



News Release

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**Dwight Yoakam to add a little honky-tonk to this summer's Santa
Barbara County Fair**

SANTA MARIA – From the very moment he sings that first note there will be no question who's in the spotlight when Dwight Yoakam graces the stage at this year's 125th annual Santa Barbara County Fair.

Yoakam will perform his unique brand of what he calls "Hillbilly" music as part of the Firestone 805 and Figueroa Mountain Hoppy Poppy concert series on the KCOY Main Stage, at 7:30 p.m., Friday, July 15

Santa Maria Fairpark CEO Richard Persons said that Yoakam will not disappoint.

"Dwight Yoakam is as country as it gets. He's built a career on his incredible voice and skilled guitar playing, and I promise he will give fair audiences a great performance," Persons said.

The Kentucky honky-tonk pioneer is known and beloved for his distinctive, supple vocals and song-defining guitar riffs. His one-of-a-kind style has earned him 15 Grammy nominations, wins for Best Country Vocalist, Male, and Best Country Collaboration with Vocals. He's also been named AMA Artist of the Year 2013; CMT Europe Artist of the Year; CMA International Touring Artist of the Year; and he received the Cliffie Stone Pioneer Award from the Academy of Country Music.

In addition to his musical accomplishments, Yoakam is an accomplished actor, director, and writer with more than 30 movie and television credits, and a Screen Actors Guild nomination for his appearance in "Sling Blade"

Yoakam's career first took off with his 1985 debut album *Guitars, Cadillacs, Etc. Etc.*, which immediately yielded hit singles. Yoakam has continued to sing, write, and play music over the course of 21 albums, which garnered more than \$25 million in sales worldwide.

His new album *Second Hand Heart* features hints of Elvis, The Everly Brothers, The Beatles, and The Beach Boys, among other influences, with Yoakam's unique voice flavoring it, of course.

Dwight Yoakam's performance at the Santa Barbara County Fair is free with admission. The fair takes place July 13-17 at the Santa Maria Fairpark. Admission is still only \$10 for regular admission.

For more information, visit www.santamariafairpark.com or Like us on [Facebook](#).

About the Santa Maria Fairpark

The Santa Maria Fairpark serves as the hub for major events and community activities on California's Central Coast. The state-owned facility hosts the annual Santa Maria Valley Strawberry Festival, which attracts more than 60,000 people and is home to its headlining event the Santa Barbara County Fair, which is attended by more than 140,000 people.