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RHYTHM OF THE
COAST

Music in Oxnard is alive and rocking! Enjoy live music at the **805 LIVE**, a monthly music event that takes place in various locations around Oxnard. Visiting for the weekend? I recommend stopping by **1901 Speakeasy**. The atmosphere, ambiance and staff makes 1901 my favorite place to enjoy live music in Oxnard and as you're driving around Oxnard, check out our radio stations. The "Mambo in the Morning and the 805 Locals" radio show is a favorite.

Beats By
Oxnard

Get the perfect sound-track for your Central Coast getaway! We bring you the official playlist of Oxnard — featuring a mix of Latin, rock, indie, hip-hop and electro-pop artists who've lived and recorded right here in the "Strawberry Capital of California." Scan this QR Code to open the Spotify app and listen.



Rocks'nard

Turn up the volume for Oxnard in audio.

by Brittney Hendricks

When it comes to rocking out, no one does it like Oxnard. Thanks to a vibrant music scene that has produced some of the biggest names in rock, hip-hop, metal and more, this beloved beach town has become a musical mecca in its own right. Discover rising stars at one of the city's popular venues, dance the day (and night) away at a music festival, or check out a piece of music history.

Locals in the Limelight

Beginning in the first half of the 20th century, Oxnard served as an escape for actors, artists, musicians and producers seeking refuge from the chaotic mix of Angeleno life. After an influx of Hollywood stars — including Clark Gable, Charlie Chaplin and John Wayne — famous musicians started to follow, flocking to the city's coastal neighborhoods. From iconic '60s duo Sonny and Cher to Nirvana drummer and Foo Fighters front man Dave Grohl, Oxnard continues to be a home-base for some of the biggest names in music.

Oxnard has produced plenty of stars, too. Big-name artists such as Oxnard native and Grammy winner **Anderson .Paak** got their start right here

in the city, and entire genres of music have taken off within city limits. Take "Nardcore," for instance — a musical style emphasizing raw sounds and turbulent tempo changes. This influential hardcore punk-rock subgenre originated in Oxnard in the 1970s and gave rise to bands like Agression, Dr. Know, Nails and Ill Repute.

And Oxnard's hip-hop scene has produced top-tier talent including Declaime, Lootpack, Madlib and M.E.D. — integral game changers in West Coast hip-hop's eclectic, neo-soul stylings of the late '90s. Today, a new generation of local music influencers are taking the stage: Anderson, Paak, Brooke Candy and Cola Boyy are topping charts with their festival-worthy verses, turning ears Oxnard's way to hear what's next to come.

Rock 'n' Roll Landmark

The *L.A. Times* called it "a place of such hyper-coolness that it operated without any buzz at all." The newspaper was referring to Oxnard's **Teatro** — a rundown cinema turned recording studio where some of rock 'n' roll's biggest artists have imprinted their musical signature, including Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Iggy Pop and Kenny Rogers, to name just a few. Willie Nelson famously recorded an entire album here in 1998, using the building's iconic façade for the album's cover.

Closed in 2000, the recording studio remains padlocked behind Teatro's doors — a slice of music history hidden away on the corner of Oxnard Boulevard and Sixth Street.

Drum Roll Please...

By private appointment only, visitors can book a weekday tour of the world headquarters for **Drum Workshop**, an internationally acclaimed drum kit and hardware manufacturer founded in 1972. Drum Workshop boasts an impressive artist roster, including Dave Grohl (Nirvana, Foo Fighters), Neil Peart (Rush) and Josh Freese (The Vandals, Guns N' Roses and Devo).

Also locally grown, **Era Drum Company** is an Oxnard-based kit builder dressing shells in glitter, pearlescent and wood finishes worthy of thunderous applause.

Guitar-maker **Larrivée** also calls Oxnard home. A Toronto transplant, the company prides itself on its craftsmanship by hand-picking tone woods from forests in India, Spain and other countries.

Summer Concerts & Music Festivals

Music is in the air every summer in Oxnard. Catch timeless classics from rock 'n' roll cover bands at **Rock the Collection** in Collection Park, sail through sound waves at Peninsula Park's **Concerts by the Sea** or explore eclectic music genres surrounded by Victorian-era houses at **Summer Concerts at Heritage Square**.

Come to the **Oxnard Salsa Festival** for all things salsa — the spicy sauce and the music — and stay for the festivities, including a battle of the bands, dancing with the community stars and a kid's zone.

The expansive lawns of Oxnard Beach Park set the stage for the **Oxnard Jazz Festival**, a day-long celebration of jazz in all its forms.

Live Music Venues

Revel in live music at **Copper Blues Rock Pub & Kitchen**, which features a rotation of resident bands, or slow down to marina melodies at **The Waterside Restaurant**. Catch a three-day weekend's worth of live entertainment at **The Shores Oxnard**, or descend a staircase into a prohibition-style cellar for a unique auditory experience every Friday and Saturday at **1901 Speakeasy**.

1: Anderson Paak; 2: Queen Nation at Rock the Collection

