

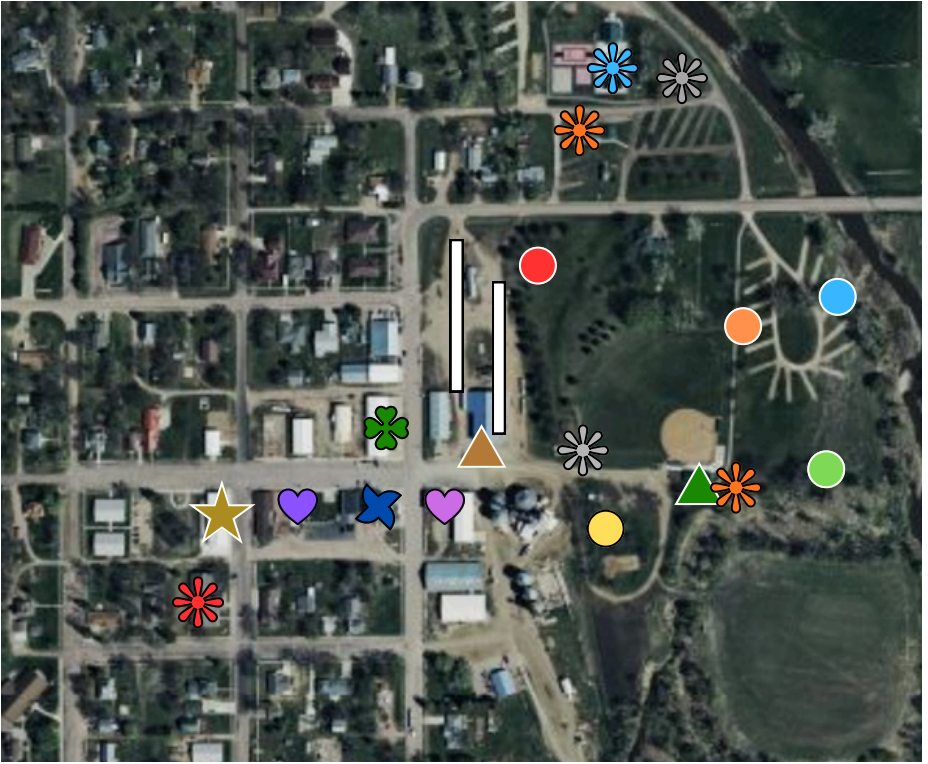
ARTWORK BY ERIC LUPLOW



WWW.MONTROSE MUSIC FESTIVAL.ORG

2026 - YEAR SIX

MAP



● Camp Sioux River Folk Fest

● Camp NashBill

● Camp Full Circle Book Co-op

● Camp White Wall Sessions

● Open/Overflow Song Circle

✿ Pool

✿ Playground

✿ Workshop Spot

✿ Ice Cream Social

♥ My Place Cafe

♥ Web's Pub

★ Legion Hall

✿ Volunteer Central

✿ Gas Station

▲ Merch Booth

▲ Simply Put Coffee

▬ Parking

WHAT TO EXPECT

- **Song Circles**
 - Use the map to find our song circles throughout the campgrounds.
 - Each camp has a circle of seats. If there's an empty one, sit down and play.
 - Two rules: One song at a time and clockwise
 - Scoot close to listen. Scoot away if you're going to talk and visit.
- **Staged Performances**
 - These are our only events with a cost that goes toward keeping the festival alive
 - Catch national acts in a high quality, listening room environment
 - Check out the orange elements on the next page and pages 8-14 for more info
- **Adult Classes**
 - Learn new skills from our professional artists (any fees go directly to the artist)
 - Check out the red events on our schedule on the next page.
- **Kids Activities**
 - We want to be super family-friendly with activities designed for all ages
 - Check out the blue events on the schedule on the next page.
- **Food**
 - My Place Cafe (8-8) & Web's Pub (Fri 4pm-2am/Sat 11am-2am/Sun 11am-11pm)
 - Coffee: Simply Put Coffee Trailer (Fri 8-8/Sat 7-8:15am & 1-8pm/Sun 7:30-12)
- **Camping**
 - We believe staying in our campground gives you the best experience

GOT A QUESTION?

- Need help finding the action? We try to keep our schedule as flexible as possible because we believe the best things happen off the clock. We'd encourage you to get out of your car and wander our campgrounds. There's bound to be music happening somewhere.
- Still stuck/confused? Got a random question? We're here to help. Feel free to text one of our lead volunteers at 612-236-6202.

STAY CONNECTED



montrosemusicfest



MontroseMusicFestivalSD



montrosemusicfestival.org

FULL SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JULY 23

5-8PM: MY PLACE SHOW (FEAT. BEN BERGESON, THE DONELAN BOYS, & PARRY LAMONT)

FRIDAY, JULY 24

SONG CIRCLES THROUGHOUT THE CAMPGROUND

8AM-8PM: SIMPLY PUT COFFEE TRAILER

12PM: WEARY RAMBLERS @ OLD COURTHOUSE MUSEUM IN SIOUX FALLS

4-6PM: MY PLACE STAGE

4-6PM: WEB'S PUB STAGE

3-7PM: BAKE SALE (AT THE MERCH BOOTH)

6-8PM: DUOS NIGHT (FEAT. STODDARD + MAL, RECKLESS SAINTS, & WEARY RAMBLERS) (LEGION)

3-5PM: SNOW CONE FUNDRAISER (OUTSIDE MY PLACE CAFE)

8PM: WEB'S PUB STAGE

SONG CIRCLES THROUGHOUT THE CAMPGROUND

SATURDAY, JULY 25

SONG CIRCLES THROUGHOUT THE CAMPGROUND

7-8:15AM: SIMPLY PUT COFFEE TRAILER

8-9AM: FUN RUN (MEET BY MERCH BOOTH)

9AM-12PM: PORTER SCULPTURE PARK MUSIC (DRIVE TO 45160 257TH ST, MONTROSE)

10AM-6PM: MY PLACE STAGE

10AM-2PM: SONGWRITING WORKSHOP WITH J WAGNER (LEGION HALL)

10AM-7PM: BAKE SALE (AT MERCH BOOTH)

1 PM-6PM: WEB'S PUB STAGE

1-8PM: SIMPLY PUT COFFEE TRAILER

2-3PM: WILDERMAN'S CHILDREN'S SHOW (BEHIND MERCH BOOTH)

2-3PM: JESS KLEIN WRITING WORKSHOP (LEGION HALL)

FULL SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JULY 25 (CONTINUED)

3-3:30PM: KAZOO PARADE (MEET BEHIND MERCH BOOTH)

3:30-4PM: POOL TIME (MONTROSE CITY POOL)

3:30-4:30PM: TWO-STEP DANCE CLASS WITH J WAGNER (LEGION HALL)

4-5PM: ALTERNATE TUNING WORKSHOP WITH BILL NASH (@ CAMP NASHBILL)

