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Ivan Dillard Kicks Off 'Deep Ellum' On DECC Free Candlelit Sunset Sessions' With a Night of Music and Community

Dallas, TX – The Deep Ellum Community Association, Conscience Conduit, [Livegy](#), and TORC Texas are thrilled to announce the launch of Deep Ellum' " **On DECC Sunset Sessions.**" This exciting monthly series spotlights North Texas musicians and supports the unique venues that define our cultural fabric.

The series begins **April 13th, 2025**, featuring the genre-defying Ivan Dillard at the **Deep Ellum Community Center, 2528 Elm St A, Dallas, TX 75226**. Admission is free, with optional \$5 donations supporting local arts initiatives and expanding the neighborhood's [Narcan vending machine program](#). Reserve your spot at conscienceconduit.org/art-of-the-machine.

NTX Candlelit Celebration of Music and Creative Spaces

"[Sunset Sessions](#)" isn't just about performances; it's a lifeline for the galleries, shops, and venues that anchor Dallas' artistic identity while creating vital opportunities for emerging musicians. Each event offers artists their first live recording, professional photoshoot, and an introduction to the DECC "platform," a network boosted by entities like [Deep Ellum Radio to support in-music distribution](#) and grow local talent. This initiative also provides purposeful exposure for these artists, thanks to their debut performance secured through their first press release, fostering [career-building opportunities](#) that align emerging talent with Texas' vibrant creative ecosystem.

With the support of the [City of Dallas](#), future sessions will highlight venues like [Kettle Art](#), [Everything Ellum Store](#), and [Deep Ellum Art Co.](#), while aiming to expand these **free Candlelight concert series** throughout the DFW area. This initiative celebrates the vital connection between thriving venues and unforgettable artistic and live music experiences while building a stronger support system for the region's up-and-coming musicians. We also hope to raise a nominal amount of \$1,000 per month to achieve this for each event.

North Texas' New Music Capitol Campaign

The initiative is also the driving force behind the "[Support New Music Petition](#)," which aims to gather **50,000 signatures** to establish Dallas as the **New Music Capitol**. Backed by the [City of Dallas](#), [Visit Dallas](#), and [DO214](#), this campaign supports musicians with career-building platforms while creating a network linking artists across cities.

The city's influence is already undeniable. Dallas significantly outpaced other metro areas in Texas in spending on music entertainment and shows, which are part of the broader arts and culture industry. Dallas generated \$1.27 billion in taxable sales, compared to another leading metro area that recorded \$607 million in the same year – [2025 State of the Arts Report](#).

Spotlight on Ivan Dillard

Unveiling this groundbreaking series is **Ivan Dillard**, a Dallas native originally from **Marshall, Texas (population 24,118)**, who embodies the region's innovative and industrious spirit. With a rare ability to blend heartfelt 90s pop vibes and modern ingenuity, Dillard's music defies convention while resonating with a wide range of listeners.

As a graduate of SMU's **Meadows School of the Arts**, Dillard has honed his craft to create a genre-blending sound that continues to captivate audiences across North Texas and beyond. His unique talent has not gone unnoticed in the local music scene.

"I gave the Ivan Dillard track '[She's The One](#)' a spin and am glad I did," said **Jay Gavit, DJ Crash at KNON Radio**. "Solid Americana that has echoes of John Hiatt's best moments, if he recorded with Nick Lowe. This is a radio-friendly and clever DIY pop gem. I'm intrigued to hear more."

With his artistry, Dillard promises an unforgettable launch for a series that celebrates creativity, connection, and community.

Event Details

- **What:** Ivan Dillard Live at Deep Ellum' On DECC Sunset Sessions
- **When:** April 13th, 2025 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Deep Ellum Community Center, **2528 Elm St A, Dallas, TX 75226**
- **Admission:** Free (Optional \$5 donations encouraged)
- **RSVP:** [ConscienceConduit.org/art-of-the-machine](https://conscienceconduit.org/art-of-the-machine)
- Sign the Petition: <https://conscienceconduit.org/north-texas-petition-for-new-music-capital/>

Doors open at **6:00 p.m.**, welcoming attendees to connect through music and community. At **7:00 p.m.**, Ivan Dillard will take the stage under candlelit ambience, creating a truly one-of-a-kind experience that concludes at **9:00 p.m.**

Join Us

Be part of North Texas' artistic evolution on **April 13th** as we celebrate the talent, spaces, and culture that make Dallas a vibrant creative hub. Together, we'll set the tone for a future where music thrives, artists connect, and the community shines.

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