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SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HOUSE

TODD TAYLOR

AMBASSADOR FOR THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

<https://youtu.be/9dpx0G0Pgtg>





CLICK LINKS BELOW TO VIEW VIDEOS

<https://youtu.be/8fjt89Rh3Oo>

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<https://youtu.be/5qqv81PN3to>

<https://youtu.be/e5Bqp3E39IY>

<https://youtu.be/qaX8BSFN7mo>

Since the Dawn of Man Music has been a driving force for humanity, it has evolved, adapted and divided into many styles and genres, each with the ability to touch the soul of a listener based on their personal taste.

Over the years, a small but ever growing group of artists have become known as “Icons” or “Legends” because of their innovations, pioneering and becoming influential examples, giving inspiration to other art-ists to take chances, experiment and devote their heart and soul to their craft, Elvis Presley, Bob Marley, James Taylor, Jimi Hendrix and John Coltrane to name a few. Todd Taylor has earned his place in this elite group of pioneers by blazing a trail to a style of music that is uniquely his own. It has been said that Todd Taylor is to the Banjo what John Coltrane was to the Saxophone. Even Though Todd’s roots are firmly planted in Bluegrass, his heart also beats to the sound of a different drummer. Rock and Roll runs through his veins and out of his fingertips pioneering a style of music unlike any the world has ever known. Todd’s determination, extreme talent and ability to overcome obstacles has bridged the gap between Bluegrass and Rock & Roll, a feat many said was impossible and would not work. Like the true Legends that came before him, this opposition gave Todd the determination to master his craft and give the world a new genre of music that reaches across the masses. Todd became the first artist in history to take the banjo to the Rock & Roll top 40 on the Rick Dee’s show in the late 80’s with his mind blowing rendition of the classic rock hit “FreeBird”. Todd has been called “Banjovi” and the father of “New Grass” It is not certain what title history will honor Todd with, but there is one fact that is certain. Todd's innovative, pioneering talent continues to amaze his huge audience of fans around the globe.





CHICAGO MUSIC EXCHANGE CELEBRATED FRED GRETSCH'S 50 YEARS IN THE MUSIC BUSINESS



Gretsch brought in some of the finest musicians to play for everyone and they did not disappoint. Todd "Banjoman" Taylor and Mike Moody brought jaws to the ground as Todd showed everyone exactly what it looks and sounds like to be the world's fastest banjo player. More than just a novelty, the show encapsulated Todd's true level of talent- fingers flying and all.

We can't wait to celebrate again with our friends at Gretsch- it was a night for the books! Thank you to all who came out and joined us, as well as the entire Gretsch crew. We can't wait to do it again.



COLLEEN HARVEY
Author



SOUTH CAROLINA
BANJO DAY
IN HONOR OF

TODD TAYLOR

SECOND TUESDAY IN MARCH ANNUALLY



A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018, AND THE SECOND TUESDAY IN MARCH OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER AS "SOUTH CAROLINA BANJO DAY" IN HONOR OF TODD "BANJOMAN" TAYLOR'S MUSICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

