

Matthew Sabatella & the Rambling String Band

Ballad of America

songs of people who made a country

Accolades for Live Performances

"Matthew Sabatella and the Rambling String Band are totally amazing! I cannot praise them enough! Matthew related all of the songs to the era of Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn. It was wonderful. The entire band is great! They are personable, relate to the audience and can perform almost anything I'm sure."

Nancy Ansley (Programs and Exhibits Supervisor) - Broward County Library

"Wow... this group was so good. I loved them. The residents loved them, and we definitely want to have them back again. The fact that it is historic and interactive along with entertaining was unique."

Rebecca Waldorf (Director of community Relations) - Aston Gardens at Parkland Commons

"Rare is the event that engages both me and my young ones in a genuine way."

Ben Crandell - *Sun-Sentinel*

"...Sabatella's best asset is easily his voice, urgent but unforced, sweetly melancholy in telling personal stories and powerfully evocative in rendering antiquated songs intimate again. It's a great gift, and Sabatella wields it with exceptional talent."

Matthew Sabatella named "Best Acoustic Performer" - *New Times 'Best of 2005'*

"Led by Sabatella's six-string guitar and his molasses baritone, the band's big sound rolls from Luna's makeshift stage across a room filled with tri-county patrons... Tonight's crowd is extra large, lining up against the walls and squeezed three deep between cases of beer and the cafe's ancient black refrigerator. Along with the band, almost everyone is singing: 'Heigh, ho, and away we go; Digging up the gold on the Fran-cis-co!'"

Emma Trelles - *Sun-Sentinel*

"Thank you so much for the amazing show yesterday! All day we have been getting rave reviews from the residents saying it was the best Fourth of July show we have ever had at John Knox Village. You all were great!"

Sara Berkowitz (Activities Manager) - John Knox Village

"Miraculously, Hollywood-based folkie Matthew Sabatella has packaged a history lesson in the guise of a strikingly good album and a nerdaliciously compelling live show that tell the story of western expansion across the American heartland through song... 'It's the kind of thing that will appeal to just about anybody,' Sabatella says of the songs on *Ballad of America Volume I*, most of which date back to the early 1800s. The crowd at the Bamboo Room reflected that sentiment, as moms, grandmoms, longhairs, blue collars, and a gaggle of wine-sipping, Virginia Slims-puffing ladies all clapped along and sang like ornery lumberjacks to lines like 'And we'll range the wild woods over, and once more a-lumbering go!'"

Jonathan Zwickel - *New Times Broward/Palm Beach*

"This particular afternoon, Sabatella and his close-knit combo — Lynn Griffith on banjo and mandolin, Jack Stamates on fiddle, Sean Edelson on mandolin, and Chris DeAngelis on stand-up bass, with Sabatella on guitar and vocals — play to a tent filled nearly to capacity, its 50 or so occupants clearly caught up in the familiar strains of the music and, just possibly, a certain whiff of nostalgia."

Lee Zimmerman - *Miami New Times*

"Your program on Lincoln this past Sunday was awesome. Amazing how much you can tell about the man through his connection to music."

Patricia McDougle (V.P. Youth Education) - Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge

"Through perseverance and hard work, American settlers turned their faces west toward the dream of finding new lives. In their struggle came the music presented by Mr. Sabatella. Matthew is a talented performer and a teacher not only of music, but of music which should be heard by all."

Pastricia J. Adams-Sallustio Tequesta Trace Middle School (Social Studies Teacher)

