



anchorage folk festival



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*Johnse Ostman
President, Board of Directors*



- Community-based
- Member-driven
- Volunteer-run
- Non-profit



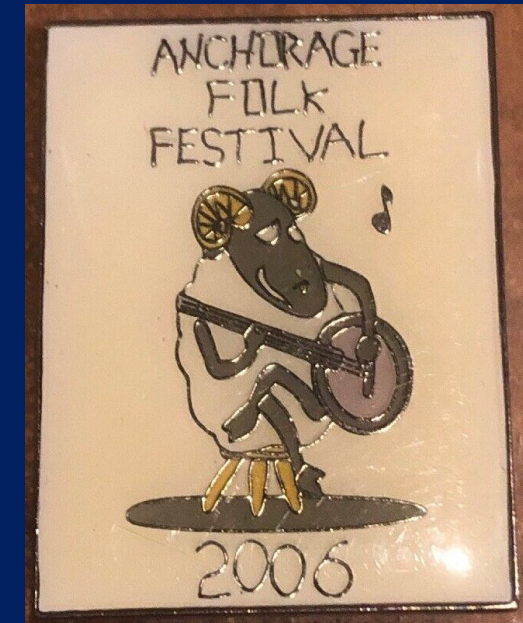
- *Established 1989*
- *Nine seat working Board of Directors*
- *No Executive Director/Coordinator*



Why is there an Anchorage Folk Festival?



- Operate and perpetuate an annual folk arts festival in Anchorage featuring live performance by the broadest possible representation of community performers.
- Acquaint and educate the general public about the folk arts.
- To provide a symposium for the interchange of cultural and performance ideas regarding folk art in the community.
- Maintain a tradition of **FREE** public admission and encourage live performance by non-professional artists.





How does the Anchorage Folk Festival fund itself?

• Individual Memberships

- *240 members (2023)*
- *Anonymous donations*
- *Pick.Click.Give*

• Arts Grants

- *Alaska Community Foundation*
- *Municipality of Anchorage*
- *Rasmuson Foundation*

• Commercial Sponsors

- *> 39 donors (2023)*
 - *In-kind support*
 - *Cash donations*

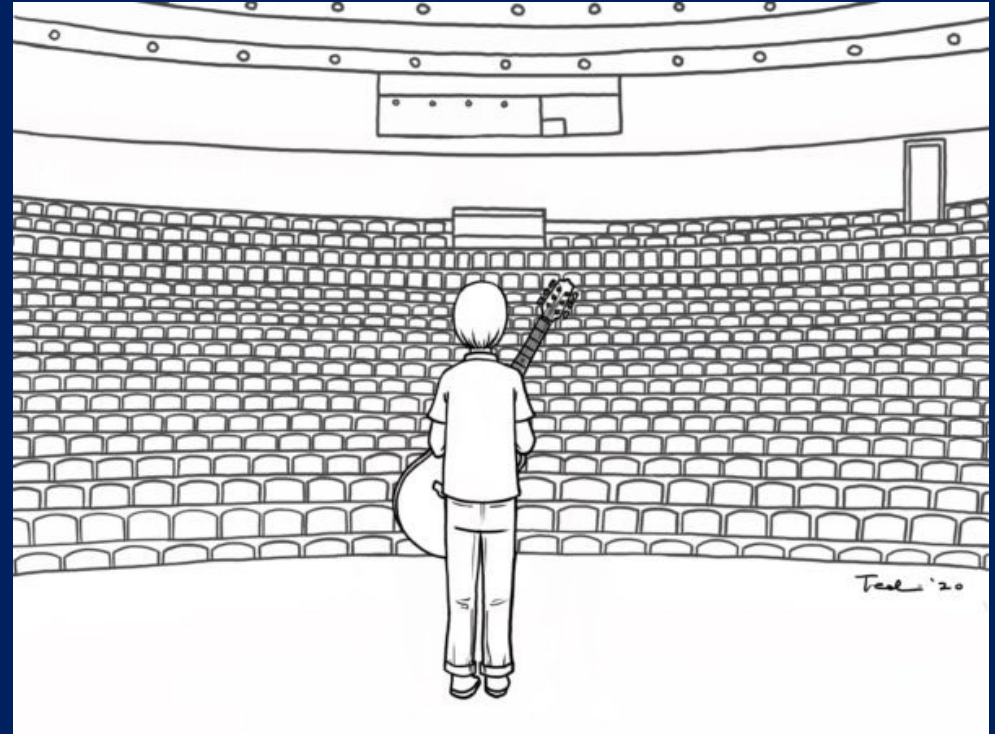


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What happens at the Anchorage Folk Festival each year?

