



BREVARD MUSIC CENTER
SUMMER INSTITUTE AND FESTIVAL

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An Evening with Ricky Skaggs

(Brevard, NC) – The Brevard Music Center is proud to present “**An Evening with Ricky Skaggs**” on Thursday, July 29 at 7:30 pm. This concert will feature Grammy Award winning Ricky Skaggs with Kentucky Thunder, who will be performing a unique bluegrass-country mix. The group previously performed to a sold-out audience at the Music Center in 2005.

2010 marks Ricky's 39th year as a professional musician. Known today as bluegrass music's official ambassador, fourteen-time Grammy Award winner Ricky has brought the genre to greater levels of popularity in the past few years than the father of bluegrass music, the legendary Bill Monroe. He wants to show the world that "country rocks, but bluegrass rules!"

Born on July 18, 1954 in Cordell, Kentucky, Ricky was already an accomplished singer and mandolin player by the time he was a teenager. In his 20's, Ricky began performing as an individual recording artist. In 1981, *Waitin' for the Sun to Shine* was released, and Skaggs reached the top of the country charts and remained there throughout most of the eighties. He garnered eight awards from the Country Music Association (CMA), including "Entertainer of the Year" in 1985, four Grammy Awards, and dozens of other honors.

In 1997, he decided to establish his own record label, Skaggs Family Records. Since then, Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder have released an amazing 8 consecutive Grammy-nominated classics, in addition to opening the label to a variety of other musical artists, keeping an emphasis on bluegrass and other forms of roots music. In 2008, Skaggs paid tribute to Bill Monroe with the release of *Honoring the Fathers of Bluegrass: Tribute to 1946 and 1947*, earning him a 14th Grammy Award for Best Bluegrass Album.

Skaggs is the composer of many famous hits, including: “You May See Me Walkin’,” “Crying My Heart Out Over You,” “I Don't Care,” “Heartbroke,” and “Highway 40 Blues.”

The Brevard Music Center features world-renowned guest artists each summer. Select entertainers outside of the classical music arena are invited to appear at the Music Center on a Variations night, named because these performances are a variation on the core classical programs presented throughout the season. All proceeds from these concerts benefit BMC's educational programs.

Other events within the *Variations* series include **Garrison Keillor's *A Prairie Home Companion*** on Saturday, August 14 at 7:30 pm. Ricky Skaggs' auditorium tickets are \$100, \$40, \$35, and \$30 while lawn tickets are \$20. Audience members can enjoy dining through Picnics, *Presto!* Pre-orders are suggested but not required. For more information, please visit brevardmusic.org or call (828) 862-2105.

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