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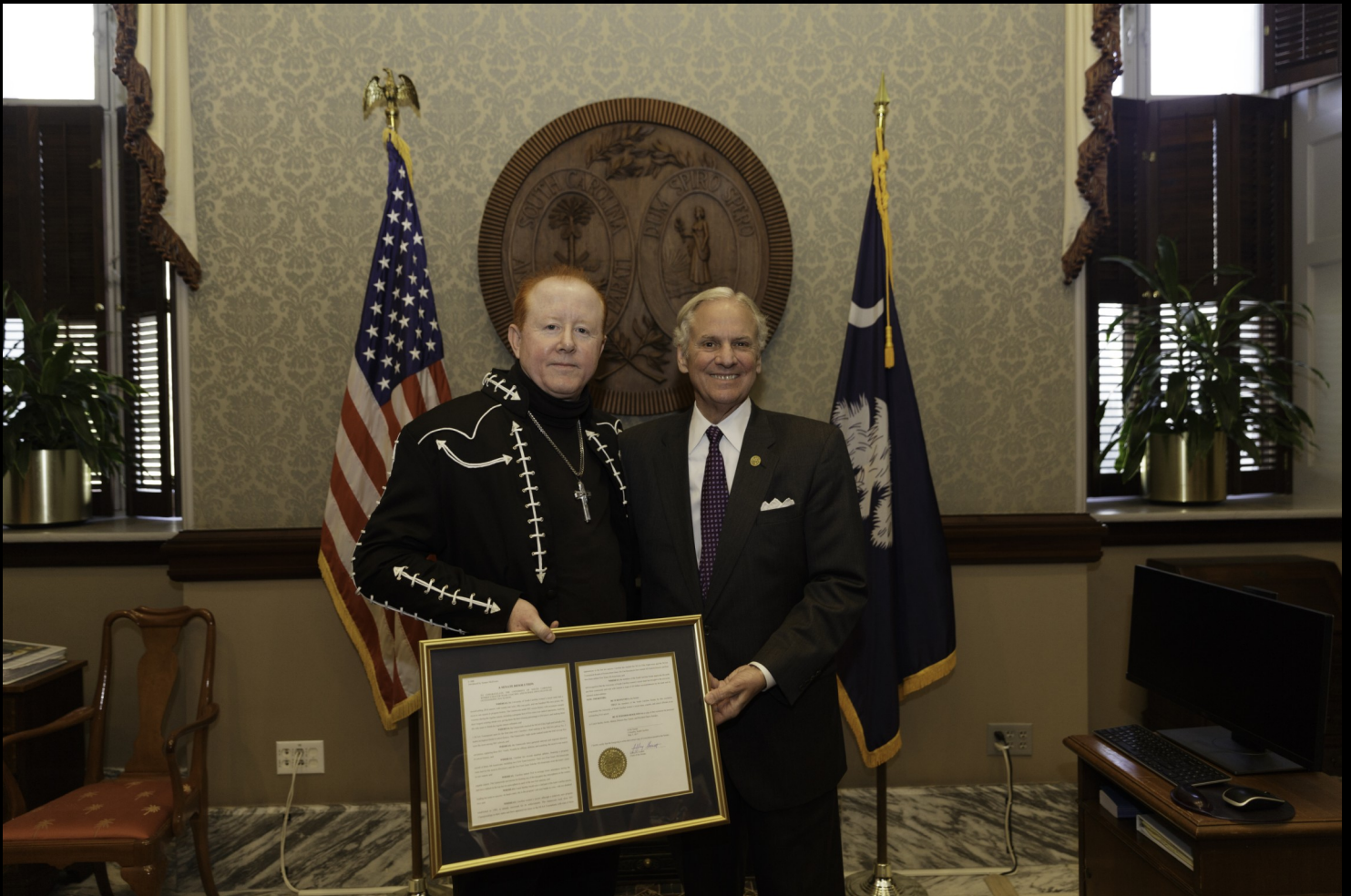


SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HOUSE



State of South Carolina

Office of the Governor



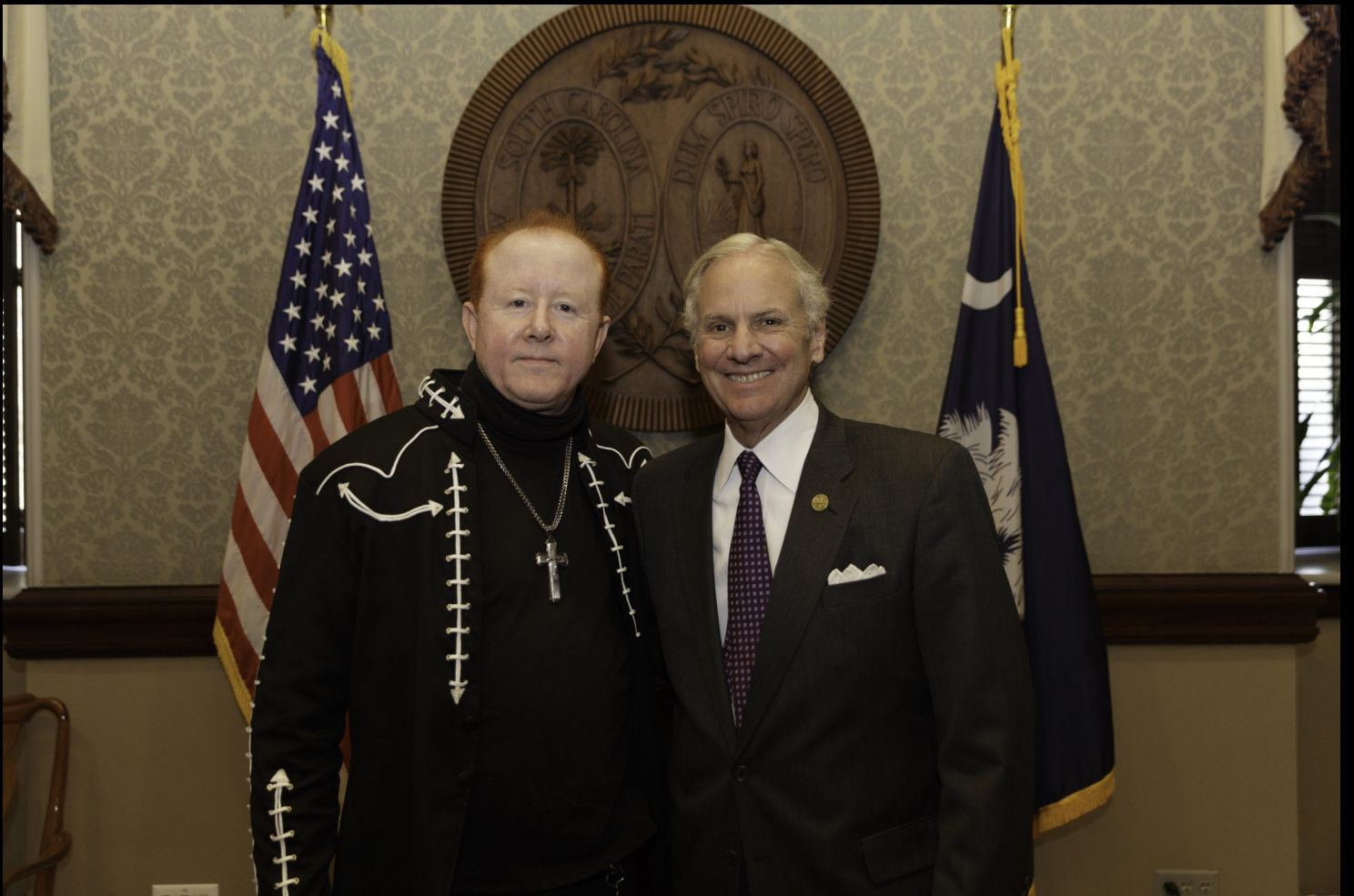
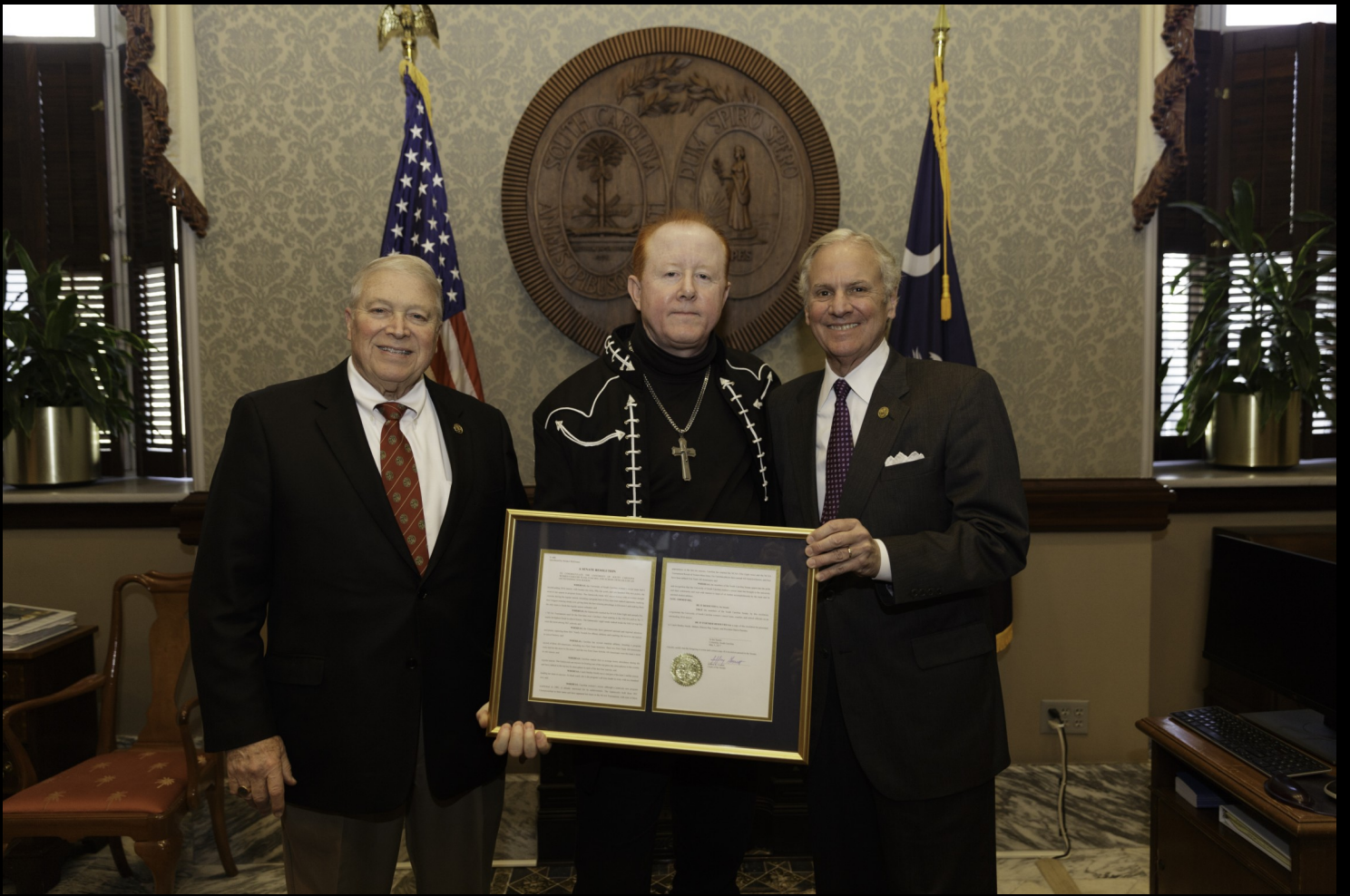


SOUTH CAROLINA BANJO DAY IN HONOR OF TODD TAYLOR

On Wednesday, March 14, 2018 the State Of South Carolina will be recognizing the musical Contributions of Todd "Banjoman" Taylor to our State, by the Formal Proclamation of **SOUTH CAROLINA BANJO DAY**, in Todd's honor, at the State House in Columbia SC.

