

Grand Old Dulcimer Day

Frequently Asked Questions



WHAT is Grand Old Dulcimer Day?

A free one day music festival dedicated to the mountain dulcimer.

What is its PURPOSE?

To **continue the tradition** of mountain dulcimer music through:

- 1) Educating the public about
 - the mountain dulcimer,
 - the range of music that is played on the mountain dulcimer, and
 - the history of the mountain dulcimer
- 2) Showcasing dulcimer music performed by Middle Tennessee musicians
- 3) Introductory hands-on workshops for people who want to learn how to play the mountain dulcimer
- 4) Providing Middle Tennessee dulcimer players of all ages a supportive performance venue

WHO puts on the festival?

The festival is sponsored jointly by Nashville's Grand Old Dulcimer Club, Nashville's Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation and Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music.

WHERE is the festival held?

On the grounds of Nashville's historic Two Rivers Mansion, a 19th century plantation home operated as a Metro Park facility.

WHEN is it held?

The third Sunday in May, from 12-6 pm.

Who's the AUDIENCE?

Target audience is Middle Tennesseans of all ages.

What's the FORMAT of the festival?

- Continuous main stage music featuring the mountain dulcimer performances by professional musicians and non-professional musicians from Middle Tennessee
- Informal jamming and sing-a-longs.
- Free limited-seating Introductory Workshops with dulcimers provided.

- History Exhibit of dulcimers and Tennessee music boxes *plus* demonstrations of vintage instruments
- Videos on traditional mountain dulcimer building techniques and mountain dulcimer history
- **NEW** in 2004: Tradition Continues Stage for young mountain dulcimer performers.

Dulcimer Day Guidelines

- 1) Main stage
 - Main performer in act should be from Middle Tennessee or be a Blair student
 - Each performance piece must include mountain dulcimer
- 2) Sales table limited to
 - self-produced recordings and instruction materials by main stage performers, and
 - Grand Old Dulcimer Club T-shirts and club items to be decided annually

Answers to other questions...

Is Dulcimer Day is a fund raiser for the club?

No. The small amount of money raised by the Grand Old Dulcimer Club is used to pay for the club's web site and minimal Dulcimer Day expenses.

Who can sell CDs and tapes?

We provide a sales table to main stage performers since they are not paid for their performances at Dulcimer Day. The club does NOT get a percentage of CD's, tapes, and instruction material sales.

Why don't you sell dulcimers and strings?

We want Dulcimer Day to be about the music, and our club does not endorse specific products.