

One added feature at the Symphony will be an ensemble of recycling stations set up throughout the event grounds. As you know, recycling creates jobs, saves energy and natural resources, and reduces the mountains of trash we throw away every day. In addition recycling will help keep our "Concert Hall" clean. Please be sure to place your empty bottles and cans in the recycling bins.



We're out to catch you...Recycling, that is! If the Green Team from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment catches you properly using the recycling bins on the event grounds, you may be handed one of several coveted tickets to next year's Symphony in the Flint Hills! We have a bucket full of certificates for tickets to give away. Get Caught Recycling!

For more information on the Get Caught Recycling! initiative, go to: www.getcaughtrecycling.org



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IMPORTANT!

TICKET HOLDER INFORMATION



S Y M P H O N Y I N T H E F L I N T H I L L S

ISSUE II

SUMMER 2006

A Note from Kathy...

SELL OUT crowd for SYMPHONY

Arrive early to enjoy prairie activities, food and the beautiful Flint Hills!



Kathy Miller, Board Chair

Symphony in the Flint Hills has captured the imaginations of lots of people! We are expecting over 6,500 people to arrive at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve on June 10 to enjoy prairie activities, award-winning barbeque and the beauty of the Flint Hills before the baton is raised for the 6 p.m. concert. In addition to the 5,000 general admission ticket holders, there will be several hundred patrons, sponsors and honored guests, 200 musicians and singers, and over 350 volunteers and vendors. Together we will help make the magic!

To prepare you for the Symphony in the Flint Hills Adventure, please read these "frequently asked questions." If you have organized a group to attend the Symphony, please share this information with everyone.

Where do I park?

Watch for the signs. Parking for general admission ticket holders is located in the brome field on the EAST side of Highway 177 across from the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. Golf carts will be available for those who need assistance from the parking lot to the Stone Barn/corral area. Parking for Symphony Patrons and Sponsors and people with official Handicapped permits is located on the WEST side of Highway 177. Check out the enclosed map.

What's the best way to get to the concert site from the Ranch Headquarters?

Rides will be available by hay wagons or shuttle bus from near the Stone Barn/corral area out to the concert site. It is hard to predict how long lines will be. We encourage everyone who is physically able to take the no-wait alternative -- a beautiful one-mile walk on the "Wildflower Trail" from the Stone Barn out to the concert site. The views are spectacular and the June flowers will be in full bloom. There are places to sit and enjoy the view. Covered wagons will stop along the trail to give you a lift.

What time do I need to arrive so I don't miss the start of the concert?

Plan plenty of time to get into the parking lot and then to the historic Ranch site where you'll exchange your ticket for a wristband. You may enjoy the activities that the National Park Service has planned at the Ranch Headquarters before going to the concert site. Walking the Wildflower Trail from the Ranch Headquarters takes about 30 minutes. The last motorized vehicle will leave the Stone Barn/corral at 5 p.m. Transportation lines are anticipated to be long, so be sure to arrive several hours early. It's a one-mile, one-lane gravel road--plan accordingly! The concert will start at 6 p.m. -- sharp!

There is a number on my ticket. Does this mean I have a reserved seat?

No. All seats are general admission, except for Symphony Patrons, Sponsors and Bus Tours. Space is available for your blankets and chairs on a first-come-first-served basis. So come early for the best choice!

How early may I come to the Preserve?

The Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve opens at 9 a.m. The Wildflower Trail to the concert site will open at noon. No one will be permitted to go out to the concert site until the Wildflower Trail opens. At 1 p.m. rides on the hay wagons and shuttle buses will begin.

I'm planning to arrive at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve early. What activities are available?

An array of interesting and fun options are included in the price of your ticket. See the Schedule of Activities included in this newsletter.

I plan to arrive at the site by early afternoon, but I'd love to explore Chase County in the morning. What do you suggest?

The Flint Hills Folk Life Festival starts at 10 a.m. on the grounds of the historic Chase County Courthouse in Cottonwood Falls. More information is available at www.flinthillsfolklifestival.com. Businesses in Cottonwood Falls and Strong City will be open all day on Saturday, June 10.

What about the Prairie Art Plein Air Art Auction?

Starting at 9 a.m., artists participating in the Prairie Art Plein Air event will be painting on site and selling original landscapes for you to take home. The silent auction of Flint Hills paintings by over 50 landscape artists starts at noon in the historic Stone Barn and the live auction begins at 1 p.m. See www.prairieart.net for more information.

Will there be food and drink available or do I need to bring a picnic?

Award-winning barbecue dinners and vegetarian options will be available for purchase at the concert site from Flint Hills vendors. Iced tea and lemonade will also be for sale. There will be plenty of free water. Wine and beer will be on sale after 3 p.m. We ask that you not bring outside alcoholic beverages to the site. You may choose to bring your own picnic, but remember you will need to carry it with you. Pancakes, breakfast wraps and beverages will be available at the Stone Barn from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

What kinds of wine and beer?

Chardonnay, Cabernet, White Zinfandel, and Boulevard Beer on tap

Is the food expensive?