6-9PM: COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE NIGHT (LEGION HALL)

9PM: WEB'S PUB STAGE

SONG CIRCLES THROUGHOUT THE CAMPGROUND

SUNDAY, JULY 26

SONG CIRCLES THROUGHOUT THE CAMPGROUND

7:30AM-12PM: SIMPLY PUT COFFEE TRAILER

10AM-2PM: MY PLACE STAGE

12-1PM: FLATPICKING FOR SONGWRITERS WITH JONATHAN BYRD (LEGION HALL)

12:30-1:30PM: SPOONS WORKSHOP WITH DARYL HRDLICKA (SHELTER SOUTH OF POOL)

2-5PM: SONGWRITER SHOWCASE (LEGION HALL)

5-7PM: ICE CREAM SOCIAL (SEE MAP TO FIND THE METHODIST CHURCH)

5-8PM: MY PLACE STAGE

SONG CIRCLES THROUGHOUT THE CAMPGROUND

MONDAY, JULY 27

SONG CIRCLES THROUGHOUT THE CAMPGROUND

6-8:30PM: LISTENING ROOM SHOW (LEGION HALL)

KEY

-  LIVE MUSIC
-  KID & FAMILY FRIENDLY
-  ADULT CLASS
-  TICKETED SHOW
-  OTHER

*The schedule is subject to change.
Visit montrosemusicfestival.org/schedule for the latest.*

ADULT WORKSHOPS/CLASSES

SONGWRITING WORKSHOP WITH J WAGNER

SATURDAY, JULY 25: 10AM-2PM (\$60/PERSON)
LOCATION: LEGION HALL

A workshop that will encourage you to try a new approach to lyrical and melodic writing--a more mischievous and playful journey. Homemade meal and snacks included.



WRITING WORKSHOP WITH JESS KLEIN



SATURDAY, JULY 25: 2-3PM (\$35)
LOCATION: LEGION HALL

"The Monsters Under the Bed"
Learn about writing what scares you and how to dig deeper into your writing.

DANCE CLASS WITH J WAGNER

SATURDAY, JULY 25: 3:30-4:30PM (FREE)
LOCATION: LEGION HALL

A beginner dance class that will prepare attendees to dance during our Saturday night ticketed show.
FREE to attend.



ALTERED TUNINGS WORKSHOP WITH BILL NASH



SATURDAY, JULY 25: 4-5PM (\$30/PERSON)
LOCATION: CAMP NASHBILL

Expand the musical possibilities on the guitar! Come learn about the magical world of multiple three string capos and altered tunings and experiment together.

FLATPICKING WORKSHOP WITH JONATHAN BYRD

SUNDAY, JULY 26: TBD (\$50/PERSON)
LOCATION: LEGION HALL

Come learn simple ways to make your accompaniment more professional.



FAMILY FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

FUN RUN

Saturday, July 25th (8-9am)

LOCATION: Meet by Merch Booth

Meet Kevin Jansa to run from the campgrounds to the Porter Sculpture Park show

WILDERMAN CHILDREN'S SHOW

Saturday, July 25th (2-3pm)

LOCATION: Behind Merch Booth

Hosted by Award-Winning Chad Elliott

KAZOO PARADE

Saturday, July 25th (3-3:30pm)

LOCATION: Meet Behind Merch Booth

Hosted by Spencer Thurry & Charlie Roth

POOL TIME

Saturday, July 25th (3:30-4pm)

LOCATION: Montrose City Pool

Also open 1-5 and 6-8:30 daily. \$3/person.

SPOONS WORKSHOP

Sunday, July 26th (12:30-1:30pm)

LOCATION: SHELTER- SOUTH SIDE OF POOL

Hosted by Daryl Hrdlicka

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sunday, July 26th (5-7pm)

LOCATION: Montrose United Methodist Church

SDSU ice cream and home-made pie. Free will offering/donation.

BAKE SALE

Friday (3-7pm) & Saturday (10am-7pm)

LOCATION: Merch Booth

Free will donation baked goods. \$2 water. \$3 pop/gatorade. Fundraiser for high schoolers.

SNOW CONES

Friday, July 24th (3-5pm)

LOCATION: Outside My Place Cafe

All money raised goes toward the festival. May be available additional times.

More details available online at montrosemusicfestival.org/schedule



SONG CIRCLES

Song circles are the centerpiece of our festival.

What is a song circle?

Song circles are composed of a circle of chairs/tree stumps. If there's an empty chair and you play, sit down and play.

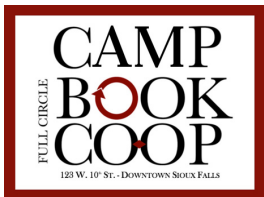
Each camp only has two rules:

(1) One song at a time. (2) Clockwise.



Song circles enable everyone to be seen and heard. It's a space where people can express themselves, listen deeply, and share something real. No judgment. No pressure. Just music and community.

All circles are un-amplified and acoustic. There is usually talking between songs but when a song starts, the polite thing to do is LISTEN and applaud when the song is finished. It is also nice not to park yourself in one place too long and move along when the circle is getting too large.



Please do not jam along unless you are asked by the singer to do so. For instance, the singer might say this is an easy one, it's only 3 chords and it's in G, you are welcome to play along OR I'm going to ask my friend Butch Morgan to play with me on this one. Drums are usually too loud for these situations and can be distracting. Please don't be that person that overplays and distracts from the song being presented.



Some artists are songwriters. Some are not. Some are beginners and some are seasoned professionals. While others are just music lovers with a lawn chair pulling up around the circle to listen. EVERYONE is welcome!

TICKETED SHOW: THURSDAY

6pm at My Place Cafe

BEN BERGESON



Ben is a determined young man who believes in the values of faith, family, and freedom. Raised with a strong work ethic and deep respect for God, country, and those who have served, Ben takes pride in living the country life and doing things the right way. Whether he's competing in rodeo events, helping others, or tackling a challenge, he gives his all and never backs down from hard work. When he's not outdoors staying active, Ben enjoys picking up his guitar and sharing his love of music. His grit, integrity, and commitment to traditional

values guide him as he continues to write his own story—one built on perseverance, character, and a love for the simple things in life.

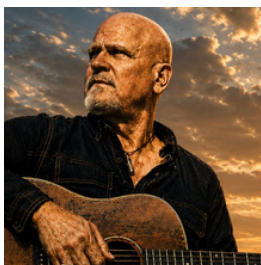
THE DONELAN BOYS



Seamus and Rory Donelan are South Dakota musicians currently based in the Minnesconsin area. They have been playing music most of their lives, with Rory's specialty in bluegrass and Americana, and Seamus drawing inspiration from Midwest emo and indie folk. Joined by Alex Golden on the bass, they blend genres for an optimal listening experience.

