The Julian Family Fiddle Camp (JFFC) is a five-day music immersion program for people of all ages and musical abilities. JFFC is held each April at the rural family retreat center near the historic mining town of Julian, CA. All meals, instruction, camp-based activities (swimming, archery, climbing tower) and evening concerts are provided for a single fee.

The JFFC experience is a celebration of life. It is as educational as it is social. Lifelong friendships often begin here, with many people returning year after year to enjoy a very special break from their usual day-to-day routine.

Our past camps have set a very high standard. Our instructors are the best of the best - a veritable "who's who" of the top acoustic string musicians from across North America. JFFC 2017 continues this tradition, and is proud to boast a roster of established and rising stars in the American "roots" music scene.

Something for Everyone
As long as you can play a couple of simple tunes on fiddle, mandolin, guitar, banjo, ukulele or upright bass, we have a class and instructor for you! Our 2017 instruction will include classes in Appalachian old-time fiddle and banjo, Texas-style fiddle and backup guitar, traditional and progressive bluegrass styles, flat-pick and rhythm guitar, swing and bluegrass mandolin, traditional and swing ukulele, basic bass rhythms and techniques, band dynamics, harmony vocals, song writing, and other specialized workshops.

JFFC Honors acoustic music traditions as well as musical innovation. People from 8 to 88 come to our camp for a variety of reasons. While everyone seeks fun and instruction, we are particularly sensitive to:

- Classical musicians seeking more comfort playing "off the page"
- Young musicians hoping to broaden their skills, interests and repertoires
- Middle-aged and senior instrumentalists who wish to rejuvenate their skills and expand their network of musical friends
- Advanced fiddlers and pickers who seek to take their skills to the next level

A Family Fiddle Camp

The Julian Family Fiddle Camp knows there's much to raising good people and fine musicians (yes, in that order). Indeed, in our view, a positive music camp experience is one that stimulates the interest in music by exposing folks to the acoustic music sub-cultures that exemplify patience and generosity through the sharing of traditional and accessible tunes - an experience that enhances, encourages and represents an ageless participation in a uniquely human celebration.

While musicians young and old may share their favored tunes, parents and/or chaperones coming to the camp may have additional things to talk about with others in the same boat. This parental "sharing of notes" is not only inevitable, at the Julian Family Fiddle Camp it is encouraged. Indeed, we make a point of introducing parents to one another, and have built into our program a special time for them, chaperons and interested others to meet and get to know one another.