

National Gathering of SongFarmers coming to Berea October 12 and 13

The 2018 Gathering of SongFarmers is for all front porch musicians, writers, poets, painters, artists, SongFarmers, fans, families and pickers. The annual festival and music conference will be held in the rustic autumn setting of the Berea Arena Theatre at the edge of the historic Berea College Forest on Friday and Saturday, October 12 and 13.

The yearly festival and music conference we be held in the rustic autumn setting of the Berea Arena Theatre along the Berea forest on Big Hill Rd where musicians share their music, stories, experiences and wisdom. Workshops, lectures, front porch stages, and music lessons. Free Friday and Saturday evening concerts will be part of the two day Gathering.

The SongFarmers movement is an offshoot of folksinger Michael Johnathon's *WoodSongs Old-Time Radio Hour* (WEKU FM Saturdays at 8PM), which he often describes as a "multi-media front porch." The main goal is to spread the music and spirit of the Front Porch into schools and communities around the World. The Gathering is the yearly conference and music festival where SongFarmers play their music, showcase and learn to share their skills in their own hometowns in an effective, meaningful way. Members have started over 50 hometown music chapters around the country, from Hawaii to the Virgin Islands, support the free WoodSongs educational program for teachers and home school families, and find fresh, new direction for their music and art.

"We need a front porch around the world," says Johnathon from his log cabin home near Lexington. "I think, in many ways, the music business has left behind some of the finest musicians in the world. SongFarmers give them a purpose and place, a direction that has meaning, for all that passion and music."

A "SongFarmer" is any artist who uses their music to make their families, their hometowns, their careers better.

"The Berea Arena Theatre is a home for music and art," says director Eddie Kennedy. "How fitting for the SongFarmer community to choose this venue on a beautiful autumn weekend to celebrate America's front porch."

The Gathering of SongFarmers is free to all members, only \$10 per person per day for non-members. The evening concert both nights is free to the public, and it is recommended you bring a lawn chair or blanket. Information is available online at SongFarmers.org or by calling 859-255-5700. <end>

MEDIA CONTACT: radio@woodsongs.com

The WoodSongs Front Porch Association presents the 4th annual

Gathering of **SongFarmers** Old-Time Pickin' Party



Free to the Public - Bring a Lawn Chair!
**FRONT PORCH PICKERS
FROM AROUND THE NATION!**

FREE TO THE PUBLIC
SONGFARMERS.org/BEREA

Artists
EST. 1933

Berea
Arena
Theater

BERING
BANDS

AG CREDIT

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