PARRY LAMONT

parrylamont.com



Deeply influenced by the plainspoken poetry of Texas troubadours, Lamont learned early that a song doesn't need ornament to endure. It needs truth. His music is raw but deliberate, weathered yet resonant. On stage, Parry is both anchor and wildfire. There is grit in his delivery, a gravel-road honesty, but also a surprising tenderness that catches the light. His melodies feel lived-in, as though they've traveled long miles before reaching your ears. Each lyric lands with purpose. No pretense. Just a man willing to stand inside his own

story while establishing common ground by reminding us that our hopes, heartbreak, and hard-won humanity are worth singing about too.

TICKETED SHOW: FRIDAY

6pm in Legion Hall (201 Main Street)

DAVID STODDARD & KAREN MAL

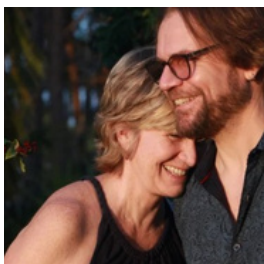
davidstoddardmusic.com/stoddardandmal



This duo is 20 years in the making. Fast friends (and fierce Scrabble competitors) since their first meeting at the Kerrville Folk Festival in 2005, Karen and David have FINALLY produced their first collection of together songs: "DUETS volume I." It was produced the way many classic albums were, with an eye toward writing and performing as vibrantly and lovingly as possible, and the results are undeniable. Songs about love, life, and family.

RECKLESS SAINTS

recklessaints.com



Roy Schneider and Kim Mayfield are the core duo and songwriters of Reckless Saints. Partners in music and love since 2003, they began recording and touring five years later. "Blue Twangled Folk 'n' Roll" is the answer Roy provided to the question "What kind of music do you play?" Roy's songs have thrice made him a Kerrville New Folk finalist and provided opportunities to make musical connections with dozens of artists. Kim helped spur the duo to find venues where the audience would really listen and allow them to focus on original songs. The duo

spent over a decade touring and recording 5 CDs of original music under their solo names before adopting Reckless Saints as their band name. Their 2023 album was years in the making. Now, their back in the studio again preparing another new record.

WEARY RAMBLERS

wearyramblers.com



This Iowa Americana duo brings years of experience to the stage with award-winning songwriting and chemistry. Chad Elliott and Kathryn Fox showcase multi-instrumental performances with tight harmonies and great storytelling. Chad Elliott is lauded as Iowa's Renaissance Man. He has penned more than 1,500 songs in his career while also cultivating his skills as a painter (including our 2023 festival artwork), sculptor, illustrator, and author. "The richness of Kathryn Fox's upbringing resonates deeply with her music and lyrics, conveying an

alluring sympatico with her audience that few artists achieve." -The Culture Buzz. She's been deemed 'fiddler extraordinaire' in Cityview Magazine and toured internationally. Both have shared the stage with a variety of artists of the highest calibers throughout their careers.

PORTER SCULPTURE SAT. SHOW

9am-Noon

45160 257th Street, Montrose

This is a NEW
Montrose Music Festival site this year

- Free admission to see 90+ sculptures
- Two food trucks
- Three hours of music

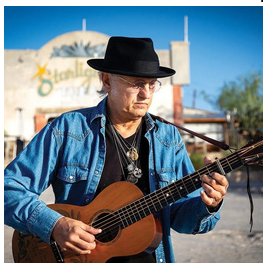
Bring your yard chairs for seating
and enjoy!



HANK WOJI

hankwoji.com

“a warm-hearted and precise troubadour of the old school”



A self-described “Jersey Shore Ex-Pat turned West Texas Desert Rat,” Hank Woji cut his musical teeth as a bassist in the vibrant Asbury Park, NJ music scene of the 1980s & 90s. In March of 2001 Hank moved to Houston, TX and found his new musical voice as an Americana Singer Songwriter. But destiny turned a page and it was his chance move, in 2009, to the far West Texas desert town of Terlingua that has most reshaped his life and his music. He follows in the tradition of Texas troubadours like Guy Clarke, Townes Van Zandt and Butch Hancock.

Over his 25+ year career, he has performed with many notable artists. His sixth studio album, “Highways, Gamblers, Devils, and Dreams” has earned high praise, debuting #3 on the U.S. FAI Folk Music Chart and #5 on the Euro Americana chart.

MARCUS ABRAHAMS

marcusabrahamsmusic.com

“performs like a controlled explosion”



He's been hanging around music for 50+ years in central Texas and has had some tunes stewing on the back of the stove. He attended a songwriting workshop in 2015 with Walt Wilkins and Kevin Welch where things started to come together. His lyrical perspective and rambling guitar style caught the attention of a number of artists, including his latest recording, “Matinee.” What really makes the songs on the album stand out is the imagery, every bit as vivid as a Grandma Moses painting from the opening song ‘Lost in the Light’ about his

grandparents, to the last track about that old country route to salvation, ‘Heaven’s Back Door.’

PORTER SCULPTURE SAT. SHOW

CHARLIE ROTH

charlierothmusic.com

“story telling of the highest order”



Americana, Folk, Blues, Country, Celtic, Charlie Roth is a unique blend of all these genres. What Charlie is best at is telling a story with his rich baritone vocal, acoustic guitar, rack harmonica, and foot percussion. His fifth album ‘Broken Ground’ reached up to #6 on the Euro Americana charts and continues to get air play all over the world. He has recorded with the likes of Sam Bush, Michael Bland, and other American legends. A consummate showman, an entertainer with countless gigs under his belt, Charlie has mastered the art of playing

and singing from his heart, exuding the sheer joy of making great music which can be felt by everyone who is connected to that magical and medicinal spiritual grace.

DAVID STODDARD

davidstoddardmusic.com

“a Kerrville New Folk Winner”



David Stoddard is a composer, songwriter, producer, educator, and music theory lover based in Minnesota. He's also a successful songwriter. He's a Kerrville New Folk winner, and has taken top writing honors at the Minnesota Folk Festival, the South Florida Folk Festival, and the Tucson Folk Festival. He tours throughout the US and Canada. Although, admittedly, it doesn't tell you much about his own music (and he's loath to name-drop), it seems like some kind of obligation to let you know that he's performed with a huge number of lovely people,

including Dan Navarro, Leon Russell, Juice Newton, Cheryl Wheeler, Cliff Eberhardt, Drew Nelson, Ronny Cox, David Olney, Beth Wood, Dan Hicks, and Michael Johnson. He performs using piano, guitar, and accordion.

KAREN MAL

“ethereal storytelling”



Karen Mal sings. From raw sensuality to shimmering bell-like clarity, her voice is both tender and powerful, and as effortless as a waterfall. There's a river that flows between Karen and her audience. It's about love. The possibility and the unbearable beauty of it. Elusive and abundant at the same time. Based in Austin, TX, Karen has created a name for herself as a captivating singer, instrumentalist and songwriter. Ranging from charming to seductive, impressionistic to philosophical, her songs have brought her nationwide acclaim. She's

won top awards from the Wildflower Arts and Music Festival in Texas, the Tucson Folk Festival, and the Portland Songwriters Association and has also been a three time New Folk Finalist at Kerrville, emerging artist at Falcon Ridge, and a finalist at the Sisters Folk Festival.

