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**July 22 - August 11 | M-F 9AM-12PM**

Performances: Aug. 9 at 7pm & Aug. 10 & 11 at 2pm

Instructor: Katie E. Smith | Location: Reif Center

Fee: \$150.00 (Before June 12) \$165.00 (After June 12)

For audition information  
and to register visit  
[TheReif.org](http://TheReif.org).

Questions? Email Katie  
at [ksmith@reifcenter.org](mailto:ksmith@reifcenter.org)  
or call 218-327-5780.



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# MICHAEL MARTIN MURPHEY

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Michael Martin Murphey's musical journey has taken many unpredictable paths over the past 50 years. Topping the Pop, Country, Western and Bluegrass charts, Murphey has never been one to rest on his laurels.

A loyal American son from Texas, Murphey is best known for his chart-topping hits "Wildfire," "Carolina In The Pines," "What's Forever For," "Long Line of

Love," "Geronimo's Cadillac," "Cowboy Logic," and many more across his 35 albums released to date.

Murphey's long-running incarnation as a purveyor of the music, lifestyle, and values of the American West is one of many musical mantles he has worn over the years. To track his career path is to span the country itself, from



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coming of age in the Texas folk music scene, to Los Angeles to Colorado to Nashville and then back to his native Texas.

Murphey's original songs have been recorded by The Monkees, Kenny Rogers, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, John Denver, Hoyt Axton, Johnny Cash, Tracy Byrd, Lyle Lovett, Jerry Jeff Walker, Dolly Parton, Johnny Rivers, Billy Ray Cyrus, and many others.

During the early 1970s in Austin, TX along with artists like Jerry Jeff Walker and Gary P. Nunn, Murphey created the "Cosmic Cowboy" movement, which was pivotal in drawing artists like Willie Nelson to the scene and helped birth the "Outlaw" Country movement. In 1972, Murphey signed a

major label deal. Discovered by renowned producer Bob Johnston (Simon & Garfunkel, Bob Dylan), Murphey released his pivotal debut, *Geronimo's Cadillac*. "On the strength of his first album alone," proclaimed *Rolling Stone Magazine*, "Michael Murphey is the best new songwriter in the country." In 1975 he topped the pop charts with his hit singles, "Wildfire" and "Carolina In the Pines" from the RIAA Certified Gold album *Blue Sky - Night Thunder*.

Then, in the early 1980s, Murphey recorded a watershed country album for Capitol Records produced by Jim Ed Norman. He topped the Country Charts with the "Still Taking Chances" single, which

*cont. p. 7*



*Murphey, Randy Travis, Bob, Roy Rogers*

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solidified his relationship with country radio as a hit singer-songwriter, and exposed him to an entirely new audience. Twelve years after his first hit in Pop music, Murphey was awarded “Best New Artist” by the Academy of Country Music (beating out George Strait). He continued to top the country charts throughout the decade with hits like “What’s Forever For,” the Grammy nominated “A Face In the Crowd,” (with Holly Dunn), the number one “A Long Line of Love,” “I’m Gonna Miss You Girl,” and many more.

In 1985, Murphey performed with the New Mexico Symphony in a concept he titled “A Night in the American West,” which was so well received, it led to hundreds of performances with American and Canadian symphonies, including the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C.

In 1990 he circled around to one of his first loves, cowboy music. Cowboy Songs Vol. 1, was wildly successful and became the first album of cowboy music to go gold since the heyday of Marty

Robbins. Cowboy Songs was so popular and highly regarded that Warner Bros. created an entire imprint called Warner Western. In the midst of this Country / Western successes he founded a Western cultural festival called “Westfest,” deemed “the best festival in America.” It is American West showmanship, culture, lifestyle and scholarship.

Ever a genre-busting artist, Murphey refocused his attention again in 2009 with his Grammy nominated Buckaroo Blue Grass. That project — and two subsequent releases, Buckaroo Blue Grass II and Tall Grass & Cool Water — topped the Bluegrass charts.