- Mainstage Performances (two weekends)
 - *Local Musicians (~130)*
 - *Professional Guest Artists (2-3)*
- Community Visual Artist commission
- Parlor In The Round- Folk Fest Edition
- Workshops (>50 local & Guest Artist leaders)
- Folk Week Concerts (>40 performances)
 - *Anchorage, Eagle River, and Girdwood*
- Banjo Contest (13 years & running!)
- Bagpipe Piobaireachd Competition
- Instrument Swap
- Raffle & Silent Auction
- Membership Meeting
- Merchandise!!
- **Guest Artist Concerts**
- **Barn Dances**
- **Kick Off Party**



FREE
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Where does the Anchorage Folk Festival happen?

- UAA Wendy Williamson Auditorium
 - *Mainstage*
 - *Lobby*
- UAA Professional Studies Building
 - *Workshops- classrooms*
- Folk Week Concerts
 - *Hearth Artisan Pizza/ Middle Way Café*
 - *Reilly's Irish Pub*
 - *Organic Oasis*
 - *The Writer's Block*
 - *K Street Market*
 - *Guido's Pizza*
 - *"Noon Music" UAA Student Union*
 - *Sleepy Dog Coffee Co.*
 - *Alyeska Sitzmark*
- Fundraiser Concerts and Dances
 - *Bear Tooth Theatrepub*
 - *The Nave*
 - *Odd Man Rush Brewing*



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What about the AWESOME artwork and backdrops AFF uses?



2024-Midnight Sonne Art



Illustration: Jennifer Sonne

January 18-28, 2024
UAA Wendy Williamson Auditorium



Photo credit Miriah May Music

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What about the AWESOME Guest Artists AFF brings to Anchorage each year?



Week 1 January 19-21, 2024



Frog Holler

(front row l to r) Darren Schlappich, Greg Masterson; (back row) Josh Sceurman, Mike Lavdanski, Cory Heller, Daniel Bower

Hailing from Berks County Pennsylvania, **Frog Holler** are those "real-deal story tellers" bringing music out of a "rare place of honesty" ... these "neo-hillbillies with a twist, play mountain blues and country as accessible and modern as the most hummable pop".

You've Got A Friend In Frog Holler!

<https://www.frogholler.com/>

Source: Frog Holler, No Depression, York Daily Record, The Washington Post

Week 2 January 26-28, 2024



I DRAW SLOW

Colin Derham, Louise Holden, Dave Holden, Konrad Liddy, Adrian Hart

Dublin Ireland roots band I Draw Slow are "a confident and distinctive blend of American bluegrass and Irish sensibility" whose "handcrafted songwriting, sweet harmonies" and "infectious melodies" are "spellbinding" and as "gritty as they are beautiful!"

<https://idrawslow.wordpress.com/>

Source: I Draw Slow, The Irish Press, The Last Mixed Tape, Hot Press, Country Music Television



January 18-28, 2024
UAA Wendy Williamson Auditorium

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- **Parlor In The Round** *(1/18, UAA Wendy Williamson)*
 - *Darren Schlappich (Frog Holler), Emily Kurn, Boot, host Kevin Worrell*
- **Frog Holler** *(Berks County, PA)*
 - *Mainstage (UAA Wendy) Friday (1/19) & Sunday (1/21)*
 - *Bear Tooth Theatrepub w/ She's With Me (Saturday 1/20)*
- **Barn Dance** *(1/25, The Nave)*
 - *Spit City Slickers, Big Chimney Barn Dance, caller Brian DeMarcus*
- **I Draw Slow** *(Dublin, Ireland)*
 - *Mainstage (UAA Wendy) Friday (1/26) & Sunday (1/28)*
 - *Odd Man Rush Brewing w/ Witty Youngman (Saturday 1/27)*

FREE
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So much to do at the Anchorage Folk Festival in 2024!



Thursday / Jan 18

- ★ **Parlor in the Round** featuring Guest Artist Darren Schlappich | Wendy Williamson Auditorium | 7 - 9:30 pm

Friday / Jan 19

- ★ **Main Stage Performances** with Local Acts and Guest Artist | Wendy Williamson Auditorium | 7 - 10 pm | Frog Holler, 9 pm

Saturday / Jan 20

- **Main Stage Performances** | Wendy Williamson Auditorium | 1 - 5 pm and 7 - 10 pm
- ◆ **Workshops** | UAA Professional Studies Building/Main Stage | 9 am - 5:15 pm
- ★ **AFF Guest Artist** Frog Holler | Bear Tooth Theatrepub | 21+ | Doors – 7 pm, Music – She's With Me @ 7:30 pm | Frog Holler @ 8:30 pm | \$20

