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**November 2021**  
**Newsletter**  
**47th Annual**  
**Alaska Folk Festival**  
**April 4-10, 2022**

**AFF 47 Will Be Held In Person April 4-10, 2022!!!** (see pg. 2)

**47th Annual Alaska Folk Festival Guest Artist: Jake Blount**

Alaska Folk Festival is pleased to announce that the festival will be returning live in person this year, with guest artist Jake Blount!

Jake Blount is an award-winning banjoist, fiddler, singer and ethnomusicologist based in Providence, RI. He is half of the internationally touring duo Tui, a 2020 recipient of the Steve Martin Banjo Prize, and a board member of Bluegrass Pride. He is a two-time winner and many-time finalist of the Appalachian String Band Music Festival (better



known as Clifftop). Blount specializes in the music of Black communities in the southeastern United States, and in the regional style of the Finger Lakes. A versatile performer, Blount interpolates blues, bluegrass

and spirituals into the old-time string band tradition he belongs to. He foregrounds the experiences of queer people and people of color in his work.  
*[continued pg. 3]*

# 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).

## 2022 Folk Festival Will Be In-Person!

We have been hearing from many, many members asking about the status of the 2022 Festival and we are so excited to announce that we will be returning to an in-person Alaska Folk Festival in April 2022! We all remember how disappointing it was to suddenly postpone AFF 46 in 2020. Thanks to the diligent year-round effort from our all-volunteer Board of Directors and the overwhelming support from our amazing members, we hosted a virtual AFF 46 in 2021 that far exceeded nearly everyone's expectations. And now, thankfully, we are able to move ahead with planning an in-person Festival for 2022.

The single most important factor getting us to an in-person festival was the development and availability of a safe, effective vaccine for COVID-19. In order to safely hold an in-person festival in 2022, and following CDC and City & Borough of Juneau (CBJ) guidelines, **all attendees, volunteers, and performers will need to show proof of vaccination to attend the in-person event.** As in years past, main stage concerts

will be streamed on KRNN and this year we are working with them to increase quality and coverage of concert streams to make the festival performances available to those who are not able to attend in-person.

With about 4 ½ months until that magical first day of the festival, we know a lot can change regarding the pandemic. With that said, we are working very closely with Centennial Hall and CBJ to ensure that we host a safe in-person gathering in April. As mentioned above, **proof of vaccination will be required**, and we will follow all current guidelines regarding masking in public spaces at the time of the event.

This has been a difficult time for all of us and we are so thankful that we will have a chance to see all of your smiling faces again, in-person in Juneau for The 47th Annual Alaska Folk Festival!

Andrew Heist—President

# Announcing: Alaska Folk Festival Legacy Program

This last spring the Alaska Folk Festival achieved one of the festival's major goals, the establishment of a Legacy Giving program with the Juneau Community Foundation. "Legacy Gifts" or "Planned Gifts" are donations made to an organization as part of an individual's estate planning, most commonly these gifts are made as part of an individual's will.

As a scrappy small-scale non-profit, the Alaska Folk Festival is entirely volunteer run. By working with the Juneau Community Foundation we're ensuring that your gifts are managed responsibly and will always support the community that you love.

It's incredibly easy to incorporate the festival into your planned giving simply by visiting the Juneau Community Foundation website (<http://www.juneaujcf.org>), or by giving them a call to discuss options. They're a wonderful organization and are happy to serve as a resource to our members and our community.

For many of us, we use the festival as a life marker,

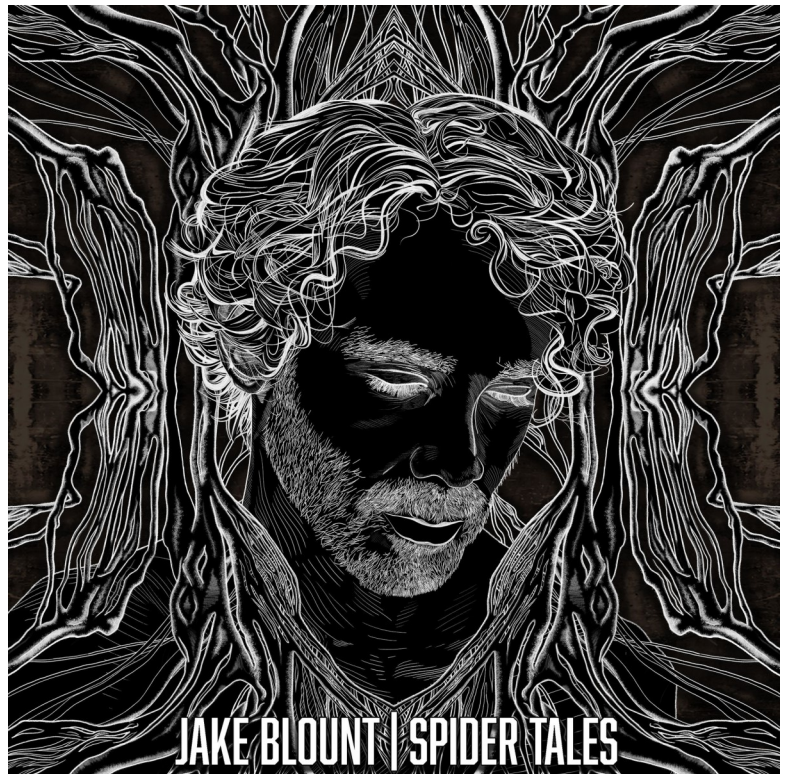
whether it's the start of a life-long friendship, a passion for music, or in a few cases, wedding anniversaries! We've seen children who first came on the stage as toddlers grow into musicians and volunteers, who have then brought their own children to perform at the Alaska Folk Festival. When you choose to give the Alaska Folk Festival a legacy gift, be it through naming AFF in your will or designating the festival as one of your beneficiaries of your 401(k) account, you become an important part of keeping music beating in the heart of Alaska. We take these kinds of gifts very seriously, because in making them, you are treating the Alaska Folk Festival like family, which is the highest honor any organization can receive from one of its members.

