

Will McLean

(1919-1990)



"Florida's Troubadour"

Will McLean was born near Chipley, Florida, where his love of music was nurtured by his grandfather who gave him his first instrument, a gourd and cornstalk fiddle with a horsehair bow. "Away O'ee", his first song, was written at the age of six.

McLean's love of Florida developed as he traveled the state from the panhandle's hardwood hammocks to the vast Everglades – camping in wilderness areas, visiting friends, and absorbing Florida history.

Though he spent his life traveling the state, he found time to appear at concerts, festivals, schools, and even Carnegie Hall. Will McLean was best known as Florida's premier folk songwriter.

He received the 1989 Florida Heritage Award for outstanding cultural contributions and the annual folk festival at White Springs was dedicated to him. In 1996, Will McLean became a member of the Florida Artists Hall of Fame. McLean's song lyrics, poems, and correspondence reside in the Special Collections Area of the University of Florida George A. Smathers Library.

The Will McLean Foundation

Established in 1990, the Will McLean Foundation is a non-profit organization. Its goals are to:

- Promote, in Florida and elsewhere, the works of Will McLean and other Florida artists.
- Provide for research, education, performance, and training to promote understanding and appreciation of the works of Florida's artists.
- Provide facilities, programs, and educational materials to promote involvement by non-professional and professional communities alike, in the artistic and educational fields.

The Board of Directors and the Executive Committee consist of all volunteers who labor tirelessly, donating hundreds of hours every year to fulfill McLean's dream of passing on the history of Florida to the next generation.

Will McLean Foundation Scholarship Application

High school seniors may apply for our Scholarship. Skills and interests must be musically or technically oriented and related to Florida Folk Music, Florida Folk History, and/or production of materials related to Florida Folklore. Applicants must be attending a Florida school and be a resident of Florida.

Please send application to: **The Will McLean Foundation Scholarship Committee:**
C/O Lucy Lang, Chairperson
340 Islander Circle, Unit 2
St. Augustine, Florida 32080

Required:

Name: _____

Contact Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Age _____

Present School /City _____

Grade _____

GPA _____

Honors/Awards/Achievements _____

Music- related experiences/ interests

Florida Folk Experiences

Please submit: Transcript of grades

A written narrative of your goals and objectives

Any supporting documents or materials that you feel will enhance your application

Applications must be received by February 1. Scholarship funds shall be applied toward tuition/fees at the post-secondary institution in which the recipient enrolls.

WWW.WILLMCLEAN.COM