Murphey has been awarded gold albums for Cowboy Songs, Vol. 1, Blue Sky Night Thunder, and a Platinum single, “Wildfire.” He has been given the prestigious Charlie Russell Award for Western Heritage. He is a 5-time recipient of the Wrangler award from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum

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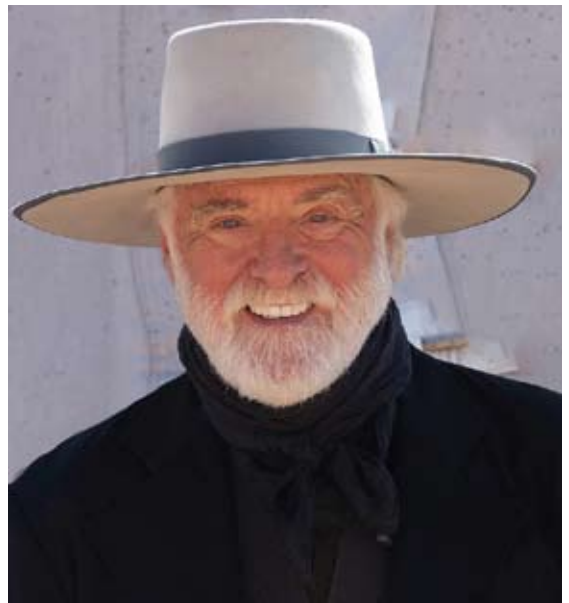


and Cowboy Hall of Fame, and boasts awards from the Academy of Country Music, Rock Music Awards, Academy of Western Music Awards, Governor of New Mexico's Outstanding Achievement Award, Outstanding Son of Texas Award by the Texas Legislature, and multiple from BMI. In 2009, he was inducted into the Texas Heritage Songwriters Association Hall of Fame, joining old friends Willie Nelson, Guy Clark and Allen Shamblin.

In 2018, Murphey released *Austinology: Alleys of Austin*, which celebrated his early days as a pioneer of the Austin Music Scene of the 70s with guest artists that included Willie Nelson, Steve Earle, Lyle Lovett, Amy Grant, Jerry Jeff Walker, Kelly Willis, Bruce Robison, and many more.

In April 2019 Murphey was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 59th Annual Western Heritage Awards. The

National & Western Heritage Museum honored him for his producing and celebrating western music. "In the Old West," Murphey said, "songs were shared by pioneers, cattlemen, ranchers, painted ladies and even gunslingers as a way of keeping the West alive. I have always been drawn to songs about the love of the land, the strength of the prairie folks, the dusty trails, the mythic tales and the legends of a bygone era. I have always admired Westerners for their stubborn determination and deep love of life. That's what I celebrate in my music."





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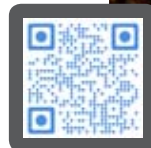
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## Reif Dance: Spring Show

Fri, Sat, Sun, June 7-8-9

7pm | 2pm | The Reif: Wilcox Theater

## Greg Kaczor

Thursday, June 13 @ 7PM

FREE concert, Hibbing's Bennett Park

## Raised on Radio: The Music of Journey & Bon Jovi

Friday, June 14 @ 7PM

7pm | The Reif: Wilcox Theater



## Takin' It to the Limit: An Eagles Tribute with Collective Unconscious and the Fabulous Armadillos

Thursday, June 20 @ 7PM

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## Twist of Fate

Friday, July 5 @ 7PM

BOAT-IN FREE concert,  
Pokegama Lake, Sugar Bay

Enter coordinates in Google Maps to find the place: 47°12'23.8"N 93°37'46.9"W

## Adessa & The Beat

Saturday, July 6 @ 7PM

BOAT-IN FREE concert, Prairie Lake

Enter coordinates in Google Maps to find the place: 47.293832, -93.528146

## Christopher David Hanson Band

Thursday, July 11 @ 7PM

FREE concert, Hibbing's Bennett Park



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## REIF MISSION

### To stimulate arts in Northern Minnesota.

Underlying principles that guide this mission include the Reif Arts Council's responsibility to provide a healthy organization and a well-managed facility in which a wide variety of visual and performing arts may be experienced, exhibited, and taught.

2023 - 2024

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