The South Carolina General Assembly 122nd Session 2017-2018 passed a Concurrent Resolution (S. 875) presented by Senator Glen Reese which states:

Whereas, the members of the General Assembly are pleased to recognize Todd "Banjoman" Taylor as an outstanding citizen who has positively impacted the State of South Carolina; Whereas, in 2012, Mr. Taylor received the Order of the Palmetto, the state's highest civilian honor, in recognition of his musical contributions to the State of South Carolina; and Whereas, it would be fitting and proper to pay tribute to the accomplishments and public service of this son of South Carolina by annually recognizing the second Tuesday in March as "South Carolina Banjo Day." Now, therefore, Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring: That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize Wednesday, March 14, 2018, and the second Tuesday in March of each year thereafter as "South Carolina Banjo Day" in honor of Todd "Banjoman" Taylor's musical contributions to the State of South Carolina.





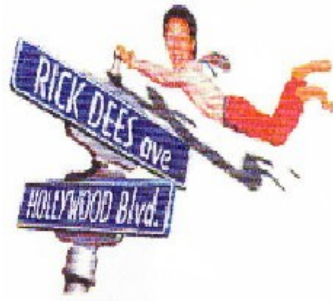
Todd “Banjoman” Taylor first fell in love with the banjo at just six years old. While on a family trip to Walt Disney World, Todd's parents, James and Nancy, realized he had wandered off. After a frantic search they found Todd on a steamboat ride -- mesmerized by the music of the banjo performer. His mom finally gave in to his pleadings and purchased his first banjo from a JCPenny catalog the following Christmas. Since then, Todd has enjoyed a music career spanning three decades.

As a teenager and young adult, Todd appeared at the *Grand Ole Opry* with music legends Roy Acuff and Bill Monroe, and TV shows like *Regis and Kathy Lee*, *Jerry Lewis telethon* and *many more*. Todd may be best known for using his unique style to elevate the banjo from the confines of bluegrass to build a bridge into all genres of music, especially rock 'n' roll. He was the first solo banjo musician to take the banjo as a solo instrument to the *Rick Dees Weekly Top 40* internationally-syndicated radio program in the 1980's for his groundbreaking arrangement and performance of Lynyrd Skynyrd's “Freebird.”

Although Todd has donated his time to various worthwhile charities during his career, the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) has a special place in his heart. In his twenties, Todd became increasingly ill and almost lost his life. Extensive testing revealed he had inherited a mitochondrial disease from his mother, and despite his doctor's prognosis, Todd was determined to recover. He performed on the MDA telethon with Jerry Lewis on more than one occasion; increasing awareness of the disease and helping to raise funds for the organization's tireless efforts.

In 2007, Todd was the first to set the Guinness World Record for Fastest Banjo by performing both parts of “Dueling Banjos” at a mind-blowing 210 beats per minute! He dedicated his record to everyone fighting to overcome a disease or obstacle in their life, and continues to encourage the power of a positive attitude to those who may be struggling. 2011 produced Todd's rock 'n' blues tablature book, *Pickin' Over the Speed Limit*, and a feature in the documentary *Breaking and Entering*, highlighting his Guinness World Record achievement.

But the pinnacle of his career came in 2012 when Governor Nikki Haley presented Todd with the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian honor in South Carolina, for his inspiring personal example and musical contribution to his home state. Todd says, "My life has been blessed in so many ways, and I have no plans to stop sharing the gift God has given me." in 2018 TO RECOGNIZE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018 AND The Second Tuesday in March of each year thereafter as “**SOUTH CAROLINA BANJO DAY**” IN HONOR OF TODD “BANJOMAN” TAYLOR'S MUSICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.



Dear Todd,

We recently played your "Taylor's Freebird" on the Rick Dees Weekly Top 40. It blew me away! We look forward to your return visit.

Your fan,

Rick Dees

*P.S. How do you get
your fingers to
move so fast?*

PIONEER OF ROCK-N-ROLL BANJO

Todd may be best known for using his unique style to elevate the banjo from the confines of bluegrass to build a bridge into all genres of music, especially rock 'n' roll. He was the first solo banjo musician in history to take the banjo to the *Rick Dees Weekly Top 40* internationally-syndicated radio program in the 1980's for his groundbreaking arrangement and performance of Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Freebird."





Todd Taylor Receives The Prestigious Order Of The Palmetto From Governor Nikki Haley.



STATE CAPITOL COLUMBIA SC, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE





State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

Mr. Todd Taylor
577 Avon Drive
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29303

Dear Mr. Taylor,

On behalf of the people of South Carolina, I am pleased to award you the Order of the Palmetto—our state's highest civilian honor. This award is in recognition of all that you have done to better the State of South Carolina.

