

The Duttons—a brief introduction

The Duttons, an international performing and touring group, are recording artists who play everything from bluegrass to classical in their shows. Featuring a variety of instruments, violin, guitar, bass, viola, banjo, mandolin, keyboard, harmonica and drums among others, The Duttons have won recognition in national fiddling contests, as studio musicians and have also garnered praise and awards in classical violin competitions.

In addition to their instrumental virtuosity, The Duttons are accomplished singers and dancers and have been recognized as superb vocal talents. Behind the scenes, The Duttons collaborate to create unique production ideas for their shows which delight audiences. The show is self produced by the family including choreography, musical arrangement, technical support, production, and marketing, the end result of which is the audience streaming from the theater proclaiming, "This is the best show I have ever seen in my life."

Inspiration for this amazing group has come from various sources. Some performers that are favorites with the family members are The Eagles, Ricky Skaggs, Rascal Flatts, Eric Clapton and James Taylor. Their true source of inspiration, however, lies with Dean and Sheila Dutton, aka Dad and Mom to The Duttons.

Dean and Sheila Dutton were not professional musicians and they certainly weren't planning on raising their children as such. When they saw the passion their children had for learning and performing, and realized that this was going to be their lifestyle, however, they came on board wholeheartedly to supply the backbone of the business. Besides participating in the show on bass and guitar, Dean and Sheila are the acting CEO and CFO of the organization, and are training their sons Timothy and Jonathan to take over those positions in the near future.

Each member of the family has their own unique duties in this thriving family business. As mentioned, sons Timothy and Jonathan are in training to assume the responsibilities of CEO and CFO as Mom and Dad attempt to take a lesser role in the day to day business decisions. Daughter Amy is the show's producer and watches over everything from song selection to costuming to set design. Abigail, the youngest daughter, is over all the gift shops and merchandise and is the brains behind The Dutton's main gift shop Abby's Tourist Trap in Branson. Many of the spouses of these talented and hardworking siblings are also heavily involved in the business. Timothy's wife Judith is the Branson Theater's assistant GM and sales manager. Jonathan's wife Bella manages their hotel (The Dutton Inn) and bookkeeping for the whole enterprise.

Since becoming full time musicians in 1991, The Duttons as a whole have not looked back and have gone on to a successful touring career and music business. Today, they own their own theater in Branson, Missouri where they perform over 300 shows a year, as well as their own hotel and gift shop. Additionally, they operate the Dutton Theater, Mesa where they now spend their winters and perform in the sunny Phoenix Valley of Arizona Mid-December through the first of April.

What the future holds is anyone's guess. With five nationally broadcast PBS specials in their resume, there seems to be nowhere to go but up for this amazing group of performers. Since their appearance as top ten finalists on NBC's "America's Got Talent" and the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Telethon, projects on the table include a new album of original songs composed and arranged by the members of the family. Currently, they are working on a series with RFD-TV that airs Friday evening starting in March 2018 called "The Duttons Through the Years" which chronicles the adventures of this talented family and each week unveils either a new music video or a guest star on the show.

Last, and most fascinating with this family is how The Duttons' love for each other and their love for what they do is immediately obvious. "I, for one, have never witnessed anything like this instant rapport between performers and ticket buyers – and I've been in attending concerts for almost six decades," says critic Mike Kerverlas of the Sumter, S.C. Item. "In short, The Duttons are showmanship personified."

The Duttons - International Television Appearances:

RAI 3TV, Rome, Italy
The Mino Damato Show;

TF 1, Paris, France:
The Patrique Sabitier Show;

Quongtong TV, China:
Spring Festival;

NBC Television
American River

PBS Television, USA
*The Duttons**

WGN, Chicago, USA
*The Duttons, Music in Your Heart**

BYUTV Satellite Television, USA
*The Duttons, Music in Your Heart**

PBS Television, USA
*The Duttons, Live at the Iowa State Fair**

PBS Television, USA
*The Duttons, Christmas Special**
*Christmas With The Duttons**

PBS Television, USA
*The Duttons, Making Music**

NBC Television
America's Got Talent

MDA Telethon Network (*ABC, NBC, and CBS affiliate stations nationwide*)
Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon
**Also broadcast on numerous regional stations across the United States and Canada*

RFD-TV, USA
The Duttons Through the Years
**Begins airing weekly on March 9, 2018*
