



Contact: Dan Cashman, Cashman Communications  
207.947.9113  
207.837.4821 (cell)  
[dan@cashcomm.net](mailto:dan@cashcomm.net)

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**2014 American Folk Festival Volunteer of the Year Awards Presented**  
*Five individuals honored for volunteer service to the American Folk Festival*

BANGOR, MAINE – Five individuals have been honored with 2014 American Folk Festival Gerry Turner Excellence in Volunteerism Awards. This is the fourth year that the American Folk Festival is honoring the memory of Gerry Turner by recognizing several of the event's volunteers in a variety of categories.

"Without the more than 700 volunteers we see every year, the American Folk Festival would not be what it is today," said American Folk Festival Executive Director, Heather McCarthy. "Those who receive these awards go above and beyond, serve as model volunteers, and are supreme examples of the level of quality we see from our volunteers every year. The inspiration for these awards, Gerry Turner, set an incredible example to people in Eastern Maine, and to those who spend precious time volunteering."

The awards are named after Gerry Turner, who had been an enthusiastic and dedicated friend to the American Folk Festival up until his death in 2011.

The awards and winners are as follows:

**Festival Volunteer, Adult:** Jim Bird, a part of the AFF operations crew  
**Festival Volunteer, Junior:** MaggieBeth Turcotte, Bucket Brigade and Children's Village  
**Volunteer Leader:** Jim Boulter, Stage Area Services, Railroad Stage  
**"Spirit of the Festival":** Sarah Ewing, Dance Tent Information and Vending  
**Chairman's Choice:** Dan Cashman, Communications

The 2014 American Folk Festival Gerry Turner Excellence in Volunteerism Awards were presented during a ceremony on Tuesday night at the Sea Dog Banquet and Conference Center in Bangor.

The American Folk Festival team is planning for the Spring, 2015 edition of Color Bangor - the 5K color fun run/walk that benefits the Festival. Those interesting in running can sign up on the Festival's website to be notified when registrations are being accepted.

Next year's American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront is scheduled for August 28-30. The American Folk Festival celebrates the roots, the richness and the variety of American culture through music, dance, traditional crafts, storytelling and food.

For more information about volunteering for or donating to the American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront, or to receive registration information about Color Bangor when it becomes available, visit [www.americanfolkfestival.com](http://www.americanfolkfestival.com) or call 207-262-7763.

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