

THURSDAY SCHEDULE

3:00 p.m.: **Check-in** begins for rooms at Tygart Hotel | *Tygart Hotel Lobby*

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.: **Dinner Break**

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.: **Check-in with Augusta** to pick up your packet and name badge | *Big Timber Brewing (2 Davis Avenue, Elkins, WV)*

7:00 p.m.: **Orientation.** Meet your instructors & Augusta staff. Hear more about the classes being offered during the weekend. | *Big Timber Brewing*

Following Orientation until 9:30 p.m.: **Welcome Gathering with all AIR Staff and Students.** A tune and song session. Bring a tune to play or a song to sing. | *Big Timber Brewing*

IMPORTANT LOCATIONS

- Big Timber Brewing – *2 Davis Avenue, Elkins, WV*
- Tygart Hotel / Oxley Restaurant & Lounge – *206 Davis Ave, Elkins, WV*
- Kump Education Center – *401 Randolph Ave, Elkins, WV*
- Randolph County Community Arts Center – *2 Park Street, Elkins, WV*
- Darden Mill – *101 Railroad Ave, Elkins, WV*

Explore the Augusta Archive



We are in the middle of a huge digitization project, with the goal of preserving and making public our vast collection of traditional music and folk culture documentation. Listen to interviews, performances, and more on our online archive!



Read the Augusta Blog

We have an active blog about folk culture, traditions, and contemporary life in Appalachia. Check out some of the articles written by our team and local contributors. If you would like to contribute, reach out to us at info@augustaartsandculture.org



FRIDAY

Classes held at the **Kump Education Center**,
401 Randolph Ave, Elkins, WV

9:30 — 10:45 am | **Period 1**

- **Hop Jigs & Marches** | Eileen & Eimear
- **Across the Western Ocean: Songs of Mick Moloney** | Brenda
- **Tricks for Playing Irish Guitar Standard Tuning** | Jefferson

10:45 — 11:15 am | **Tea Break**

11:15 am - 12:30 pm | **Period 2**

- **Playing with Singers for Tune players** | Dan & Eimear
- **How to Make a Tune Sound Irish** | Brenda & Eileen
- **Flatpicking Tunes on the Guitar** | Jefferson

12:30 — 2:30 pm | **Lunch Break** | *See the last page of this packet for a map of Downtown Elkins and restaurant listing.*

2:30 — 3:30 pm | **Period 3**

- **Grupa Cheoil (Arranging Tunes as Players do for the Fleadh Cheoil)** | Brenda & Eimear
- **Slow --> Fast Tune Session** | Eileen & Dan

3:30 — 4:00 pm | **Tea Break**

4:00 — 5:00 pm | *Kump House open for student-led sessions*

4:00 p.m. | **Guided Tour of the New Augusta Building** with Seth Young | 301 Davis Avenue, Elkins, WV

4:00 p.m. | **Instructor Sound Check** | *Randolph County Community Arts Center*

5:00 — 7:30 pm | **Dinner Break**

7:30 — 9:00 pm | **Concert: Masters of Irish Music** | *Randolph County Community Arts Center, 2 Park Street, Elkins, WV.*

- Featuring Brenda Castles, Eimear Arkins, Jefferson Hamer, Eileen Gannon and Dan Lowery

9:30 — 10:30 pm | **Staff-Led Session** | *Oxley Lounge at the Tygart Hotel. Tygart Hotel Conference Room (2nd floor) also open for sessions.*

After 10:00 pm | **Open Tune and Song Sessions** | *Oxley Lounge at the Tygart Hotel. Tygart Hotel Conference Room (2nd floor).*

SATURDAY

Classes held at the **Kump Education Center**,
401 Randolph Ave, Elkins, WV

9:30 — 10:45 am | **Period 1**

- **Song Arrangement on Guitar** | Jefferson
- **Introduction to Liltin** | Eimear
- **Beginning Whistle for All (i.e., How Every Irish Kid Starts Playing Music).** *Whistles provided* | Brenda & Dan

10:45 — 11:15 am | **Tea Break**

11:15 am — 12:30 pm | **Period 2**

- **Basic Chord Theory for Tune Players: (Know What Key You're In, Understand Harmony, Put Together Tune Sets, and Construct Variations)** | Dan & Eileen
- **Harmony Singing** | Jefferson & Brenda
- **Irish Fiddle** | Eimear

