



“The Music’s in Good Hands” - Acoustic Kids Showcases to Return to Guitar Town at Copper Mountain August 11

Young Musicians: Register Online June 1 - July 15 to Perform at Guitar Town



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For the fourth year running, Andy May’s Acoustic Kids Showcases will return to the Guitar Town festival at Copper Mountain Resort this August. Acoustic Kids Showcases provide opportunities for musicians aged 16 or younger to perform on the festival stages, and young musicians of any skill level, beginner through pro, are welcome to take part. The showcase will take place August 11, from 6-8 p.m., on the festival’s Guitar Center Stage.

The Acoustic Kids Ambassadors - a spin-off of the regular showcases - is geared towards young musicians who are planning to make a career of playing. Once again, the Acoustic Kids Ambassadors will kick off the Guitar Town main stage on Saturday, August 11, at 11:40 a.m., giving the main stage audience a chance to get to know these young emerging artists.

Online registration for Acoustic Kids at Guitar Town begins June 1 and runs through July 15. To take part in Acoustic Kids, featured performers must be 16 or younger, but accompanists may be any age, and mixed-age bands are eligible. Electric instruments are allowed. There is no charge to participate in Acoustic Kids. Details and registration forms are available at andymay.com/acoustic-kids-guitar-town/

“Andy has a remarkable ability to make kids feel welcomed and valued as a person and [a] musical contributor.... I’m so glad Acoustic Kids has stayed involved in the community, because not only does it give all these kids good memories, but as the kids grow up they’ll remember that their contribution is important.” – Sara Watkins, multi-year Acoustic Kids participant with Nickel Creek at the Walnut Valley Festival

The 14th annual Guitar Town boasts three FREE days of some of the world’s best guitarists performing in a beautiful mountain setting and accompanied by various guitar-centric workshops and vendors. Presented by Guitar Center, the event will take place August 10-12 at Copper Mountain Resort. This year’s performers include Al Di Meola, Robben Ford, Coco Montoya, John Jorgenson, Andy McKee, Pat Bergeson, Rob Ickes and Trey Hensley, Rory Hoffman, Christie Lenée, Stig Mathisen, Scott Goldman, and the Mark Selby Tribute, as well as Andy May’s Acoustic Kids.



The venerable Acoustic Kids program began at the Mid-Winter Bluegrass Festival in Fort Collins, Colorado, in 1989. It has been part of the Walnut Valley Festival (Winfield, KS) since 1990, MerleFest (Wilkesboro, NC) since 2001, and Guitar Town since 2015, providing thousands of performance spots on festival stages for generations of young musicians. Some participants play music just for the fun of it, and some have gone on to international renown. They are all welcome.



“[Acoustic Kids] Showcases have inspired in me the confidence that comes from playing in front of thousands of people and having a successful experience. I can't overstate how grateful ...I am! [Andy runs] an extremely tight ship without taking any of the fun out of it.” – Liam Purcell, multi-year Acoustic Kids participant and Ambassador with Cane Mill Road at MerleFest

Andy May is an accomplished guitarist, songwriter, and performer, as well as a popular educator. His relaxed, common-sense approach to teaching is rooted in his background in developmental learning, his interest in creative problem-solving, and his career as a musician. Building on his degree in Fine Arts and Art Education, he has taught thousands of people to play guitar and mandolin, has been an Artist-in-Residence in many schools, and has led seminars for youth and adults across the nation on such topics as creativity, performance skills, music history, and songwriting. He is a yearly performer and educator at major festivals like MerleFest and the Walnut Valley Festival and is a regular workshop contributor to the Country Music Hall of Fame.



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