell Elmer Rodgers and the Recliners blend jazz folk, humor, and danceable rhythms, led by veteran songwriter Darrell Elmer Rodgers—often called the “Bard of the Baby Boomers.” With Rick Heyman on bass and Jim Lipson on percussion, harmonica, and vocals, this seasoned trio brings lively performances and witty lyrics to every stage. “TFF is a family reunion to me,” Rodgers says. Based in Las Cruces, they have energized Tucson Folk Festival audiences for over a decade, filling venues and keeping crowds on their feet with their unique style and infectious swing.

darrellsongs.com • Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/DarrellElmerRodgers>

Email: darrell@darrellsongs.com

## **Determined Luddites | Sunday 12:30 PM – Court Stage**

Determined Luddites deliver original acoustic “nouveau hillbilly” music with a political edge, blending Americana roots with high-energy performances. Based in Tucson, the four-piece group features Tim O’Connor on fiddle and crafts songs about drinking, revolution, heartbreak, and Jesus. Their music is described as “original acoustic music for the sophisticated urban hillbilly,” offering a unique blend of wit, grit, and social commentary.

## **Dharmapoke | Sunday 3:30 PM – Telles Stage**

Dharmapoke is a four-piece band from Tucson blending Americana, swing, newgrass, and norteño rhythms into a style they call “Bordergrass.” Their songs, shaped by philosophical and Buddhist influences, reflect on life and issues in today’s borderlands. The group features Tom Poley (guitars, banjo, vocals), Phil Anderson (bass), Rich Ganson (guitars, harmonica, vocals), and Emmy Creigh (mandolin, vocals). Dharmapoke has performed at the Tucson Folk Festival several times, with members also known for their work in Out of the Blue, Way Out West, and Southbound Pilot.

Email: bbhikku@msn.com



## **THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHERS!**

**C. Elliott**  
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**Aleksandar Ammerman**  
**Paul Everett**  
**David Anderson**  
**Steve Pope**  
**Dara Israel**  
**Squeeze Media**



# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Don Armstrong and the Whiskeypallians | Saturday 2:00 PM – Presidio Museum**

Don Armstrong and the Whiskeypallians bring decades of Americana to the stage, led by Don Armstrong—hailed as a “Tucson Treasure” and “consummate songwriter” (Arizona Daily Star). With Don on vocals, guitar, and banjo, the group features Liz Cerepanya (vocals), Peter Dalton Ronstadt (vocals, guitar, Pennsylvania Stomp Box), Alvin Blaine (dobro, accordion), and Slim Rost (bass). Their performances, described as “wonderful and robust” by the Tucson Folk Festival, have delighted audiences across the U.S., Canada, and Mexico at festivals including Albuquerque, Glendale, and Bethlehem.  
Email: [armstrong.dv@gmail.com](mailto:armstrong.dv@gmail.com)

## **Don Simpson | Sunday 4:30 PM – Court Stage**

Tucson singer and guitarist Don Simpson offers warm vocals, fingerstyle guitar, and heartfelt storytelling shaped by influences like Townes Van Zandt, John Prine, and Neil Young. His music blends classic folk with a modern, reflective touch, inviting audiences into a melodic journey. After performing at many Tucson Folk Festivals in the 1990s and 2000s, Don took a break due to health, family, and professional commitments. “I’m really hoping to participate again,” he says, eager to reconnect with the festival community.  
[https://www.alliancebusiness.com/music/don\\_simpson/recordings.htm](https://www.alliancebusiness.com/music/don_simpson/recordings.htm)

## **Dorsten | Sunday 6:00 PM – Plaza Stage**

Dorsten is an indie-folk sibling duo from Gilbert, Arizona, known for their high-energy performances exploring themes of love and heartbreak. Featuring Sophie’s striking vocals and Alex’s inventive instrumentation, they have toured with artists like Mark Ambor, Tom Walker, and TopHouse, and performed at major events including Summerfest and the Edmonton Folk Festival. Their music, described as “the vibe and nuance of Noah Kahan plus the power vocals of Adele,” has resonated with audiences across the United States, Europe, and Canada. [dorstenmusic.com](http://dorstenmusic.com) • Instagram: [@dorstenmusic](https://www.instagram.com/dorstenmusic) • Email: [jeff.worldsound@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.worldsound@gmail.com)

## **EarthPicks of Cochise County | Sunday 1:00 PM – North Church Stage**

EarthPicks of Cochise County, featuring Liz Lopez and Jeff Sturges, brings the history, people, and landscapes of the Southwest to life through original Americana songs and storytelling. Both educators—Liz as a K-12 arts specialist and Jeff as faculty emeritus at Cochise College—they blend melody, harmony, and rhythm to share narratives rooted in the American West and Cochise County. Their performances, described as “Western-Folk-Blues,” have been featured at festivals and community events across Arizona, celebrating the region’s rich cultural and natural heritage. FB: EarthPicks • [earthpicks@gmail.com](mailto:earthpicks@gmail.com)

## **Eb’s Camp Cookin | Saturday 12:00 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Eb’s Camp Cookin is a Tucson-based folk rock group featuring Eb Eberlein, Phil, Slim, and Shanti, who have played together for years with a focus on enjoyment and connection. Their sets blend Eb’s original songs with rarely heard acoustic covers, aiming to share smiles with their audience. Eb, a Tucson Musicians Museum Hall of Fame inductee and longtime festival supporter, also hosts a local radio show on KXCI 91.3 FM. The band regularly appears at folk festivals across Arizona, and Eb’s music has been featured on KXCI. “We’re here to have a good time,” they say. Facebook: [Ebs-Camp-Cookin100063790758392](https://www.facebook.com/Ebs-Camp-Cookin100063790758392)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Engel Indo & The Tucson All Star Ensemble | Saturday 2:00 PM – Plaza Stage**

Engel Indo & The Tucson All Star Ensemble blend Latin, family-friendly, and empowering sounds rooted in Engel's Peruvian heritage and Southwestern influences. Born and raised in Peru, Engel began his musical journey under his father's guidance, drawing inspiration from rock legends and Peruvian bands while honoring his folkloric and Afro-Peruvian roots. The ensemble delivers all-original compositions with heartfelt lyrics and dynamic arrangements. "Two days after the release of The Beatles' 'Now and Then,' I sat at the piano and wrote 'Don't You Know? Love is You!'" Engel shares. Their performances include the Tucson Folk Festival and Pima County Fair. FB: [eindo](#) • Instagram: [engelindo](#)

## **Eric Douglas | Saturday 3:30 PM – Telles Stage**

Eric Douglas is a performing songwriter based in Gilbert, Arizona, whose indie folk songs evoke the spirit of the Southwestern desert, the Great Plains, and the open road. Influenced by artists like Woody Guthrie, Bob Dylan, and Bruce Springsteen, Eric gives voice to the auto worker, the road-weary traveler, the veteran, and the immigrant—people searching for their place in the world. He began performing in New York City coffeehouses in the late 1990s and is a regular at festivals including Flagstaff Folk Festival, Tumbleweed Music Fest, and Glendale Folk Festival. [ericdouglasmusic.com](#)

