

NEW FOLK TOOLING UP FOR 2019

By Dalis Allen

The Kerrville Folk Festival is the one festival in the country, maybe the whole world that only hires artists that write their own songs. It is our mission to find songwriters and bring them to Kerrville. Here they find support, validation, community, respect, even adulation :) The stage line-ups are all songwriters, both stages. We search songwriters out through the Grassy Hill Kerrville New Folk competition. Up to 800 submissions of 3 songs are listened to by 40 or 50 pairs of discerning ears and out of those, 32 songwriters come to the Festival to present their songs to 3 judges who are songwriters themselves, quite often having been in New Folk when they were starting out.

Ultimately there are six Award Winners that receive prizes including cash, capos, music magazine subscriptions, scholarships to the SW Regional Folk Alliance, a pass to attend the Kerrville Folk Festival the next year, Swan Percussion shaker, and many other possibilities.

We also plan a tour for the six across Texas the following November. Thomas and Gail Chapmond arrange all of the concerts, including one at their own venue Sycamore Creek House Concerts and run the tour with grace and love for these artists

A couple of quotes from New Folk participants: 'The whole week was such an amazing experience, and I am so grateful for all of it!! I was honored to represent Kerrville as a New Folker, and I really look forward to getting my Minnesotan self down to Kerrville again :)'

'It was so good to see you again last week at Blue Rock and Fischer Fest. Those 2 evenings were so amazing. The whole trip was. I can't rave enough about Thomas and Gail either. They are the coolest, most gracious people and took care of everything we might've needed. When we first learned of the tour, there was no way to understand all that would be involved or how phenomenal it would be. We were treated like royalty and grew much clos-

er as a group during this last week.'

'First of all I want to thank you again for the amazing tour you guys set up for us. It's an honor to be a part of the history of Kerrville New Folk winners and I plan to attend and contribute to the festival in the years to come. It really is a magical experience that offers community and opportunities to up-and-coming songwriters that is not easily found elsewhere.

We will be listening and selecting the 32 to appear at the Festival Saturday May 25 and Sunday May 26, 2019 beginning on December 1, 2018. The guidelines are posted on the website at <https://www.kerrvillefolkfestival.org/newfolk>.

The dates for the entire festival are May 23-June 9. The lineup will be updated as it is confirmed. www.kerrvillefolkfestival.org/lineup/.

Tickets are already on sale. www.kerrvillefolkfestival.org/tickets-2/

We will be attending the Folk Alliance International Conference 2019 in Montreal Canada in February to continue discovering great new artists to present at the Festival.

Image result for poinsettia images clip art From all of us to all of you wishing the brightest and most beautiful Christmas season ever!

And my favorite Happy New Year!!!! (of course I may be a little prejudice since New Year's Day is my birthday) Bring on the champagne and glitter!!!!

Thanks for reading about the Festival in The Heart Beat of the Texas Hill Country!



Dalis