

Music Festival Round-up

Annually there are more music festivals in Texas than you can shake a drum stick at. They represent virtually all musical genre—from country western to blues to jazz to mariachi. Some events are inside, some outside. Most have added attractions—such as food, arts and crafts, and vendors.

Here's a sample of festivals scattered across the state throughout 2005.

February 16-20 in Mercedes, the 16th annual **South Texas Music Festival** (Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show Grounds; 1000 N. Texas Ave.; 956/464-7767) brings five days of Americana roots music—bluegrass, country, folk, western, religious, and Tejano. Dozens of groups perform on a dozen or so stages (including open-mic stages) dotted across 130 acres. Competitions and workshops cover the basics: fiddling, guitar-playing, and song writing. Day and night, there's plenty of food, vendors, and jamming. Camping and RV service are available.

May 20-22 in Richardson, the 12th annual **Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival** (Galatyn Park; TX 190 and N. Central Expwy. 972/744.4580; www.wildflowerfestival.com) draws 50,000 visitors to the award-winning North Texas extravaganza. Main stage headliners have ranged from Wilson Pickett to the Dixie Chicks, from Hank Williams Jr. to Polyphonic Spree. There are also roving entertainers, kids activities, interactive displays, artisan booths, and a singer-songwriter contest.

, the Sky Bar, and world and cultural performances inside the Eisemann Center for Performing Arts.

A DART rail station at the park makes getting there easy.

Apr. 22-24 and Apr. 29-May 1 in Spring, the **Texas Crawfish Festival and Music Festival**

(Old Town Spring Preservation Park on Spring Cypress Rd., one mile east of I-45 N; 713/863-9994 or 281/353-9310; www.TexasCrawfishFestival.com)

Crawfish lovers consume about 50,000 pounds of the tasty crustaceans. The Texas Crawfish & Music Festival is the largest such celebration outside Louisiana. Friday and Sunday \$5 adults (under 12 yrs old free)

Saturdays - Noon to 4pm FREE

Saturdays - 4pm to 8pm \$5 adults

After 8pm \$10 adults Crawfish, and enjoy Cajun, Zydeco, Bluegrass and Country music, April 22-24, 29, 30th & May 1, 2005

The Texas Crawfish & Music Festival largest crawfish and music festival outside the cajun State of Louisiana. three large stages: the Texas Stage, the Crawfish Stage, and the Club Zydeco Stage. Top name performers will fill the festival with a large variety of music styles from Country/Western to Cajun to Zydeco, Zydeco Joe &

H-Town Players, Bayou Roux

and Rock'n'Roll.

July 4 in Fort Worth, **Willie Nelson Fourth of July Family Picnic**, historic Stockyards District Fort Worth

The quintessential Texas country-rock party put on by the Texas musical legend who helped change the sound and face of country music.

Sept. XX in Austin, the **Austin City Limits Music Festival** , 2005, Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd. For schedules and prices, call 888/225-0004 (www.aclfestival.com). Austin City Limits Experience, Austin Eats Food Court, and Art Market will feature Austin's vibrant and vital creative community

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You name it, ACL has got it--blues, children's, christian, country, cowboy, folk, jazz, latin pop, rock, tejano, world beat.

The Austin City Limits Festival brings its music outside to the rolling green acreage of Zilker Park - from September 28-29, 2002 - for the biggest annual music festival Austin has ever seen. With multiple stages of the best music, an art market exhibiting local works and a Taste of Austin food court, you'll get everything that makes Austin great - all in one place.

Lineup includes: Ryan Adams, Asleep at the Wheel, Blind Boys of Alabama w/Charlie Musselwhite, David Lindley & John Hammond, Joe Bonamassa, Jane Bond, Caitlin Cary, Gary Clark Jr., W.C. Clark, Shawn Colvin, Cross Canadian Ragweed, Karl Denson, The Derailers, The Durden Family Singers, Ruthie Foster, David Garza, The Gospel Stars, The Gourds, G. Love & Special Sauce, Jon Dee Graham, Pat Green, Patty Griffin, Emmylou Harris, Caroline Herring, The Jayhawks, Lefover Salmon, Lil' Cap'n Travis, Luna, Kevin McKinney, James McMurtry, The Mighty Sincere Voices of Navasota, Monte Montgomery, Abra Moore, Allison Moorer, The New Deal, Nickel Creek, OLOSPO, The Original Bells of

Joy, Particle, Patrice Pike, RANA, Robert Randolph , and the Family Band, Rebirth Brass Band, Reckless Kelly, Soulive, Sound Tribe Sector 9, Spacetruck, The String Cheese Incident, Topaz, Jimmie Vaughan, The Weary Boys, Gillian Welch, Wilco, and Kelly Willis.

Sept.-Oct. bring bluegrass bounty in Glen Rose, with three outdoor festivals that attract talent and fans from across the country. At Tres Rios RV & Campground (2322 CR 312; 254/897-4253; www.tresrioscamping.com), the **Gospel and Bluegrass Festival**, Sept. 25-28, and the **Fall Harvest Bluegrass Festival** , Oct. 30-Nov. 2, feature music, arts and crafts, and food vendors. A similar Glen Rose event at Oakdale Park (1019 NE Barnard St.; 254/897-2321 www.oakdalepark.com) hosts its annual **Bluegrass Reunion**, Sept. 29-Oct. 2. Campsite jam sessions add to the roots-music atmosphere. Both Tres Rios and Oakdale Park also host spring bluegrass festivals.

--Randy Mallory