## **Eric Ramsey | Saturday 6:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Eric Ramsey is a multi-instrumentalist from Scottsdale, Arizona, known for his original songs inspired by a lifetime of observation. A regular at the Tucson Folk Festival for many years—including as a headliner with RamseyRoberson—he tours and performs at songwriter and folk festivals nationwide. "I tour regularly when my wife and dogs allow, and try to be a good human," he says. Eric's Americana and traditional working-class sound reflects his genuine approach and sense of humor, and he is proud to have "generally acceptable hygiene." [ericramsey.net](#) • Email: [erramz@gmail.com](mailto:erramz@gmail.com)

## **Eric Schaffer & The Other Troublemakers | Saturday 4:30 PM – Presidio Museum**

Eric Schaffer & The Other Troublemakers—Loren Dircks, Jess Barrera, and Daniel Thomas—are a Tucson-based Americana group known for their finely crafted songs, rich three- and four-part harmonies, and expert musicianship. A 12-time Tucson Folk Festival favorite, Eric is an award-winning songwriter whose work has earned honors at the Tumbleweed Music Festival and Stefan George Memorial Songwriting Competition. Their acclaimed album "Dry Lightning," produced by Peter Dalton Ronstadt, showcases their signature blend of high-energy and reflective sounds. The band has also opened for national acts such as Clint Black, Marc Cohn, and Lonestar. [theothertroublemakers.com](#)

## **Fox and Bones | Saturday 5:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Fox and Bones, the dynamic duo of Scott Gilmore and Sarah Vitort, deliver energetic, retro-tinged Americana with a playful storytelling spirit. Since 2016, they have brought their optimistic sound to international stages alongside artists like Rayland Baxter, The Dead South, and ZZ Ward. Winners of the 2023 Tucson Folk Festival Stefan George Memorial Songwriting Competition, they have also hosted and judged the competition in subsequent years. As founders of Portland's Folk Festival and performers at events like Mile of Music and Treefort, Fox and Bones continue to inspire audiences with their soulful, modern vintage style. [foxandbones.com](#)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Frankly Scarlett | Sunday 3:00 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Frankly Scarlett is a Tucson-based, all-women group blending indie folk and Americana with a signature sense of humor. Vocalists Suzy Ronstadt, Jennifer Spector, and Kathy Harris deliver rich harmonies and dynamic arrangements, accompanied by Sabra Faulk on guitar and Deanna Sylvester on bass. Their performances feature a mix of original and cover songs, promising beautiful harmonies, laughter, and a welcoming atmosphere. Audiences can expect a memorable, harmony-driven experience filled with fun and musical camaraderie. Facebook: FranklyScarlett

## **FRESH APPLES | Sunday 1:30 PM – Telles Stage**

Fresh Apples is a harmony-driven Americana duo from Mesa, Arizona, known for their audience-inclusive acoustic performances. Blending beautifully crafted vocal harmonies with upbeat humor, they invite listeners to sing and clap along to familiar favorites in folk, country, bluegrass, and old-time music, alongside original songs. Their festival appearances include the Tucson Folk Festival (2022, 2024, 2025), Desert Bluegrass Festival, and Tempe Blooms Festival. Doc Rolland, a three-time Certified Division National Fiddle Champion and Southwest Folklife Alliance award recipient, brings extensive touring experience, enriching the duo's engaging, feel-good repertoire. Website: [thefreshapplesband.com](http://thefreshapplesband.com)  
Facebook: [thefreshapplesband](https://www.facebook.com/thefreshapplesband) • Email: [thefreshapplesband@gmail.com](mailto:thefreshapplesband@gmail.com)

## **Gabrielle Pietrangelo | Sunday 12:20 PM – Plaza Stage**

Gabrielle Pietrangelo is a Tucson-based singer-songwriter whose music blends humor, spirituality, and a deep connection to the Sonoran Desert. Winner of the 2023 John Lennon Songwriting Contest for "Summer Losers," Gabrielle's performances—whether solo or with her band—offer soulful energy and a sense of community. Her 2025 album, *Back to the Heart*, is described by KXCI's Duncan Hudson as "a love song to this community and the Sonoran Desert we call home." Audiences are invited to experience her desert-inspired songs and visit her album cover mural at the Rialto Theatre.  
[gabriellepietrangelo.com](http://gabriellepietrangelo.com) • Instagram: [@gabriellepietrangelo](https://www.instagram.com/gabriellepietrangelo)

## **Great Aunt | Sunday 1:00 PM – Court Stage**

Great Aunt is an award-winning Australian folk duo featuring Megan Bird and Chelsea Allen, celebrated for their soaring harmonies, unique instrumentation, and heartfelt performances. Winners of the 2024 Folk Alliance Australia Duo of the Year, they blend folk, country, and roots with influences from punk, jazz, soul, and rock, creating a sound that is both familiar and distinctly their own. With four U.S. tours and a debut album due in 2026, Great Aunt's music is joyful, vulnerable, and delivered with warmth, wit, and soul. [www.greatauntmusic.com](http://www.greatauntmusic.com)

## **Grupo Tradiciones | Sunday 1:00 PM – Plaza Stage**

Founded in 2010, Grupo Tradiciones is an eight-member ensemble from Tucson dedicated to exploring and sharing the diverse musical landscapes of Latin America. With authentic instrumentation—including the quena, charango, pan pipes, and bombo legüero—they transport audiences from Mexico's north to Argentina's Patagonia, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of countries such as Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, and more. As ambassadors of Latin American music, Grupo Tradiciones offers a high-energy, community-centered experience that invites listeners on a vibrant journey through tradition and contemporary flair.  
[facebook.com/Tradiciones.Musica32](https://facebook.com/Tradiciones.Musica32)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Hank Abbey & The Pearl Snaps | Sunday 3:30 PM – North Church Stage**

Hank Abbey & The Pearl Snaps are Tucson's newest throwback to classic country-western, blending tight harmonies, fiddle, pedal steel, mandolin, and a toe-tapping backbeat. Their sets feature both beloved covers and Hank Abbey's original songs, creating a soulful, multigenerational sound. "Whether you're lonely, loved, lost or found, this twang 'n dust collective strikes a chord you can sing and dance to!" The six-piece band has delighted audiences at venues across Tucson, sharing music that's as heartfelt as it is danceable.

## **Heather Hardy | Saturday 2:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Heather Hardy, a Tucson-based violinist, has been performing for 50 years. Originally from New York, she studied at the Manhattan School of Music under Raphael Bronstein and with jazz violinist Julie Lyonn Lieberman. Heather was inducted into the Arizona Blues Hall of Fame in 2001 and the Tucson Musicians Museum in 2016, honors influenced by her 20-year collaboration with legendary blues artist Sam Taylor, Jr. She has released five albums and continues to tour the East Coast and perform throughout Arizona.

heatherlilmamahardy.com • Facebook: HeatherLilMamaHardy • Email: heatherlilmamahardy@yahoo.com

## **Humanjones Review | Sunday 12:30 PM – Telles Stage**

Humanjones Review is a Phoenix-based trio blending Americana, folk, and rock with playful energy. The group features Bryan Fishkind on guitar and vocals, his daughter Z Fishkind on keyboards, accordion, and vocals, and Gail Paul on flute and penny whistle. Gail brings a background as a formally trained classical musician, while Bryan began his guitar journey in 1965, and Z has been singing and playing piano since age six. Known for their mix of complex covers and original songs, Humanjones Review has performed at festivals across Arizona, including the Tucson Folk Festival.

humanjonesreview.com • Email: bryanfishkind@gmail.com

## **Ice-9 | Saturday 1:00 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Ice-9 is a Tucson-based trio featuring songwriter and guitarist Mike Tanzillo, bassist Bill "Slim" Rost, and harmonica player Richard M. Blending country, swing, blues, and folk, their sound embodies the Americana spirit. Mike and Richard have been performing together in Tucson since the first folk festival, bringing their unique mix of styles to audiences for many years.

