



Triple L, new to Pickin' on the Plains this year, will be leading several of the workshops this year, along with performing Friday evening, Saturday afternoon and evening and Sunday morning.

Music workshops offer entertaining way to learn

By Kayla Cornett

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Another part of the Pickin' on the Plains festival, besides the band performances, is the music workshops offered to all who attend.

The workshops begin about 10 a.m. Saturday and run until 4 p.m., all free with paid admission.

Susan McLemore of the McLemores, a festival committee member, said the workshops are favorites for kids of all ages, and are for players of all skill levels.

"Anyone interested in learning to play an instrument or sing, those just beginning and those who are experienced," she said, "can sit in with the professionals and get some pointers on practicing, what kind of instrument to buy, performing and jamming.

"It's like getting a lesson with a group, and this year most of the workshops will be taught by members of the Triple L band from New Mexico."

McLemore said Lance, Landon and Levi Miller, who play guitar, banjo and mandolin, respectively, for Triple L, all have won contests with their instruments and should have

some great tips to share. Flatpick guitar and mandolin sessions will be held at 11 a.m. on different sides of the arena and the banjo session will be at noon.

Rebekah Workman from Utah, with the band Driven, will lead a fiddle workshop at 10 a.m. Meanwhile, Kathy Leitner will be teaching beginning guitar for those who are very new to the instrument or just want to learn the guitar, McLemore said.

"She will teach a few chords and have participants leave the workshop playing a song, she said. "She'll teach two different beginning workshops, so participants can actually learn two songs."

The first guitar session will be at 10 a.m. and the second at 3 p.m.

Marshal Allen Bailey, the Pickin' on the Plains emcee, will lead a western swing guitar workshop at 2 p.m., and a harmony singing workshop will be presented by the members of High Plains Tradition at 1 p.m.

McLemore said that at other festivals, workshops can cost up to \$60 apiece.

"Pickin' on the Plains is happy to bring them to you for no additional price," she said. "Everything is included in the cost of admission to the festival."

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