TICKETED SHOW: SATURDAY

6pm in Legion Hall (201 Main Street)

TERRY KLEIN

terrykleinmusic.com

"one of Austin's top singer-songwriters in recent years" - The Austin Americana Statesman



He's a performing songwriter whose growing catalog of finely wrought, captivating songs has made him a respected member of the Folk and Americana music communities. No Depression said he "has a knack for telling poetic stories in songs about the sad, funny, ironic, and devastating ups and downs of our lives." He has played in some of the most hallowed rooms in the singer-songwriter business: Club Passim, The Bluebird, and The Saxon Pub, to name a few. He's played sets and won crowds over at the Moccasin Creek Festival, the Blanco

River Songwriters Festival, the Hotel Turkey Songwriters Festival, and more. His newest record, *Hill Country Folk Music*, is out now. It is jubilant, defiant, desperate, and contemplative--it refuses to be pigeonholed.

JESS KLEIN

jessklein.com

"a songwriter with the voice of unblinking tenacity" - The New York Times



Jess Klein came to this world to pull firebrand power and childlike joy from our darkest shadows. Her acoustic-driven, hook-laden story songs revel in the polychrome of human experience- joy, rage, sensuality, and resilience. Jess has toured the globe performing in pin-drop listening rooms, cozy theaters, and at raucous festivals. Her live shows are known for their intimate and soulful atmosphere. Her emotive vocals and poignant storytelling invite her fans on a journey through themes of love, loss, and resilience. She has toured supporting

Arlo Guthrie, Josh Ritter, Damien Dempsey, John Fullbright, and Jonathan Byrd and opening for such legends as Ani DiFranco, Steve Earle, and Alejandro Escovedo.

JONATHAN BYRD

jonathanbyrd.com

"one of the top 50 songwriters of the past 50 years" - The Chicago Tribune



Jonathan Byrd is a preacher's kid, Gulf War veteran, and award-winning songwriter with a near-cult following. (His personal favorite award is winning the Kerrville New Folk Award in 2003.) With 20+ years of touring and over a dozen albums, Byrd's deceptively simple, working-class songs have become campfire standards and crowd favorites. His shows take audiences on a journey from hell-raising sing-alongs to heart-wrenching ballads and back across the backroads of his native North Carolina. A lifelong collaborator and

innovator, Jonathan's also passionate about teaching others how it's done. He'll also be teaching a workshop during our festival.

TICKETED SHOW: SUNDAY

2pm in Legion Hall (201 Main Street)

JOHN LOUIS



Troubadour John Louis wanders around this world of music, writing and singing heartworn country folk songs. John's that guy on the bus who sits quietly, looking tired like the rest of us. The difference is he is sitting there composing a song about your life and those painful, poignant moments you dust off on the way home between life's chores. His songs show us our lives and the subtle but important things that become universally important hallmarks of our Midwestern journey. John glimpses it all through a poet's heart.

When he stands bravely on a stage with a guitar and begins singing, we get to see it too. This country folk music he makes has emerged from walking the path to wisdom. John Louis' songs will bind us all together in a concert that will have us laughing, weeping openly, and connecting with one another as people on the same path to the destination.

J WAGNER

jwagnermusic.com



He's a songwriter out of Austin, TX who was raised in the deserts of New Mexico and a one-time park ranger for Joshua Tree National Park. His music often draws from this desert landscape. The Dallas Morning News has called him 'a Texas folk music staple' and the Austin Chronicle gave his album "The Runaway Kid" a perfect four stars, referring to Wagner as "a commander of words and ideation." He often co-writes with his long-time friends Gregory Alan Isakov and Ron Scott. He also partners with the non-profit Home Street Music which

hosts song circles to build community, restore confidence, and reclaim dignity through the healing power of songs. He has been a staple at our festival every year teaching dance and songwriting workshops.

CLAYTON RYAN

claytonryan.com



Midwest country rocker Clayton Ryan is the walking definition of a 'grassroots' musician. With his tireless national touring and a rustic, uniquely Midwestern sound, Clayton and his electrifying live band have built their following at the ground level, one fan at a time. His debut album Ghost Town- and well over 100 shows a year- put him in the national spotlight, showcasing a nostalgic sound and a wide scope of powerfully emotional songwriting. His music has been featured in programs like NFL, NASCAR, WWE, and Walker, and he has

shared the stages with country legends like John Michael Montgomery, Collin Raye, Jo Dee Messina, and Ned LeDoux. His sophomore project, Gas Station Social Club, released in May.

TICKETED SHOW: SUN & MONDAY

6pm Monday in Legion Hall (201 Main Street)

CHRISTOPHER YARROW



Christopher came to the very first Montrose Music Festival and impressed us all with his original songs. This year, he's back. He'll also be paying tribute to his dad, Peter Yarrow, of the legendary folk trio Peter Paul and Mary. His dad's impact on American folk music will continue to live on for generations. Peter Yarrow also helped festival founder Rod Kennedy establish the Kerrville Folk Festival in 1972. In particular, Yarrow co-created the festival's legendary New Folk Competition to showcase up-and-coming songwriters. Christopher

does his part to carry on his father's legacy in his own way. His support of our festival has since the beginning has been a huge encouragement and his humble character is a key part of fostering the authentic, inclusive community that the Montrose Music Festival strives to be known for.

STEVE FISHER



Steve Fisher's songs reveal a deep resonance of spirituality and soul-searching, seasoned with just a pinch of wry humor and a dash of self-deprecating awareness of the frailty of us humans as we stumble through this life without a road map. Steve just seems to see life from a slightly different angle than most of us, and it affords him clear views to universal truths that often escape us in our busy lives, because we are in just too big a hurry to notice. Steve has roots in East Texas and Oklahoma and earned an Engineering Tech degree from

Texas A&M. In the '80s, he spent some time as the keyboard player for the Southern Cross band. In 1989, he was a New Folk winner at the Kerrville Folk Festival.

RAY BONNEVILLE

raybonneville.com



Acclaimed raconteur Ray Bonneville strips his bluesy Americana down to its essentials and steepes it in the humid grooves of the South, creating a compelling poetry of hard living and deep feeling. Jim Withers (Montreal Gazette) describes his sound as "folk-roots gumbo... a languid Mississippi Delta groove, seasoned with smooth, weathered vocals and a propulsive harmonica wheeze." Whether performing solo or fronting a band, playing electric or acoustic guitar, Bonneville allows space between notes that adds potency to every

chord, lick, and lyric. Often called a "song and groove man," Bonneville has lived the life of the itinerant artist.