Sunday / Jan 21

- ★ **Workshops** (Featuring Guest Artist Frog Holler) | UAA Professional Studies Building/Main Stage | 10:15 am – 5:15 pm

- **Main Stage Performances** with Local Acts | Wendy Williamson Auditorium | 1 - 5 pm
- ★ **Main Stage Performances** with Local Acts and Guest Artist | Wendy Williamson Auditorium | 7 - 10 pm | Frog Holler, 8:45 pm

Monday / Jan 22

- **Folk Week** at various venues/times

Tuesday / Jan 23

- **Folk Week** at various venues/times

Wednesday / Jan 24

- **Bagpipe Competition** | UAA Wendy Williamson Auditorium | Doors @ 6 | Solo competition @ 6:30 pm | Band @ 8 pm

- **Folk Week** at various venues/times

Thursday / Jan 25

- ★ **Barn Dance** | The Nave | Doors – 7 pm, Caller – Brian DeMarcus | Music – Big Chimney Barn Dance/Spit City Slickers | \$20/\$10/Free
- **Folk Week** at various venues/times

Friday / Jan 26

- ★ **Main Stage Performances** with Local Acts and Guest Artist | Wendy Williamson Auditorium | 7 - 10 pm | Draw Slow @ 9 pm
- ▲ **Community Jam** | Guido's Pizza | 7 pm - 1 am

Saturday / Jan 27

- ▲ **Workshops** | UAA Campus Professional Studies Building/Main Stage | 9 am - 5:15 pm
- **Main Stage Performances** with Local Acts | Wendy Williamson Auditorium | 1 - 5 pm and 7 - 10 pm
- ▲ **Instrument Swap** | Buy, Sell, Trade! | PSB 110 | 3 - 6 pm

13th Annual Banjo Contest | Professional Studies Building 166 | Sign up – 2:30 pm, Contest 3 - 5:15 pm

Annual AFF Members Meeting – All Members Welcome! | Professional Studies Building 166 | 5:15 pm

- ★ **AFF Guest Artist** | Draw Slow | Odd Man Rush Brewing | 21+ | Doors – 7 pm | Music – Witty Youngman @ 7:30 pm | Draw Slow @ 8:30 pm | \$20

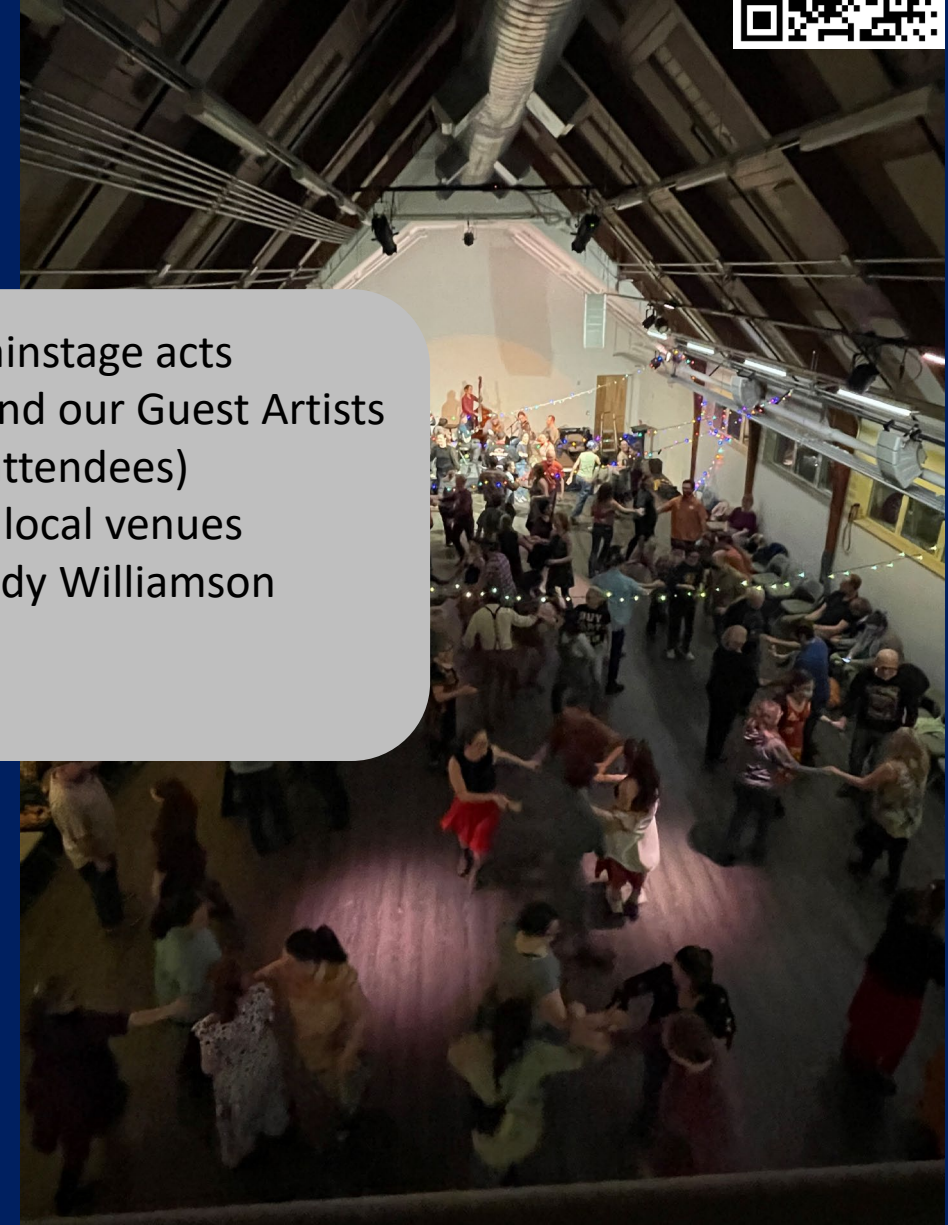
- ✗ **After Party** | Featuring Cold Country & Special Guests | The Broken Blender | Post-festival

