



The Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Association was formed in 1967 due to overwhelming support from two local fiddling contests, thus establishing the **Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention**. With a stated goal of reviving the tradition of old time music, the annual event held on the historic campus of Athens State University is known as the “Granddaddy of Midsouth Fiddlers Conventions.”

In 2014, legislation was passed in the State of Alabama recognizing the Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention as the official home of 14 state champions, including the Alabama State Fiddle Champion. Each year, hundreds of contestants come to Athens to compete for these coveted titles, joining thousands of fans who come to enjoy the music, along with “shade-tree players” who bring their own instruments to perform in impromptu jam sessions.

In addition to the competitions, which begin Friday evening at 7:30 PM, the 2025 Convention will include top-notch entertainment by Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers, Pitney Meyer, Jimmy Fortune, and Rhonda Vincent & The Rage. The Fiddlers experience is further enhanced by dozens of food vendors and over 150 area craftsmen displaying their arts and crafts, offering unique and custom-made souvenirs. Proceeds support student scholarships and various University projects.

ADMISSION PRICES

WEDNESDAY	FREE
THURSDAY	\$20.00
FRIDAY	\$20.00
SATURDAY	\$20.00
3-DAY PASS	\$30.00

CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE WITH PAID ADULT.  
GROUP DISCOUNTS (20 OR MORE) AVAILABLE!

Purchase your tickets online!  
**AthensFiddlers.org**

BE SURE TO VISIT:

NANNY’S OLD FASHION LEMONADE  
**CRAFT VENDOR AREA**

Over 150 craft vendors offering unique and custom-made souvenirs

PEPSI  
**FOOD COURT**

Over a dozen food vendors offering a wide variety of delicious food

**JERRY McGLOCKLIN MUSIC STORE**

(Sandridge Ballroom) Vendors selling instruments and accessories

**CB&S BANK STRINGS WORKSHOPS**

All ages and abilities welcome!

Kares Library | FREE (no ticket required)

Thursday, beginning at 2 PM:  
Banjo, Mandolin, and JAM Workshop

Friday, beginning at 2 PM:  
Guitar, Fiddle, and JAM Workshop

**Delmore Brothers Museum & Fiddlers Museum**

Located on the Ground Floor of McCandless Hall

**BANK INDEPENDENT®**

BANK INDEPENDENT CASH GIVEAWAY

**\$2,500**

\$500 Thursday | \$1,000 Friday | \$1,000 Saturday

Support provided by the  
Alabama Department of Tourism



This project is made possible in part by a grant from the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area.

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to our sponsors!

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Athens

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58<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL



Wednesday, October 1, 2025  
THROUGH  
Saturday, October 4, 2025

HELD ON THE CAMPUS OF  
**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY**

**\$47,350 in CASH PRIZES**

Top category winners named  
**ALABAMA STATE CHAMPIONS**

**AthensFiddlers.org**

Find us on



CONCERTS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1 — 7:30 PM



SPECIAL **GOSPEL** CONCERT —  
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

**JOE MULLINS &  
THE RADIO RAMBLERS**

MAIN STAGE,  
FOUNDERS HALL

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2 — 7:00 PM



**PITNEY  
MEYER**

MAIN STAGE,  
FOUNDERS HALL

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 — 6:00 PM



**JIMMY  
FORTUNE**

MAIN STAGE,  
FOUNDERS HALL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 — 7:30 PM



**RHONDA VINCENT  
& THE RAGE**

MAIN STAGE,  
FOUNDERS HALL

More Information: AthensFiddlers.org

OUTDOOR STAGES - Bring lawn chairs

NO PETS allowed inside the gates

FREE CAMPING - No hookups available

UNIQUE ARTS & CRAFTS BOOTHS

DOZENS OF FOOD VENDORS

SMOKE/VAPE FREE CAMPUS

COMPETITIONS

LISTING OF EVENTS AND PRIZES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Pre-register at [AthensFiddlers.org](#); Registration ends 30 minutes before each competition.  
(Competitions are continuous with no scheduled breaks; exact start times are unknown.)

BEGINNING AT 7:30 PM (both locations)

Founders Hall	Harmonica (Finals).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Founders Hall	Dulcimer (Finals).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Founders Hall	Mandolin (Finals).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Founders Hall	Bluegrass Banjo (Finals).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Founders Hall	Dobro (Finals).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
McCandless Hall	Old Time Singing (Finals).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

Pre-register at [AthensFiddlers.org](#); Registration ends 30 minutes before each competition.  
(Competitions are continuous with no scheduled breaks; exact start times are unknown.)

BEGINNING AT 9:00 AM (all locations)

Brown Hall	Beginner Guitar (Finals) (Age 12 & Under).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Brown Hall	Beginner Mandolin (Finals) (Age 12 & Under).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Brown Hall	Beginner Banjo (Finals) (Age 12 & Under).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Brown Hall	Old Time Banjo (Finals).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Brown Hall	Guitar Finger Picking (Finals).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Brown Hall	Guitar Flat Picking (Finals).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Brown Hall	Appalachian Buck Dancing (Prelim) <b>(2:00 PM)</b>	This is a Preliminary round. Prize money is awarded in the Finals round.							
Founders Hall	Beginner Fiddler (Finals) (Age 10 & Under).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Founders Hall	Apprentice Fiddler (Finals) (Ages 11-15).....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Founders Hall	Classic Old Time Fiddler (Finals).....	\$1,000	\$800	\$600	\$500	\$400	\$300	\$200	\$100
Founders Hall	Senior Fiddler (Finals) (Ages 55+).....	\$1,000	\$800	\$600	\$500	\$400	\$300	\$200	\$100
Founders Hall	Old Time String Band (Prelim).....	This is a Preliminary round. Prize money is awarded in the Finals round.							
Founders Hall	Bluegrass Band (Prelim).....	This is a Preliminary round. Prize money is awarded in the Finals round.							
Founders Hall	Tennessee Valley Fiddle Champion (Prelim)	This is a Preliminary round. Prize money is awarded in the Finals round.							

SATURDAY AFTERNOON FINALS

Preliminary round winners only. Winners in all other categories will be selected from first round competition with no finals.  
(Finals follow the end of the Fiddle Champion Preliminary round and are continuous with no breaks; exact start times are unknown.)

Founders Hall	Appalachian Buck Dancing.....	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50
Founders Hall	Old Time String Band.....	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$750	\$500	\$400	\$300	\$200
Founders Hall	Bluegrass Band.....	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$750	\$500	\$400	\$300	\$200
Founders Hall	Tennessee Valley Fiddle Champion.....	\$2,000	\$1,750	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$750	\$500	\$250

ADMISSION TICKET WILL PAY THE ENTRY FEE FOR ONE CATEGORY OF COMPETITION — ADDITIONAL ENTRIES ARE \$5 EACH (BANDS \$10)