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Downtown Country

River City Players

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Downtown Country

History

In 1995, C.H. Parker met Tim Gilliam, a young country and bluegrass musician who had recently returned to Tahlequah from performing in Nashville to pursue a degree in mass communication at Northeastern State University. From that initial meeting sprung the nexus for Downtown Country, the university's annual Branson-style show showcasing live country music. The first year's Country Fare evolved into NSU's Downtown Hoedown, and eventually became known as Downtown Country. Downtown Country has hosted a number of talented artists over the years, including NSU alumnae, 2005 American Idol winner and country music superstar Carrie Underwood.

Performance Venue

University Playhouse
300 N. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Performance Times

Evening Performances

Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

Matinee Performances

Saturday at 2 p.m.

2011 Productions

A Grand Ole Celebration

(Friday at 7:30 p.m. & Saturday at 2 p.m.)

Join the Downtown Country cast in honoring one of the greatest traditions in country music—the Grand Ole Opry! Retrace its early beginnings as the WSM Barn Dance, relive days spent at the historic Ryman Auditorium, rejoice in its renovation after last year's historic Nashville flood, and revel in the continued success of the world's longest running live radio program. Spanning more than 85 years of history, this show celebrates the legendary performers—past and present—of the Opry!

This is Country Music!

(Thursday at 7:30 p.m. & Saturday at 7:30 p.m.)

How do you define country music? Is it the signature songs of Patsy Cline, Hank Williams, and Lefty Frizzell—legends who are gone but not forgotten? Is it the teardrop in a haunting voice, or the themes of love and loss that forever ring true?

Is it the way that "a good country song takes a page out of somebody's life and puts it to music," as Conway Twitty once



said? Whatever your answer may be, Downtown Country's one-of-a-kind show filled with hope, real life, patriotism, faith, and special artist tributes will have you on your feet, cheering "THIS is country music!"