Email: miketanzillo@cox.net

## **JC & Laney | Saturday 3:00 PM – Court Stage**

JC & Laney, an Americana duo from Maricopa, AZ, have been sharing their harmony-driven sound at the Tucson Folk Festival since 2010. Blending country, soul, and folk, they deliver original songs ranging from heartfelt love ballads to witty satire. Their performances are known for soulful melodies, engaging banter, and an energy that resonates with audiences of all ages. With music featured on Pandora, Spotify, Amazon Music, and YouTube, JC & Laney were also 2016 first round Grammy picks.

jcandlaney.com • Facebook: jcandlaney • Email: jcandlaney@gmail.com

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS



**Jeremy Gilliam of Grand Dorado | Sunday 5:00 PM – Telles Stage**  
Grand Dorado is the music project of Jeremy Gilliam, a Tucson-based singer, songwriter, and guitarist. Drawing inspiration from classic singer-songwriters, rock, country, and blues spanning the 1970s to today, Jeremy crafts an eclectic mix of sonic and visual storytelling. As noted in a review on RadioRadiox.com, “His voice is uniquely his own. Smooth and funky, happy and moody, soft and forceful, he brings it all.” Grand Dorado’s music reflects Gilliam’s talent and passion for blending genres and eras. [granddorado.com](http://granddorado.com) • Email: [jeremy.gilliam@yahoo.com](mailto:jeremy.gilliam@yahoo.com)

**John McGill with Whiskey & Honey | Saturday 12:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

John McGill with Whiskey & Honey blends folk, rock, gospel, blues, and country influences into a sound they describe as “part folk, part rock and all truth.” John and Sally McGill, joined by John Hanson, create intimate, reflective music marked by haunting harmonies, soulful melodies, and expressive guitar. Their performances offer a unique mix of sweet comfort and honesty—just like their name, Whiskey & Honey. Email: [jdmcgill@gmail.com](mailto:jdmcgill@gmail.com)



**Juliette Stewart | Sunday 3:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Juliette Stewart is a Brooklyn-based Americana artist whose music blurs the lines between rock, folk, country, and jazz. Known for her powerful, nuanced voice and evocative storytelling, Juliette has performed at iconic venues like Carnegie Hall and Red Rocks Amphitheatre, and at major festivals including Stagecoach and Country Calling. Her debut single “Shame On You” reached the Top 40 on national radio charts. Juliette calls her genre-bending style “outcast country,” aiming to empower listeners from all walks of life. “If you think you know what a country artist sounds like, she’s here to prove you wrong,” says writer Jason Barnard. [juliettestewartmusic.com](http://juliettestewartmusic.com)

**Kam Bugger | Sunday 4:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Kam Bugger is an 18-year-old singer-songwriter from O’Fallon, Illinois, who weaves alt-country grit with folk storytelling inspired by nature and life on the road. After inheriting her grandfather’s Takamine guitar, Kam began writing songs rooted in traditional cowboy music. While still in high school, she started performing across the United States, quickly establishing herself as a rising independent artist. [kambugger.com](http://kambugger.com) • Instagram: [@kambugger](https://www.instagram.com/kambugger)



**Kevin Pakulis Band | Saturday 6:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Award-winning Americana singer-songwriter Kevin Pakulis leads a seasoned five-piece band. Praised by No Depression Magazine for delivering “the best of a genre,” Pakulis is known for his masterful musicianship and storytelling. His longtime bandmates, each accomplished artists, bring soul and excitement to his family-friendly, working-class songs. The Kevin Pakulis Band offers an engaging blend of heartfelt lyrics and dynamic performances. Facebook: [KevinPakulisOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/KevinPakulisOfficial)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **KLEZMERKABA | Sunday 12:30 PM – North Church Stage**

KLEZMERKABA, an eight-member ensemble formed in 2008, brings the vibrant sounds of Klezmer music to Tucson and Southern Arizona. Their name blends “Klezmer,” the lively dance music of Eastern European Ashkenazi Jews, with “Merkaba,” a Hebrew word symbolizing spirit, light, and soul. Known for their high-energy, spiritual performances, KLEZMERKABA invites audiences to listen and dance to their hand-clapping, toe-tapping music. The group has performed at Tucson Meet Yourself and is a returning act to the Tucson Folk Festival.

facebook.comklezmerkaba • Email: klezmerkaba@cox.net



## **Koda Krause | Sunday 2:00 PM – Court Stage**

Koda Krause is a Tucson-based guitarist, singer, and songwriter with over 20 years of experience. A graduate of NAU with a degree in Classical Guitar Performance, he studied under local legends Bill Ganz and Tom Sheeley. Koda’s performances blend blues, folk standards, and original songs, including the neotraditional country “Write You A Love Song” and the ethereal “Virginia.” He plays solo and with his band Simple Existence, and is currently working on an album inspired by folk heroes like Dave Van Ronk.

Instagram: @kodakrauseguitar



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# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS



## **Laura Jean Band | Sunday 4:30 PM – North Church Stage**

Laura Jean Band, a Tucson-based quartet led by Laura Kepner-Adney, delivers harmony-driven Americana and alt-country originals steeped in the lore of the American West. Formerly known as Laura and the Killed Men, their songs blend storytelling, high lonesome harmonies, and pedal steel flourishes, drawing from Kepner-Adney's deep connections to the Southwest and Midwest. With a current lineup featuring Robin Hanshaw (bass), Clay Koweek (pedal steel, guitar), and Ben Degain (drums), the band has toured widely and shared stages with Mavis Staples and others. Their latest album, *Shadow Ridge*, is available everywhere you can buy music. [laurajeانبанд.com](http://laurajeانبанд.com) • Facebook: [laurajeانبанд](https://www.facebook.com/laurajeانبанд)



## **Leila Lopez | Sunday 4:00 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Leila Lopez is a Tucson-based singer-songwriter whose soulful, poetic songs draw from indie, desert folk, and a wide range of influences, including classic rock, folk, and jazz. For over 20 years, she has shared her reflective music with audiences in Tucson and beyond, earning multiple "Best of Tucson" awards in the Folk category, most recently in 2025. Lopez writes and records her own songs, often playing most of the instruments herself in her home studio. Her work is inspired by the shared human experience and the search for connection. [leilalopezsongs.com](http://leilalopezsongs.com)