ADDITIONAL ARTISTS

BILL NASH

PUTSIECAT.COM



He's been a musician his whole life--from a 5 year old soprano to a 4th grade French hornist, to a 15 year old guitarist, and beyond. He began writing music and lyrics in his early teens. His roots are firmly embedded in the singer-songwriter acoustic music genre but he plays many different styles. He's a regular at the Kerrville Folk Festival in Texas and has been invited to sing harmonies on the mainstage with fine musicians from Annie Hills to Michael McNevin to Tom Prasada-Rao to Jana Stanfield, Josh White Jr., and Jon Vezner. After hosting Camp Nashville and song circles at Kerrville for numerous years, he's brought Camp Nashville to Montrose and enjoys teaching an alternate tuning/multiple capos workshop.

BOBBY GRIPP



Bobby Gripp is a native of Sioux City, IA and currently lives in Sioux Falls, SD. He has been playing music professionally for over 35 years. He has had the pleasure of working with both the areas top musicians and also national artists in a variety of ensembles including 'Dakota Jazz Collective', 'Jonathan Kelly Trio', 'Studio B. Jazz' and his own group "Jazzed". Gripp is also an original member of the Jazz Diversity Project – a highly regarded music education program presented to schools throughout the state of South Dakota and has been a drum and percussion instructor for over 30 years. He is a three-time inductee to the South Dakota Music Association's Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

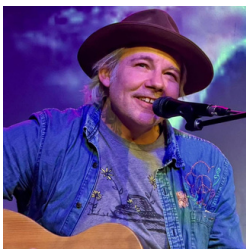
BRIAN ADAMS



Originally from the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota, Brian Gavin Adams is a songwriter based in Vermillion, and he has been performing his own unique brand of Americana for over 20 years. He works as a video engineer for SDPB and is the owner of Adams Production Services, providing audio and lighting for concerts and other events, as well as designing and building scenery for local theatre companies. He's thrilled to be back at Montrose for the sixth year and his favorite weekend of the year.

CLINT RIEDEL

[FACEBOOK.COM/CLINTRIEDELMUSIC](https://www.facebook.com/clintriedelmusic)



Clint Riedel is a singer-songwriter whose been a full time troubador for the past 12 years. He writes songs for the listeners, taking hints from John Prine and Hank Williams. There's no room for fiction in his songs. Using true life experiences, he paints small pieces of the larger puzzle called life. A real folk musician and all around storyteller who hails from the land between two rivers (Iowa).

ADDITIONAL ARTISTS

COLIN FLYNN



Colin is a supporting artist. He plays mandolin, bass, and other instruments to help back-up other local artists. He plays in a variety of local bands and is one of the board members of the Sioux River Folk Festival, which takes place the weekend after ours. His participation in our festival is an illustration of our festival co-op where we intentionally share artists, volunteers, and more.

CONNOR ENGBERG



Born and raised in Harrisburg, SD, Connor discovered a love for music listening to his dad's collection of 'hair band' CDs from the 1980s. The interest became his identity about the time he joined his school's band in the fifth grade. And once he picked up the guitar, he was hooked. In 2016, while pursuing a music degree, he and his college friend Jackson Ashlock started the band "Granola." He has been featured on South Dakota Public Radio and says songwriting has always been like the king for him and that the lyrics are what he pays attention to the most when listening to music. He also recognizes that music is the common denominator that has brought him countless friendships.

KEVEN VERMILLION

[CRAZypoETRECORDS.COM/ARTISTS/KEVEN-VERMILLION](https://crazypoetrecords.com/artists/keven-vermillion)



Keven has been a fixture in the Sioux Falls, SD music scene, playing in various cover bands in the Midwest, including Family Express, Enterprise, B.O.K., and primarily Vermillion Amped. He's a singer, songwriter, and guitarist. He has released two albums of original music. He most recently released a 5 song EP "Extras" with Crazy Poet Records on April 25, 2025.

JOE & JAMES SCHWADER



Joe and James Schwader are a father-son duo. They both farm near Howard, SD and enjoy playing music in their spare time. James has written music for about a decade and Joe for several decades. They have been attending the Montrose Music Festival for the last five years.

ADDITIONAL ARTISTS

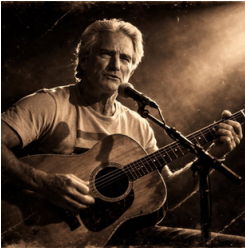
JOHNNY BERKNESS



Local Sioux Falls singer-songwriter. Jazz Fest stage manager. Open mic host. Sioux River Folk Festival board member. Great cook and an all around phenomenal guy. He's appeared on the White Wall Sessions and performed at local festivals, such as the Sioux River Folk Festival. You'll find him wearing multiple hats around our festival, always jumping in to help and make the most out of the weekend.

KEN BAKER

KENBAKER.BANDCAMP.COM



He is a seasoned singer-songwriter whose raspy voice and soulful guitar work have been a part of the Columbia music scene for years. Baker's newest album, "Light Every Candle" is an Americana delight filled with dynamic prose that challenges current events and allows audiences space to ruminate and connect.

MATT FOCKLER

MATTFOCKLER.COM



Matt is the founder of the Montrose Music Festival and a talented singer-songwriter in his own right. He spent 25+ years on the road touring and playing independent folk/Americana music and doing interior and exterior design along the way. Now, his primary artistic focus is promoting an alternative to the current, traditional music business through developing his artist advocacy network, promoting other artists, and attempting to help artists fill out their empty dates with gigs in small town South Dakota. Overall, he sees music primarily as a means of creating more authentic community.

MEGAN BEE

MEGANBEEMUSIC.COM



Singer-songwriter Megan Bee crafts evocative folk-Americana music with a sense of place. Her lyrics, woven with an unquenchable wanderlust and a deep love for the land, reflect her experiences as an environmental educator and seasoned vagabond. Based in the rolling hills of Athens, Ohio, her sound is influenced by the collision of modern songwriting and Appalachian folk. In October 2025, she released her much-anticipated fifth album, Fiction. Produced by Eddie Ashworth and featuring a cast of accomplished regional musicians, the album showcases Bee's lyrical depth and vocals with sheer expressive closeness. It features ten original songs of slowing down, softness, and enjoying the sweetness of life while sonically dipping its toe into an Arthouse sound at times.

ADDITIONAL ARTISTS

SPENCER THURRY

AVAILABLE ON STREAMING PLATFORMS



He grew up taking piano and saxophone lessons and singing in school choirs. He later studied music in college and toured for three years as a musician with Teen Rescue. He has also worked with student musicians developing contemporary rock bands as part of the campus ministry program that he developed while working at William Penn University. Overall, he has released 4 albums. His newest work, *Change My World*, was released in September 2024. He performs solo shows with a mix of multiple instruments--simultaneously singing, playing guitar, bass drum, high hat, and harmonica.

TODD KIEFFER

TODDKIEFFER.COM



Todd Kieffer is a South Dakota-based country singer-songwriter and guitarist known for his powerhouse voice and authentic blue-collar roots. Balancing life as a small business owner with a growing music career, Todd runs his own auto body shop while steadily building a reputation across the Midwest as a compelling live performer. He began playing shows in college and has since shared the stage with national acts including Williams and Ree and Chancey Williams. In 2025, he was named runner-up at the Wild West Songwriters Festival, further establishing himself as a rising voice in independent country music.