It would be easy to point to specific accomplishments that merit the Order of the Palmetto, but your entire life and career have been marked by a strong level of commitment to our state. Additionally, your tireless volunteer work with the Muscular Dystrophy Association speaks to your strong character, generosity and great compassion for those less fortunate. In the world of making a positive difference, you have been an incredibly effective leader to those around you—as a musician, mentor, and friend.

South Carolina is blessed to benefit from your tremendous talent and philanthropy. You inspire others to serve because you lead not by word but by example. Thank you for upholding the highest ideals of servant leadership in everything you do.

My very best,

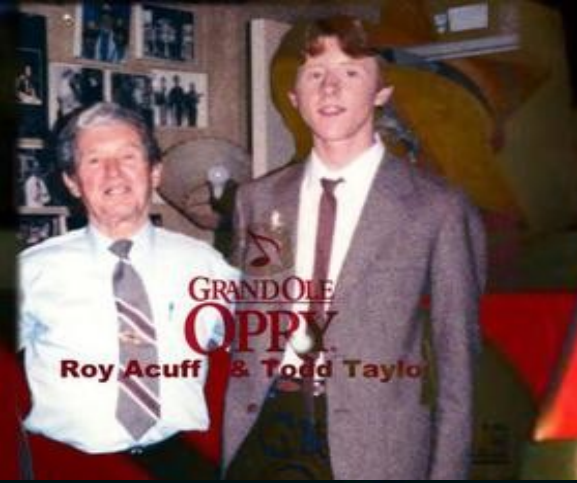
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nikki".

Nikki R. Haley

NRH/emw

A handwritten note in blue ink that reads "Congratulations!".

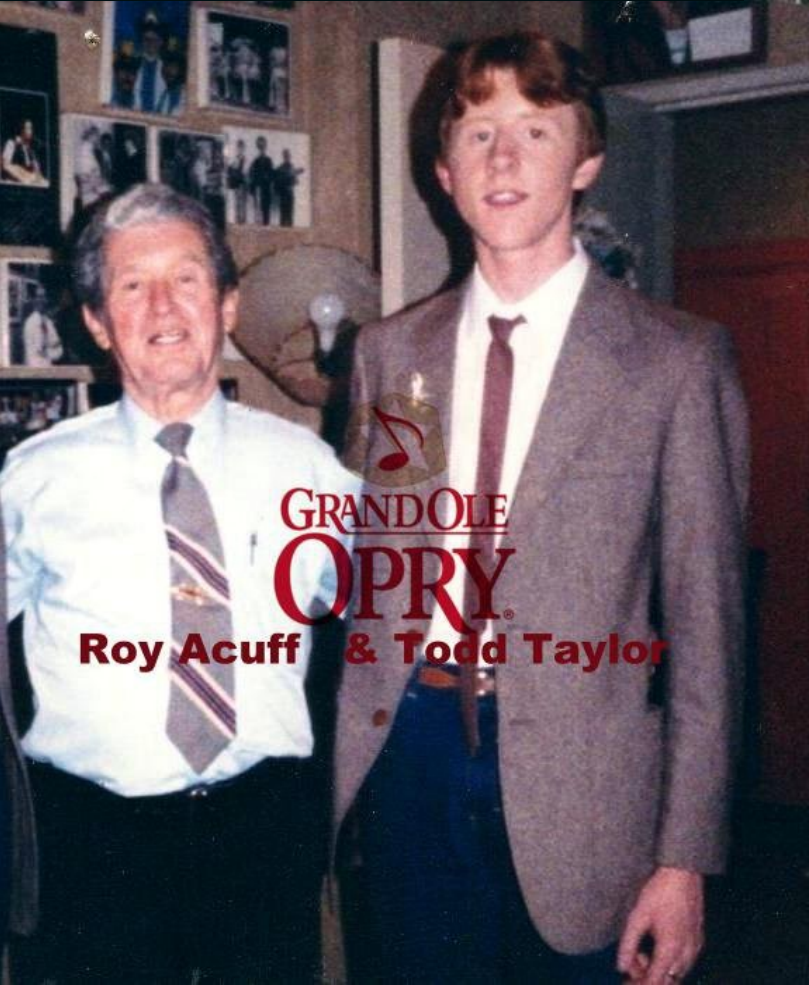
Congratulations!