Sunday / January 28

- ✳ **Workshops** | UAA Professional Studies Building/Main Stage | (Featuring members of Guest Artist Draw Slow) | 10:30 am – 5:15 pm |
- **Main Stage Performances** with Local Acts | Wendy Williamson Auditorium | 1 - 5 pm
- ★ **Main Stage Performances** with Local Acts and Guest Artist | Wendy Williamson Auditorium | 7 - 10 pm | Draw Slow @ 8:45 pm

- ★ **Guest Artists**
- ▲ **Bring Instrument**
- **Main Stage**
- **Musicians around town**
- ✗ **Got to be 21+**
- ✳ **Could be dancing!**
- ◆ **Learn new tricks**

2024 Anchorage Folk Festival by the Numbers



- 127 community performers playing 15-minute mainstage acts
- 57 workshops led by local community members and our Guest Artists
- Sold out Special Events (3) at local venues (1000 attendees)
- 5 days of Folk Week with over 40 local ACTS in 13 local venues
- Estimated 7500 mainstage attendees at UAA Wendy Williamson
- > 45 Volunteers and 9 Board Members
- So much more!!



What's the future of the Anchorage Folk Festival?



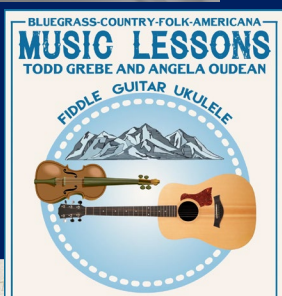
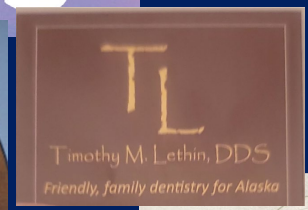
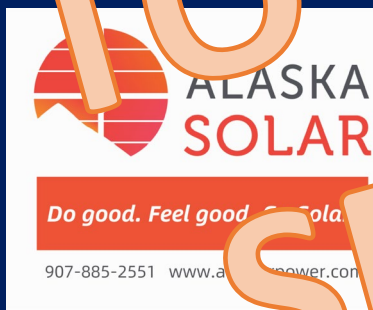
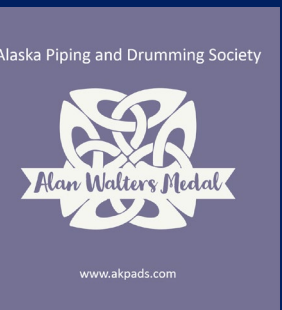
Strategic Operating Priorities 2021-2026

- To actively grow the next generation of music and dance performers in Anchorage, and enhance community engagement in the performing arts;
- To expand recognition throughout Alaska for our impact, and significantly grow our membership;
- To remain financially strong, generate ample diverse revenue, and enhance our long-term fiscal stability;
- To establish a solid, sustainable human resources infrastructure, with full-time executive leadership, dedicated festival coordination capacity, and a fully engaged community of volunteers
- To define a robust nonprofit governance and policy foundation for the future by transitioning our 'working' Board of Directors to one of oversight and development

Near-Term Goals

- Plan for the 36th Annual Festival- January 2025!
- Expand local partnerships to increase community relevance outside of our 'Festival Season'

See you at the Wendy!



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS 2024

Any Questions?



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