## **Lizzie Oakwood | Sunday 3:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Lizzie Oakwood is a Tucson-born songwriter, musician, and vocalist whose high-energy folk rock draws inspiration from nature and personal experience. At just 19, she has already been a finalist in the Tucson Folk Festival Songwriting Competition and the Dusk Music Festival Battle of the Bands, and won Alice Cooper's Proof is in the Pudding Contest in 2024. With her band, Lizzie shares songs that explore growing up, friendship, and heartbreak, aiming to bring people together and touch as many hearts as possible through the joy of music. [lizzieoakwood.com](http://lizzieoakwood.com) • Email: [lizziesmusics@gmail.com](mailto:lizziesmusics@gmail.com)



## **Madeleine Kelson | Sunday 4:00 PM – Court Stage**

Named by NPR as one of 10 Nashville artists on the rise, Madeleine Kelson draws from folk, country, and Americana traditions to craft her storytelling songs. After early success with Chicago's The Kelson Twins, including a Top Daytrotter Session with Paste Magazine, she launched her solo career in 2016. Kelson is a Kerrville New Folk finalist, IBMA Songwriting Showcase winner, and has showcased at Americanafest. Her EP, *Where the Spirit Meets the Muscle*, was named a top album of the year by Americana Highways, and her work has been praised by NPR and No Depression. [madeleinekelson.com](http://madeleinekelson.com) • Facebook: [madeleinekelson](https://www.facebook.com/madeleinekelson)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Mariachi Nuevo Azteca | Sunday 11:30 AM – North Church Stage**

Founded in 2022, Mariachi Nuevo Azteca is a 16-member, multigenerational ensemble based in Tucson. The group debuted at the 40th Tucson International Mariachi Conference, performing with Mariachi Los Camperos de Jesús “Chuy” Guzmán and Grammy winners La Santa Cecilia. They have since shared the stage with Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán and Los Lonely Boys, and regularly perform and teach at the Tucson International Mariachi Conference. Mariachi Nuevo Azteca will celebrate their fourth anniversary at the Rialto Theatre in 2026 and recently recorded Lalo Guerrero’s “Nunca Jamás” at Jim Brady Studios.  
mariachinuevoazteca.com



## **Mark Insley and the Broken Angels | Sunday 6:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Mark Insley and the Broken Angels are a Tucson-based band known for their high-energy Americana sound. Their latest album, “Redux,” was recorded live in one take with no overdubs, capturing the raw spirit of classic recording methods. “It’s the way things used to be done before they had multitrack,” Insley says. Drawing inspiration from Merle Haggard, Buck Owens, and the Flying Burrito Brothers, Mark launched his career in Los Angeles’ early alt-country and bluegrass scene. The band has played numerous shows in Tucson, including past Tucson Folk Festival performances.  
Facebook: markinsleycountry



## **Mean Irene | Saturday 4:00 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Mean Irene is a dynamic Americana band rooted in Mancos, CO and Tucson, AZ. Centered around the powerful vocals and songwriting of frontwoman Sunny Gable, the group weaves traditional country and folk influences with modern rock and pop sensibilities. Known previously as Sunny & the Whiskey Machine, Mean Irene brings playful storytelling and a fresh energy to every performance, inviting audiences to experience their unique blend of genres.  
sunnygable.com



## **Mike Berman | Sunday 1:30 PM – Court Stage**

Mike Berman is a singer-songwriter known for his intimate, reflective performances that blend storytelling and song. His music draws listeners into vivid landscapes—from his California home to Texas, Ohio, and beyond—offering heartfelt and sometimes humorous connections. Berman’s songs have aired on folk stations nationwide, with his album “Ghosts” reaching the top 30. He has performed widely across Southern California and the Northeast, including McCabe’s, Club Passim, and the Cape May Songwriter Festival.  
mikebermanmusic.com • Email: mikebermanmusic@gmail.com

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Music These Days | Sunday 12:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

Music These Days is a Tucson-based Americana band led by songwriter and guitarist Benjamin T. Wilkinson, with Chris Byrne on bass, Jameson Clay Koweek on lead guitar, Michael Newman on drums, and Andrew Berg on keys. Their debut EP, *Two Year* (2023), was named KXCJ's "Pick of the Week," and their 2024 album, *Big Wide States*, received national Americana airplay and coverage in *Americana Highways* and the *Tucson Weekly*. The group blends traditional and reflective influences, creating music rooted in heartfelt storytelling and rich instrumental textures. [musicthesedays.com](http://musicthesedays.com) • Email: [ben@musicthesedays.com](mailto:ben@musicthesedays.com)

## **Mustang Corners | Sunday 2:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Mustang Corners is an Americana band from Tucson, Arizona, performing original songs that capture everyday life with humor and emotion. For over a decade, the group—featuring Dave Knipe (bass, vocals), Tim Daldrup (guitar, vocals), and Marshall Jones (lead guitar)—has brought its distinctive southwestern style to venues and festivals across Arizona, including the Tucson Folk Festival, Prescott Folk Festival, and local favorites like Dragoon Brewing and Monterey Court. "We are basically songwriters and we perform our songs with our own southwestern style," they share. [reverbnation.com/mustangcorners](http://reverbnation.com/mustangcorners)

## **Nancy Elliott | Saturday 2:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Nancy Elliott is a fingerstyle guitarist, author, and poet based in Casa Grande, Arizona. Inspired by the desert Southwest, she writes and performs original songs that reflect its people and landscapes, blending true folk, love songs, cowboy tunes, and even the occasional madrigal. "You might get me to recite a poem or tell a story, too," she says. Nancy began her musical journey in the 1970s and '80s Dayton, Ohio folk scene, later moving through California, Texas, and Ohio before settling in Arizona, where she crafts Southwestern Americana rooted in place and tradition. [nancyelliottmusic.com](http://nancyelliottmusic.com)

## **Naomi Vernon | Saturday 12:00 PM – Court Stage**

Naomi Vernon is an Americana singer-songwriter known for "a stunning voice with a beautiful, dark undertone." Raised in Tucson, AZ by an artist mother and botanist father, her nature-inspired songs reflect her Southwestern roots. Since recording her debut EP "Desert Girl" in New York City, Naomi has performed at venues like Rockwood Music Hall and The Bowery Electric. Her single "Old Mountain Road" debuted on KBOO Radio and earned wide praise. A Falcon Ridge Folk Festival Emerging Artist, she has appeared at festivals across the Northeast and beyond. "I would make it a point to remember this artist," says Sirius XM Radio. [naomivernon.com](http://naomivernon.com)

## **Peter Dalton Ronstadt | Sunday 2:30 PM – Telles Stage**

Peter Dalton Ronstadt, a fifth-generation Tucsonan, is the son of Michael J. Ronstadt and nephew of Linda Ronstadt. A versatile multi-instrumentalist, he plays bass, guitar, banjo, tuba, and sings, performing both solo and with Ronstadt Brothers. Deeply rooted in storytelling and tradition, Peter also co-owns LandMark Sound Recorders with Sam Eagon, where he produces and engineers music for local artists. [peteronstadt.com](http://peteronstadt.com)



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# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Peter, Paul, and Mary Remembered | Sunday 2:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Peter, Paul, and Mary Remembered brings the beloved music of the folk era to life for audiences of all ages. Based in Chandler, Arizona, Marty Province, Dave Dumas, and Sharron Owen honor the timeless songs of Peter, Paul, and Mary, inviting everyone to sing along to classics like “Puff the Magic Dragon,” “Leaving On a Jet Plane,” and “If I Had a Hammer.” Their performances celebrate the enduring spirit of folk music and its power to connect generations.

