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Juneau, AK
Permit #194

February 2016
Newsletter

42nd Annual
Alaska Folk Festival
April 4-10, 2016

APPLICATIONS FOR AFF 42 DUE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH - 5PM

We know you're as excited as we are for this year's festival, so here are the many different ways you can apply to be a part of the festivities:

1. Apply directly on our website by filling out an **online form**. Simple, fast, and saves trees.
2. **Download** our applications as PDFs from the website, print, fill it in, and mail it back to us.
3. Contact us by mail, phone, or email (info@akfolkfest.org) and request that we **mail you a paper application form**. We're happy to do so! Fill it out, and mail it back.

All performance applications are **due by February 26th, 5pm**. Workshop applications may be accepted past that deadline, but to give yourself the best chance at receiving a spot, the earlier you send it, the better.

When using the web form to apply, your submitted information will be immediately entered into our database and a confirmation email will be sent back to you with a PDF copy of your completed form. This is for your records only. You cannot make changes after you submit the form, so prepare your entries carefully ahead of time.

Every year some disappointed musicians discover that they waited too long to apply. Don't let this be you. **The DEADLINE is February 26th at 5pm** - in our hands, not just postmarked.

Main Stage Performance Application Deadline: Feb 27th

The 42nd Annual Alaska Folk Festival is scheduled for April 4-10, 2016, at Juneau's Convention Mall. Evening performances begin at 7:00 pm and afternoon performances begin at noon on Saturday and Sunday. Festival performers are scheduled according to space and availability. All sets are limited to 15 minutes, including set-up. There is no guarantee that all who apply will perform. We strive to get as many different performers on stage as possible. Please, live music only. No pre-recorded music or slide shows. If you have special needs for your performance, please let us know when you apply. Completed applications must be received by the Alaska Folk Festival (P.O. Box 21748, Juneau, Alaska 99802) NO LATER THAN 5 PM, FRIDAY, FEB 27, 2016. No fax or email. Check Performer FAQ at http://akfolkfest.org/faq.php. The tentative schedule will be sent out to all applicants no later than March 6, 2016. This schedule will be your confirmation of a performance spot.

Type of performance (circle genre): Singer-songwriter Instrumental Other _____

Performer/Group Name: _____

Show description for the 2016 festival program: _____

When did you last perform at AFF, if ever (year, day, set name)? _____

Please list the names of your group members with instrumentation. Large groups please provide separate list.

| Name | Instrument | Name | Instrument |
|------|------------|------|------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Day Phone: _____ Eve Phone: _____

Email: (print clearly) _____

Send my tentative schedule by email as soon as it is ready, rather than by postal mail.

CROSS OUT dates you are **UNAVAILABLE**. The more you leave open, the greater your chances of being scheduled.
M (9^{am}) T (7^{am}) W (5^{am}) Th (5^{pm}) F (10^{am}) Sat aft (11^{am}) Sat eve (11^{am}) Sun aft (12^{pm}) Sun eve (12^{pm})

Broadcast Release
I hereby authorize the live broadcast of my/our performance at the 42nd Annual Alaska Folk Festival over KQDN-FM during the week of April 4-10, 2016. I also authorize the use of my/our performance, both live and recorded, for distribution to the public over non-commercial radio stations and over the internet. I understand that KQDN-FM and the Alaska Folk Festival will not be able to provide monetary compensation for my/our performance, and that Alaska Folk Festival Inc. will not be held liable for lost gear or other personal belongings.

Printed name of performer and group: _____ Signature: _____

Thank you to all of our members for your continued support! We couldn't do it without you!

We will review all applications the week after the deadline, and at that time put together a preliminary schedule. Once that schedule is finalized, the draft is sent out to all scheduled performers via email no later than March 4th, 2016. This schedule is your confirmation that you have received a slot. If you have any questions concerning this process, feel free to email us at **info@akfolkfest.org**.

