



ROOTS, ACOUSTIC MUSIC AT ITS BEST!

MAY 2024

4th & 5th

WORKSHOPS

Held at: **HIGHBANKS METRO PARK** / Big Meadows area, 9466 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center, OH 43035

Festival is always held the first full weekend in May

Festival Hours: Sat. 10:30am – 9:30pm / Sun. 10:30am – 5:30pm

30+ MUSIC WORKSHOPS – with something for everyone

There is no fee for the workshops. We will have donation tents positioned at the entrance. All festival entrants are encouraged to donate. **Your generous \$\$ support makes all of this possible!**

IN SUMMARY

- Workshops for the very beginner on the ukulele, autoharp, tin whistle, dulcimer and more (some loaner instruments available)
- Advanced Beginner to Intermediate and Advanced workshops on guitar, fiddle, banjo, mandolin, harmonica, and more
- Workshops covering songwriting, storytelling, how to play in a bluegrass jam, how to accompany other musicians, and even a workshop for kids and parents on writing a song together !

For a listing of ALL festival performers, other events, and a complete schedule visit:
www.columbusfolkmusicsociety.org/festival

INSTRUMENT STORAGE TENT (ALWAYS STAFFED) ...

available both days if you want to attend concerts and/or any other events. **Hours: 10:30am-4pm Sat / 10:30-4:30pm Sun**

All workshops listed below include scheduled times and locations. Short bios on our presenters begin on page **10**.

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

KEY: ALL = all / BEG = beginner / ADV BEG = advanced beginner / INT = intermediate / ADV = advanced. Workshops are 50 minutes.

SATURDAY NOON

Putting Your Songs on a Tablet – Charlie Flowers

People will see how easy it is to put songs on iPad or iPhone apps that were made to store hundreds of songs that can be moved and sorted to make set lists. No more printing out song and chord sheets! Several options will be reviewed. Get rid of your overstuffed loose-leaf binders. **ALL – Tent 1**



Photo by Goodnotes 5, Unsplash

Hybrid Picking on Guitar – Jeff Putnam

Have you ever wished you could switch seamlessly between strumming with a flatpick and Travis-style finger-picking in the same song, without missing a beat? Hybrid picking is the answer. Grow the nail on your middle finger (no, really!), bring your guitar, and learn this versatile technique.

INT – Tent 2

How to Play in a Bluegrass Jam – George Welling and Fred Staunton

Been playing your instrument for a while, but not sure you're ready for a real jam session? Certified instructors George Welling and Fred Staunton offer a taste of the Wernick

Method for Bluegrass jamming. If you can switch between G, C, D, and A chords smoothly, bring your instrument for a hands-on experience! For Advanced Beginners. Audit at any level. **ADV BEG & UP Tent 3**

SATURDAY 1:00 PM

Intro to Tin Whistle – Jake Hoffer (from *Fialla*)

The versatile and unique sound of the tin whistle adds character and variety to Celtic, British, and old-time tunes. Jake from Fialla will share what you need to know to get started on the whistle, teach a simple tune or two, and suggest ways to incorporate the whistle into your own music-making. Clean loaner whistles in the key of D will be available or bring your own! **BEG – Tent 1**

3 Guitar Chords and 1000s of Songs – Bill Cohen (from *The Folk Ramblers*)

It's a precious secret: If you can learn just 3 guitar chords – G, C, and D – you can accompany thousands of folk songs (and blues and Irish and rock and John Prine).

This workshop will inspire and motivate beginning musicians and parents of children who are interested in learning guitar but who worry it might be too difficult.

The basics of guitar are not hard. In fact, they're surprisingly simple. If you already know these chords, bring your guitar, and I will demonstrate how those 3 chords alone are the secret to the whole world of folk music. If you don't already know those chords, come anyway so you can be motivated to learn them. **ALL – Tent 2**



Flatpick/Bluegrass Guitar – Adam Schlenker (from *Denison Univ. American Roots Ensemble*)

This workshop will take a look at developing a method for learning and developing a strong practice routine. What

often holds players back, at any skill level, is not having a clear path for progress. In this workshop, you will learn pathways to both technical and creative growth. **ALL – Tent 3**

SATURDAY 2:00 PM

Learn an Irish Tune – Jake Hoffer and Stephen Morris (from *Fialla*)

Members of Fialla will teach a well-known Irish tune. All instruments welcome—bring your fiddle, flute, tin whistle, guitar, banjo, mandolin, bodhran, accordion, or anything else! **ADV BEG & UP – Tent 1**

Tips: Singing for Social Change – Deborah Van Kleef and Joanie Calem (Performer)

It can be very satisfying to play for folks who want to make the world a better place, but it's not quite as simple as it looks. Social justice gigs may be quite different from your usual ones. (Even Pete Seeger had to figure it out.) This workshop will cover repertoire, performance techniques, and how to help organizers effectively incorporate music into their events. Along the way they'll be some singing as well.

ALL – Tent 2

Mandolin Foundations – Hayes Griffin

By the end of the workshop, attendees will know the basics of mandolin playing including alternate picking, rhythm playing, ear training, and how to develop a good practice routine.

