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## Kids' Hoot returns

**By Julie Powell**  
Correspondent

Since 1988, the Athens Folk Music and Dance Society has been hosting monthly **hoots** featuring all kinds of local music. Formed with the mission of promoting folk music, AFMDS provides an opportunity for traditional folk musicians and artists to perform by organizing concerts, monthly dances and workshops. Four years ago, AFMDS president Susan Staley decided to reach out to the next generation and organize a Kids' **Hoot**.



■ The Gypsy Hicks of Atlanta headline this year's Kids' **Hoot** at Locos Courtyard on Monday.

*Special* ■

"I think we started the Kids' **Hoot** because of Mother's Day," says Staley. "It was such a success, we've been doing it ever since."

The Kids' **Hoot** is not music for kids but music by kids - all under 18.

"We have students from local music teachers in town," says Staley. "We ask the teachers to find their students who have the burning desire to perform in front of people, not necessarily their best students. The kids can play anything they like. This year we'll have acoustic and classical guitar students and violinists, among others."

Local guitar teachers Vanda Guthrie and Chris Hampton will have students in the **Hoot**.

The evening's headliners are the Gypsy Hicks, a group from Atlanta featuring two 10-year-old harmonica players.

"Two of the kids are Kevn Kinney's nephews," says Staley,

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"so they come from a musical family. Their mother is from Athens, and that's their connection to the **Hoot**."

Set in the relaxed atmosphere of Locos Courtyard, concertgoers are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs and children to this family-oriented show.

"The kids really love it, and it's one of our favorite shows of the year," says Staley. "It's a **hoot**!"

**Kids' Hoot**

**Where:** Locos Courtyard, 581 S. Harris St.

**When:** 7-9 p.m. Monday, May 12

**Cost:** Free

**Call:** (706) 208-0985

**Performers**

The Gypsy Hicks from Atlanta, a trio on harmonicas and guitar

Dillon Faulkner, age 10, on guitar and vocal

Mary Mathews, age 8, on guitar and vocal

Perrin Cole-Acock, age 6, on violin

Doug Penning, age 15, on violin

Paul Whitman, age 12, on classical guitar

Duo of Ethan Davis and Marc Casado, both 10, on guitar and vocals

Gabriella Mejias, third grade, on guitar and vocal

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