Alaska Folk Festival Membership Form

42nd Annual Alaska Folk Festival, April 4-10, 2016

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Visa/Mastercard ONLY

Exp. Date _____ 3 digit security code: _____

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
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Signature: _____

| | |
|--|---|
| Amount \$ _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Member | (\$30—\$49) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | (\$50—\$99) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | (\$100—\$249) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | (\$250 and above) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member | (\$15—\$29) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Please do not list my name in the program |

All members receive the Festival newsletters. Benefactors, Patrons, Friends, and Sustaining members will be listed in the Festival, Juneau, Alaska program (deadline: March 15, 2016). Please mail to: Alaska Folk Festival, PO Box 99802. Thank You!!

Contra Dance Schedule Up to Folk Fest

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Band</u> | <u>Caller</u> |
|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| 2/20 | Full Circle | Odette Edgar |
| 3/5 | TBD | Susie Kendig |

All dances 7:30 - 11:00pm

St. Ann's Parish Hall

5th & Gold or UAS

Juneaucontras.org

Gold Street Music

Remember to mark your calendar for the first Saturday of each month for Gold Street Music. It offers a delightful and unique opportunity to hear local musicians in a fine acoustic setting. Concerts are held at the Resurrection Lutheran Church at 740 W. 10th St in downtown Juneau at 7:30pm. \$5 at the door. Check the AFF website for updates or for more information you may call Elva 209-6517 or Frederick 523-6999.

Each evening features performances from five to six local acoustic groups.

Next Date: 2/6

AFF Contact & Info Sources

Phone: 907-463-3316

Email: Info@AlaskaFolkFestival.org

Facebook: facebook.com/AKFolkFest

Twitter: @AK_FolkFest

Web Site: AKFolkFest.org

What's It Like on the Main Stage?

What is the difference between practicing your set in your living room and performing on the AFF stage with an audience? It is NOT adrenaline, but STAGE CRAFT. The Alaska Folk festival website has a couple pages with useful information for performers, here <http://akfolkfest.org/faq.php> and STAGE CRAFT tips, here <http://akfolkfest.org/onstg.php>.

Do you know how to make the best use of the microphones, your DI, the stage monitor speakers. With sets at 15 minutes COUNTING your SET UP, things happen fast. Those 2-3 minutes of set up time are important to your set.

Some quick tips:

- 1) Your "sound check" happens DURING the SET UP for your act. If you sing or talk during your act, start talking into the mic the stage crew will set in front of you as soon as it is placed. Keep doing this until you hear yourself on the stage monitor speakers. If you play an instrument, strum, or otherwise make sound with it as soon as the mic is placed or you plug in your DI. You want to be able to hear yourself out of the stage monitor speakers.
- 2) Speaking of DIs. Does your DI ac-

tually work? You would be amazed at how many performers come on stage at the AFF only to find, DURING THEIR FIRST SONG, that their DI either sounds bad or doesn't work at all. Use a mic if you are not sure of your DI.

- 3) Speaking of mics — GET CLOSE, three or four inches away. If you are far away from the mic, the sound people might have trouble bring you up without running into a feedback squeal. The audience will not hear you well. The microphones are one of the big differences between your living room and the AFF stage.
- 4) Stage monitor speakers are the personal sound system for your act, the other big difference between your living room and the AFF stage. They replace the walls in your living room giving you the sound you need to hear to play together. Help the sound people help you by asking for what you need. Feel free to ask the people off of stage left (running the stage monitors) for "More guitar in my monitor, please," "Can I get less of his voice, please," whatever you need. Don't suffer when you don't have to.
- 5) The "Single Mic" — Often called

an "omni" the single mic is NOT omnidirectional. It has a cardioid pattern. It is a Large Diaphragm Condenser (LDC) mic. It is not a "magic mic." It is just a mic. Get CLOSE to it. I have seen a four-some standing in a line in front of the single mic, FOUR feet away. They could not be heard. The acts making the best use of the mic CROWD it CLOSE. The mix of voices and instruments for the audience is ALL up to YOU, the performers, and may not be what you hear on stage. Using a Single Mic takes PRACTICE. Trying it for the first time at the AFF is a recipe for sounding less good than you want.

