

# Live Music Happenings

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Moab Free Concert Series

Friends of the Moab Folk Festival is proud to produce our 5th Annual free summer concert series. Four free concerts will be held on select Fridays at Swanny City Park. The concerts are open to the public, and folks are encouraged to come with their friends and families. Beer and wine will be available for the adults. Local food trucks will be available to purchase dinner. The concert stage will be set up adjacent to the pavilion, providing a perfect picnic spot for all under the large cottonwoods and a playground for the kiddos. Opening acts begin at 6 PM. The headliner performs from 7 to 9 PM. KZMU Community Radio will livestream on 90.1 FM and kzmu.org.

The Series concludes on August 19 with **Big Richard**, a neo-acoustic super group made up of four well established Colorado musicians. Big Richard features platinum recording artist, Bonnie Sims on mandolin. Bonnie studied commercial music in college, double majoring in mandolin and singing/yodeling. After graduating she moved to Colorado where she has had over a decade of success in projects with her husband, Taylor. Emma Rose is a vocalist, upright bassist, and songwriter - sought for the magic, synergy, vibrance, and mystery she brings to her solo and collaborative projects including Sound of Honey, Daniel Rodriguez, and Whippoorwill. Fiddle player Eve Panning has a storied history inspiring crowds and classrooms with music. Eve began studying classically at the Indiana University String Academy when she was six years old. She was also exposed to a rich culture of traditional folk music in the small town where she lived with her family and as a member of The Panning Family Band. Multi-genre cellist Dr. Joy Adams grew up on a farm north of Spokane, Washington. Equally at home improvising over fiddle tunes or playing a concerto

with orchestra, she is also a composer, songwriter, educator, and a prolific recording artist with an amazing list of credits.

Lizzy Plotkin and Natalie Spears will open the show at 6 PM. Lizzy Plotkin is featured on Fiddle, Guitar, Mandolin, and Vocals and Natalie Spears on Banjo, Upright Bass, Guitar, and Vocals. Nestled in the high country of the Central Rockies, Lizzy and Natalie craft a fresh tapestry of sound rooted in American tradition and inspired by the soul-stirring landscapes they call home. Their music brings listeners in touch with the warmth of community, the quiet awe of wild places, and a sweet sense of nostalgia. Lizzy's exuberant fiddling is the perfect companion to Natalie's colorful and syncopated banjo and bass playing. Their sisterly harmonies raise a room to a whole greater than its parts. As avid students of the American Roots genre, dedicated songwriters, and experienced collaborators, this duo is an exciting force rising from Colorado's vibrant acoustic music scene.

More information available at [www.moabfreeconcerts.com](http://www.moabfreeconcerts.com) or <https://www.facebook.com/moabfreeconcerts/>

Funding for this project is generously provided by the Moab Area Travel Council, Utah Arts and Museums and the Utah Legislature, the City of Moab, Rocky Mountain Power Foundation, George S. And Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation, and The Sorenson

Legacy Foundation, as well as many additional business sponsors. The series is produced with cooperation from Moab Folk Festival, Moab Arts and Recreation Center, and KZMU. Our non-profit organization will use income earned from beer and wine sales and local sponsorships to continue and expand the series in the future. The series is a labor of love for music and community for all those involved. Friends of the Moab Folk Festival (Friends) is a 501 (c)

(3) non-profit organization founded in 2005. Our programming efforts include: The Moab Folk Festival (Festival), the Moab Folk Camp (Camp), educational outreach within the Grand County school system, senior citizen outreach, and the Moab Free Concert Series.

## Moab Downtown Entertainment in the Middle of Another Big Season

Not only are there plenty of natural wonders to see in Moab, there's also lots of fun entertainment available right downtown. Moab hosts a thriving music scene. If you're looking for something totally different, there's the Moab Backyard Theater, located right in the heart of downtown. It's open to all ages and great fun for grown-ups and kids alike.

The Backyard Theater is one of the only open-air entertainment venues in the west, a throwback to the old west days when traveling shows entertained culture-starved pioneers on the dusty streets of the frontier towns. Located just a half-block off Main street in downtown, The Backyard Theater features Magic and Music three nights a week. The stage sits beneath a giant cottonwood tree that is older than the town itself. In its fifth year of operation, the theater has entertained thousands of people from all over the world. They come to see an old-fashioned type of American entertainment that has all but vanished in the rest of the country.



Every Wednesday, traditional bluegrass music returns to the theater. The band Quicksand Soup performs old-time standards and unique originals starting at 8 pm. The free show has become a downtown fixture over the last few years and it's common to see both locals and tourists alike tapping their toes.

Thursday, Juniper Drive plays Honky Tonk Fusion. Saturdays, The southwest's only outdoor downtown Magic show returns with the award-winning magic of Rick Boretti. Rick's hilarious routine changes constantly,



but always involves lots of wisecracks and mystifying magic tricks. Folks have been known to return year after year for the show. Kids love Rick's magic, but adults are often amazed at how much they love it too. If you

haven't caught a real magic show in a while, then you might have forgotten how fun they can be. Shows start at 8. Music is always free. Magic Prices are 10 dollars for folks over 12 and 5 dollars for kids over 3. 3 and under are free. Outside food and drink is allowed and also the authentic cooking of El Local Cocina Food Truck is available. Moab's Backyard

### AUGUST 19 | 6-9 PM

# BIG RICHARD

6pm Lizzy Plotkin & Natalie Spears

Walking + biking encouraged

## MOAB FREE CONCERT SERIES 2022

@ SWANNY CITY PARK

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