



## **The Museum at Bethel Woods: Woodstock Fun Facts**

### **The Festival:**

- The festival was conceived by four young partners – Michael Lang, owner of a small store in New York City; Artie Kornfeld, an executive at Capital Records; and two venture capitalists, John Roberts and Joel Rosenman.
- It was moved from Wallkill, NY to Bethel, NY just 31 days before it began.
- By the time Woodstock began, Bethel was one of the largest cities in New York State.
- Despite a crowd of 500,000, only 200 people were arrested on site for various drug offenses.
- The most documented injury was lacerations and/or puncture wounds to the feet.
- There were two documented deaths: one person died of a drug overdose, and another person was hit by a tractor while sleeping in a field. Some sources claim there was a third death due to a ruptured appendix, but that has yet to be proven.
- The Grateful Dead played in the rain. Several members of the band received shocks during their performance and Phil Lesh (bass player) heard a helicopter radio transmission through his bass while playing.
- Neil Young played with Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young, but did not appear in any of the film footage released of the group playing at Woodstock.
- Richie Havens had to play so long that he ran out of material and improvised what became one of his biggest songs: “Freedom.”
- The Doors first agreed to consider playing because they thought the festival would be held in Central Park, but decided against it when they learned the event was in upstate NY.
- Although scheduled to play on Sunday, by the time Jimi Hendrix played on Monday morning, only 35,000 people remained.

### **The Performers:**

- Arlo Guthrie
- Bert Sommer
- Blood, Sweat, & Tears
- Canned Heat
- Country Joe and the Fish
- Country Joe McDonald
- Creedence Clearwater Revival
- Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young
- Grateful Dead
- The Incredible String Band
- Janis Joplin
- Jefferson Airplane
- Jimi Hendrix
- Joan Baez
- Joe Cocker
- John Sebastian
- Johnny Winter
- Keef Hartley Band
- Melanie
- Mountain
- the Paul Butterfield Blues Band
- Quill
- Ravi Shankar
- Richie Havens
- Santana
- Sha-Na-Na
- Sly and the Family Stone
- Sweetwater
- Ten Years After
- The Band
- The Who
- Tim Hardin

