



**2013 TOPANGA BANJO-FIDDLE CONTEST AND FOLK FESTIVAL, INC.
MUSIC LEGEND AWARD WINNER
RUSS & JULIE PARIS**

April 19, 2013
For Immediate Release:



After starting their house concert series more than 16 years ago, Russ & Julie Paris were not content with hosting quality musical entertainment for their delighted guests. They proceeded to help others start their own concert series and were among the founders of Folk Alliance Region West (FAR-West), the western regional chapter of Folk Alliance International.

During those years they have presented well over one hundred concerts, featured scores of well-known and highly-entertaining artists and introduced many to appreciative new fans.

They were instrumental in the formation of FAR-West and have nurtured its growth since 2002. This annual conference brings artists together with venue hosts, deejays and music industry representatives to build fruitful, ongoing relationships that can be of great benefit to all involved. They have both served on the Board of Directors (Russ as secretary and Julie as treasurer) and in numerous other capacities. Julie is conference coordinator this year.

The proliferation of house concerts, on a national basis and beyond, has provided significant opportunities for independent acoustic musicians and songwriters. Not only do they provide venues for playing and touring, most house concerts pass all funds collected directly to the musicians, creating a revenue stream that allows them to continue writing, performing and recording their music.

FAR-West promotes the interaction between artists and the other segments of the music business, as well as the nurturing of venues to bring the artists together with their existing and future fans.

For all they have done to benefit artists, venues, fans and the music itself, we proudly award the 2013 Topanga Banjo-Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival Music Legend Award to Russ & Julie Paris.

See their current schedule and history at: <http://www.houseconcerts.us/>