

*For immediate release*



## Dance across Texas: Saving Texas dance halls, one two-step at a time

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Texas Dance Hall Preservation, Inc.

April 3, 2010

Texas Dance Hall Preservation, Inc. is sponsoring a series of events at dance halls across the state starting April 10 and lasting through April 30, to raise funds for the preservation of endangered historic dance halls.

Events are scheduled at Schroeder Hall, Kendalia Hall, Luckenbach, Swiss Alp Hall, Nada Hall, and Club Westerner.

The "Dance Across Texas" events are planned at traditional halls where the whole family is welcome. Each hall is unique, and the music will reflect the diversity of Texas culture. Among those musicians playing "Dance Across Texas" events are Bobby Flores, Geronimo Trevino, Amber Digby, Sunny & The Sunliners, Gary P. Nunn and Micky and the Motorcars.

The Texas dance halls originated in the nineteenth century, built by European immigrants on the southwestern frontier. No other place on the planet has this heritage. But Texas dance halls are endangered. At one time there were as many as a thousand traditional dance halls in Texas. Many of those are already lost, and the ones that remain are at risk from decay, lack of use, and the pressures of development. In 2008, Texas dance halls were named to the list of *Texas' Most Endangered Places*.

Texas dance halls remain the influence and incubator for many of today's singers, songwriters, and musicians. They are still the places where parents

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### "DANCE ACROSS TEXAS" SCHEDULE

*April 10: Schroeder Dance Hall, Bobby Flores, 8 p.m.-midnight*

*April 10: Kendalia Hall, Geronimo Trevino, 8 p.m.-midnight*

*April 17: Luckenbach Hall, "Texas Hat Dance" with Gary P Nunn, Max Stalling, Deryl Dodd, Tommy Alverson, Walt Wilkins, Micky and the Motorcars, Kevin Dea and Doug Moreland*

*April 18: Nada Hall, Red Ravens, 2-6 p.m.*

*April 24: Swiss Alp Hall, Amber Digby, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.*

*April 30: Club Westerner, Victoria, Sunny & the Sunliners, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.*

teach their children to dance. And they offer an authentic experience for Texans and our visitors from all over the world.

## **About Texas Dance Hall Preservation, Inc.**

Founded in 2007, Texas Dance Hall Preservation, Inc. is a 501(c)3 membership organization, whose mission is preserving historic Texas dances and the authentic music and culture that is still found in them. To accomplish this, we:

- Maintain a Google map and web-accessible inventory of historic halls.
- Promote public awareness and use of Texas dance halls
- Document and publish the history of Texas dance halls
- Serve as a clearinghouse of information for preservation
- Provide assistance to list dance halls on the National Register of Historic Places
- Providing financial, technical, or organizational assistance to dance hall owners

For more information about "Dance Across Texas" or about Texas Dance Hall Preservation, Inc. go to [www.texasdancehall.org](http://www.texasdancehall.org)  
[http://www.texasdancehall.org/event\\_April\\_2010.html](http://www.texasdancehall.org/event_April_2010.html)

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## Other Media Links

Texas Monthly cover story Dec 2009 <http://www.texasmonthly.com/preview/2009-12-01/feature>

National Public Radio January 2010 [http://www.texasdancehall.org/files/NPR\\_20100104\\_me\\_16.mp3](http://www.texasdancehall.org/files/NPR_20100104_me_16.mp3)

Texas Public Radio documentary [http://www.texasdancehall.org/files/TPR\\_Dec\\_2009\\_txm487.mp3](http://www.texasdancehall.org/files/TPR_Dec_2009_txm487.mp3)

## Books about Texas Dance Halls:

*Texas Dance Halls: A Two-Step Circuit*, by Gail Folkins (Author), J. Marcus Weekley (Photographer) Texas Tech University Press; 1st edition (2007) <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/communications/news/stories/07-11-dance-halls-book.php>

Alter, Kevin, ed. *Dance Halls of Central Texas: Pre-World War II Wooden Structures*. Austin, 2005 <http://home.austin.rr.com/kristawhitson/exhbt.htm>

*Dance Halls and Last Calls: A History of Texas Country Music*, Geronimo Treviño, III, Republic of Texas Press 2002 [www.geronimotrevino.com](http://www.geronimotrevino.com)