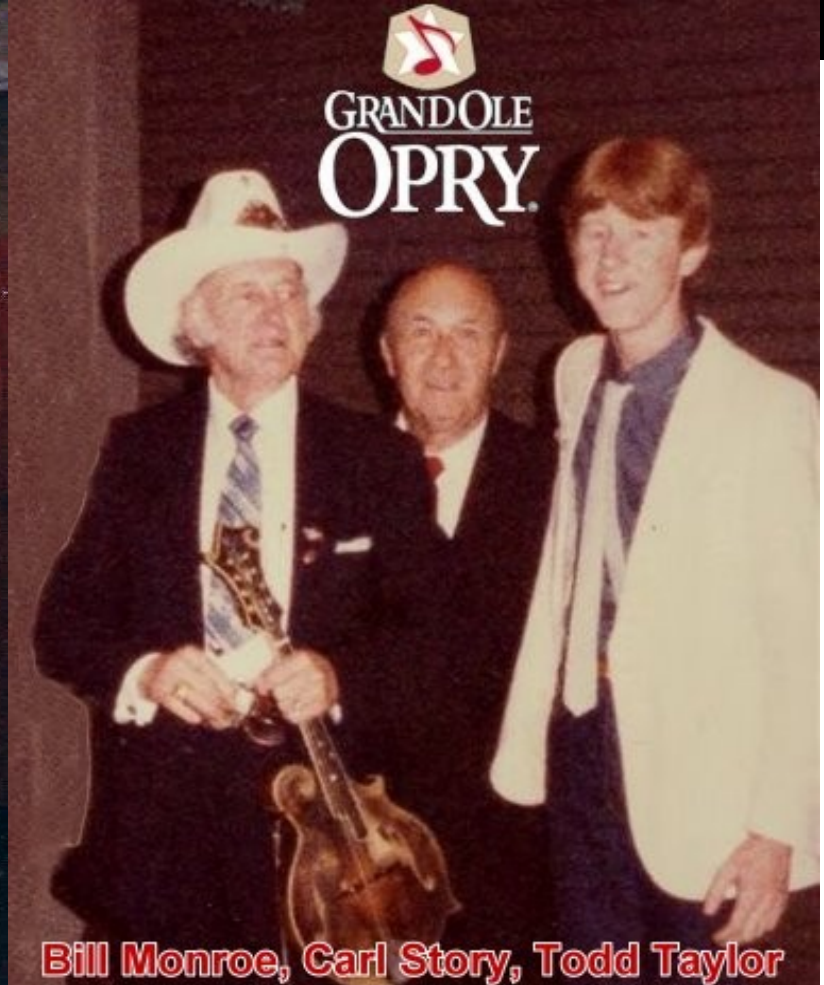
Roy Acuff & Todd Taylor



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Roy Acuff & Todd Taylor



Bill Monroe, Carl Story, Todd Taylor



CERTIFICATE

**The fastest banjo player
is Todd Taylor (USA)
who played *Dueling Banjos*
at a speed of
210 beats per minute in
Palm Bay, Florida, United States,
on 31 January 2007**



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Finger-pickin' phenomenon **Todd Taylor** (USA) played “Dueling Banjos” at a speed of 210 beats per minute in Palm Bay, FL, on January 31, 2007—and became the world’s **Fastest Banjo Player** in the process.