TOMMY EDWIN

TOMMYEDWINMUSIC.COM



Tommy Edwin is a singer-songwriter currently based in Brookings, SD. Tommy's repertoire includes original songs and a large selection of cover tunes focusing on singer-songwriters from the 60's and 70's as well as more contemporary material. Artists covered include James Taylor, Gordon Lightfoot, Tom Petty, Richard Thompson, Don McLean among others. Tommy also specializes in the music of Bob Dylan, covering a wide range of his recordings from the the early sixties onward and has done entire all-Dylan shows. With a high quality sound system and lighting, Tommy can be booked at small or larger venues lacking sound systems.

ERIC LUPLOW

ERICLUPLOW.COM



OUR 2026 LIMITED EDITION PRINT ARTIST

Since early childhood, drawing and painting were eRic's dearest things, his best friends. He believes a painting should have a soul and he creates just that, in all of his work. Painting things that touch him, inspired by life, his works range from the humor of the Texas dancehall to the spirituality of the early Native Americans. His paintings emerge alive with brilliant colors that run deep...they have a lot of soul! With an "anything goes" eye for color, eRic's watercolors cross the line between surrealism and folk art, hence the term sur-folk

FESTIVAL CO-OP

THE VISION

We're trying to represent community with this festival more so than music. The vision with this co-op is to tie together three of our local festivals: The Sioux River Folk Festival (a 40+ year old festival in Canton, SD), The Rhythm of the River (a 20 year old festival in Jackson, MN), and then the Montrose Music Festival (on year six in Montrose, SD).

This will be a slow build, but we would like to share volunteer staff, advertising, and more. Our festival weekends all fall closely together, not only to better serve festival goers, but also to keep some of the national music in our community for a little longer by booking them in our local venues between the festivals.

I believe we have a great local scene... but if we share, communicate, and work together we could afford to bring better music from other parts of the country, as well as raise the payouts for working musicians in our local scene.

Most of all... raise awareness of small town communities outside of Sioux Falls! It was all the farmers and small communities that built Sioux Falls and now all these small towns are falling apart and can't afford to keep their streets repaired, their grocery stores and swimming pools alive and open.

We hope to use music to draw attention to what's going on in these small communities. If we come TOGETHER and support each other we would all have enough.

Follow these festivals and mark them on your calendar every year.

Sioux River Folk Festival--July 31-August 2, 2026

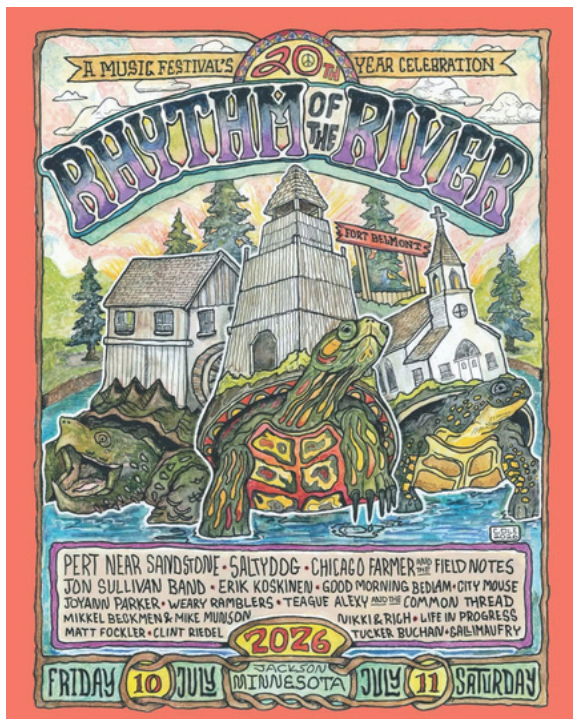
(annually the first weekend of August)

<https://sdfotm.org/folk-fest>

Rhythm of the River Music Festival

<https://www.rhythmoftheriver.org/>

FESTIVAL CO-OP



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need more people to join our team in order to keep this festival alive and growing!

Opportunities exist during the festival and throughout the year.

Find or create an area that fits you.

Contact us at 612-236-6202 or
montrosemusicfestivalsd@gmail.com



JOIN OUR TEAM!

Fundraising

Help us solicit donations from businesses/individuals and apply for grants

Website/Social Media

Help keep festival supporters in the loop by updating our communication

Festival Artwork/Graphic Design

Help find/provide our annual artwork for limited edition prints & design +
Create graphics to be used on social media, on the website, and our booklet

Advertising

Find creative ways to get the word out about our festival (news, radio, etc.)

Kitchen Crew

Keep our artists and volunteers well-fed by donating food, providing a meal, or
volunteering

Grounds Crew

Help set-up our song circles and help keep the grounds clean

Events Coordinator

Coordinate with artists and volunteers to plan events and workshops

Photography/Videography

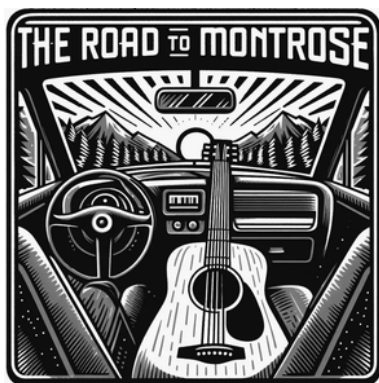
Help capture all that takes place throughout the weekend to preserve the memories

Other

Think of another need you can help us with? FANTASTIC. Let's talk.

Other ideas include working in our merch booth, helping with ticket sales,
designing festival merchandise, hosting one of our stages, working on stage
design, collecting testimonials, coordinating food trucks, etc.

ROAD TO MONTROSE



LISTENERS

If you're coming from out of town, let us help make your road trip more pleasant. Check out our website for details on how to catch more shows from our artists along your way here or back home.

ARTISTS

We hope to build a community for you to not only have easy contacts to fill in dates getting here, but we're directing our venues and festivals to you. We want to eliminate as much windshield time as possible as you come experience South Dakota. Send us a message if you'd like to add some of your dates to our website.

FESTIVALS & VENUES

Please check out our artist line up and consider joining our block booking model. Let's work together and provide more of a community experience for our artists. Block booking is a style of booking developed by Pete Seeger to keep artists booked back to back while staying in the community. For example, we try and book some of the same artists one weekend for the Montrose Music Festival and the next weekend at the Sioux River Folk Festival. Then, we try and book that same act in small towns or local establishments on the weekdays in between. This style of booking offers benefits for venues, artists, and listeners. Reach out to us if you have questions.

