



An accomplished musician on several instruments, **BLAKE WILLIAMS** has been a professional bluegrass musician for over 34 years. He first toured with Bobby Smith & The Boys From Shiloh fresh out of high school and soon moved into the role of banjo player for Lester Flatt and the Nashville Grass until Lester's death in 1979. Blake went on to work with the Father of Bluegrass, Bill Monroe, for 10 years, making him Monroe's longest tenured banjo player. In 1991, Blake was given the opportunity to play bass with comedian, Hee Haw star and Grand Ole Opry member, Mike Snider where he stayed until 2001. During his career, Blake has toured 48 states and 7 countries, played Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and the Lincoln Center. He recorded 2 albums with Lester Flatt and 6 albums with Bill Monroe for which one of them, "Southern Flavor", won the first Grammy for "Bluegrass Album of The Year". You can hear Blake's bass work on 5 albums with Mike Snider and 2 live videos as well. He has also performed on projects by Patty Loveless and Vince Gill. Blake has recorded three solo projects and performed regularly on the Grand Ole Opry for over 23 years. In addition to his musicianship, Blake is an excellent master of ceremonies and one of the best country comedians in the business. He has also enjoyed songwriting success having his songs covered by Lester Flatt & The Nashville Grass, Rhonda Vincent and The Expedition Show. Blake is a 3-time SPBGMA (Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music in America) "Entertainer Of The Year" nominee (2007-2009) and he graced the cover of Banjo Newsletter in May, 2008.

One of the most refreshing things you will hear from The Expedition Show is the stellar guitar work and vocals of **WAYNE SOUTHARDS**. A native of Salem, Missouri, Wayne moved to Nashville in 1990 with his wife and two sons. He would soon become a highly sought after guitarist and work for country artists such as John Conlee, The McCarters and Sweethearts Of The Rodeo and in addition to working on stage, Wayne also worked behind the scenes as road manager for all three acts. Wayne is a seasoned professional in bluegrass, too. He performed with the Tennessee Gentlemen as their lead vocalist and guitarist and he is also an accomplished bass player having worked for Weary Hearts, Larry Cordle and Lonesome Standard Time, and Kathy Chiavola. Wayne is a Midwest SPBGMA (Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music in America) "Male Vocalist of the Year" having won the award in 1987. He is also an accomplished songwriter having his songs covered by Larry Cordle & Lonesome Standard Time, Rhonda Vincent and The Expedition Show. Wayne was also named the IAMA (International Acoustic Music Awards) 2009 Best Male Vocalist. And did we mention he does a killer impersonation of Willie Nelson? It is a crowd favorite!!



A native of Texas, **KIMBERLY WILLIAMS** moved to Nashville in 1992 after beginning her love for music with her family's band where she sang and played mandolin. Kimberly has performed demos as a vocalist for top songwriters and publishers in Nashville including Gerald Smith, Vern Gosdin, Hank Cochran, Tom Collins Publishing, Co-Heart Music, and Muy Bueno Music and had a guest appearance on a Mike Snider gospel album. Kimberly put her skills in concert and event production to work when she secured a job as producer for Gaylord Entertainment's Opryland Productions and Grand Ole Opry Group. During her 7-year tenure with Gaylord, Kimberly produced shows and special events for Opryland theme park, including the popular "Sundays In The Park" event series that included a monthly bluegrass jam, gospel and songwriting events. She managed the Roy Acuff Theatre and booked entertainment for 7 lounges in the Opryland Hotel and Resort. In addition, Kimberly produced convention concerts for some of the biggest acts in music including Lee Ann Rimes, Faith Hill, Tim McGraw, Ricky Skaggs, Alison Krauss, Chicago, Reba McEntire, Huey Lewis and the News and Stevie Wonder. She has enjoyed 2 guest appearances on the Grand Ole Opry and in 2005, opened her own company, East Public Relations, with a focus on affordable tour support and publicity for bluegrass artists. Kimberly plays bass and is one of two lead singers for The Expedition Show.

The newest member of The Expedition Show is **Alex Hibbitts**. At 23, Alex is an accredited musician on several instruments, a creative songwriter, and an outstanding harmony vocalist. Alex originally hales from the small coal town of Grundy, Virginia, but now resides in Johnson City, Tennessee. He began his musical adventure at a very young age of 4 with a guitar lesson from his dad. His appreciation and dedication to bluegrass music began when he got his first mandolin at age 10. After playing with local and regional bands throughout his teenage years, Alex got his first professional music job and has performed with bluegrass artists Randy Kohrs, Alecia Nugent, Wildfire, New River Line, and The Midnight Ramblers. Alex is a recent graduate of East Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting. He also obtained a minor in Bluegrass while enrolled in the Bluegrass/Old-time & Country Music Program at ETSU. He has received endorsements from J'BOVIER MANDOLAS, STACY MANDOLINS, and SILVER ANGEL MANDOLINS. Alex has recorded two solo projects as well. His first project, "It's About Time", released in 2006, was well received by the bluegrass community. Alex has owned and operated A² Studio in Johnson City, Tennessee for the last two years. Alex's most recent project, "The Chronicles of Depression", was produced, engineered, mixed, and mastered at his studio. Both projects feature many of today's popular bluegrass artists including Jimmy Van Cleve, Josh Swift, Josh Miller, Hunter Berry, Darrell Webb, Clay Hess, Daniel Salyer, Brandon Green and more.

