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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - - -

2008 KERRVILLE FOLK FESTIVAL SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

KERRVILLE, Texas - - - The Kerrville Folk Festival at Quiet Valley Ranch, nine miles South of the Texas Hill Country resort community of Kerrville, has announced an exciting 2008 festival schedule for its 37th annual event. Once again this legendary songwriter's festival will run for 18 straight days, from Thursday, May 22 through Sunday, June 8, 2008.

Festival Producer Dalis Allen is pleased to announce the return of Kathy Mattea to the festival for her first visit since 2001. Kathy, the Grammy winning singer of such songs as "18 Wheels and a Dozen Roses", "Where've You Been", and many other hits is celebrating the release of her newest album COAL. Kathy Mattea will be performing on Friday, June 6.

Another special treat for 2008 will be a reunion of the Lost Gonzo Band. Last year's Gonzo reunion was cancelled due to lightning so we are lucky they have agreed to come back for the 2008 festival. Founding members Bob Livingston and Gary P Nunn will be joined by Texas musical greats and former Gonzos John Inmon, Lloyd Maines, Paul Percy, and others in what will surely be a wonderful night of Texas style jams. The Lost Gonzo Band Reunion will perform on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26.

This year's talent-packed festival lineup includes Kerrville Folk Festival newcomers such as Bob Schneider who will be bringing his "Texas Bluegrass Massacre" to the Festival on Friday, May 30th, Winnipeg's Twilight Hotel (May 23), The Belleville Outfit (May 26), Dale Watson (May 23), Sam Lardner and Barcelona (May 30) and Randy Rogers (June 8). There's also an impressive list of artists returning after a hiatus including, among others, Ray Wylie Hubbard (May 22), Shake Russell (May 24), The Gourds (June 1st), the South Austin Jug Band (June 7) and Wheatfield (June 8).

Of course the talent doesn't stop there... the Kerrville Folk Festival will once again present diverse audience favorites such as Eliza Gilkyson (May 25), Terri Hendrix (June 7), Guy Forsyth (June 7), Slaid Cleaves (May 30), Trout Fishing in America (June 7), Sara Hickman (May 25), David Wilcox (June 1), Band of Heathens (May 31), Peppino D'Agostino (May 26), Kevin Welch (May 25), Jimmy LaFave (May 24), and Walt Wilkins (June 6) along with dozens of other renowned artists.

As usual, the 2008 Grassy Hill Kerrville New Folk Competition for emerging songwriters will be held on the first Saturday and Sunday of the festival (May 24th and 25th), from noon to 3:00 pm. From the 800 entries, 32 finalists will be selected to perform in this prestigious annual competition, hosted by Steve Gillette. Several former New Folk finalists and winners are on this year's festival line-up

(more)

including Anais Mitchell, Jud Caswell, Anthony da Costa, Small Potatoes, Colin Brooks and Gordy Quist from the Band of Heathens, and Jason Spooner just to name a few.

Held each year since 1972, the Kerrville Folk Festival is the longest continuously running festival of its kind in North America. Over the years it has become known internationally as a Mecca for singer songwriters of varying musical styles... a place where those just beginning to develop their skills have the opportunity to play their music along side those who are masters. Emerging songwriters as well as teachers are drawn to the festival's many learning opportunities, such as the 28th Annual Songwriters School, the Roots / Blues Guitar Workshop, Harmonica Workshop and the 7th Annual Professional Development Program for Teachers, to name just a few.

There's truly something for everyone at this festival, from camping, campfire jam sessions, concerts and activities for kids, "Ballad Tree" song sharing sessions, Hill Country bike rides and canoe trips on the Guadalupe to Sunday Folk Song Services, Saturday Shabbat Services and much more. This is one musical celebration that *must* not be missed! A complete festival schedule, information and tickets can be found at www.kerrvillefolkfestival.com or by calling the festival office at (830) 257-3600. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$35 depending on the particular day, although you can save from 20% to 30% by purchasing your tickets in advance. Parking fees are \$3 per day per vehicle.

Hi resolution photos of selected festival performers, along with press credential request form, and copies of all press releases will be available soon at www.kerrvillefolkfestival.com/kff08_media.htm.