at Copper Mountain, Colorado

By Holly Robinson, contributing editor and organizer of Guitar Town at Copper Mountain

The event known as Guitar Town returned to Copper Mountain on August 12-14, 2016 for the 12th annual showcase of amazing live music. The annual, popular, FREE outdoor festival has become widely known for a gathering of some of the very best guitar virtuosos in the world.

This year's high-powered bill included performances by Lee Ritenour, Robben Ford, Lee Roy Parnell, Joe Robinson, John Jorgenson, Martin Taylor, Frank Vignola with Vinny Raniolo and Olli Soikkeli, Laurence Juber, Mark Selby with special guest Stig Mathisen and Hendrix Revolution with Randy Hansen.

All-star guitar jams and lively informative guitar workshops with artists from the Guitar Town lineup are always highly anticipated events. At the workshops, guitar students and fans were granted an opportunity to connect on a personal level with the guitarists in a "living room-style" format while partaking in once-in-a -lifetime jams, gaining valuable technical insight and hearing entertaining stories.

Fun music activities for kids and the whole family were also a part of the Guitar Town festivities. Andy May's Acoustic Kids Showcase on the West Lake Stage was an opportunity for young guitarists of any skill level to perform on the festival stage in a supportive environment. As a show, the Acoustic Kids Showcase wasn't for kids only — it was for music lovers of all ages who came to applaud the efforts of the next generation.

Guitar Center, with it's Guitar Center Garage, was onsite offering free re-stringing and tune-ups for guitar attendees. And, of course, Guitar Show & Custom Luthier Magazine was there providing their publication free to our attendees. A good time for all!!