STAGE CRAFT Workshops

There will be two WORKSHOPS (open to ALL performers) where you can learn more about STAGE CRAFT before you get on stage. The first will happen on the AFF's set up day, Sunday April 3rd starting approximately 6 PM, immediately following the tech crew workshops. The second will happen on Saturday April 9th starting at 10 AM. Both ninety minute workshops will take place on the Festival's main stage where the Festival sound engineers give you a chance to try things on stage and answer as many questions as they can.



2016 Poster Artist

SueAnn Randall

Reaching across imaginary boundary lines, Artist SueAnn Randall works in a variety of art mediums. Her whimsical and engaging pieces emerge from her imagination with the mission of saving the world, one smile at a time. Mother-of-many and grandmother of ten SueAnn has lived in Juneau, Alaska since 1973. Your patronage and support of the Arts helps make the world a better place.



Note from the Treasurer

Thanks to your generous membership contributions and donations, the Alaska Folk Festival has been a “free” festival for 42 years. Even though your festival has no paid staff with work done by legions of volunteers, the festival has expenses. Your festival spends \$50,000 to \$60,000 for hall rental, sound production, guest artists, printing, and other expenses to put on 7 days of great music and fellowship.

Give generously. Support your festival. Guaranteed to make you feel good!

You may give on line at <http://www.akfolkfest.org/mbrship.php>, by mail to Alaska Folk Festival, PO Box 21748, Juneau, Alaska 99802 or at the membership/merchandise table during the festival.

Alaska Folk Festival, Inc. is a public non-profit organization under 501(c) (3) registered with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (EIN: 92-0098258).

You can also purchase 2015 program ads now for as little as \$75. Email Ads@AKFolkFest.org for more info.

2016 Guest Caller

Charmaine Slaven

Originally from Stevensville MT, Charmaine Slaven moved to the Seattle area in 2000 and began her pursuit of an artistic career.

After trying her hand at many lines of work, from administrative to veterinary, she fell in love with old time music and dance at the 2005 Portland Old Time Gathering, where she met The Tallboys. She soon started performing with them, flatfooting and then playing guitar. Soon after, she and Charlie Beck started their musical duo, Squirrel Butter. Together, they founded their country music project, The Lucky Shots, in 2015.

Charmaine has gained a great reputation for her fun and engaging method of getting folks dancing and playing music together. She's a natural knack for teaching and organizing, and quickly has become an anchor in the Pacific NW old time music and dance communities.

She has performed & taught music, dance and calling workshops at events including the Portland Old Time Gathering, Olympia Old Time Festival, NW Folklife Festival, Alaska Folk Festival, Festival of American Fiddletunes, Los Angeles Old Time Social, Hermit Music Festival, Dare to be Square West, Nimblefingers, Victoria Old Time Tidal Wave, and A Prairie Home Companion.

Variety is the spice of life, and in addition to performing with The Tallboys and Squirrel Butter, Charmaine has accomplished a myriad of projects including co-founding the Seattle Farm Co-op, helping organize Dare to Be Square West, the Seattle Subversive Square Dance Society, & is a Community Coordinator for NW Folklife. She also loves animals, gardening, cooking, and the great outdoors.

Your Board

- Erin Hanson, President (exp 2018)
- Paul Disdier, Vice President (exp 2017)
- Bob Schroeder, Treasurer (exp 2016)
- Val Snyder, Secretary (exp 2018)
- Rachel Brown (exp 2016)
- Pat Henry (exp 2017)
- Mike Truax (exp 2016)
- Vacant (exp 2017)
- Vacant (exp 2018)

This January the board voted to add two additional seats to the board, bringing the total seats from seven to nine. These additional seats will provide an expanded board presence at the festival and more hands on deck for year-round activities.

Feel free to join us for any and all meetings leading up the festival, we meet at 6pm at KTOO on the following dates:

Monday, February 8th
Tuesday, March 14th
Tuesday, March 21st
Tuesday, March 28th

Annual Membership Meeting & Election - Centennial Hall - April 8th - 5pm