



August 1st, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

27th ANNUAL BERLIN FIDDLERS CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 20th-22nd, 2019

BERLIN, MD, USA -

September is once again right around the corner and that means it's time for the Berlin Fiddlers Convention, September 20th-22nd, 2019 in the streets of beautiful, historic Berlin, MD, USA! This free, family-friendly event is now in its 27th year! Bluegrass, old-time, celtic, irish, and cajun musicians from all over the country are invited to compete for thousands in prize money while attendees of all ages cheer on their favorite competitors in Full Band, Fiddle, Banjo, Mandolin categories and the Maryland State Flatpicking Guitar Championship! Renowned performers, accomplished youth and adult contestants, fantastic regional food, drink, and artisans have always made this one of Maryland's most fun occasions.

Friday Sept 20th - Kicking off the weekend's festivities featuring a headline performance from the Jakob's Ferry Stragglers, hailing from western Maryland and Pennsylvania. Opening the show, from West Virginia's eastern panhandle, is Robert Mabe's Irish Banjo. 7pm at the North end of Berlin's Main Street. Rain location is the Berlin Intermediate School Auditorium.

Saturday Sept 21st - Registration for the competition begins at 10am for youth and adult contestants in Bluegrass Band, Fiddle, Mandolin, Banjo, and the Maryland State Flatpicking Guitar Championship categories. New for this year is a miscellaneous category - which will be open to bluegrass and old time musicians to perform on instruments other than the "standard" four such as resonator guitar, harmonica, jaw harp, etc. Competition begins at 12 noon. Encore performances from Friday's headlining and opening bands will also be included. Parking shuttle service will be available from Berlin Intermediate School (309 Franklin Ave) all day. Rain location is the Berlin Intermediate School Auditorium.

Sunday Sept 22nd - To round out the weekend is the Gospel Bluegrass Jam hosted by members of locally-based bluegrass and country pickers, Stevenson's Crossroads and Blue Crab Crossing on the lawn of the Taylor House Museum at 12 noon. Rain location is the Masonic Lodge on Main Street.

Once again, this event is completely FREE, family friendly, and welcome to attendees and contestants of all ages. Historic Berlin, MD is a quaint Eastern Shore town filled with many great shops, boutiques, art galleries and restaurants, was the filming location for several Hollywood movies, and is perennially voted one of America's coolest small towns by many U.S. travel publications.

For contestant registration, vendor applications, and more info please visit:

[www.BerlinFiddlers.com](http://www.BerlinFiddlers.com) - [www.BerlinChamber.org](http://www.BerlinChamber.org) - [www.facebook.com/BerlinFiddlersConvention](https://www.facebook.com/BerlinFiddlersConvention)



Berlin, Maryland, USA

#### PERFORMER INFO -

##### JAKOB'S FERRY STRAGGLERS -

Hailing from the mountain towns of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Maryland, The Jakob's Ferry Stragglers draw freely from Old-Time, Bluegrass, Rockabilly, and Swing music to create their own brand of high energy, Appalachian Bluegrass. Gary Antol (guitar/vocals) and Libby Eddy (fiddle/vocals) founded the band in 2014 with a very simple goal: write good songs, honor the music, and take it to the road. In the time since, JFS has appeared at festivals and clubs all across the country. "The Jakob's Ferry Stragglers are a daring and talented young bunch, and I can only hope that they manage to reach out and unite the bluegrass and old-time communities as easily as their music does." -Bluegrass Unlimited

##### ROBERT MABE'S IRISH BANJO

Growing up in the heart of North Carolina, Robert Mabe was surrounded by many of bluegrass music's great performers. Building his foundation on the styles of Earl Scruggs and a young Bela Fleck, Robert began to dig deeper into the banjo's place in other genres such as jazz, blues, and bluegrass' primary predecessor, Irish music. Robert will be joined by Virginia-based fiddler and Berklee College of Music alum, Ben Walters. Over the years Robert has performed thousands of shows across the USA and Canada - from honkey tonks to Carnegie Hall. His latest release entitled "Somewhere in the Middle" features stand out performances from an all-star lineup of pickers. "Somewhere in the Middle" also caught the attention of trade publications, Bluegrass Today and Bluegrass Unlimited, who both published high praise of the project.

#### -YOUTH AND ADULT FIDDLE, MANDOLIN, BANJO, GUITAR (youth) and BAND COMPETITION -

Rules, prize amounts, and pre-registration can be found at [www.BerlinFiddlers.com](http://www.BerlinFiddlers.com).

-THE MARYLAND STATE FLATPICKING GUITAR CHAMPIONSHIP - Specific rules apply - and can be found by clicking The Maryland State Flatpicking Guitar Championship icon at [www.BerlinFiddlers.com](http://www.BerlinFiddlers.com). Grand prize is \$200 and a brand new Acoustic Guitar from Eastman Strings.

For further information regarding all musical aspects of the Berlin Fiddlers Convention please feel free to contact Nathan Clendenen at [BerlinFiddlers@denenmusic.com](mailto:BerlinFiddlers@denenmusic.com)

Online: [www.BerlinFiddlers.com](http://www.BerlinFiddlers.com) - [www.BerlinChamber.org](http://www.BerlinChamber.org) - [www.facebook.com/BerlinFiddlersConvention](http://www.facebook.com/BerlinFiddlersConvention)

#### Details:

Friday Sept 20th - Concert featuring "Jakob's Ferry Stragglers" and "Robert Mabe's Irish Banjo"

- Berlin Main Street North End 7pm-10pm FREE

Saturday Sept 21st - Fiddler's Convention Competition

- Berlin Main Street Center 10am-5pm FREE Parking Shuttle Service Available from Berlin Intermediate School (309 Franklin Ave) all day

Sunday Sept 22nd - Gospel Bluegrass Jam w/ Stevenson's Crossroads and Blue Crab Crossing

- Taylor House Museum 12noon-3pm FREE