Prices range from \$2 for a beverage to \$8 for a Barbecue Dinner. You will purchase vendor tickets at the concert site for \$2 each. Tickets may be exchanged for food and beverages with menu items priced to match.

What else can I buy for a \$2 vendor ticket?

You may rent a chair; buy a commemorative program; a 16 ounce bottle of water or a giant, homemade cookie! Sandwiches, dinner and wine are in multiples of \$2.

The Menu

Our menu will offer you a choice of :

- Award winning Pulled Pork
Premium porkshoulder, hand-rubbed and slow hickory smoked for 15 hours
- Award winning Pulled Beef Brisket
Choice grade of beef, hand-rubbed with spices and hickory smoked to superb tenderness
- Bison Burger
with all the "fixins"
- Veggie Burger
with all the "fixins"

Pancakes, breakfast wraps and beverages will be available at the Stone Barn from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Dinner with choice of two sides.....4 tickets

Child's Plate (for children 12 and under)

1/2 sandwich with two sides.....2 tickets

Sandwiches only:

Pork or Beef Brisket.....3 tickets

Bison Burger with all the fixins.....3 tickets

Vegetarian option:

Veggie Burger with all the fixins.....3 tickets

Sides:

Country-style Baked Beans

Presidential-style Potato Salad

Creamy Cole Slaw

Giant Homemade Cookies.....1 ticket

Lemonade and Iced Tea.....1 ticket

Bottled Water.....1 ticket

Do I need to bring my own chair?

Chairs are available for rent for a reasonable \$2 vendor ticket – much easier than carrying your chair up the hill – and back down again! You may bring chairs (no chaise lounges, please) or blankets if you wish.

What else do I need to remember for this prairie adventure?

Don't forget a hat, sunscreen and bug spray! You may wish to bring a flashlight for the walk back to the car after the concert.

Will there be ADA equipped transportation to the concert site for persons with disabilities?

Yes, there will be ADA equipped vans from the ADA parking area. Please call 620-273-8955 to let us know your plans.

Will there be water available?

Yes. Free water is being provided courtesy of the National Guard. Bottled water will also be available for purchase.

What souvenirs will be for sale at the concert?

Commemorative Programs will be sold for \$2. And you won't want to go home without the inaugural concert's Commemorative Poster of the Flint Hills! There also will be an array of T-shirts, hats, prairie-related books and lots of other interesting items for sale at the Kansas Park Trust retail tent.

How long is the concert?

The concert will start promptly at 6 p.m. The performance will last 90 minutes plus a 20-minute intermission. Sunset in the Flint Hills can be extraordinarily beautiful. Sunset on June 10 will be at 8:53 p.m. It may take awhile for those needing a ride down, so please be patient. We recommend flashlights for slow walkers, although there will be a near-full moon rising! The walking trail and parking lots will be lit by portable light towers after dark.

Are there any rules I should be aware of?

No videotaping, photographing, or cell phones during the performance, please! No glass bottles and no smoking at the concert site. **SORRY, NO PETS ALLOWED.**

Who gets the proceeds from Symphony ticket sales?

Symphony in the Flint Hills, Inc. is a Kansas nonprofit organization. Volunteer board members expect this to be an annual event. Any proceeds after expenses have been paid for the 2006 concert will be used as seed money for the next concert expected to be held in Wabaunsee County on June 16, 2007 with the Kansas City Symphony.

What should I wear?

This is a non-traditional symphony. The hallmark is comfort for walking and for enjoying yourself out on the prairie. So dress in cool, comfortable clothes and wear good walking shoes – not your traditional "Symphony-going" attire.

It's not going to rain on June 10, is it?

It is expected that Saturday, June 10, 2006, will be the most glorious day of the year! However, remember that nature is our partner in this event. If the weather seems uncertain on that day, please visit www.symphonyintheflinthills.org or call Select-a-Seat at 316-755-7328 between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. for information. Our media partners, including KAKE-TV in Wichita (Channel 22), WIBW-Channel 13 in Topeka, KMUW (FM 89) in Wichita, KPR (FM 91.5) in Lawrence and KCUR (FM 89.3) in Kansas City will also have event weather information.

Is there a rain date scheduled?

In case of inclement weather on June 10, the concert will be held at the Tallgrass Prairie at 6 p.m. on Sunday, June 11, 2006.

In case of rain on both days, are tickets refundable, or have you arranged an indoor site for the concert?

We have arranged an alternative site, so tickets are not refundable. In case of inclement weather on both June 10 and June 11, the concert will be held at the W. L. White Civic Auditorium, 522 Mechanic Street, Emporia, Kansas at 6 p.m. on Sunday, June 11, 2006.

Will rain effect where I park?

If we have heavy rain during the days prior to the concert, it may be necessary to change our parking plan even though the concert day is sunshiny and clear. We advise you to check the website for any last minute changes. Look for roadside signage directing you to alternative parking areas in Strong City and Cottonwood Falls.

Oh, and one more question. Where can I go for more information?

Visit www.symphonyintheflinthills.org

email: info@symphonyintheflinthills.org

call: 620-273-8955