12:30 — 2:30 pm | **Lunch Break**

2:30 — 3:30 pm | **Period 3**

- **Ancient Harp Tunes** | Eileen
- **Singing in Irish** | Eimear
- **Slow --> Fast Tune Session** | Brenda, Dan & Jefferson

3:30 — 3:45 pm | **Mini Tea Break**

4:00 — 5:00 pm | **Student Open Mic** | *Big Timber Brewing*

5:00 — 7:00 pm | **Dinner**

7:00 — 8:30 pm | **Ceili Dance** | *Big Timber Brewing*

8:30 — 10:00 pm | **Staff-Led Tunes & Song Session** | *Big Timber Brewing*

After 10:00 pm | **Open Tune and Song Sessions** | *Big Timber Brewing, Tygart Hotel Conference Room, Oxley Lounge at the Tygart Hotel*

SUNDAY

Classes held at the **Kump Education Center**, 401 Randolph Ave, Elkins, WV

Please be aware of your hotel's check-out time!

9:30 — 10:45 am | **Period 1**

- **Dancing the Tune (learn a tune and a dance to go with it)** | Eileen & Eimear
- **Learn a Set Dance Tune** | Brenda
- **Irish Tune & Song Accompaniment** | Jefferson & Dan

10:45 — 11:15 am | **Tea Break**

11:15 am — 12:30 pm | **Farewell Tune & Song Session with all AIR Staff**

2:00 - 3:30 | **Film Screening: Plight of the Bumblebee** | *Darden Mill*

- Live music score and conversation with director, Brenda Castles. Free to AIR students and guests.

JOIN US THIS FALL & IN 2026!

- **Augusta Irish Retreat: November 6-9, 2025** | Elkins, WV | Learn from wonderful Irish and Irish American teachers!
- **Fall Dulcimer Retreat: November 14-16, 2025** | Blackwater Falls State Park, Davis, WV
- **Lift Your Voice: Augusta's Community Choir Concert: November 21, 2025**
- **Square Dance: November 22, 2025** | The Arts Center, Elkins, WV
- **Augusta Wassail Fundraiser: December 14, 2025** | The Arts Center, Elkins, WV.
- **Solstice Concert & Ceilidh Dance with the Mudlarks: December 19, 2025** | The Arts Center, Elkins, WV
- **Spring Sing: April 23-26, 2026** | Blackwater Falls State Park, Davis, WV | Sing with Ginny Hawker, Val Mindel, Emily Miller & more great teachers!
- **Cajun & Classic Country Week: July 6-10, 2026** | Elkins, WV | Cajun & Country + Craft and Folk Arts for Kids
- **Blues Week: July 13-17, 2026** | Elkins, WV | Blues + Craft and Folk Arts for Kids
- **Old-Time Week: July 20-24, 2026** | Elkins, WV | Old-Time + Craft and Folk Arts for Kids
- **Vocal Week: July 27 - 31, 2026** | Elkins, WV | Old-Time + Craft and Folk Arts for Kids
- **Bluegrass Week: August 3-7, 2026** | Elkins, WV | Bluegrass + Craft and Folk Arts for Kids
- **AND MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED!**

To all the individual donors, volunteers, artists, and staff who have contributed to Augusta over the last 50 years...

Thank you!