[ppandmremembered.com](http://ppandmremembered.com)

## **Rave Review | Sunday 1:30 PM – North Church Stage**

Rave Review is a Tucson-based contradance band known for their lively, community-centered performances across Arizona and New Mexico. Formed in 2022, the group features Carina Ravelly on fiddle, Steve Richard on guitar, Russ Healy on accordion and whistles, and Scott Rettedal on mandolin, banjo, fiddle, and percussion. Their repertoire spans Celtic, Old-Time, Cajun, Quebecois, Rock, and Tin Pan Alley, creating an energetic and inclusive atmosphere. Rave Review regularly plays for Tucson Friends of Traditional Music and Phoenix Traditional Music and Dance, bringing a joyful spirit to every event.

[Facebook.com/p/Rave-Review-100086696617178](https://www.facebook.com/p/Rave-Review-100086696617178) • Email: [barriobarri@gmail.com](mailto:barriobarri@gmail.com)

## **Rebekah Rolland | Sunday 12:00 PM – Court Stage**

Rebekah Rolland is a Tucson-based folk singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist celebrated for her vivid storytelling and evocative vocals. With deep roots in traditional music, she is known for her work with the Americana band Run Boy Run and as half of the duo RISO, whose 2022 album “New Eyes” blends old-time aesthetics with pop-inspired arrangements. Her solo debut, “Seed & Silo,” was written during a National Park residency and draws inspiration from Willa Cather’s Prairie Trilogy and early homesteader histories.

[rebekahrolland.com](http://rebekahrolland.com)

## **Ripatti Rose Band | Sunday 4:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Ripatti Rose Band, based in Santa Cruz, California, brings together Alisha Ripatti, Dylan Rose, David DeSilva, Jocelyn Olson, and Keith Wieland in a harmony-driven blend of classic genres and original songwriting. Formed in 2020 during the pandemic, the group’s heartfelt performances and sweet vocal harmonies reflect a deep artistic friendship. Whether performing as a duo or full band, Ripatti Rose Band crafts songs for both vintage and modern audiences, sharing a familial bond through music. They have opened for acts like Kansas, Air Supply, and America, and are currently working on their debut album.

[ripattiroseband.com](http://ripattiroseband.com) • Email: [contact@ripattiroseband.com](mailto:contact@ripattiroseband.com)

## **Robby Roberson | Saturday 2:00 PM – Court Stage**

Robby Roberson is a Tempe-based singer-songwriter known for original songs that blend reality and imagination, happiness and sorrow. With a distinctive urban acoustic style, he weaves stories through multiple stringed instruments and a unique vocal approach, treating instrumentation as an equal partner in his music. Robby is the winner of the Stefan George Memorial Songwriter Contest at the Tucson Folk Festival and a finalist at Pickin in the Pines. He has performed at venues and festivals across Arizona, including the Musical Instrument Museum, Tempe Center for the Arts, and Scottsdale Center for the Arts.

[robbyroberson.com](http://robbyroberson.com)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Ron Pandy & the Wildpitch Band | Sunday 6:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Ron Pandy steps back up to the plate with the Wild Pitch Band—Slim Edelman on guitar, Duncan Stitt on piano, Greg Rogan on bass, with Kathy Harris and Alivia Alexander delivering clutch harmony vocals. Backed by this lineup of heavy hitters, Ron knocks out songs from his new CD *50 Shades of Folk*—a wide-ranging mix of styles, stories, and the occasional musical curveball. No hidden ball tricks here, just solid hits and a few surprises that might just clear the fence. [ronpandy.com](http://ronpandy.com) • Email: [ronpandy@gmail.com](mailto:ronpandy@gmail.com)

## **Roth D'lux | Saturday 5:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Roth D'lux is led by partners in song and life, Ginette and Daniel, who have been creating and performing together since the 1990s. Originally from Winnipeg, they bring their unique blend of acoustic prairie soul, jazz folk, and groove-oriented blues from the Canadian Shield to the Caribbean beaches, and now to Tucson, where they've made their home. Their music—part folky, part soul, part danceable blues—continues to defy easy categorization, reflecting a journey that spans continents and genres. Instagram: [@roth\\_dlux](https://www.instagram.com/roth_dlux)

## **Ruta Verbena | Saturday 1:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Ruta Verbena is an 8-piece Latin band from Tucson, Arizona, known for their high-energy, dance-driven performances inspired by the rhythms and melodies of South America. Combining traditional instruments such as flute, trumpet, and congas with vibrant, modern arrangements, they create an electrifying sound that invites audiences to move and celebrate. Recent appearances include Tucson Meet Yourself and the All Souls Procession After Party, reflecting their strong connection to the local music scene. Facebook: [rutaverbenamusic](https://www.facebook.com/rutaverbenamusic)

## **Ryan David Green | Sunday 4:30 PM – Telles Stage**

Ryan David Green is known for “virtuosic acoustic guitar that is remarkably accessible,” blending fast fingerwork with unmistakable melodies. Based in Tucson, he performs both instrumental guitar pieces and delicate vocal tunes, creating an experience that is both otherworldly and intimate. Green has played on four continents, been profiled in *Acoustic Guitar Magazine*, and twice named “Best Guitarist” in the Tucson Music Awards. He is one half of the award-winning duo Ryanhood and a 1st Place winner in the American Songwriter Song Contest (Best Instrumental). “Ryan David Green is a guitar-slinger. Period,” says Americana Highways. [ryandavidgreen.com](http://ryandavidgreen.com)

## **Ryanhood | Sunday 11:30 AM – Plaza Stage**

Winners of the International Acoustic Music Awards for Best Group/Duo, Ryanhood has been a favorite on the touring circuit for over 20 years. Known for their tight vocal harmonies, energetic acoustic riffs, and virtuosic musicianship, the duo blends rich storytelling with dynamic performances. Their shows feature strong acoustic guitar interplay and seamless harmonies, reflecting a decades-long friendship. Based in Tucson, Ryanhood continues to captivate audiences with their high-energy folk rock sound. [ryanhood.com](http://ryanhood.com)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS



## **Salinas Road | Saturday 2:30 PM – Telles Stage**

Salinas Road is a folk/Americana duo from the mountain town of Julian, California. Known for their harmony-driven sound, they create intimate songs that evoke memory, quiet courage, and a strong sense of place—like letters from home. With over 15,000 monthly listeners and 500,000+ streams, Salinas Road has opened for listening-room audiences at venues such as the Coach House and Alberta Rose Theater, winning over crowds with their tight harmonies and unhurried, emotive performances.

[linktr.eesalinasroad](https://linktr.eesalinasroad) • Email: [salinasroad@gmail.com](mailto:salinasroad@gmail.com)

## **Sandy Hathaway | Sunday 11:30 AM – Telles Stage**

Sandy Hathaway, a classically trained guitarist and vocalist from Chandler, AZ, has been a prominent figure in Arizona's music scene since 2000. Known for her soulful blend of influences like Dar Williams, Joni Mitchell, and Patty Griffin, Sandy performs across genres including rock, pop, country, blues, R&B, and opera. She has received several Arizona music awards and regularly appears at events such as the Glendale Folk Festival and Queen Creek Olive Mill. For the past five years, she has sung the National Anthem at major events, showcasing her versatile talent and dedication to her craft.