THE ROAD HOME FROM MONTROSE

MONDAY, JULY 27

7PM: JESS KLEIN & TERRY KLEIN @ MAPLE & MAIN (BUFFALO, MO)

TUESDAY, JULY 28

7PM: MEGAN BEE @NORTHSIDE SOCIAL (LAWRENCE, KS)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

7PM: JESS KLEIN & TERRY KLEIN @ THE BLUE DOOR (OKLAHOMA CITY, OK)

7PM: MEGAN BEE @ GOTHIC HEIGHTS INN (ST. LOUIS, MO)

THURSDAY, JULY 30

5PM: MEGAN BEE @ ROSE BOWL TAVERN (URBANA, IL)

6PM: RECKLESS SAINTS @ RICH HARVEST VINEYARD AND WINERY (SYRACUSE, NE)

FRIDAY, JULY 31

6PM: SIOUX RIVER FOLK FESTIVAL KICKS OFF (CANTON, SD)

6PM: RECKLESS SAINTS @ A HOMESTEAD BREW (VALLEY SPRINGS, SD)

7PM: MEGAN BEE @ STARLIGHT LISTENING ROOM (EFFINGHAM, IL)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

12PM: SIOUX RIVER FOLK FESTIVAL CONTINUES (CANTON, SD)

4PM: STODDARD & MAL @ SIOUX RIVER FOLK FESTIVAL (CANTON, SD)

6PM: RECKLESS SAINTS @ CHOTEAU CREEK BREWING CO (WAGNER, SD)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

4PM: RECKLESS SAINTS @ TAKE 16 BREWING (LUVERNE, MN)

5PM: MEGAN BEE @ SWEET HARMONY CANAL (WINCHESTER, OH)

OUR SPONSORS

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO LET US BORROW THEIR CAMPERS

Thank you to those who are kind enough to let us use their campers to host artists! This being possible makes our festival WAY better! Artists don't quit early to drive to a motel in another town and spend a way more relaxing weekend leaving their cars parked. So thank you to this year's donors:

- Karen Rieck
- Randy & Joanne Thompson
- Jeremy Thompson
- Luke Hanisch
- Larry Person
- Kevin Jansa
- Scott Jorgenson
- Beth Gordon/Hohn

Our artists are mindful and not a party crew. Sometimes, they leave merch behind as a thank you. Plus, we have a crew to make sure they're returned clean. If you are willing to let us use your camper next year, please reach out to Matt at 605-809-6168.

OUR SPONSORS

A MESSAGE TO OUR MUSIC SUPPORTERS

We highly encourage you to keep this booklet tucked away when you get home, not just as a treasured keepsake but as a directory of businesses that may serve your needs.

Our hope is that you would consider supporting these like-minded businesses year-round. If you hire them, let them know that you found them through the Montrose Music Festival.

FOUNDATIONAL PARTNERS



BIG J'S ROADHOUSE (HUMBOLDT & HARRISBURG, SD)

bigjsroadhousebbq.com



SOUTH BAR (HARTFORD, SD)

facebook.com/thesouthbar

FOUNDATIONAL PARTNERS



BUFFALO TRADING POST (COLTON, SD)

facebook.com/PudsBuffaloTradingPost



BEN'S BREWING CO. (YANKTON, SD)

bensbrewing.shop

COOPERATIVE PARTNERS



AMERICAN LEGION RUSTE WAUL POST 154 (MONTROSE, SD)
facebook.com/MontroseAmericanLegionRusteWaulPost154



DAKOTA AG (MONTROSE, SD)
dakotaagcenter.com

Edward Jones[®]
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

CORY VAN DUYN - EDWARD JONES (DELL RAPIDS, SD)
edwardjones.com/us-en/financial-advisor/cory-vanduyyn

COOPERATIVE PARTNERS



HERB N LEGEND (SIOUX FALLS, SD) & COMMON SENSE (LIVERNE, MN)
herb-n-legend.com/home



PREFERRED
PRINTING

PREFERRED PRINTING (SIOUX FALLS, SD)
preferredsd.com



RED DOOR REALTY (SIOUX FALLS, SD)
reddoorrealtysd.com

COOPERATIVE PARTNERS



RYAN'S REPAIR (MONTROSE, SD)



SALEM COMMUNITY DRUG (SALEM, SD)

salemdrug.com



SOUTH DAKOTA FRIENDS OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC (CANTON, SD)

sdfotm.org

COOPERATIVE PARTNERS



SUNSET STRIP PAWN (SIOUX FALLS, SD)



THE BREAKS COFFEE (SIOUX FALLS, SD)
thebreakscoffeeroasting.com



TWEDT CONSTRUCTION (MONTROSE, SD)

COOPERATIVE PARTNERS



TOTAL DRAG (SIOUX FALLS, SD)
totaldragrecords.com



TOTAL STOP FOOD STORE (CANISTOTA, SD)
totalstopfoodstore.com



ORLAND COLONY (HONEY & FRESH PRODUCE) (MONTROSE, SD)
45050 246TH ST, MONTROSE, SD 57048

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



BARN N BARREL (CANISTOTA, SD)
(find them on Facebook)



BINDER ENTERPRISES INC.
(MONTROSE, SD)



COLTON LUMBER (COLTON, SD)
(find them on Facebook)



CREEKSIDE MEATS (HARTFORD, SD)
creeksidemeats.com



**GRAND MEADOW WINDOW CLEANING,
MOWING, & MORE (HARTFORD, SD)**
(find them on Facebook)



GROCOTT INK & THREAD (HARTFORD, SD)
grocottshop.com

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



IRON POST/THE DONELAN FAMILY
(MONTROSE, SD)



IRON WHEEL HEATING COOLING & PLUMBING
(SALEM, SD) iron-wheel.com



KATZER CONCRETE (SIOUX FALLS, SD)
katzconcrete.com



LAST STOP CD SHOP (SIOUX FALLS, SD)
laststoponline.com



MB HASKETTS (SIOUX FALLS, SD)
mbhaskett.com



MCCORMICK MOTORS (SALEM, SD)
mccormickmotor.com

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



MONTROSE BODY SHOP (MONTROSE, SD)
facebook.com/MontroseBody/



ORION PUB (SIOUX FALLS, SD)
orionpub.com



PETRI CONSTRUCTION (CANTON, SD)



PORTER SCULPTURE PARK (MONTROSE, SD)
portersculpturepark.com



PRO APPLICATION AG SERVICES
(MONTROSE, SD)



RANDY SABERS (SALEM, SD)
randysabersandassoc.com

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



RED DOOR REALTY (CANTON, SD)
reddoorrealtysd.com



SAFE N SECURE (SIOUX FALLS, SD)
sns605.com



RED ROOSTER RETRIEVERS (HUMBOLDT, SD)
redroosterretrievers.org



SECURITY STATE BANK (MONTROSE, SD)
bankwithsecurity.com



SOLID ROCK RECRUITING (HARTFORD, SD)
solidrockrecruiting.com



TSR EXCAVATING & SNOW REMOVAL
(MONTROSE, SD)

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



WAR TORN CYCLES (HARTFORD, SD)
wartorncycles.com



WARNER'S PRODUCE (MONTROSE, SD)
warnersproduce.com



ZIMMER CAULKING (MITCHELL, SD)

ADDITIONAL THANKS TO...