ALL – Tent 3

SATURDAY 3:00 PM

Intro to Bodhran Drum – Jim Lindroth (from *All Those Who Wander*)

Attendees will learn some history and cultural context of the drum, as well as beginning techniques and accompaniment styles for jigs and reels. **BEG – Tent 1**



Photo by Following NYC, Pexels

Creating Unique Arrangements *with The Arcadian Wild* **(Festival Headliner)**

Learn about how a top band makes arranging decisions: what instruments to feature, how to arrange the vocals, who does what, what's been tried that didn't work out and why, general rules to follow and not follow, and other key issues. Get up close and personal with the festival headliners!

INT – Tent 2

Write One Song: Kids' Edition! – Jenner Fox (Performer)

Write one song together! This will be an opportunity to explore the medium of songwriting in an inclusive, playful environment. You'll help write a group song from scratch, learn how songs can be built, and sing/play the song together! All genres and musical abilities are welcome.

ALL – WORKSHOP OCCURS IN KIDS' CRAFT TENT (KIDS' ACTIVITIES AREA)

SATURDAY 4:00 PM

Keys to Accompanying Other Musicians – Brian Szuch (from *The Dirty Windows*)

This workshop will teach you techniques and tricks to being a good accompanist to other musicians and singers in group and jam settings – even when you don't know the song.

ALL – Tent 1



Photo, Pavel Danilyuk, Unsplash

Playing Harmonica in 3 Keys and Various Styles – Dave Gastel (from Rainmakers Blues Trio)

How to play a single 10-hole harmonica in three keys, for major key, blues/rock/country, and minor-key songs, covering a wide range of musical styles. Learn about top players and recordings in various styles. Focus on improving tone and expressiveness. Q&A's included! **ADV BEG - INT – Tent 2**

Old Time Fiddle By Ear – Aaron Jonah Lewis (Performer)

In this workshop Aaron Jonah Lewis will teach old time fiddle by ear. The old time fiddle styles of the Appalachian mountains are characterized by their syncopated bowing patterns and driving rhythms. The workshop will be spent discussing musical and technical aspects and learning a tune. This workshop is aimed at people who can already play their fiddle/violin a bit but will be taught by ear so you don't need to read music. **ADV BEG-INT – Tent 3**

SATURDAY 5:00 PM

Getting Started on the Ukulele – Deborah Van Kleef

Participants will learn a 3-chord song, plus chord-changing and practice techniques. Some loaners will be available or bring your own instrument! **BEG – Tent 1**



Telling Stories in Word and Song – April Mann (from *Goldenthread*)

Do you tell stories? Of course you do! Master storyteller April Mann will share ideas on how to be a more effective storyteller, using both words and music. Learn how to tailor your language to your audience, decide what mood/feel/tone to use, and make characters vivid and unforgettable. This interactive workshop will explore a range of common traditional tales and songs.

Workshop participants will leave with a host of ideas they can immediately use to customize the next story to engage their to audience on a deeper level.

ALL – Tent 2

Blues Guitar Fundamentals – John Hill (from *Rainmaker Blues Trio*)

In this workshop, participants will learn the chord number system, eight-and twelve-bar blues forms, how to accompany a harmonica player, rhythmic and supportive playing and soloing over chord changes. **BEG-INT – Tent 3**

SUNDAY WORKSHOPS

KEY: ALL = all / BEG = beginner / ADV BEG = advanced beginner / INT = intermediate / ADV = advanced. Workshops are 50 minutes.

SUNDAY NOON

Introduction to Autoharp – Paul D. Race

This workshop will present a brief history of the autoharp and include example instruments. *Loaners will be available.* There will be a chance for up to a dozen attendees to handle the instruments and play simple songs. If you have your own, you are welcome to bring it. **BEG – Tent 1**

Storytelling in Songs – David Tamulevich & Libby Glover (from *Mustard's Retreat*)

Of course, all songs tell a story of some kind. This workshop will specifically focus on how to put a story that moves you, into song. The presumption is that you have been inspired by something, serious or humorous or anything in between, and you want to communicate that emotion you are feeling to someone who hears that song. And even if you just want to write the song for yourself, how do you wind up with something that feels true to you. **ALL – Tent 2**

Banjo from Scruggs to Melodic – Todd Sams

Workshop attendees will learn advanced banjo licks and how to build interesting solos in Scruggs, Melodic and a mixture of both styles. Participants will also learn how to play respectfully with other players and tasteful back-up playing.

INT-ADV – Tent 3

SUNDAY 1:00 PM

Write One Song – Jenner Fox (Performer)

Write one song! This will be an opportunity to explore the medium of songwriting in an inclusive, playful environment with a prompt, a look into the songwriting process, actual writing time, and an opportunity to share at the end. We will hold close the philosophy of poet William Stafford that “There is no such thing as writer’s block for the writer whose standards are low enough,” and give ourselves permission to make something unpolished. All genres and musical abilities are welcome. **ALL – Tent 1**

How to Play in a Bluegrass Jam – George Welling and Fred Staunton

Been playing your instrument for a while, but not sure you’re ready for a real jam session? Certified instructors George Welling and Fred Staunton offer a taste of the Wernick Method for Bluegrass jamming. If you can switch between G, C, D, and A chords smoothly, bring your instrument for a hands-on experience! For Advanced Beginners. Audit at any level.