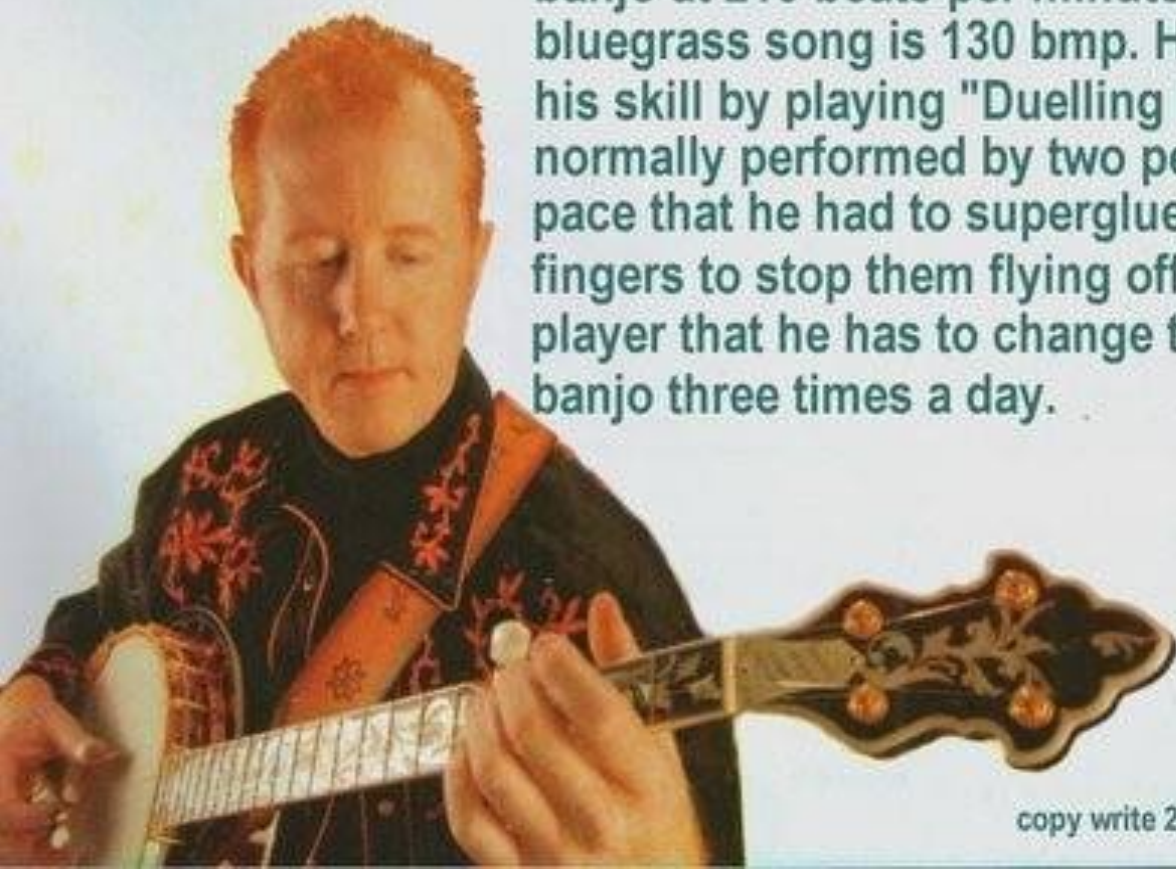




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QUICK PICKER TODD TAYLOR

Despite suffering from a rare muscular disorder, Todd Taylor of Palm Bay Florida, can play the banjo at 210 beats per minute. A typical fast bluegrass song is 130 bmp. He demonstrated his skill by playing "Duelling Banjos"----a piece normally performed by two people---at such a pace that he had to superglue the picks to his fingers to stop them flying off. He is such a fast player that he has to change the strings of his banjo three times a day.





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Todd Taylor is also A Author for Hal Leonard - Centerstream Publications
 The World's Largest Music Print Publishers he has many Banjo Books released worldwide by them.

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TODD TAYLOR'S
 ➤ **50** ➤
 MOST REQUESTED
BANJO LICKS



As a student of the banjo I try to learn from the great masters like my friend and brother Todd Taylor. His new Centerstream/Hal Leonard book, Todd Taylor's most requested Banjo Licks, is a MUST have for the novice as well as the professional player. Let's face it... banjo playing is learning a vocabulary and each and every lick learned provides another vital piece that one adds to their individual ability. This book is CHOCK full of VOCABULARY for certain. Each Todd Taylor lick is important. He has provided new ideas for licks you may already know, plus his teaching ability is evident on licks you may have never thought of to utilize. I guarantee that this new book will make you a better player. You know how it goes. Around a better player you always want to learn a new lick or two and if you are lucky someone shares some info. As a student I must say ... Thank You Todd and Centerstream/Hal Leonard for the lessons contained in this awesome book. It's ALL right here! Open it up... and start learning... PICK!

Joe Bonsall / author and 43 year member of the American Music Group The Oak Ridge Boys AKA Ban-Joe half baked banjo player



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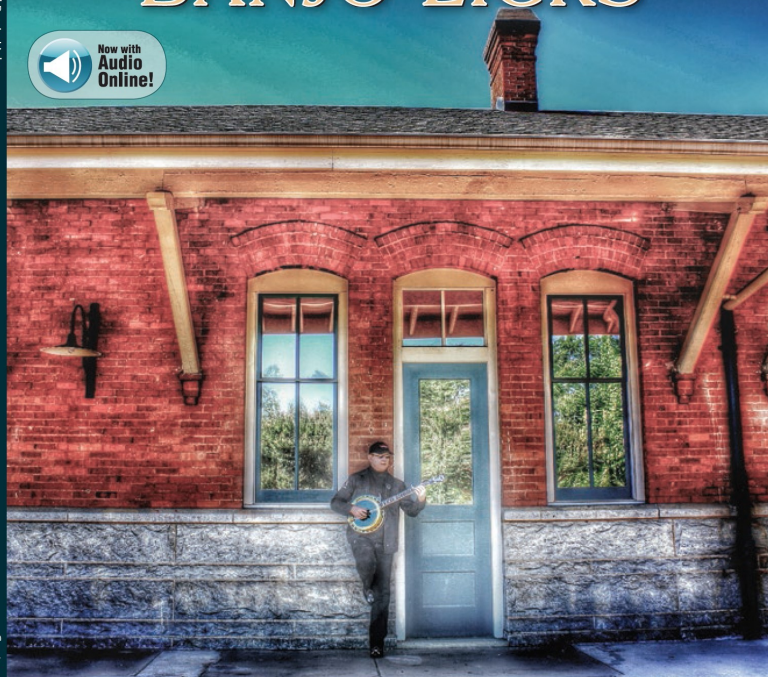
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Todd Taylor's 50 Most Requested Banjo Licks

TODD TAYLOR'S
 ➤ **50** ➤
 MOST REQUESTED
BANJO LICKS



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Taylor Made

TODD TAYLOR'S MOST REQUESTED BANJO HITS



10 Original songs from the worlds fastest banjo player.

At Todd's concert and personal appearances around the world, performing his amazing renditions of well known Rock, Classics, Blues as well as many originals, the songs in this book are the most requested songs and fan favorites!!