- Ann & Karen Rieck
- Beth & Jeremy Gordon
- Bill & Connie Smith
- Connie Sivertson
- Dan & Anita Kappenman
- Dan & Joni Grocott
- Gary & Carol Ann Kappenman
- Jackie Jondle
- Janet Schmdtz
- Jason & Irene Wolf
- John & Sara Smith
- Larry Person
- Mark & Renee Berg
- Mark Nordquist
- Mike Donelan & Kathy Visser
- Nick & Jolene Vogel
- Randy & JoAnn Thompson
- Reed Anderberg
- Tara Tulberg
- The Bartmann Family
- The Fockler/Tulberg Family
- The Montrose Legionnaires

OTHER LOCAL BUSINESSES



MY PLACE CAFE

facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063481093395



WEB'S PUB

webspubsd.com



MONTROSE GAS STATION



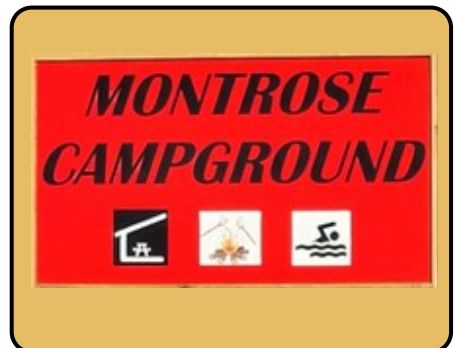
AGRI-ENERGY

agrienergypropane.com



MONTROSE CITY POOL

cityofmontrosesd.com/Pool

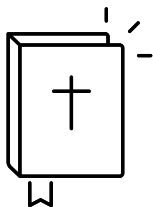


MONTROSE CITY CAMPGROUNDS

cityofmontrosesd.com/Campground

OUR MISSION & VISION

MISSION



Using music to draw attention to high quality, independent singer-songwriters and create a different version of community where artists and listeners feel at home (Philippians 2:1-7)

VISION



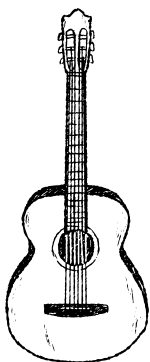
1. To draw attention to small town America (which is falling apart and losing their grocery stores, gas stations, and swimming pools) by drawing customer business and community back in.

Year round, outside our festival, we encourage folks to leave their big town and go to a farmer's market or come get dinner, fresh eggs/local groceries, and a tank of gas in a small town.



2. To facilitate a listening room environment that stirs a love and respect for high quality music and songwriting and makes touring more pleasurable for the artists

FESTIVAL ETIQUETTE



- Represent your town. Wear a shirt, hat, or hang a sign at your camp to let folks know where you are from.
- We are encouraging you to bring an acoustic instrument with you and if you see someone carrying an instrument, ask them to play you a song.
- Bring your family, a tent, and camp chairs. Please write the name of your town on the back of your camp chair.
- The majority of this festival has no schedule. Musicians will be walking around, playing song circles, relaxing, visiting, like we hope you are too. We believe the best things in life happen off the clock.

OUR VALUES

ALWAYS

- If you ever see anyone carrying a guitar, ask them to play a song.
- Introduce fantastic, independent singer-songwriters that you probably won't hear on the radio.
- Listen. Take time to listen to the lyrics of each song. This isn't a party/bar atmosphere. Listen to one another and pay attention to your surroundings. When visiting, space yourself away from the music.
- Enable volunteers to serve in an area they are passionate about and gifted in. Text us at 612-236-6202 if you'd like to volunteer.
- Create a family-friendly atmosphere. Be multi-generational. Come with your whole family. Invest in the next generation.
- Security = Be Nice. If you can't be nice, find someone bigger than you who can be nice.
- Represent light. Treat others the way you want to be treated.
- Be flexible/adaptable. The best things in life happen off the clock.

NEVER

- Create divisions/hierarchy. We try to eliminate the words line-up, main stage, rockstars, ringers, etc.
- Stay in one place too long. Instead, float around to different song circles, classes, and events.
- Be selfish. Instead, we intentionally partner with artists, venues, and festivals to promote block booking, and work together with our artists to get them to our festival and back home with the most playable shows, and less travel expense.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

COMMUNITY PARTNER

\$20+

help keep our festival alive

COOPERATIVE PARTNER

\$500+

sponsoring regional and local artists

MISSIONAL PARTNER

\$1,000+

sponsoring national and global artists

FOUNDATIONAL PARTNER

\$5,000+

sponsoring one of our ticketed shows

CORNERSTONE PARTNER

\$10,000+

sponsoring one of our ticketed shows and have your business logo on all our posters

IN-KIND PARTNER

GOODS/SERVICES IN LIEU OF CASH

donations of goods/services are a vital part of our festival; from lending campers/RVs, to lending instruments, and especially keeping our volunteers and artists fed well

Our festival draws attendees from across the region who are passionate about what small towns have to offer. Partnering with the Montrose Music Festival is a chance to align your brand with something genuine--a celebration of community, creativity, and the enduring spirit of small town America. Whether you're able to contribute \$20 or \$10,000, your support makes a real difference. I'd welcome a brief call or meeting to discuss the right fit for you: 605-809-6168 (Matt Fockler)

DONATIONS

VENMO

@MontroseMusicFestival



GIVE BUTTER- TICKETS & DONATIONS



CASH/CHECK

Find one of our donation buckets throughout the festival
or bring it to Volunteer Central.

Gifts can also be sent to:

Montrose Music Festival

c/o Matt Fockler

PO Box 125

Montrose, SD 57048

The Montrose Music Festival has been recently approved as a 501(c)(3).
Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law.



WWW. **MONTROSE MUSIC FESTIVAL** .ORG
FIVE NIGHTS. FIVE CONCERTS. THREE DAYS OF SONG CIRCLES.



BEN BERGESON - BILL NASH - BOBBY GRIPP - BRIAN ADAMS - CHARLIE ROTH
CHRISTOPHER YARROW - CLAYTON RYAN - CLINT RIEDEL - COLIN FLYNN
CONNOR ENGBERG - DAVID STODDARD - HANK WOJI - J WAGNER - JESS KLEIN
JOE & JAMES SCHWADER - JOHN LOUIS - JOHNNY BERKNESS - JOHN SORENSON
JONATHAN BYRD - KAREN MAL - KEN BAKER - KEVEN VERMILLION
MARCUS ABRAHAMS - MATT FOCKLER - MEGAN BEE - PARRY LAMONT - RAY BONNEVILLE
- RECKLESS SAINTS - SPENCER THURRY - STEVE FISHER - TERRY KLEIN
THE DONELAN BOYS - TODD KIEFFER - TOMMY EDWIN - WEARY RAMBLERS

JULY 23-27, 2026 - MONTROSE CITY CAMPGROUNDS, SD