

**Tribute to MERLE TRAVIS  
National Thumbpicking Guitar Contest  
"Entry Form/Recording Release"**

**THE NON-REFUNDABLE CONTEST ENTRY FEE OF \$10.00 INCLUDES ALL  
ADMISSIONS TO THE OZARK FOLK CENTER DURING THE EVENT.**

**ENTRY FORM**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Check appropriate Contest and Activity in which you wish to participate:

\_\_\_\_\_ National Thumbpicking Guitar Contest (\$10.00 fee)

\_\_\_\_\_ Jam Session 2-4 pm Friday

Make Check or Money Order payable to: OZARK FOLK CENTER

Return the "Entry Form/Recording Release" & Contest Fee to:  
GUITAR CONTEST  
Ozark Folk Center  
1032 Park Ave.  
Mountain View, AR 72560

Amount Enclosed \$ _____
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**RECORDING RELEASE**

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_

I understand and hereby grant permission for all my performances to be taped by and become the property of the Ozark Folk Center which reserves all recording rights.

Contestant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Ozark Folk Center 1032 Park Ave., Mountain View, AR 72560 * (870) 269-3851 Lodae Reservations: 1-800-264-Folk (3655) (V/TT) * <a href="http://www.ozarkfolkcenter.com">www.ozarkfolkcenter.com</a>
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**Tribute to MERLE TRAVIS**  
**National Thumbpicking Guitar Contest**  
**General Contest Rules**

1. Registration must be completed by 1:30 pm on the Saturday afternoon of the Contest. Registration fee includes admission to concert Friday night and all events on Friday and Saturday for the contest entrant.
2. The contestants must be at contest stage by 1:30 pm on Saturday to draw for initial order of appearance in the preliminary round.
3. The contestant must be prepared to play three tunes at each contest appearance. No tune shall be played more than once during all appearances of a contestant.
4. Contestant must show ability to play at different tempos. In other words, all three tunes at each appearance should not be played at the same speed.
5. Contestants may have one accompanist; however, accompaniment may not be another guitar.
6. All instruments used on the contest stage must be 6-string acoustic.
7. Judging will be on thumbpicking ability, rhythm and timing, tone quality, and tuning ability. Scores will be cumulative.
8. All decisions of the judges and contest committee will be final.
9. All performances will be taped by and become the property of the Ozark Folk Center which reserves all recording rights. Signing the "Entry Form/Recording Release" enables the Folk Center to record your performance.

<i>Additional Explanation &amp; Information</i>
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1. One tune does not have to be a waltz, but tunes should be different tempos. The more variety shown by contestants, the better.
2. Contestants must use 6-string acoustic guitars only. No artificially amplified guitars (dobro, National Steel guitars) are allowed, nor oddities or unusual instruments, or 12-string guitars.
3. By "thumbpicking" ....we mean that no flat picks are allowed in any shape, manner or form. Only the fingers and thumb or picks on fingers and thumb are allowed.
4. Contestants do not have to play Travis-style to compete. Any authentic finger or thumb style is eligible.
5. The top five places in the Preliminary Competition will perform in the Finals.

Tribute to MERLE TRAVIS  
**National Thumbpicking Guitar Contest**  
**May 14 - 15, 2010**

Friday, May 14		Saturday, May 15	
2:00 - 4:00 pm	Jam Session Small Auditorium	10:30 am - noon	Workshop with guests Small Auditorium
		2:30 pm	National Thumbpicking Prelims, Music Theater
7:00 pm	Evening Concert, Music Theater with Special Guests Eddie Pennington Comer "Moon" Mullins Ben Hall	6:00 pm	National Thumbpicking Finals, Music Theater
		6:30 pm	Dead Heat Playoffs
		7:00 pm	Evening Concert, Music Theater with special guests Eddie Pennington Comer "Moon" Mullins Ben Hall

**PURPOSE** The purpose of the National Thumbpicking Guitar Contest is:

1. To preserve and promote the old-time picking styles traditional to the Southern Mountains.
2. To provide an opportunity for old-time guitar players to congregate, share tunes and techniques and further develop the art of the old-time thumbpicking guitar.
3. To preserve in the audience an appreciation and understanding of the guitar technique and tunes to assist the audience in participating intelligently and enjoyably.

**THE CONTEST IS HELD ANNUALLY AS A TRIBUTE TO MERLE TRAVIS WHO WAS PERHAPS THE FOREMOST EXPONENT OF THIS STYLE. A WORKSHOP WILL BE CONDUCTED ON SATURDAY MORNING, PROVIDING EXAMPLES OF GUITAR STYLES AND AN INFORMAL QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION. THERE WILL BE AN OPEN JAM SESSION FRIDAY AT 2 P.M. FOR CONTESTANTS AND ALL INTERESTED PICKERS.**

**JUDGING** Judging will be done by 3-5 qualified judges. Judges will be placed in an isolated room and each contestant will be identified by number. Contestants will be judged on:

1. Old-time picking ability
2. Rhythm and timing
3. Clarity and trueness of tone
4. Tuning

**Judges will be looking for variations and feeling which the contestant puts into his performance. Repetition or mechanical, unfeeling performances will detract from the final score. Decisions of the judges shall be final.**

**FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT THE PARK**  
**Ozark Folk Center, 1032 Park Ave., Mountain View, AR 72560 \***  
**(870) 269-3851**  
**Lodge Reservations: 1-800-264-Folk (3655) (V/TT) \***  
**[www.ozarkfolkcenter.com](http://www.ozarkfolkcenter.com)**