[sandyhathaway.com](http://sandyhathaway.com) • Email: [hathaway\\_music@yahoo.com](mailto:hathaway_music@yahoo.com)



## **Secret Harbor | Sunday 3:00 PM – Court Stage**

Secret Harbor, an indie-nautical folk group from Glendale, AZ, weaves tales of hope, love, and renewal through maritime-inspired songwriting and stirring choruses. Led by Michelangelo Caggiano—a retired detective and lifelong lover of the sea—the four-piece band delivers empowering, high-energy performances that resonate with audiences of all ages. Their music, anchored by Caggiano's rich tenor vocals and guitar, blends shanties and metaphorical sea stories with indie-folk sensibilities. Secret Harbor has performed across the U.S. and overseas, and was featured on Spyder Monkey Shanty Radio. "We were honored to play at the Tucson Folk Festival last year," they share.

[secretharbormusic.com](http://secretharbormusic.com) • Facebook: [SecretHarborMusic](https://www.facebook.com/SecretHarborMusic) • Email: [SecretHarborMusic@gmail.com](mailto:SecretHarborMusic@gmail.com)



## **smootmahooty | Saturday 2:00 PM – North Church Stage**

smootmahooty is led by Tom Bertling, a Tempe-based singer-songwriter and working musician who began playing guitar at age 7, inspired by his grandmother. Hailing from a small town in Ohio as the eighth of twelve children, Tom has been writing and performing original music—what he calls "Mutt Music"—for nearly five decades. His songs blend Americana and storytelling, often carrying messages of awareness, change, hope, and love. Joined by lead guitarist Joey Weissgerber, Tom has played the Tucson Folk Festival since 2013 and has recorded seven albums, several with Grammy-winning producer Billy Williams. Website: [smootmahooty.com](http://smootmahooty.com)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **Southbound Pilot | Saturday 1:30 PM – North Church Stage**

Southbound Pilot is an eight-piece band from Tucson, Arizona, celebrated for their energetic blend of roots-based originals and inventive interpretations of Americana and blues classics. Known for powerful vocals, creative songwriting, and spontaneous improvisation, their performances are lively, danceable, and full of playful spirit. Regularly appearing at local venues such as Monterey Court, Hotel Congress, and Green Valley Community Arts Center, Southbound Pilot brings audiences together for joyful, memorable musical journeys. southboundpilot.com • Email: southboundpilot@gmail.com

## **Sparrows & the Last Train | Sunday 4:00 PM – Plaza Stage**

Sparrows & the Last Train, led by Liz Cerepanya and Peter Dalton Ronstadt, weaves heartfelt harmonies and evocative storytelling inspired by the Postmodern American West. Formed in Tucson in 2019, the group blends Americana, folk, and Southwest roots traditions, drawing on the talents of Don Armstrong, Tyrus Watson, Ed Friedland, and Alvin Blaine. Whether performing as an intimate duo or a full band, Sparrows & the Last Train captivates audiences with soulful arrangements and a deep connection to the grit and beauty of the Sonoran Desert. sparrowsmusic.com

## **String Cheese | Sunday 12:00 PM – Telles Stage**

String Cheese is a harmony-driven, acoustic-electric trio from Tucson, formed by former members of the long-running Government Cheese band. Dedicated to recapturing the original acoustic sound of their predecessor, the group features vocal-centric performances and a diverse repertoire spanning rock, country, Tex-Mex, R&B, acoustic blues, folk, and original songs from the 1960s to the 1990s. Their years of singing together shine through in their signature vocal harmonies. String Cheese is committed to supporting the Tucson community, having organized concerts for the Community Food Bank and participated in benefit events for various causes.

## **Ten Dollar Wedding | Sunday 6:00 PM – Court Stage**

Ten Dollar Wedding brings a high-energy, celebratory approach to bluegrass, blending powerhouse original songs with inventive takes on traditional tunes and bluegrass interpretations of pop and country favorites. Based in Phoenix, this five-piece band released their debut album, "Down the Aisle," in 2025 and has performed at festivals across Arizona, California, and Colorado, including Pickin' in the Pines and the Tucson Folk Festival. Since forming in 2022, Ten Dollar Wedding has built a reputation for lively performances and a joyful spirit, always playing bluegrass with an open mind—and having a great time doing it. tendollarwedding.com • FB: tendollarwedding • tendollarwedding@gmail.com

## **Teodoro Ted Ramirez | Saturday 5:00 PM – Court Stage**

Teodoro Ted Ramirez, Tucson's Official Troubadour, shares the rich sounds and stories of the Southwest through his extensive folk music catalog. A veteran concert performer from Tucson, he tours nationally and internationally, introducing audiences to the magic of Southwest folk traditions. Ramirez's performances are family-friendly and community-centered, inviting listeners of all ages to connect with the region's musical heritage. "I write songs to stay connected," he says. Website: tedramirez.com

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **The Arnold/Klingenfus Ensemble | Sunday 5:00 PM – North Church Stage**

The Arnold/Klingenfus Ensemble, a Tucson Folk Festival favorite for over four decades, delivers a lively blend of original folk rock songs and unexpected covers. Known for their great harmonies, good humor, and onstage surprises, the group features Dick Arnold, Jim Klingenfus, Bob Benedon, and Logan Halaj. With 38 festival appearances, their enduring presence and engaging performances continue to delight audiences year after year.

Facebook: [ArnoldKlingenfusEnsemble](#)

## **The Colin Trio | Sunday 2:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

The Colin Trio, based in Portland, Oregon, is known for their genre-blending sound that moves seamlessly from soulful, powerful anthems to playful burlesque-inspired tunes. Described as “less of a trio and more of a triple-headed hydra roving through an alluring array of genre-blending styles,” the group brings an indie folk spirit with an empowering edge. Recent festival appearances include North of West Fest and Festival of Friends in Oregon, showcasing their dynamic and engaging performances.

[thecolintrio.com](#)

## **The Dry Wash Anglers | Saturday 2:30 PM – North Church Stage**

The Dry Wash Anglers bring high-energy bluegrass to the stage, blending hard-driving rhythms, classic country influences, and thoughtfully crafted original songs. Based in Tucson, this four-piece group is made up of veteran musicians known for their dynamic performances and rich harmonies. Their music explores themes of love and heartbreak, delivering a sound that is both heartfelt and lively. Audiences can find live videos and more about the band on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube at [@DryWashAnglers](#).

## **The Fretbenders | Sunday 12:00 PM – North Church Stage**

The Fretbenders blend Americana roots with an intimate, playful spirit, delivering performances that are sometimes lighthearted, sometimes deeply moving, and always engaging. Based in Chester, NH, Diane Kordas (acoustic guitar, vocals) and Bob Kordas (resophonic guitar, vocals) perform original songs spanning folk to swing, all with a bluesy edge, alongside covers of artists like Gillian Welch, Alison Krauss, and John Prine. Their music has been described as “a beacon for the wanderlust dreamers to follow home” (The A & R Factory). The duo also appears regularly on New Hampshire Public Radio.

