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It's an exciting time in bluegrass, and what better way to foster its success than by supporting the International Bluegrass Music Association in its efforts to keep that success growing?

May is Membership Month at IBMA, and there's no better time to join. You'll be just in time for first round ballots for the 2013 IBMA Awards *and* for a members-only ticket purchase week this spring for IBMA's "Wide Open Bluegrass" festival (formerly Bluegrass Fan Fest) in Raleigh, NC, Friday-Saturday, Sept. 27-28.

We're offering new membership opportunities: A free one-year membership for students enrolled in a higher education bluegrass program, and the new **Friends** non-voting membership for \$25 a year. Get more details by calling the IBMA office at 615-256-3222.

What's new?

Check out www.worldofbluegrass.org ^[2] and ibma.org for news about the incredible week we're planning for you in Raleigh, NC—including a streamlined schedule (less expensive, shorter week) with new events for youth, arts presenters, talent buyers, and emerging bands.

The IBMA Youth Council has elected Andrew Rigney as Chair and they have new projects to be announced soon.

IBMA's new Momentum Awards, with a committee headed up by Dan Keen (Belmont Univ.) and Echo Propp (WAMU/ Nashville Opera), will continue in 2013, with the goal of recognizing notable emerging talent and industry mentors.

The World of Bluegrass Street Team, led by Danny Clark and Katherine Coe, will kick into gear this month, right in time for festival season.

IBMA continues to expand our social networking community with [Bluegrass Nation](#) ^[3], Facebook, Twitter, Spotify, YouTube and Instagram.

Finally, look for info soon about a newly constituted International Committee and International Advisory Council.

How do you get involved?

Artists and merchandisers who have booths at festivals and other events can contact IBMA to get some "Ask Me About IBMA" and "Bluegrass Nation" stickers, along with small cardstock membership fliers to place on your merch table. Feel free to go to www.ibma.org ^[4] to click on a link to print off your own membership brochures. We'll also have downloadable ads and a special Facebook icon you'll easily be able to share.

