



PO Box 21748
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www.alaskafolkfest.org

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**April 2021
 Newsletter**
 46th Annual
 Alaska Folk Festival
 April 5-12, 2021

The 46th Alaska Folk Festival is online April 5-11

Mon. Apr. 5	Tue. Apr. 6	Wed. Apr. 7	Thur. Apr. 8	Fri. Apr. 9	Sat. Apr. 10	Sun. Apr. 11	Mon. Apr. 12
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>How to Tune In</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #fff9c4;">Workshops - Zoom</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #fff9c4;">Main Concerts - YouTube</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #fce4ec;">Quarantine Happy Hour - Facebook</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #c8e6c9;">Guest Artists - KTOO 360 North</div> </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">RADIO - All Concerts Broadcast on KRNN, 102.7 FM</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">All Info on: www.akfolkfest.org</p> </div>					Workshop 9:00-10:30 a.m.		
					Workshop 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon	Workshop 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon	
					Workshop 12 noon - 1:30 p.m.	Workshop 12 noon - 1:30 p.m.	
					Workshop 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Workshop 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	
					Workshop 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.	Workshop 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.	
Quarantine Happy Hour 5:30-6:30pm	Quarantine Happy Hour 5:30-6:30pm	Quarantine Happy Hour 5:30-6:30pm	Quarantine Happy Hour 5:30-6:30pm	Quarantine Happy Hour 5:30-6:30pm	Quarantine Happy Hour 5:30-6:30pm	Quarantine Happy Hour 5:30-6:30pm	AFF Annual Meeting 6pm (via Zoom)
			Main Concert 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Main Concert 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Main Concert 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Guest Artist TV Concert 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.	

Alaska Folk Festival Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/ State: _____

Zip: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Visa/ MasterCard ONLY

Exp. Date _____ 3 Digit Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

I'd like to receive e-newsletters instead of paper

Email: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

___ Benefactor (\$500 and Above)

___ Patron (\$150—\$499)

___ Friend (\$50—\$149)

___ Member (\$25- \$49)

___ Pay As You Can Any Amount

Please do not list my name in the program

All members receive AFF newsletters and are invited to the AFF Annual Meeting in April. Benefactors, Patrons and Friends will be listed in the future festival program. Please mail form to: Alaska Folk Festival, PO Box 21748, Juneau, AK 99802.

Donations are tax deductible according to law. (EIN: #92-0098258).

Contributing to Alaska Folk Festival



Even though we are not in person this year, our amazing board of volunteers has built an impressive alternative festival, working creatively to make sure that many of the core components of AFF are still here, online! We appreciate your continued support through memberships and donations to allow our festival to thrive for years to come. Funds this year have gone towards airing our Marquee Guest Artist Concert on KTOO 360TV, contracting with Tune Supply to feature over a hundred Alaskan artists in a virtual “mainstage,” offering top-notch Zoom workshops, improving our website, along with more projects that will improve our festival moving into the future. Please consider supporting our festival, and the many artists, fans, and volunteers who love this event!

A Musicians Diary: Connecting in Quarantine through Music

Music has thrived in Alaska since time immemorial.

Through storms and challenges and changes to our land and livelihoods, Alaskans have connected, celebrated and grieved through song and dance in many different forms for all of time.

This Alaska Folk Festival's 46th year is no different. If there is anything the pandemic has taught us, it's that musicians are unstoppable in creating community with each other, and displaying resiliency through hard times.

When Juneau went on hunker down, I resigned to spend winter nights playing banjo alone. Surprisingly, quite the opposite happened. Musicians nationwide flocked online to create communities, connect, and share music. I joined them.

World class concerts began popping up on my social media feeds, some through Quarantine Happy Hour, a popular stream which is currently partnering to

other old-time musicians across several platforms. I joined several clawhammer banjo Facebook groups where players from around the world share advice, updates on their progress, and encouraging comments with other banjo learners. I regularly scrolled through the #banjotuneoftheweek Instagram thread, where professionals and beginners alike post videos of a weekly clawhammer song. I had the opportunity to take Zoom lessons with incredible professionals like Allison DeGroot and Reeb Willms as they've taken a break from touring.

Besides meeting new musicians, I used virtual platforms to reconnect with friends in Alaska. I participated with faraway friends in the Nome Arts Council Open Mic. A fiddle playing friend and I planned to email recordings back and forth of ourselves playing tunes. My roommate teared up while streaming the Sitka Monthly Grind on Youtube. He said that the performance transported him back to lighter times.

When all else failed, when I was alone, my banjo comforted me in the moments where it felt like this pandemic could swallow Juneau whole.

There is nothing like sitting hip to hip with musicians, cramming into bars and living rooms, knocking elbows and bumping guitar necks. But during COVID, I have also grown as a musician and discovered resources and connections that I plan to continue using when this all slows down. I'm confident that I'll jump back into playing with renewed energy and appreciation soon- when we can all be together again!



Members of the Athens Symphony performing remotely—released by Athens Symphony.

host AFF Artists. I got to see professional musicians play everyday- for free!

