



## **Austin City Limits Announces ACL Hall of Fame Inaugural Induction Ceremony on April 26, 2014**

***Performances Featuring Buddy Guy, Doyle Bramhall II, Emmylou Harris,  
Lyle Lovett, Willie Nelson, Lukas Nelson, Double Trouble, Robert  
Randolph, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Mike Farris and more***

**Austin, TX—March 31, 2014—**[Austin City Limits](#) (ACL) announces today the launch of the Austin City Limits Hall of Fame in conjunction with the iconic television series' upcoming 40th Anniversary. Celebrating the storied history of ACL, the Hall of Fame's Inaugural Induction Ceremony will take place on Saturday, April 26, 2014 at ACL's original home, KLRU's legendary Studio 6A. Recognizing both artists and non-performers who have made the long-running show a music institution, the ceremony will honor the first class of inductees, featuring two legendary music acts, **Willie Nelson** and **Stevie Ray Vaughan & Double Trouble**, and a pair of individuals who have played an invaluable role in the genesis of the series, show creator **Bill Arhos** and longtime University of Texas football coach **Darrell K. Royal**.

Performers for this intimate evening include inductees and **Doyle Bramhall II, Mike Farris, Buddy Guy, Emmylou Harris, Lyle Lovett, Lukas Nelson, Robert Randolph** and **Kenny Wayne Shepherd**. Former University of Texas football head coach **Mack Brown** will participate in the inductions, as well as special guests. More information about performances and additional guests will be announced prior to the event. Details about the physical ACL Hall of Fame will also be unveiled at the ceremony.

Guitar legend Stevie Ray Vaughan and “Coach” Darrell K. Royal will be inducted posthumously during the ceremony. Willie Nelson, ACL show creator Bill Arhos and Vaughan's longtime band Double Trouble, featuring **Chris Layton, Tommy Shannon** and **Reese Wynans**, will be inducted at the event. The Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be an annual event, honoring a new class of inductees each year. This year's Inaugural ceremony will be an invitation-only benefit for ACL parent station KLRU-TV, Austin PBS.

“There are other Halls of Fame, but none quite like this,” says ACL Executive Producer Terry Lickona. “Austin City Limits has become a unique American institution, in both the worlds of popular music and television. It has such a rich history and legacy that we decided it was time to celebrate and honor the artists and individuals who made it what it is today.”

ACL began broadcasting in 1976 as a live-music show that served to showcase musicians; it has since grown to feature performers of all genres from all over the globe. Since its inception, the Peabody Award-winning series has become an institution that's helped secure Austin's reputation as the Live Music Capital of the World. ACL continues its mission of producing great television with the debut of its 40th Season in October 2014. The program airs weekly on PBS stations nationwide and episodes are made available online at <http://acltv.com/watch/>.

About the Austin City Limits Hall of Fame Inaugural Inductees:

### **Willie Nelson**

Willie Nelson is synonymous with ACL's heritage. He was the featured performer on the original pilot for ACL, shot on October 14, 1974, and has appeared on the program more than any other headlining artist. The Texas native spearheaded the Outlaw country movement in the 1970s, and has since become a musical and cultural treasure whose artistic vision has held steady throughout seven decades. A bronze statue of Nelson at the entrance to ACL Live at The Moody Theater on the Austin street that bears his name honors the American icon, recently hailed as “possibly the greatest living Texan” by television host Jimmy Kimmel. With a staggering legacy of classic songs and enduring influence, the 80-year-old music legend, always a maverick, continues to tour more than 200 nights a year. Emmylou Harris has said, “If America had only one voice, it would be Willie's.”

### **Stevie Ray Vaughan & Double Trouble**

Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble's two epic ACL appearances in 1984 and 1990 are among the most iconic performances in ACL history. The late, great Texas bluesman's command of the Fender Stratocaster was like no other, and Vaughan—with his band Double Trouble—bridged the gap between blues and rock & roll with an excitement that hadn't been witnessed since Jimi Hendrix's reign, sparking a rebirth of the blues, and inspiring a new generation of bluesmen along the way. Countless artists that have appeared on the ACL stage cite Vaughan and Double Trouble's ACL performances as inspiration for wanting to play music. True originals, the band's lasting influence and contribution to ACL's musical legacy is unparalleled.

### **Bill Arhos**

When PBS sent out a call for original programming from member stations in 1974, KLRU (then KLRN) program director Bill Arhos had no idea that his proposed Texas music show would take off as it did, becoming—forty years later—the longest running

music series on television. Along with producer Paul Bosner and director Bruce Scafe, Arhos suggested the idea of a TV program to showcase Austin's diverse mix of country, blues, folk and psychedelic music. The pilot was shot with Willie Nelson, not yet the seminal American music figure he would become. Arhos pitched the pilot to PBS as part of its 1975 pledge drive. The show's success as a fundraiser was enough for Arhos to get ACL greenlighted as a series, and the rest is history.

### **Darrell K. Royal**

Legendary University of Texas football coach Darrell K. Royal, called the “winningest coach in University of Texas history,” by the *Austin-American Statesman*, was also a longtime friend of Austin City Limits. In the nascent days of ACL, music lover Royal championed the program with many musicians he knew personally, including Merle Haggard and George Jones. The coach helped convince major artists who had barely heard of the program to appear on the ACL stage. The storied “guitar pulls” at his Texas ranch that featured his buddy Willie Nelson and veteran and up-and-coming writers inspired ACL's Songwriters Specials. Until his death in 2012 at the age of 88, Royal, known as “Coach” to his friends, was one of ACL's most loyal fans.

### **About Austin City Limits**

[Austin City Limits](#) (ACL) is a television series on PBS that records and broadcasts original musical performances from exciting new talent and legendary artists of all genres.

Austin City Limits is the longest-running music series in American television history and remains the only TV series to ever be awarded the National Medal of Arts. The historic KLRU Studio 6A, home to 36 years of ACL concerts, has been designated an official Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Landmark. In 2011, ACL moved to the new venue ACL Live at The Moody Theater in downtown Austin. ACL received a rare institutional Peabody Award for excellence and outstanding achievement in 2012.

ACL is produced by KLRU-TV and funding is provided in part by Budweiser, the Austin Convention Center and Dell. Additional funding is provided by the Friends of Austin City Limits. Learn more about Austin City Limits, programming and history at [acltv.com](http://acltv.com).

### **About KLRU-TV, Austin PBS**

KLRU-TV, Austin PBS is dedicated to telling stories that entertain, inspire and change our lives. KLRU highlights what makes Austin unique – whether music, arts or public issues – by creating and distributing award-winning original content. KLRU produces several series including Austin City Limits, Arts In Context, Central Texas Gardener, Civic Summit and Overheard with Evan Smith. As a nonprofit educational organization, KLRU also prepares children to succeed in school and creates lifelong learning opportunities for all. Find out more at [klu.org](http://klu.org).

**Media Contact:**

**Maureen Coakley *for* ACL**

coakleypress@gmail.com

t: 917.601.1229

**Maury Sullivan**

**KLRU-TV**

msullivan@klru.org

t: 512.475.9087