Moab Folk Camp helps performers, songwriters hone musical skills

As the Moab Folk Festival gears up for the start of this year’s event, would-be performers and songwriters are invited to sign up for a variety of workshops and classes to help them hone their skills.

A full schedule of classes and workshops is slated for Oct. 31 - Nov. 4 at the festival. These events are designed to give beginners and experienced musicians alike an up-close and hands-on experience in learning to play an instrument, fine-tuning musical skills, or adapting to a different style of playing. The dedicated songwriters and storytellers will have the opportunity to exchange and develop ideas under the direction of some professional performers.

Those who would like to take part in the workshops may choose to attend all the classes or individual ones, and discounts are available to residents of Moab and the surrounding area.

Festival performers Sloan Watkinson and Tom Presa-da-Da join the camp faculty, along with songwriters Cosy Sheridan, storyteller/musician TR Ritchie, songwriter and recording artist Allyson Nantes, mandolin player and teacher Eric Lareau, multi-instrumentalist and record producer Ray Guadagni, and multi-media artist Chad Bialous.

Registration information is available online at www.moabfolkcamp.com. The Moab Folk Festival will be held Nov. 5-7 at a variety of venues throughout town, including the Star Hill, the Grand County High School auditorium, the moab ball hall and the Moab Arts and Recreation Center. For more information about tickets and performances, visit the festival website, moabfolkfestival.com, or by calling the festival office at 259-3156.

Moab Farmers’ Market closes season Oct. 23

As the 2010 Moab Farmers’ Market winds down its season, organizers say the market is fast becoming a one-stop shop featuring locally produced fruit, vegetables, herbs, and other produce and products.

This year, vendors at the market have also sold locally made cheese and yogurt, locally butchered meats and sausages caught by local anglers. A variety of homemade foods, including Navajo fry bread, salted beef, potatoes, tamales, empanadas and other bakery treats, local honey, jam, jelly, fresh cut flowers, potted plants, cupcakes, farm fresh eggs, pumpkins, compost, occasion pies and cobbler, cashews, and local honey are among the goods available at the market.

The market is open on Saturday from 8 a.m. until noon at Seagull City Park, 100 West 400 North. The market offers a huge variety of local arts and crafts and vendors who are making and selling hand-crafted items and offering services.

Economically minded, community non-profit organizations, political candidates, government officials and artists also utilize the market as a place to disseminate information and meet the public.

For information about becoming a vendor for the 2011 season, setting up an informational booth, scheduling a special event at the market, or becoming a sponsor, contact Gayle Weyher at 259-0542. Registration forms and Guidelines can be found at the Youth Garden Project website, www.youthgardenproject.org.

Non-profit workshop schedule

- **Executive Forum (RSVP required)**
  - Building a Board That Rocks: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
  - Financial Management Assessment: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- **Leadership in Tough Times**
  - Shaping a Force to Sustain: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost: $15 per session or $40 for full day.

Annual results will be available online at www.utahnonprofits.org.

For information about becoming a non-profit leader or attending the workshops, contact Pat Bair at pbair@utahnonprofits.org or by calling 259-4079.

The day’s first session, “Building a Board That Rocks,” will focus on building the board to make sure that your nonprofit is effective, getting in the habit of making hard choices, and becoming stronger through regular transitions. Participants are asked to RSVP with name and organization to reserve a seat.

The last workshop, “Leadership in Tough Times,” will focus on building an effective leadership team, navigating the organization’s core values and mission focus, finding the right choices, and developing clear roles and responsibilities for both.

“Financial Management Assessment: A guide to Evaluate Your Fiscal Effectiveness” will run from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The workshop is designed to help you identify and prioritize your organization’s core financial strengths and weaknesses.

The workshop, “Executive Forum,” will run from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This is a free session for executive directors to discuss and debate solutions to challenges faced in leadership positions. Although this session is free, attendance is limited to 30 people and pre-registration is required.

To reserve a place in the Executive Forum, please visit the website at www.utahnonprofits.org or on site at the United Way of Southeastern Utah’s Book of the Month event Oct. 23.

For information about attending the workshop, contact Patrick Doran at 259-4079 or p.doran@utahnonprofits.org.