We hope you'll consider this kind of gift and please don't hesitate to reach out to our volunteer development coordinator, Erin Heist, if you'd like to learn more.

**Legacy Program Email: [Legacy@akfolkfest.org](mailto:Legacy@akfolkfest.org)**

## 47th Annual Folk Festival Guest Artist Profile Continued

*[continued from pg. 1]* Blount's teachers include Rhiannon Giddens, Bruce Molsky and Judy Hyman. Blount has shared his music and research at the Newport Folk Festival, the Smithsonian Institution and Yale University, among other venues and institutions. He has also appeared on Radiolab, Soundcheck and NPR's Weekend Edition. He regularly teaches fiddle and banjo at festivals and camps like the Augusta Heritage Center, the Ashokan Center, and Midwest Banjo Camp. Blount tours domestically and internationally as a solo performer, with his duo Tui, and with his band The Moose Whisperers. He has performed and recorded solo, and in ensembles of up to six people. His first full-length solo album, *Spider Tales*, is out now on Free Dirt Records & Service Co. It debuted at #2 on the Billboard Bluegrass Chart, received positive coverage from NPR, Rolling Stone and Billboard among others, and earned five out of five stars as The Guardian's Folk Album of the Month. *Spider Tales* later appeared on "Best of 2020" lists from NPR, Bandcamp, The New Yorker, the Guardian, and elsewhere.



Website Press Release: "Press Kit." JAKE BLOUNT , <https://jakeblount.com/press-kit>.

## Support Alaska Folk Festival

With the postponing of the 2020 Festival and the shift to a virtual format for 2021, AFF saw a significant decrease in membership renewals. We rely on memberships and member donations to fund 100% of our operating costs. While the Festival remains on sound financial footing, the loss in revenue was substantial. The support we have gotten from our amazing members as we have navigated through two years of a pandemic has been so helpful in getting us through. If you have not renewed your membership, please consider doing so today. If you are a current member please consider making an additional donation to help keep the festival going for many years to come. Thank You!!

### AFF Welcomes New Treasurer: Dylan Proudfoot

Dylan Proudfoot is a recent transplant to Juneau, having grown up in West Virginia. Dylan spent close to a decade in the Rockies before moving here in 2020. He loves being in the mountains, and is an avid skier.



His love for the AFF dates back to 2014 where, during his first visit to Southeast AK, he was delighted to enjoy a weeklong schedule of music and dance. He was a long way from his Blue Ridge mountain roots, but the music made him feel right at home.

Dylan plays the banjo slowly, and loves traditional Bluegrass and Folk as well as New Grass, Americana, and Alt-Country. Now that he lives here in Juneau, he is eager to share his time and energy to support this great festival. He is excited to serve on the AFF board and give back to the community that made him feel so welcome back in 2014.

## Attend a Meeting

Open to all current AFF members, we welcome you to join our board meetings. This is your chance to contribute to the future of the festival by sharing your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions with the board. We are currently meeting over zoom, but may eventually return to meeting in person at the Juneau Arts and Humanities Center. If you are interested in attending a meeting, email: [info@alaskafolkfestival.org](mailto:info@alaskafolkfestival.org)

### Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, December 14, 2021, 6PM

Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 6PM

Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 6PM

Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 6PM

Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 6PM

Every Tuesday in March, 6PM

**AFF47 Setup Day – April 3**

## Alaska Folk Festival

PO Box 21748

Juneau, Alaska

99802-1748

907 463-3316

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

[www.facebook.com/AkFolkFest](https://www.facebook.com/AkFolkFest)

**General Email:** [info@alaskafolkfestival.org](mailto:info@alaskafolkfestival.org)

**Membership:** [membership@akfolkfest.org](mailto:membership@akfolkfest.org)

**Promotions:** [promotions@akfolkfest.org](mailto:promotions@akfolkfest.org)

### Board of Directors

**President:** Andrew Heist (exp 2024)

**Vice President:** Miguel Rohrbacher (exp 2023)

**Treasurer:** Dylan Proudfoot (exp 2022)

**Secretary:** Hiram Henry (exp 2024)

**Board Member:** Devin Tatro (exp 2023)

**Board Member:** Chrissy McNally (exp 2022)

**Board Member:** Ian Putnam (exp 2022)

**Board Member:** Sheli DeLaney (exp 2023)

**Board Member:** Reber Stein (exp 2024)