



OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
PRESENTS

# Lonesome Traveler: The Concert

## The Roots of American Folk Music

Thursday, March 29, 2018

7:30 PM

[tickets.occc.edu](http://tickets.occc.edu)

Phone: 405-682-7579

[www.occc.edu/pas](http://www.occc.edu/pas)

The term Folk comes from the German word "Volk" which is an expression used to describe "the people as a whole." Folk music is representative of the common people. This type of music is traditionally passed down through generations and is representative of the times in which the song was created.

Folk music is known for being created by everyday people as an expression of every day struggles. The context of folk music has deep ties to what is going on in the world at the time that it is produced. Subject matters range from politics, economic hardships and social injustices and can sometimes be the simple telling of a love story or relationship.

Folk songs passed down from generation to generation have offered evidence of various historical happenings.

## STUDENT ACTIVITY

Choose a song that falls into the Folk genre. Create a 3-4 minute presentation that explores the following:

- When was the song written? What was the political climate during this time?
- What significant/historical events took place around the time this song was released?
- Who wrote the song?
- What significant statements are made within the lyrics? What do the lyrics mean?

Presentations can take the form of a powerpoint, a collage, video presentation or speech. Begin your presentation by sharing the song you have chosen with your class.

## EXTRA CREDIT

**Attend a live performance:** Experience the enduring power and popularity of American folk music with *Lonesome Traveler*, the stirring concert version of the acclaimed Off-Broadway musical that the New York Times called "illuminating...revelatory...achingly beautiful." The show celebrates the music of great folk artists including Woody Guthrie, Lead Belly, Pete Seeger and the Weavers, Gordon Lightfoot, Peter, Paul and Mary, Bob Dylan, The Byrds, Donovan, Cat Stevens, Don McClean, James Taylor, Van Morrison with a special tribute to Leonard Cohen.

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Oklahoma's future begins in the classroom.