

Live Music Events

7th Annual Moab Free Concert Series

Friends of the Moab Folk Festival is proud to announce the return of our free summer concert series.

Four free concerts will be held on select Fridays throughout the summer at Swanny City Park. The free 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. 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. We encourage everyone to walk, bike, or use the MAT to attend the concerts. Showtime is 6 to 9 PM. KZMU Community Radio will livestream on 90.1 FM and kzmu.org.

The Series opens June 28th with Terrance Simien & the Zydeco Experience. This stellar group of artists create a hypnotic blend of brass flavored New Orleans funk, reggae, and zydeco roots music that beckons you to your feet and into the groove. Simien has found an authentic and artful way to deliver his roots music as a relevant, evolving artist who is clearly rooted in Louisiana Creole music traditions. Well known for his legendary live performances, Simien also helped change the misperceptions of his genre by introducing complex vocal harmonies, diverse repertoire and carefully crafted high quality recordings.



On July 19th we will present Cordovas, a Tennessee-based band that embraces the sound of classic Americana and country-rock in their own energetically freewheeling style. Their latest album *Destiny Hotel* is a work of wild poetry and wide-eyed abandon, set to a glorious collision of folk and country and groove-heavy rock-and-roll.

On August 2nd Missy Raines & Allegheny will take the stage with their traditional yet innovative bluegrass music. Raines is the most awarded bass player in the history of the International Bluegrass Music Association. On her new release *Highlander*, Raines gives a tip of the hat to the region of West Virginia where she grew up and developed her deep passion for bluegrass music. Her touring band is named for the Allegheny highlands of West Virginia.

On August 16th Madeline Hawthorne and her band will close out the Series. Her signature style includes an artful fusion of roots, country, rock, and soul. With her guitar in hand, fire in her voice, and stories in her heart, Madeline asserts herself as a 21st century troubadour. Her songs have a novelist's level of depth and detail, while unbridled attitude and wide-eyed adventurousness turn every show into a celebration. After building buzz independently,

Moab Backyard Theater Launches Original Night

Yes Moab's known for being hot! But Moab has some hot entertainment as well. 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. In June, shows are every night Wed. to Sat. at 8pm, offering a nice cool evening summer activity.

This June, Original Night comes to the Theater with local artists Alan Snow and Sand and Sunnie taking you on a unique

tour of western creativity. Alan Snow will be featured June 7, with Sand and Sunnie all other Friday Nights. Sand is a Nashville and Austin Texas veteran, a songwriter with 17 albums to his name, as well as several books.

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 four nights a week. The stage sits beneath a giant cottonwood tree that is older than the town itself. In its 12th 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, it's country night with Moab's own honky-tonk fusion/ Americana outfit, Juniper Drive takes the stage

for a free show at 8. Fridays is the new "Original" night, often featuring Sand and Sunnie Sheff. Friday May 3rd has Local funk band Sun Flood

Saturdays, Moab's 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 7pm. 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. The El Local food truck is onsite, The theater allows outside food and drink as well. It is located just behind Zax at 56 W. 100 South



**SELECT FRIDAYS
6-9PM**

**MOAB FREE
CONCERT SERIES**
MOAB, UT • 2024

**SWANNY
PARK**

JUNE 28
**TERRANCE SIMIEN &
THE ZYDECO EXPERIENCE**
SUNFLOOD

JULY 19
**CORDOVAS
TALIA KEYS**

AUGUST 2
MISSY RAINES & ALLEGHENY
ANCIENT STATES

AUGUST 16
**MADLINE HAWTHORNE
TONI SICOLA & THE BLACKHATS**

STREAMING LIVE
7-9PM ON
KZMU
COMMUNITY RADIO

Bring a blanket and the entire family to enjoy music from the lawn!
We encourage everyone to ride their bike, walk, or use MAT to get to the event

WWW.MOABFREECONCERTS.COM

**MOAB
RAP**

**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
ARTS**

packing shows, and honing her craft, the Montana-based singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist welcomes everyone into her world.

Each show will feature local/regional opening acts including Sunflood, Talia Keys, Ancient States, and Toni Sicola & the Black Hats. Opening acts begin at 6 PM. Main Stage performers will start at 7 PM. www.moabfreeconcerts.com or <https://www.facebook.com/moabfreeconcerts/>



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Friends of the Moab Folk Festival is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization founded in 2005. Our programming efforts include: The Moab Folk Festival, the Moab Folk Camp, education outreach programs within the Grand County school system, senior citizen outreach, and the Moab Free Concert Series. www.moabfolkfestival.com for more details.