

The APSU Music Department
and the
Center of Excellence for the Creative Arts

present the

APSU Guitar Fest
featuring
Bryce Mullins

7:30 p.m.
March 16, 2026

Heydel Hall
Art & Design Building

—Biography—

Bryce Mullins is a seasoned fingerstyle guitarist and songwriter hailing from Batesville, Indiana, with a rich and diverse musical background. Initially introduced to the guitar by his father, Bryce's passion quickly grew, drawing him into a world where classic rock intertwined with classical music, blues, and bluegrass. A pivotal moment in his early development came when he encountered the works of Andrés Segovia, leading him to pursue classical guitar with fervor.

Bryce's academic journey took him to the College Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Classical Guitar Performance under the guidance of Professor Clare Callahan. He continued his education at Austin Peay State University, obtaining a Master's Degree in Classical Guitar Performance, studying with Dr. Stanley Yates. It was during this period that Bryce was introduced to the vibrant world of fingerstyle guitar, inspired by artists like Chet Atkins, Merle Travis, Jerry Reed, Tommy Emmanuel, Andy McKee, and Antoine Dufour.

Armed with a deep understanding of technique and music theory, Bryce began composing his own fingerstyle guitar pieces. His debut album, *First Sip*, released in 2017, garnered critical acclaim from outlets like *Minor 7th*, which praised his "melodic diversity" and the intricate interplay of melodies and contrasts in his compositions. This album marked the beginning of a distinctive voice in the fingerstyle community, where Bryce seamlessly weaves together his myriad influences into a sound that is both unique and familiar.

In 2021, Bryce released his second album of original compositions, *Cask Strength*, further solidifying his reputation as a formidable fingerstyle guitarist. *Minor 7th* once again lauded his work, highlighting his ability to "blend Americana, Celtic, and country blues elements with the sophistication of a classically trained musician." Recorded at Fretmonkey Records and mastered by Antoine Dufour, *Cask Strength* showcases Bryce's commitment to "composition over mere technique, delivering tunes rich with melody, harmony, and rhythmic drive."

Most recently, Bryce released his third album, *Breakthrough*, which continued to draw attention from critics and fans alike. According to *Minor 7th*, *Breakthrough* “demonstrates growth without losing the voice that first attracted fans,” reflecting his evolving artistry while remaining grounded in his expressive, melodic sensibility.

Bryce’s live solo fingerstyle performances are highly entertaining, showcasing the full range of what can be achieved on a single guitar. Audiences are captivated by his ability to produce rich, layered sounds that evoke the presence of an entire ensemble, all from one instrument. His shows are a testament to the versatility and dynamism of fingerstyle guitar, leaving listeners in awe of the artistry and technical prowess on display. Beyond his technical skill, Bryce’s performances also reveal the depth of his songwriting, reflecting a profound reverence for the craft. Each composition is thoughtfully constructed, blending intricate melodies and harmonies that resonate with emotional authenticity, demonstrating his dedication to the art of songwriting as much as to the instrument itself.

Beyond his solo work, Bryce is an active performer and educator. He plays lead guitar for the Yorkridge Boys, a Southeastern Indiana classic country cover band, and collaborates with his students, such as Spencer Niles, on original songs. His skills have made him a sought-after studio musician in the Cincinnati and Indianapolis areas, contributing acoustic and electric guitar tracks to various projects. Bryce’s talent has also been recognized in the competitive arena, finishing in the top three at the Indiana Fingerstyle Guitar Competition for three consecutive years.

Bryce Mullins’ journey is a testament to his versatility and dedication, continually pushing the boundaries of fingerstyle guitar while staying true to the rich tapestry of influences that have shaped his musical identity.

—Upcoming Events—

Mar. 16-17 **APSU Guitar Fest—a CECA-sponsored event**
Mar. 17 Guitar Fest Concert *in Heydel Hall* 7:30 p.m.



Mar. 18 Tom Lawrence Sr. Trumpet Recital 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 19 APSU Choirs Concert 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 22 Libby Polski Jr. Voice Recital 5:30 p.m.
Mar. 23 Voice Chamber Recital 5:30 p.m.
Mar. 24 APSU Student Recital 12:45 p.m.

*Above events are held in the George and Sharon Mabry Concert Hall
and are free and open to the public, unless noted otherwise.*

Austin Peay State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, disability, age, status as a protected veteran, genetic information, or any other legally protected class with respect to all employment, programs and activities sponsored by APSU. Policy 6:001