For this collection Todd has put together songs that is sure to get your heart pumping and feet tapping! Todd loves performing these favorites for crowds of fans. Asked by banjo players many times for Todd to show them how to play their favorite songs and now for the first time, he wants to share this awesome collection so that you too will be able to play and enjoy his trend setting music with others as well! This collection include: Back Home In Carolina, Banjo Blues, Six Guns, The Race Is On, Waterfall, Cork Swamp Blues and more.



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TODD TAYLOR'S MOST REQUESTED BANJO HITS



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TODD TAYLOR'S GOSPEL BANJO

FOREWORD BY FRED GRETSCH



10 Favorite Gospel Classics

Exciting arrangements of Banjo virtuoso Todd "Banjoman" Taylor's favorite Gospel Classics.

Just follow the easy tab, listen to the Audio and play along with Todd. You'll be playing these favorite Gospel Classics quickly and easily! The audio is available online for download or streaming, and it is enhanced with PLAYBACK+.

Songs includes Amazing Grace, How Great Thou Art, Uncloudy Day, What a Friend We Have in Jesus When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder, I'll Fly Away and more.

Quoting Pastor Marvin Sapp, "Gospel music allows us to become close to God and closer to each other" I know that's what Todd Taylor want to accomplish with this special Gospel Banjo Book" ... Fred Gretsch

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Gospel Banjo by Todd Taylor

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TODD TAYLOR'S GOSPEL BANJO

FOREWORD BY FRED GRETSCH



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THIS SONGBOOK brings the World of Rock N' Roll together with the banjo instrument and is meant for all fans, players and pickers from far and wide. Pickin' Over The Speed Limit's great rock arrangements say "There isn't anything the guitar can do that The Banjo can't Do better!" The song arrangement's and Todd Taylor's Lightning Style of playing is totally cooking hot to learn, play and share...



U.S. \$19.99
Book \$9.99, CD \$10.00
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"Pickin' Over the Speed Limit" by Todd Taylor

Centerstream Publishing

Guinness World Records' Fastest Banjo Player

TODD TAYLOR PRESENTS

"PICKIN' OVER THE SPEED LIMIT"

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Features the Classics Dust In The Wind, Rocket Man, Norwegian Wood, El Cumbachero, and many more.



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TODD TAYLOR'S BANJO CHRISTMAS

Foreword by Joe Bonsall

10 Favorite Christmas Classics

Exciting arrangements by banjo virtuoso Todd Taylor that are both challenging and fun to play; sure to become your favorites. The music is in standard G Tuning. Listen to the CD to hear how the banjo should sound and play along with the note-for-note tablature of each song. A perennial feast of banjo music to enjoy now and to rediscover year after year. So lets tune up, spread the cheer and play.

Intermediate to Advance level

"This book and CD are clear evidence of his immeasurable talent and teaching ability. Listen, read and learn from Todd and then at Christmas time amaze your family with some holiday banjo."
Joe Bonsall, 42-year member of The Oak Ridge Boys.



Book \$10.00, CD \$9.99 = Pkg. \$19.99
Parts not sold separately

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Todd Taylor's Banjo Christmas

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TODD TAYLOR'S BANJO CHRISTMAS

Foreword by Joe Bonsall



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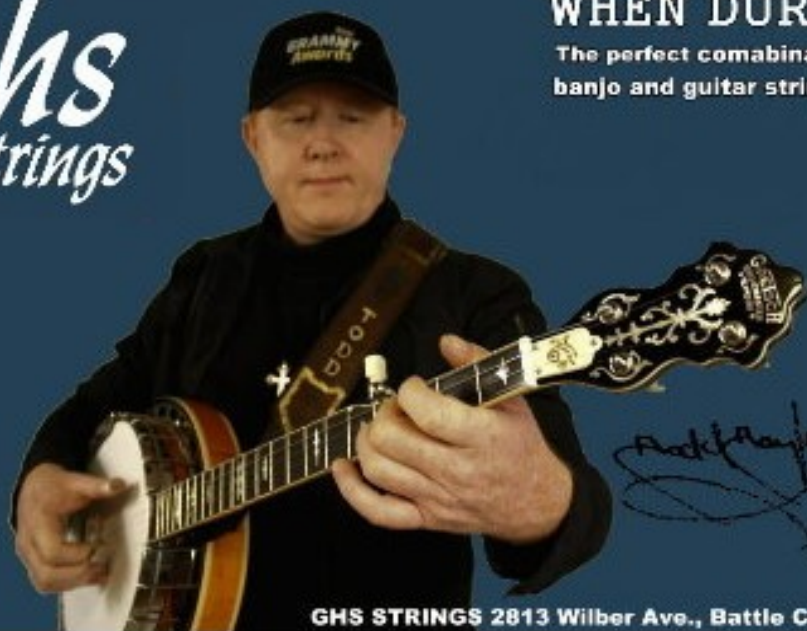
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