

utah arts festival

Utah Arts Festival Partners with Ogden Friends of Acoustic Music to Spotlight Utah's Best Emerging Artists

Top vote-getters from the Ogden Music Festival's Tweeners program earn a spot on the UAF Festival Stage

May 14, 2026: SALT LAKE CITY, UT — The Utah Arts Festival is proud to announce a new partnership with Ogden Friends of Acoustic Music (OFOAM), bringing together two of Utah's most celebrated outdoor community events in a collaboration that puts local artists front and center.

The partnership connects the OFOAM Tweeners program — a beloved tradition at the annual Ogden Music Festival — with the Utah Arts Festival stage. Tweeners are local and emerging performers who play between main stage acts at the Ogden Music Festival, and this year festival-goers will have a direct hand in deciding who goes further. Attendees at the 18th Annual Ogden Music Festival (May 29–31, 2026) will vote for their favorite Tweener performers, and the **two top vote-getters will earn a featured performance slot on the Festival Stage at the Utah Arts Festival on Saturday, June 20, 2026**, ahead of featured and headliner acts.

"We are so excited to welcome OFOAM and the Ogden Music Festival community to the Utah Arts Festival," said Aimee Dunsmore, Executive Director of the Utah Arts Festival. "This partnership is everything we love — great music, community, and a real opportunity for local artists to grow. The Tweeners program has an incredible track record of finding and elevating hidden gems, and we can't wait to see who the audience sends our way."

The 2026 Tweener lineup features artists across a range of acoustic styles: Gage Brigrance, Columbia Jones, Renee Mackin, Alex & Charlotte, Wasatch Valley Drifters, Trace Wiren, Daniel Young with M. Horton Smith, Raccoon Rodeo, Kelly Bellerose with Rick Senese, Emily Cox, and John Elwood Morgan.

"The Tweeners program has always been one of our favorite parts of the festival — these artists bring real energy and the crowds love them," said Michelle Tanner, founder and director OFOAM. "Partnering with the Utah Arts Festival to give our top

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Tweener performers an even bigger platform is a perfect way to elevate the power of the stage and live performance."

Voting will be available through the Utah Arts Festival app, with ballots available at the Utah Arts Festival's vendor booth.

Since 2008, the Ogden Music Festival, held at Fort Buenaventura Park in Ogden, has brought world-class folk, bluegrass, and Americana artists to Northern Utah, with past performers including Mavis Staples, Sam Bush, Molly Tuttle, Lake Street Dive, and Sierra Ferrell. The 2026 headliner lineup includes Sierra Hull, North Mississippi Allstars, Yonder Mountain String Band, Ken Pomeroy, and more.

Tickets to the Ogden Music Festival are on sale now at ofoam.org. Utah Arts Festival tickets and information are available at uaf.org.

Performance Details

The Ogden Music Festival Tweeners will perform on the Festival Stage on June 20, 2026, at 3:45pm and 4:45pm ahead of the featured performances by Salt Lake Acting Company and Eldersister and headliner Shakey Graves.

About Utah Arts Festival

Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2026, the Utah Arts Festival is Utah's premier outdoor arts experience, presenting world-class visual, performing, and culinary arts to the Salt Lake City community each June. For five decades, the Festival has been at the heart of the city's cultural vibe, bringing boundary-pushing artists and unforgettable experiences to audiences of all ages. More info at uaf.org.

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