

## Enjoy an Autumn Family Adventure During the Georgia Mountain Fall Festival

Hiawassee, GA – With its mild temperatures and colorful fall foliage the North Georgia Mountains provide a perfect fall escape, and from October 9-17, the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds will host an ideal family adventure. For 9 days, the Fairgrounds will be filled with arts & crafts, history, music and excitement during the annual Georgia Mountain Fall Festival. For a complete list of scheduled activities, discounted admission days and musical performances, visit [www.GeorgiaMountainFairgrounds.com](http://www.GeorgiaMountainFairgrounds.com).

Throughout each day of the Festival, visitors will be entertained with a wide range of musical performances including country, gospel and the popular Georgia's Official State Fiddler's Convention. Musicians such as Patty Loveless, Neal McCoy, Crystal Gayle, Aaron Tippin, Marty Stuart, The Isaacs, Chuck Wagon Gang and The Diplomats will take the stage in the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds' air-conditioned Anderson Music Hall on selected days of the event. In addition to the diverse group of musicians, the Festival will host a local variety of other single acts.

The Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds will also play host to Georgia's Official State Fiddlers Convention during the second weekend of the Fall Festival. Throughout this event, performers of all ages will compete in various musical categories such as senior fiddler, junior fiddler, bluegrass band, finger-style guitar, flat-pick guitar, banjo and mandolin. After initial competitions, a winner will be declared in each category. Then, the winner from both the junior and senior fiddling groups will compete in a "Fiddle Off," where that winner will be declared the "Georgia Mountain Fiddle King." This year, the Fiddler's Convention will be held on October 16-17. A complete listing of rules and information on how to enter can be found on the Fairgrounds' Web site.

Visitors will also feel as though they have traveled back in time during the Festival. Scattered throughout the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds' Pioneer Village, locals hold "old ways" demonstrations for visitors to enjoy and experience the past. There, they can watch how moonshine was distilled, quilting demonstrations, corn milling and, perfect for a fall festival, an authentic apple cider press. After watching the demonstrations, attendees can stroll through the Village and enjoy the Fairgrounds' replica of a quiet old mountain town. The Pioneer Village is home to a one-room schoolhouse; log home, a mercantile store and a smoke house, which guests are invited to tour. These authentic structures were moved to the Fairgrounds to preserve the area's rich history.

Attendees will also enjoy the Georgia Mountain Fall Festival's arts & crafts exhibits. Each day of the Festival artisans from around the country will display their work in covered booths throughout the Fairgrounds. Art enthusiasts will love strolling on the shaded and paved paths as they enjoy watching many of the crafters at work and the eclectic selection of items for purchase. Visitors can also tour the Festival's annual Flower Show in the Hiawassee Garden Club Building on the property. The show will be held each day of the event.

New for 2009, The Georgia Mountain Fall Festival will be hosting The Great Bear Show. Experience the oldest and longest running animal education show in the country with 3 entertainment filled shows per day.

From tasty barbeque to hamburgers and hot dogs, no one will leave the Georgia Mountain Fall Festival hungry. With a wide range of festival favorites, there is something for every craving during the event. The food booths are run by local civic organizations and serve as a fundraising tool for non-profit groups in Towns County.

Event tickets for the Georgia Mountain Fall Festival are \$9 with \$2 parking, and children under 10 are admitted for free (musical performances are included in ticket price). No pets allowed. Festival hours are weekdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For camping and lodging accommodations throughout the area, please visit the Towns County Chamber Web site at [www.MountainTopGA.com](http://www.MountainTopGA.com) The 2009 Georgia Mountain Fall Festival is a project of the Towns County Lions Club.

The Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds are the home to several popular events throughout the year including the Georgia Mountain Fair, the Roots and Music Bluegrass Festival, the Georgia Mountain Fall Festival and Georgia's Official State Fiddler's Convention. The Fairgrounds are located along the shores of beautiful Lake Chatuge in the north Georgia mountain community of Hiawassee and offer 189 beautiful camp and RV sites, most with lake views. Sites are equipped with modern conveniences and are available year round. For more information on the property and campsites as well as a complete listing of events, visit [www.GeorgiaMountainFairgrounds.com](http://www.GeorgiaMountainFairgrounds.com).

