



MOAB MUSIC FESTIVAL
music in concert with the landscape®



Moab Music Festival prepares for the start of its 34th Season

September 2 - September 18, 2026.

MOAB, UTAH — The Moab Music Festival (MMF) prepares for the start of its 34th season. Led by Artistic Director Tessa Lark, the Festival's 2026 season centers on the theme "This Land," exploring the diverse musical roots that have shaped American music over the past 250 years.

American music reflects the meeting of many cultures and traditions. This season celebrates those intersections—where histories, sounds, and communities come together—and how those influences continue shaping the music of today.

In its 34th season, the Moab Music Festival continues its tradition of pairing exceptional music with unforgettable settings—from red-rock grottos and Colorado River floats to desert trails and private venues. These distinctive experiences invite audiences to listen deeply while connecting with one another and with the remarkable land that surrounds them.

This year's lineup includes:

Tessa Lark: Grammy-nominated violinist, acclaimed fiddler, and Artistic Director of Moab Music Festival.

Composer-in-residence: GRAMMY-winning cellist and composer **Andrew Yee** is a genre-defying artist celebrated for spellbindingly virtuosic performances. A founding member of the Attacca Quartet and Juilliard graduate, Yee's Moab residency highlights their interdisciplinary practice, including the personal solo project *Halfie*, which explores bi-racial and non-binary identity (September 4, Floating Concert I).

Rhapsody in Blue (September 4, Historic Star Hall): Starring renowned tap-dancer **Caleb Teicher**, this concert celebrates that heritage with a program that bursts with theatrical flair, musical ingenuity, and rhythmic sparkle. Caleb is widely regarded as a leading performer, choreographer, director, musical collaborator, and curator of musically-driven dance and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Cécile McLorin Salvant (September 6, Red Cliffs Lodge): The three-time GRAMMY-winning vocalist and her trio will perform an evening of genre-defying jazz and theatrical storytelling.

Huntertones (September 12, Red Cliffs Lodge): The Brooklyn-based ensemble brings their high-energy, horn-driven blend of jazz, funk, and soul. **Now with special guest appearance from Louis Cato!** *Note, there has been a venue change, and this concert will now take place at Red Cliffs Lodge.*

Sam Reider & The Human Hands: The Latin GRAMMY-nominated collective will perform September 7 - 9, fusing global folk traditions with contemporary improvisation.

Presented free of charge, the **Rocky Mountain Power Community Concert** (September 7, Old City Park) features **Native American flute virtuoso R. Carlos Nakai, Sam Reider and the Human Hands**, and other festival artists.

Find the full lineup here: [Artist of the Moab Music Festival](#)



2026 features a special collaboration with From the Top:

NPR's From the Top, the nation's premiere radio and media platform for young classical musicians. Hosted by pianist **Peter Dugan** (above middle), these two curated performances—**Floating Concert II: From the Top of the Colorado** (September 11) and **Music Hike II: Musical Stars Today & Tomorrow** (September 12)—will showcase rising stars violinist **Ava Pakiam** (age 16, above right) and cellist **Oliver Mar** (age 15, above left) in Moab's iconic natural settings.

Learn more at fromthetop.org.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Visuals:** Artist performances against the backdrop of southern Utah desert.
 - **Audio:** Soundbites on the intersection of classical, jazz, and folk music in the American West.
 - **Interviews:** Direct access to [Tessa Lark](#), and other noted artists.
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ADMISSION:

To see the full schedule, lineup and artist information for the 2026 Moab Music Festival, visit our website: [Moab Music Festival](#). For tickets, visit moabmusicfest.org or contact the Festival Box Office at (435) 259-7003.

All artists, venues and programs are subject to change.

About the Moab Music Festival



Founded in 1992 by violist Leslie Tomkins and pianist/conductor Michael Barrett, the Moab Music Festival has grown from a grassroots concert in a geodesic dome into an internationally recognized destination festival.

Today Moab Music Festival is celebrated for presenting chamber music, jazz, and global styles performed by world-class artists in extraordinary natural settings throughout southeastern Utah's red rock landscape. Led by Artistic Director, Tessa Lark, the festival is coming into it's 34th season.

Dedicated to its mission of “**music in concert with the landscape®**,” the Festival presents concerts on the Colorado River, in wilderness grottos, and along desert trails while also offering year-round education and community programs for the Moab region.

A selection of press photos is available [HERE](#)



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