



Play It Forward![®]

Instrument Lending Program

The Backbone Lake Promotion Association (BLPA) is a licensed affiliate of the *Play It Forward!*[®] Instrument Lending Program, which was created by the Bluegrass Heritage Foundation (BHF). BLPA works with bluegrass musicians and music teachers to foster music literacy and performance skills in deserving young people (ages 8-21) by providing no-cost access to the primary bluegrass musical instruments such as mandolins, fiddles, banjos, and guitars.

As part of the *Play It Forward!* Program, BLPA works with bluegrass clubs and associations to find musicians and music teachers who are willing to become a bluegrass mentor for those young people who seek to borrow instruments under the program.

The *Play It Forward!* Program policies are similar to those of your public library:

- Young people will be required to complete an application process that includes providing valid identification and a parental permission form
- The estimated value of the instrument will be stated in an agreement that encourages responsibility for the instrument by the borrower.
- Students will be asked to send a thank-you note to the instrument's donor (if applicable) and to BLPA.

In addition, borrowers will be asked to secure a bluegrass mentor in their area who will assist them in learning the basics of their chosen instrument and the etiquette of playing with others in a disciplined musical environment.

Because maintaining instruments is necessary to keeping them easy and fun to play (and to keeping them viable for many years), BLPA will maintain a fund for the maintenance and upkeep of the *Play It Forward!* Program instruments. BLPA will coordinate with the borrowers, and with the sponsoring bluegrass mentor, to make sure that the instruments are properly cared for over time.

Loan periods will be for one year, with annual renewals encouraged following an inspection of the instrument by the borrower's sponsor or music teacher or BLPA. When the borrower is ready to acquire an instrument of their own, they must return the borrowed instrument to BLPA so that the instrument, and the opportunity to learn, can be "played forward" to another young person.

You can participate in this program by donating cash or bluegrass musical instruments to the program. BLPA will make sure that donated instruments are in good working order before they are offered for use by a young person. Donors will receive a receipt for their donation and the assurance that their donation will benefit a deserving young person.

For more information or if you would like to make a donation, please contact:

Play It Forward! - Stephanie Briggs iowaplayitforward@gmail.com or (641) 203-2714



Play It Forward!

Instrument Lending Program Agreement

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

E-mail (Student, if applicable): _____

Parent/Guardian e-mail: _____

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Instrument description: _____

Value: _____

By signing below, you agree that you will do the following:

1. Take care of this instrument, keep it safe and try to avoid damaging it in any way, and keep it clean and in its case when not in use. If you have problems with the instrument, you agree to contact BLPA so that we can help you keep the instrument in good condition.
2. Use your best efforts to learn to play the instrument, and seek out instruction from music teachers and others who can provide you with instruction about the instrument and bluegrass music in general.
3. Prepare a short letter of appreciation addressed to BLPA explaining why the loan of this instrument has been helpful to you. Your letter should be addressed to BLPA and may be published on the BLPA and/or BHF websites and promotional material.
4. Return the instrument to BLPA after the loan period of one year has ended or, if you wish to continue to use the instrument, contact BLPA to see if your loan period can be extended for another year. If you lose or damage the instrument, you agree to reimburse BLPA for the reasonable market value of the instrument so that a replacement instrument can be obtained for future use in the program.

So that we may publicize the instrument lending activities of the *Play It Forward!* Instrument Lending Program, we ask that we be permitted to use your name, image, and video image for publicity purposes. By signing below, you and your parent or guardian grant a license to BHAI and BHF to (a) interview, photograph, or otherwise capture your image, both in still and motion pictures, (b) record your voice, separately and in synchronization with images, by any means known or hereafter discovered, and (c) use and duplicate such photographs or other images, whether in print, videotape, digital, or other formats, and reproduce your voice, separately or together with your name and such images for BLPA's and BHF's publicity purposes in perpetuity. All copies of your image, likeness, and voice created or recorded by BLPA and/or BHF representatives shall be the exclusive property of BLPA and/or BHF.

You may contact the Backbone Lake Promotion Association by sending an e-mail to **iowaplayitforward@gmail.com** or by calling Stephanie Briggs at (641) 203-2714.

Please notify BLPA if your address, e-mail, or phone number changes.

Congratulations on your participation in the *Play It Forward!* Instrument Lending Program. We wish you the best of luck in your musical pursuits.

Date: _____ Recipient
Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name



The *Play It Forward!* Instrument Lending Program was created by the Bluegrass Heritage Foundation of Dallas, Texas. The Bluegrass Heritage Foundation's mission is to preserve and promote the heritage of bluegrass music in America. The Bluegrass Heritage Foundation is a non-profit corporation organized under Texas law and recognized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.