At close to 25 million inhabitants, it’s common sense that plenty of music making goes on throughout the small and large towns of Texas. In fact, throughout the Lone Star State, music makes community. It is the glue that draws people together, encourages them to stay, and invites them to join in. At weddings, anniversaries, community festivals, ethnic celebrations, church events, backyard social gatherings, local clubs, and dancehalls, Texans of all stripes come together to eat, drink, and enjoy the music. When a group of musicians sings in Czech, French, Polish, or Spanish, it expresses a special sense of ethnicity and community. The performers may be fourth-generation Texans, but the music they make preserves their mother tongue and provides a vibrant backdrop to cultural traditions that celebrate shared identity, family networks, and local ties.