[fretbenders.com](#) • Facebook: [fretbenders](#) • Email: [fretbenders@gmail.com](#)

## **The Glass Hours | Saturday 6:00 PM – Court Stage**

The Glass Hours is an Americana duo featuring songwriters Megan Barbera and Brad Armstrong, whose harmonies blend influences from Colorado mountain roots and Alabama’s southern traditions. Based in New York’s Hudson Valley, they released their self-titled debut album in 2024, followed by national tours and critical praise from outlets like Americana UK and The Bluegrass Situation. Their second album, *Chapel Glass*, co-produced by Clay Jones, is set for release in September 2025. “Megan Barbera’s songwriting is arrestingly intimate,” notes Examiner, while Pitchfork describes Armstrong’s vocals as “like Richard Buckner at a closed-casket viewing.”

[theglasshours.com](#)

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **The Heart Collectors | Sunday 4:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

The Heart Collectors are an internationally acclaimed four-piece “Epic Folk” band from Tyalgum, Australia, celebrated for their rich four-part harmonies, uplifting anthems, and captivating stage presence. Their 2024 U.S. tour included 104 shows across 25 states, with their album *The Space Between* reaching #1 on the U.S. Folk Radio Charts and earning finalist honors at the 2025 International Folk Music Awards. Finalists for Group of the Year at the Australian Folk Music Awards, they return to the U.S. in 2026, continuing to inspire audiences with their timeless songwriting and empowering performances.

theheartcollectors.com • Email: management@theheartcollectors.com

## **The McCallion Band | Sunday 5:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

The McCallion Band delivers original Americana, folk/rock, traditional country, and rock and roll with joyful, punkish abandon. Led by Nancy McCallion, former singer/songwriter of the internationally touring band The Mollys, the group features Tucson music veterans Danny Krieger (guitar, slide guitar, vocals), Neil McCallion (bass, vocals), and Les Merrihew (drums). Their performances showcase a dynamic repertoire of original songs, reflecting the band’s deep roots in the Tucson music scene. nancymccallion.com

## **The Odd Birds | Saturday 12:30 PM – Telles Stage**

The Odd Birds, featuring Ron Grigsby and Jennifer Moraca, craft harmony-driven Americana inspired by the 70s Laurel Canyon sound. Their music explores connections—lost and found—with an authentic, intimate style. Known for their vocal blend, Ron’s rougher twang and Jennifer’s sweeter delivery create a distinctive sound. They have toured across the US and Europe, released two acclaimed albums, and performed at festivals including Tucson Folk Festival and Flagstaff Folk Festival. As Lee Zimmerman notes, “The Odd Birds are adept at blending their voices in absolute harmony and sharing songs that ring and resonate with instant appeal.” theoddbirds.com • Facebook: theoddbirds

## **The Out of Kilters | Sunday 2:30 PM – North Church Stage**

The Out of Kilters bring the lively songs and melodies of Ireland to the desert Southwest. Based in Tucson, this five-piece group has been a festival favorite since 2009, performing at events such as Tucson Meet Yourself and the Tucson Celtic Festival & Scottish Games. The band features Peter Rodgers (fiddle, guitar), Russ Healy (accordion, whistle), Tom Feild (guitar, mandolin), Katie Dunlavey (bodhran), and Scott Rettedal (banjo, mandolin, fiddle), with everyone contributing vocals for a spirited, full-bodied sound. Their latest CD, “Hot Potatoes,” showcases both Irish classics and original tunes. Sláinte!

Facebook: outofkilters • Email: outofkilters@gmail.com

## **The Steady Kind | Saturday 3:30 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

The Steady Kind, an Americana trio from Phoenix, features Rhonda Jo Hitchcock-Mast, Shawn Royer, and cajon player Freddy G. Known for their engaging storytelling and playful style, they have opened for artists such as Lucinda Williams and Michelle Branch, and performed at Nashville’s Bluebird Café. Their songwriting collaborations include work with Randy Brown and Bobbi Kerr, with recent releases streaming in 2025. Recognized on the 2024 Talent Is Timeless long list, the Steady Kind continues to share their original music, recently featured on Arizona On The Rise Radio. Facebook: thesteadykindmusic

# FESTIVAL PERFORMERS

## **The Wally Lawder Experience | Sunday 2:00 PM – Presidio Museum Stage**

The Wally Lawder Experience brings together an ensemble led by songwriter Wally Lawder, a former Tucson resident now based in New Mexico. Known for his prolific songwriting and engaging storytelling, Wally has released seven albums and performs over 100 original songs. Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Stephen Dunn praised him as “both a romantic and a social critic,” noting his “quiet lyricism heightened by his gifts as a guitarist.” Wally and his band blend humor, depth, and connection on stage, inviting audiences into a unique musical journey. [wallylawder.com](http://wallylawder.com)

## **Tom Walter | Saturday 12:30 PM – Court Stage**

Tom Walter is a Tucson-based singer-songwriter whose music spans Americana, Country, Blues, and Folk. His lyrics range from playful to serious and introspective, reflecting his effort to see the world clearly and understand people’s stories. “I try my best to see the world around me clearly, understand people’s stories, and craft these observations into impactful songs,” he says. Tom’s song “The Other Side” was recognized as a top 20 finalist in the 2022 Rocky Mountain Showcase in Red Lodge, Montana.

## **Tori Parks | Sunday 1:00 PM – Telles Stage**

Tucson-based singer-songwriter Tori Parks weaves classical-inspired vocals and delicate guitar into her signature “floaty folk” style, blending shimmering melodies with tender, nature-inspired lyrics. Her original songs, including selections from her EP “Authenticity,” reflect on the magic of life’s in-between moments and the human condition. Tori also performs timeless classics, inviting listeners to find a piece of themselves in her music. “I have been performing in my hometown of Tucson for over a year now, and truly find such joy and love through this community,” she says. Email: [toriparksmusic@gmail.com](mailto:toriparksmusic@gmail.com)

## **Tucson Contra Dance | Sunday 7:00 PM – North Church Stage**

Tucson Friends of Traditional Music presents a free social contra dance featuring live Celtic music by Rave Review and calling by Abbie Sorg. Since 2019, Abbie has been calling contra and community dances across Arizona, working closely with bands to foster a welcoming space for dancers of all experience levels. “I love helping people connect through music and movement,” she says. Regularly seen at the Southern Arizona Dance Center, Abbie brings her passion for community and dance to every event. No experience is necessary—everyone is invited to join the fun. [tucsoncontradancers.org](http://tucsoncontradancers.org)

## **WomanSong | Saturday 2:30 PM – Court Stage**

WomanSong is a Tucson-based vocal ensemble known for their pure, sweet harmonies and creative arrangements. Since forming in 1997 to sing at the Peace Fair, the group—featuring Linda Rothchild, Grace Hartman, and Mary Hidalgo—has brought warmth, joy, and tenderness to benefit concerts, memorials, celebrations, and the Tucson Folk Festival. Their performances blend folk rock with nostalgic, intimate sounds, offering fresh takes on beloved favorites. Audiences can expect a tapestry of harmony, from intense and exciting moments to soft, lingering melodies, all delivered with WomanSong’s signature style. Email: [417grace@gmail.com](mailto:417grace@gmail.com)