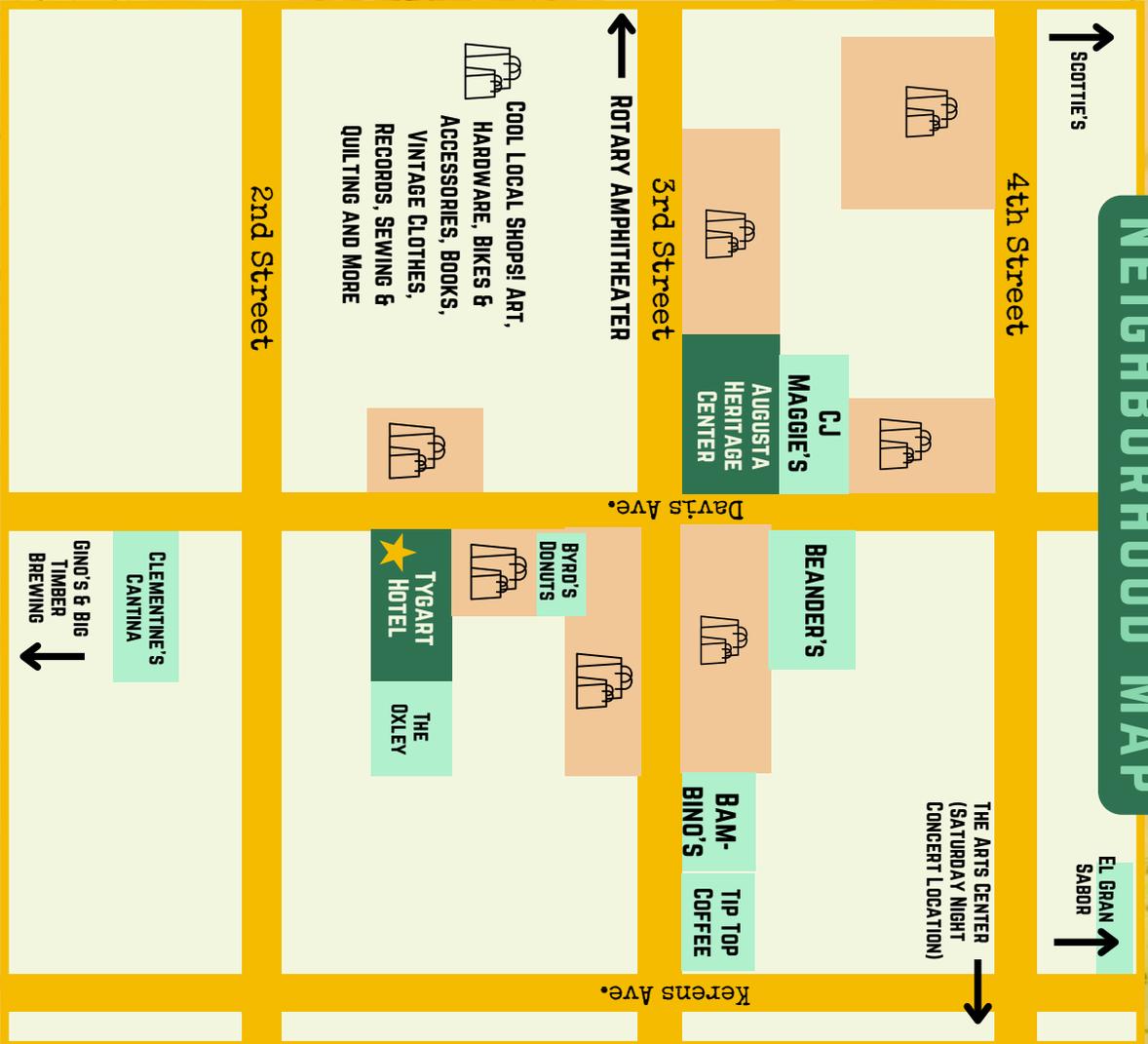
We are grateful for the support of our granting agencies and partners in 2025:



CLAUDE
WORTHINGTON
BENEDUM
FOUNDATION



NEIGHBORHOOD MAP



DOWNTOWN EATERIES

- **The Oxley House** - The restaurant located in the Tygart Hotel. Upscale American food.
- **Clementine's Cantina** - Casual and quick burritos.
- **Gino's Pizza & Spaghetti House** - An Elkins institution for Italian-style eats.
- **Beander's** - Classic American fare with a casual atmosphere.
- **Bambino's** - Italian-American eatery.
- **CJ Maggie's** - A broad menu with something for everyone.
- **El Gran Sabor** - home-cooked Venezuelan cuisine (a staff favorite)
- **Scottie's** - Classic diner. Our daily for lunch. You may want to drive it is a little far to walk.
- **Tip Top Coffee** - Have a cappuccino that will change your life (great for morning coffee or and afternoon pick-me-up).
- **Big Timber Brewing** - They don't serve food, but you can bring takeout there and have an award-winning beer with your meal!

Consider donating to Augusta in 2025.

Your support will help launch Augusta into its next 50 years!



Scan or visit

augustaartsandculture.org/donate