



MYRIAD BOTANICAL GARDENS TUNES UP FOR GREAT LAWN FOLK FESTIVAL
Carolina Chocolate Drops founder Dom Flemons headlines concert in Downtown OKC

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma (June 13, 2017) – The Great Lawn Folk Festival, an evening of brilliant folk music featuring Carolina Chocolate Drops founder Dom Flemons, will kick off at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 22 at the Great Lawn and Bandshell at Myriad Botanical Gardens, 301 W Reno. The free event, sponsored by the Ad Astra Foundation, will feature local food trucks for a perfect evening of entertainment under the stars.

Grammy Award-winning singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Flemons founded the Carolina Chocolate Drops in 2005 with singer-songwriter Rhiannon Giddens, and the group quickly found a sizeable audience with its spirited approach to the Piedmont-style traditional music of the Carolinas. In 2006, the group released its debut album, *Dona Got a Ramblin' Mind*, which brought the group to the attention of actor-director Denzel Washington and producer Oprah Winfrey, who included the group's music in the acclaimed 2007 film *The Great Debaters*. Acclaim for subsequent releases, including Flemons 2009 solo album, *American Songster*, led to a record deal with Nonesuch, which released 2010's Joe Henry-produced *Genuine Negro Jig*, a Grammy winner for Best Traditional Folk Album.

Following 2012's *Leaving Eden*, Flemons announced his departure for a solo career. In 2014, he released *Prospect Hill*, a richly varied collection of traditional and original songs, ranging from the yearning folk of "Too Long I've Been Gone" to the traditional jazz rave-up "'Til The Seas Run Dry." Flemons told *USA Today* that the album is "a continuation of the work I've done for years. It's just a natural bridge into the next part of my career." Flemons is currently working on a concept album about African-American cowboys.

Opening act Steelwind, featuring Oklahomans Blake Parks and Michael Henneberry, released their debut album of original bluegrass, *Sound of a Train*, in 2010. The group sold out its April 2016 album release party for its most recent release, *F5*.

Before the concert, enjoy food, ice cream and handcrafted popsicles from Pitchfork in the Park or several popular food trucks including Phill Me Up Cheesesteaks, Blue Donkey Tacos, Healthy Hippo, Metro Minis and Katie Bugs Shaved Ice. Beer and wine will be available onsite.

Admission is free. VIP tickets, featuring front row reserved seating and one drink ticket, are \$35. For more information, go to myriadgardens.com.

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Dom Flemons and Steelwind are available for interviews. For more information, contact Leslie Spears at (405) 445-7091 or at lspears@myriadgardens.org.

About Myriad Botanical Gardens

Myriad Botanical Gardens is one of Oklahoma City's most beautiful and vibrant garden and park spaces offering visitors a 15-acre natural escape in the heart of downtown. Free and open to the public, the outdoor spaces include: ornamental gardens, a

children's garden and playground, Great Lawn, lake, an off-leash dog park, water features including splash fountains for children and walking and jogging paths. Gift shop open daily in our Crystal Bridge lobby visitors center. There is always something happening at the Gardens. Visit our [events calendar](#) for more information on all of our year-round special events and programs. The centerpiece of the 15-acre Myriad Botanical Gardens is the [Crystal Bridge Conservatory](#), home to thousands of beautifully displayed tropical and desert plantings. Within the 13,000 square feet, you will discover 750 varieties of plants, a cascading waterfall and a sky bridge to experience stunning views into the tropical forest.

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