

**April 12, 2018**  
**Media Advisory & SAVE THE DATE**  
**For Immediate Use and Planning Purposes**

**WHAT**

Folk Alliance International Conference

**WHEN**

February 13-17, 2019

**WHERE**

Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montréal, Québec, Canada

**DETAILS**

- The world's largest gathering of the folk music industry / 2850 delegates, 35 countries
- Delegates includes agents, managers, labels, journalists, festivals, venues, artists
- Economic impact for conference host city: \$5 million US (VisitKC assessment)
- 180 juried Official Showcases / 3,400 late-night private showcases
- Live-streamed International Folk Music Awards
- Professional development panels
- Master classes and workshops
- Artist in Residence program
- Community outreach
- Networking receptions
- Mentor Sessions
- [www.folk.org](http://www.folk.org)

**2019 PROGRAM**

Theme: **"The Spirit of Creativity"** ~ an exploration of the creative process from inspiration to vocation and a collective conversation about innovation, collaboration, and spirituality in art.

Global Summits to focus on Indigenous Music as well as Ethnomusicology.

CommUNITY topic: Mental Health and Addiction in Music

The 50th anniversary of John Lennon and Yoko Ono's infamous bed-in at host hotel, the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth, where they wrote "Give Peace A Chance."

**QUOTE**

"Montréal was a natural choice for our return to Canada. From Harmonium and La Bottine Souriante, to the McGarrigles, Paul Piché, Connie Kaldor, Jim Corcoran, Penny Lang, Lasha, Orealis, Kastin, and of course Leonard Cohen... this city has always been an epicenter for folk music." - Aengus Finnan, Executive Director, Folk Alliance International

## **ADDITIONAL**

Genres represented at the conference include: Appalachian, Americana, Bluegrass, Blues, Cajun, Celtic, Global Roots, Indie-Folk, Indigenous, Latin, Old Time, Traditional, Singer-Songwriter, Spoken Word, and every imaginable fusion.

Past speakers at the conference include: Vice President Al Gore, Graham Nash, Bob Lefsetz, Rita Coolidge, Commander Chris Hadfield, Judy Collins, Ani DiFranco, Richard Thompson, Mary Chapin Carpenter, and Billy Bragg.

## **ATTEND**

Conference registration, artists applications, and more information at [folk.org](http://folk.org).

## **ABOUT**

Folk Alliance International (FAI) is a US-based charity founded in 1989 to preserve, promote and present folk music. The organization's mission is *"to nurture, engage and empower the international folk music community - traditional and contemporary, amateur and professional – through education, advocacy, and performance."*

## **MEDIA TESTIMONIALS:**

"Traditional folk in all its iterations" — Wall Street Journal

"No better opportunity for experiencing a great performer in a tiny space" – Paste

"Unforced but focused attention that ennobles the music and those who make it" — The Bluegrass Situation

"Dynamic and welcoming" —No Depression

## **LINKS:**

Video: [The Story of Folk Alliance International](#)

[2018 Post-Conference Report](#)

[2017 Annual Report](#)

[Staff](#) and [Board](#)

Social Media: [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [YouTube](#) [Instagram](#)

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