Throughout this pandemic year, I interacted with hundreds of online posts, videos, and content from

Devin Tatro, Board Member

KTOO 360TV North Broadcast

Do not forget to tune in to our Marquee 1-hour Guest Artist concert. It will air on KTOO 360TV Sunday April 11 @ 8pm Alaska Time, featuring Richie Stearns and Rosie Newton.



All concerts will be broadcast on the radio: KRNN, 102.7 FM & KTOO 104.3

Former Guest Artist Receives Award



2018 AFF Guest Artist duo Jason & Pharis Romero are nominated for The Juno Award for Traditional Roots Album of the Year. This honor is presented annually at Canada's Juno Awards to honor the best album of the year in the traditional roots genre. We love watching our AFF guests continue to grow in their careers!

Don't forget! Our Marquee 1-hour Guest Artist concert will air on KTOO 360TV Sunday April 11

Thank you to Our Community Performance Artists!

Tune in to main-stage concerts on our AFF Youtube Channel– link on AFF website.

The Honey Badgers

The Fedelitys

The Brewskis

Rado

Haggis Maximus

Landbridge Tollbooth

Sand Witches

Lisa and John

Tracy Spring with Steve Tada

Irish Coffee

Allan Edwards

Super Bear

Alaska String Band

Weasel Gras Cajun Band

Sunny Porch Collaborative

Hermanos Harmiddijos

Q

The Foggy Tops Bluegrass Band

The Radio Flyers

Josh Revak and John Bitney

The Empty Oil Barrel Band

Jakelegs

The Sundews

The Lost Lakers

New Twin

John Palmes

Chris Thompson & Friends

Summerfall

Somewhere In Between

Van Fleet and the Delivery Boys

Meg and Mike

Jim's Red Pants

Heartstrings

Jeanie's Kitchen Band

Jim's Red Pants

Lucy Hankins

Raven Call

Aleksandra & Gramps

Roland Roberts Band

Sarah C Hanson

Chrisman Sisters

Whiskey Class

The High 5's

West/Winship

Wings To Fly

The Geoff Kirsch Experience Experi-

ment Project feat. Margie

McWilliams and Chris Dionisio

John Palmes

Dale Wygant and the Fiery Gypsies

Tramwreck

The House Family Band

The Chill Cats

My American Myth

Koski Family Band

Sonia Kumar and Wendy

Hladick

Highway 64

Heartstrings

Annie Hopper

Heather Mountcastle & Eric

Graves

Erin and Andrew Heist

Daniel Firmin

Live from the Smoking Room

Pink Bandera And The D

Saltwater Hank

Far From Home Recordings

Marian Call

Lost On C

Wayward Jerry

SaraBeth

Turnagain Blues

The Moving Hats

Kinky Slinky

Mark Mandeville & Rianne

Richards

XTRA-TUFF

Aldyn & Julius

the Brufantssons

Annie B and Wendy

In Remembrance

Art Johns Sr, Tagish/Yukon, Edler, country singer, and beloved AFF musician will be lovingly remembered at this year's festival. You can read Ed Shoenfeld's beautiful 2017 piece "[Yukon cowboy shares love of old country songs at folk festival](#)" on ktoo.org

Elisabeth "Lis" Marie Stork Saya, Juneau musician and artist will be dearly missed. Listen to this radio tribute "[Obituary: Elisabeth Saya 1948 – 2020](#)" on ktoo.org

Philip Reeves, Haines firefighter and AFF soundboard volunteer's presence and contributions to our festival will remain cherished in his absence. Read: "[Reeves: A dedicated volunteer who worked and played hard](#)" in Chilkat Valley News.



Elisabeth "Lis" Marie Stork Saya



Yukon country singer Art Johns, 84, performs April 4, 2017, at the Alaska Folk Festival in Juneau. (Photo by Brian Wallace Photography)

Attend an Online Workshop this Year!

This year we will be offering a weekend of online workshops via Zoom. For info and join links, visit akfolkfest.org.

Workshop Schedule: Saturday & Sunday

Workshop 9:00- 10:30am

Workshop 10:30- 12pm

Workshop 12- 1:30pm

Workshop 1:30- 3pm

Workshop 3pm-4:30pm

Annual Membership Meeting & Election

Due to COVID-19 Our annual membership meeting will be held online this year. You can attend by zoom or phone— link is on AFF website..

6:00pm, Friday, April 9th, 2020.

Open to all current AFF members, this is your chance to contribute to the future of the festival by voting on board members and sharing your thoughts on the festival with the board.

Video weblink and Phone number will be provided on the AFF website shortly before the meeting.

Alaska Folk Festival

PO Box 21748

Juneau. Alaska

99802-1748

<http://www.akfolkfest.org/>

www.facebook.com/AkFolkFest

General Email: info@alaskafolkfestival.org

Membership: membership@akfolkfest.org

Promotions: promotions@akfolkfest.org

Board of Directors

President: Ian Putnam (exp 2022)

Vice President: Miguel Rohrbacher (exp 2023)

Treasurer: Ian Putnam (exp 2022)

Secretary: Hiram Henry (exp 2021)

Board Member: Devin Tatro (exp 2023)

Board Member: Chrissy McNally (exp 2022)

Board Member: Bob Schroeder (exp 2022)

Board Member: Sheli DeLaney (exp 2023)

Board Member: Reber Stein (exp 2021)