



25th Lowell Folk Festival

25th LOWELL FOLK FESTIVAL TO TAKE PLACE JULY 29-31, 2011
THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST FREE FOLK FESTIVAL PLANS STELLAR LINEUP FOR 25th EDITION

Featured Acts Include Dervish, The Quebe Sisters and Shemekia Copeland, and Over 20 Others,
Plus Ethnic Foods , Crafts & Art in the Courtyard

(Lowell, Mass.) -- The largest free folk festival in the nation, with continuous music on six outdoor stages, takes place July 29-31, 2011 in downtown Lowell, Massachusetts. A partial lineup of performers, representing folk, bluegrass, gospel, world music, dance and more, appears below. The festival takes place on six different stages in historic downtown Lowell. A family friendly event, the Lowell Folk Festival has presented an international array of folk music, ethnic foods, craftspeople and artisans, as well as kid's activities to enthusiastic New England audiences every summer for over 20 years. Canal boat and trolley rides are also available this weekend. For more information, including, full artist bios, audio samples, maps and complete schedules, visit www.lowellfolkfestival.org.

Among the more than 20 plus artists performing this year are:

1. Bill Kirchen and Too Much Fun - dieselbilly
2. Dervish - Irish
3. Eddie Pennington - "Travis-style" thumb-picked guitar
4. Hector del Curto's Tango Quartet - tango
5. Le Vent du Nord - Quebecois
6. Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper - bluegrass
7. Shemekia Copeland - blues
8. Stanky & the Coal Miners - eastern-style polka
9. The Birmingham Sunlights - *a cappella* gospel
10. The Quebe Sisters Band - Texas fiddling and harmony singing

The festival will kick off on Friday evening at 6:30pm with a flag raising ceremony and parade starting at City Hall Plaza. All are welcome to participate in the parade to signal the opening of the weekend's festivities

On Saturday and Sunday, more than a dozen cultures share their ethnic foods, ranging from African and Asian to Filipino and Portuguese. The Folk Craft area in Lucy Larcom Park showcases 16 state-funded master artists and their apprentices from across the New England area. Foodways demonstrations and tastings feature pasta and noodles. Art in the Courtyard is back and our latest edition, Green Street, showcasing the latest in efforts to be "green." Many food booths are operated by social groups and churches, and prices are very affordable. Children's activities include hands-on games, interactive art, and much more

The Lowell Folk Festival is presented by Lowell National Historical Park, Lowell Festival Foundation, the National Council for the Traditional Arts, the City of Lowell, and the Greater Merrimack Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau.

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