

Title: The Jettie Baker Center: Keeping Mountain Music Alive

Abstract: Located in Dickenson County, Virginia, the Jettie Baker Center has become a primary attraction in keeping the music of the mountains alive and available to the citizens of Southwestern Virginia. Built in the 1940's, the property was renovated with federal, state, and local funding and contains 350 seats, a large stage, and updated sound and lighting equipment. This poster will examine the impact such a structure has had on the promotion of arts and entertainment in this small coal mining community. It will also explore how the cultural events offered at this center not only educate several generations about their Appalachian heritage, but also provides career opportunities for the future. It is a place for community. It is a place for fellowship. It is a place for happiness and celebration. The Jettie Baker Center was established to keep mountain music and entertainment a part of the past, present, and future of the Appalachian culture. It has been a success.

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