# TUCSON FOLK FESTIVAL



## TKMA MEMBERSHIP FORM

The primary purpose of the Tucson Kitchen Musicians Association is to enhance cultural awareness of Folk Arts in Tucson and Southern Arizona, producing and promoting the Annual Tucson Folk Festival. Please return completed form to: **Tucson Kitchen Musicians Association P.O. Box 41054, Tucson, AZ 85717** Email: [membership@tucsonfolkfest.org](mailto:membership@tucsonfolkfest.org) Sign up Online: [TucsonFolkFest.org/membership](http://TucsonFolkFest.org/membership)

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card: (Circle One)**

**American Express**      **Discover**      **MasterCard**      **VISA**

**Exp:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CSC:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Card #:** \_\_\_\_\_

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My membership should be:      **Recurring**       **One-Time**   
 Would you like to be added to our Volunteer list?      **Yes**       **No**

- \$20 Student**
- \$35 Individual/Non-Profit Org**
- \$50 Household**
- \$65 Festival Supporter**
- \$125 Business Partner**
- \$250 Corporate Partner**
- \$500 Lifetime Membership**

**Thanks for Supporting Live, Original Music!**

# WAYS TO SUPPORT THE TUCSON FOLK FESTIVAL

[www.TucsonFolkFest.org](http://www.TucsonFolkFest.org)

## BECOME A MEMBER

Become an annual supporting member of the Tucson Folk Festival and TKMA! Members provide critical support for the festival each year and receive a free compilation album download each year. MEMBERSHIP LEVELS range from \$20 (Student) to \$500 (Lifetime Member).

## DONATE

Your donations given freely keep the festival open to all! Make a One-Time or Recurring Donation on our website or at the Kitchen Store. [TucsonFolkFest.org/Donate](http://TucsonFolkFest.org/Donate)

## VOLUNTEER

Well over 200 volunteers contribute annually to keep the Tucson Folk Festival running smoothly. We're also looking for passionate new volunteers with a variety of skills to help our organization.



## PURCHASE FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE

Pick up your very own Folk Fest T-Shirt, Pin, Hat, Sticker and more at the Kitchen Store! We're proud to partner with local design companies for our merchandise.

## STAY CONNECTED

Engage with TKMA and Tucson Folk Fest year round! Stay in touch to find out about special concerts, fundraisers, member activities, and local music happenings.

**MAKE A  
DONATION  
AND HELP KEEP  
THE FESTIVAL  
AVAILABLE  
TO ALL!**





# BROADWAY IN TUCSON

WWW.BROADWAYINTUCSON.COM

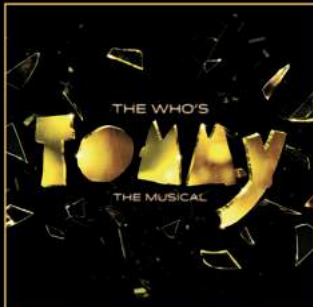
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TICKETS  
ON SALE  
NOW!**

## 2026/2027 SEASON

PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH ARIZONA ARTS LIVE



SAMANTHA PAULY (CENTER) & CAST IN THE BROADWAY PRODUCTION OF THE GREAT GATSBY ©MATTHEW MURPHY AND EVAN ZIMMERMAN



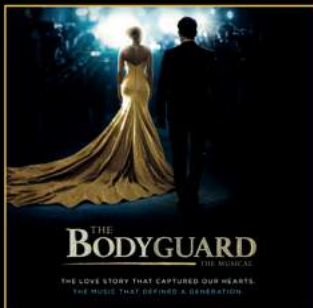
OCTOBER 20-25, 2026



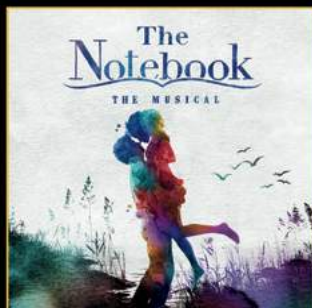
NOVEMBER 10-15, 2026



FEBRUARY 2-7, 2027



FEBRUARY 23-28, 2027



APRIL 27-MAY 2, 2027



AUGUST 17-22, 2027

**SEASON TICKETS:** [broadwayintucson.com](http://broadwayintucson.com) | 1.866.821.2929

# EXPERIENCE DOWNTOWN TUCSON

A nighttime photograph of the Tucson skyline, featuring several illuminated skyscrapers and a large white letter 'A' on a hill in the background. The image is framed by a large, stylized 'V' shape that is red on the left and dark blue on the right.

*Rio Nuevo District proudly supports the  
Tucson Folk Festival*

**RIO  
NUEVO**

Visit [RioNuevo.org](http://RioNuevo.org) to see how every \$1 of Rio Nuevo support yields \$10 of privately funded investment in Tucson's future.

[www.RioNuevo.org](http://www.RioNuevo.org)



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# THE ROBERT CRAY BAND

Apr 26



Ziggy Marley  
June 19

Thank you to  
our season sponsor:  
Bert W. Martin  
Foundation

AN OUTRAGEOUS CONCERT

# HAPPY TOGETHER

TOUR 2026

July 16



Groce  
Plays  
Groce  
Sept 15



Scan Here for  
our Full Line-Up!

Indigo Girls



May 16

TUCSON'S CROWN JEWEL

## EVENT MAP



### RECOMMENDED PARKING GARAGES

- El Presidio Garage 160 W Alameda (\$7)
- Public Works Garage 50 W Alameda (\$7)
- Main Library Parking 45 W Alameda (\$7)
- Pennington Garage 110 E Pennington (\$7)

### STAGE SCHEDULE

- JÁCOMÉ PLAZA STAGE**  
 Fri 6 PM – 9 PM Songwriting Competition  
 Sat 12 PM – 9:30 PM, Sun 11:30 AM – 8:30 PM  
 Presenting Sponsor Pima County Attractions & Tourism
  - WILDFLOWER STAGE**  
 Fri 6 PM – 8 PM Agave Heritage Festival  
 Sat 12 PM – 6:45 PM, Sun 11:30 AM – 6:45 PM  
 Young Artists, Family Shows, Kidszone  
 Presenting Sponsor Rio Nuevo District
  - NORTH CHURCH STAGE**  
 Sat 12 PM – 8:00 PM, Sun 11:30 AM – 8:00 PM
  - PRESIDIO MUSEUM STAGE**  
 Sat 12 PM – 6:45 PM, Sun 11:30 AM – 6:45 PM
  - COURT STAGE**  
 Sat 12 PM – 6:45 PM, Sun 11:30 AM – 6:45 PM
  - TELLES STAGE**  
 Sat 12 PM – 6:45 PM, Sun 11:30 AM – 6:45 PM
- WORKSHOPS & SONG CIRCLES**  
 Sat 1 PM – 6 PM, Sun 1 PM – 5 PM

### THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS



**MAKE A DONATION ONLINE  
TO SUPPORT THE FESTIVAL!**  
[TUCSONFOLKFEST.ORG/DONATE](https://TUCSONFOLKFEST.ORG/DONATE)