



PRESS PACKET

AUSTIN COUNTY FAIR ANNOUNCES

2021 LINE-UP

Over this past year, we have all learned the value of health, community, family, friends, and freedom. We have come together to weather so many “once in a lifetime” events. Now, it’s time to look forward to the annual events we consistently expect, where we can come together to celebrate our wonderful Austin County community!! So, with that in mind, the Austin County Fair Association is proud to announce our entertainment line-up for the 94th Austin County Fair!

The Concert Series kicks off Saturday, October 9th with Pecos and the Rooftops on the stage at 9:00 p.m. Pecos Hurley and his close group of friends start the night with their Red Dirt country sound to bring on Kolby Cooper at 11:00 p.m.

With musical influences such as Waylon Jennings, Chris Ledoux and Cross Canadian Ragweed, Cooper started selling out shows and clocking millions of streams using only his songs as muscle. Three years out of high school, still living in his East Texas hometown with no label or industry machine in place, Cooper was earning Spotify numbers typically reserved for household names. With his searing break-up anthems and gut-wrenchingly relatable songs of loss and growth, Cooper’s ragged velvet vocals belt out streaming hits like “It Ain’t Me”, “Every Single Kiss” and “Fall”.

As vendors, livestock and home economic exhibits move in and contests start, the stage goes quiet until Thursday, October 14th at 8:00 p.m. when honky-tonk crooners, the Chad Cooke Band, come on to deliver 3- & 4-part harmonies with a country rock-n-roll edge. The band’s first single, “Oil Man”, continues to be a fan favorite with over 6 million streams and a music video that has amassed over 10 million views! Singles “Whatever It Takes”, “Life Behind Bars”, “Four Minutes”, “Cowboy’s Cowgirl” and “Bringing Country Back” all reached #1 on Texas/Red Dirt Radio.

One of country music’s treasures, Mark Chesnutt, closes out Thursday night as he comes on at 10:00 p.m. This honky-tonk legend parlayed a solid grounding in classic country into chart-topping stardom during the 90’s. Chesnutt’s debut album, *Too Cold at Home*, was released in 1990, and the title track became his first hit, climbing into the country Top Five. With a style that blended George Jones, Merle Haggard, and Bob Wills, Chesnutt went on to score four more Top Ten hits from the album – “Brother Jukebox”, “Blame It on Texas”, “Your Love Is a Miracle”, and “Broken Promise Land”. Critics have hailed him as a “classic Country singer of the first order”. With hits including “Old Flames Have New Names”, “Bubba Shot the Jukebox” and “Goin’

Through the Big D”, 23 top ten singles, four platinum albums and five gold records, it’s easy to see why.

Friday night, “New Male Vocalist of the Year” nominee, Jon Stork returns to the Austin County Fair stage at 8:00 p.m. with hits like “In Your Radio”, “Rodeo Blues”, “One Night Stand” and “Facts and Lies”. With his rocky tonk flare and soulful sound, Stork has quickly made a name for himself in the Texas music scene and beyond. Influenced by Texas based artists such as Robert Earl Keen, Pat Green, Roger Creager and more, Stork began writing original material while performing in College Station and anywhere he could, including the Austin County Fair in 2018. We are excited to have Jon back to open for one of his idols – Roger Creager – who joins Kevin Fowler – in their uniquely named duo, Dos Barrachos!

Creager is known to Texas country music lovers as one who takes his adventurist lifestyle – whether it’s climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa, jumping off his boat to snorkel with dolphins, or snow skiing in the Rockies – and including it into his music. Creager’s passion for life invigorates everyone around him! With hits such as “The Everclear Song”, “Long Way to Mexico” and “Rancho Grande”, everyone has fun at a Creager concert!

That fun is only matched when you add Kevin Fowler to the mix! Fowler has found a way to live the dream – by earning it! His musical journey began playing in rock bands before finding his footing as a solo act in the early 2000’s with his celebrated album Beer Bait and Ammo. Hits like “Long Line of Losers”, “Girl In a Truck”, and “Hell Yeah, I Like Beer” bring the crowd into the songs!

Now add Creager and Fowler together and it will be a night of singing and swaying and lots of fun at the Austin County Fair!

Saturday, October 16th is our last night of concerts at the Fair. We will get started at 9:00 p.m. with Tyler McCollum. McCollum’s style of singing and songwriting touches on Country, Americana, Blues and Folk. McCollum crafts songs wrapped in story and imagery. With songs like “Time to Fly” and “Passin’ Through”, the stage will be set for Austin County fan favorite Aaron Watson to close us out!

Watson will take the stage at 11:00 p.m. as the final act of the 94th Austin County Fair. Old-school but timeless: that’s how Aaron Watson characterizes himself. As a singer-songwriter, husband, father of three, and self-made musical success, the 41-year-old Texan has forged a slow and steady path to country stardom by both honoring tradition and embracing the unknown. “July In Cheyene (Song for Lane’s Momma)”, “Bluebonnets (Julia’s Song)”, “That’s Why God Loves Cowboys” and “Raise Your Bottle” are crowd favorites that will have you singing and dancing until the close of the show!

We’ve all endured some of the craziest of times this past year! Let’s gather up our friends and family and head out to the Austin County Fair & Rodeo, Friday, October 8th through Sunday, October 17th. Contact one of our Queen candidates or go to our website at www.austincountyfair.com to pre-purchase your season pass for 4 nights of concerts for only \$40. Season Passes at the gate will be \$45 and individual concert night tickets are \$20 after 5:00 p.m.

Come on out & have some fun while supporting local youth education and scholarships. We ALL deserve it!!