



United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County
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Bluegrass Bands Headed To Wake County Schools, September 25-28, 2018

[Raleigh, N.C.] – Nine Wake County schools will get a visit from bluegrass bands in Raleigh for the World of Bluegrass 2018 event, September 25-29, 2018. The designated elementary schools will get a 45-minute performance and instruction about the bluegrass tradition, while the middle/high schools will receive a one-hour master class for their strings students.

Bands will visit Cary Elementary (September 28), Jeffreys Grove Elementary (September 26), Pleasant Grove Elementary (September 25), Rogers Lane Elementary (September 27), White Oak Elementary (September 25), Zebulon Elementary (September 26), Carnage Middle (September 28), West Cary Middle (September 27), and Green Hope High (September 26).

Bands involved include Williamson Branch, Annie Savage & The Savage Hearts, Ben Hunter & Joe Seamons, and Che Apalache.

This is Raleigh's sixth year hosting The World of Bluegrass, an annual event presented by the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA), in downtown Raleigh. Among other goals and activities, IBMA aims to help educators become more "bluegrass aware." The classic bluegrass sound jelled in the mid-1940s with Bill Monroe and His Blue Grass Boys. It is a relatively new style of music and also one of the few musical genres to originate in the United States, so it has a "roots music" cultural value for American students, in particular. Bluegrass music's roots are in Irish, Scottish, Welsh and English traditional music, with later influences of African-American music's jazz elements. Typical instruments include fiddle, acoustic guitar, mandolin, dobro and upright bass.

These performances are supported by United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County in partnership with WCPSS, Wake County, PineCone, and the International Bluegrass Music Association.

Contact kheinen@unitedarts.org or at 919-839-1498 x 211 for more information or to schedule an interview or site visit.

The United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County, based in Raleigh, NC, was incorporated in 1990. Our mission is to build better communities through the support and advocacy of the arts. For the 2017/18 school year United Arts will help bring in teaching artists to 150 schools in Wake County through its Artists in Schools program. The United Arts Council also offers grants to organizations, communities and individual artists and provides services to the community such as advocacy, resource development, professional/leadership development and special projects. The grants, programs and services of United Arts reach over 1.2 million people annually in Wake County.

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