## GEORGIA MOUNTAIN FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 9-17, 2009

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup> – OPENING DAY...FLOWER SHOW OPENS AT 12:00 NOON AND CONTINUES THROUGH THE FESTIVAL. AT 2:00 P.M. JIM WOOD AND THE GEORGIA MOUNTAIN FAIR BAND WITH SPECIAL GUEST CRYSTAL GAYLE...EVENING SHOW KICKS OFF AT 6:30 P.M. WITH CRYSTAL GAYLE...FOLLOWED BY A COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW (OPEN INVITATION TO ANYONE WHO WANTS TO PERFORM) AT 8:00 P.M..**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup> – COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW BEGINS AT 2:00 P.M. WITH JIM WOOD AND THE GEORGIA MOUNTAIN FAIR BAND FOLLOWED BY AARON TIPPIN AT 3:00 P.M...EVENING SHOW KICKS OFF AT 7:00 P.M. WITH SPECIAL GUEST AARON TIPPIN...FOLLOWED BY JIM WOOD AND THE GEORGIA MOUNTAIN FAIR STAFF BAND AT 8:00 P.M.**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup> – GOSPEL MUSIC AT 2:00 P.M. FEATURING...THE ISAACS...CHUCK WAGON GANG...AND THE DIPLOMATS. INTERFAITH WORSHIP SERVICE WITH THE DIPLOMATS AT 11:00 A.M.**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup> – COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW FEATURING SESSIONS BAND...AND NEAL MCCOY...SHOWS AT 2:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M.**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup> – COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW FEATURING GOLD WING EXPRESS...AND MARTY STUART, SHOWTIMES AT 2:00 PM. AND 7:00 P.M.**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup> – CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY, EVERYONE ADMITTED FOR \$8.00 ALL DAY. COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW FEATURING PATTY LOVELESS...AND TREES LEAVE, SHOWS AT 2:00PM AND 7:00 P.M.**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup> – COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW FEATURING EARL THOMAS CONLEY...STEVEN PHILLIPS AND MIDNIGHT EXPRESS, SHOWS AT 2:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M.**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup> – “GEORGIA’S OFFICIAL STATE FIDDLERS CONVENTION” AT 2:00 P.M. FIDDLIN’ HOWARD CUNNINGHAM AND APPALACHIAN TUNESMITHS ALONG WITH SPECIAL GUEST (LEROY TROY) LEROY WILL PERFORM AGAIN AT 5:30 P.M. AND COMPETITION BEGINS AT 7:00 P.M. FEATURING NEW EMCEE, BARRY PALMER, WITH BEGINNING FIDDLER, HARMONICA, BUCK DANCING, DULCIMER, DOBRO, AND OLD TIME BANJO. WINNERS IN EACH CATEGORY WILL BE DESIGNATED OFFICIAL GEORGIA STATE CHAMPIONS.**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup> – “GEORGIA’S OFFICIAL STATE FIDDLER’S CONVENTION”, THE COMPETITION CONTINUES AT 10:30 A.M. WITH SENIOR FIDDLER, JUNIOR FIDDLER, BLUEGRASS BAND, FINGER STYLE GUITAR, FLAT PICK GUITAR, BANJO, AND MANDOLIN. THE 7:00 P.M. SHOW FEATURES THE FINALIST FROM SATURDAY’S COMPETITION TO FIND THE OFFICIAL GEORGIA STATE CHAMPION IN EACH CATEGORY. THERE WILL BE A “FIDDLE OFF” BETWEEN JUNIOR FIDDLE AND SENIOR FIDDLE WINNERS FOR THE TITLE OF “GEORGIA MOUNTAIN FIDDLE KING”.**