ADV BEG & UP Tent 2

Arranging & Pickin’ Songs for a Stringband – Jackson Grimm (from Jackson Grimm Band)

Jackson will share some of his thought processes behind building a repertoire for a string band as well as some arranging ideas to make them more interesting. Instruments welcome! And bring questions please! **ALL – Tent 3**

SUNDAY 2:00 PM

Introduction to Appalachian Dulcimer – Paul D. Race

This workshop will present a brief history of the Appalachian dulcimer and include example instruments. Loaners will be

available. There will be a chance for up to a dozen attendees to handle the instruments and play simple songs. If you have your own, you are welcome to bring it. **BEG – Tent 1**

Working Through Writing a Song – David Tamulevich and Libby Glover (from *Mustard's Retreat*)

This workshop will give you practical ideas on how to start, work your way through, and finish a song, including tips and tricks and overcoming writer's block. Also, if you're interested, bring an original song to perform and get feedback from other songwriters on how it might be improved. . . . and maybe some answers to your songwriting questions. **ALL – Tent 2**

Traditional Country Music – Howard & Judy Sacks

This workshop performance explores the roots of early country music, from fiddle tunes to cowboy songs, family harmonies, and country blues. You'll hear the sounds of the Carter Family, Jimmie Rodgers, and the Blue Sky Boys. We'll discuss how Ohio musicians influenced the early country music industry and the connection between folk traditions and popular music. **ALL – Tent 3**

SUNDAY 3:00 PM

Banjo from Scruggs to Melodic – Todd Sams

Workshop attendees will learn advanced banjo licks and how to build interesting solos in Scruggs, Melodic and a mixture of both styles. Participants will also learn how to play respectfully with other players and tasteful back-up playing.

INT-ADV – Tent 1

Tips for Navigating the Music Business – David Tamulevich (from *Tamulevich Artist Management*)

What does a life in music look like for you? Whether you are a pro, aspire to a career in music, an amateur, or just curious, how do you make a life in music that is personally uplifting? David will take your questions including: how to tour, write,

publicize, build a team, build and maintain a career, and try and stay sane and centered and enjoy yourself at the same time. **ALL – Tent 2**

Singing Harmony in the Folk Tradition – Jackson Grimm
(from *Jackson Grimm Band*)

In this workshop, we'll cover some basic concepts of creating vocal harmony with two and three singers. Bring your voices!

ALL – Tent 3

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

****THE ARCADIAN WILD**

(Nashville, TN) **Festival Headliner**
www.thearcadianwild.com

Named for a utopian landscape in Greek mythology, the group consists of guitarist Isaac Horn, mandolinist Lincoln Mick, and

fiddler Bailey Warren. The Arcadian Wild's unique sound is based on ethereal three-part harmonies and startling musical prowess. Since its formation over a decade ago, the band has delighted audiences throughout North America and abroad as well as winning accolades and chart success. The Arcadian Wild will be playing music from their recent album *Welcome*, as well as an engaging mix of old and new songs.



COHEN, BILL (Columbus, OH) **Performer, The Folk Ramblers**
www.facebook.com/billcohensings

Bill Cohen has played and sung folksongs for 60 years. The venues: festivals, schools, senior centers, memory units, coffeehouses, churches, etc. His shows often mix history with music. He's performed and led workshops at the Central Ohio Folk Festival for many years.

FLOWERS, CHARLIE (Columbus, OH)

Charlie Flowers has been a solo performer and a local band member for nearly 20 years. He is the past president of the Columbus Folk Music Society and has performed throughout Ohio and Michigan.

FOX, JENNER (Seattle, WA) Performer jennerfox.com

The workshops will be led by award winning songwriter, educator, and touring musician Jenner Fox. "Jenner tells the stories of people and places with unparalleled compassion and respect. His artful tone, poetry, and fluency on his guitar do something only the brave ones do: let us in." – *Sheridan Press*

GASTEL, DAVE (Columbus, OH) Performer, **Rainmaker Blues Trio**

www.facebook.com/gastelda

www.facebook.com/people/John-Henry-The-Rainmakers

Dave has 50 years of piano and harmonica experience. He has performed since the 1980s, and has played keyboards and harmonica in the Teeny Tucker Band (2007-2017) in over 100 shows across the US, Canada, and in Europe as well as performed on her albums. He is currently a member of two bands with musician John Henry (John Henry and the Rainmakers and the Rainmaker Blues Trio) and also a guest performer for other bands. He has presented at the Buckeye Harmonica Festival and privately taught harmonica to students.



GRIFFIN, HAYES (Columbus, OH)

www.hayesgriffin.com

<https://hayesgriffin.club>

www.youtube.com/hayesgriffin

Hayes Griffin is a multi-instrumentalist and music educator living in Columbus, OH. Hayes has

over a decade's worth of experience touring with bluegrass and folk bands and helps thousands of guitarists and

mandolinists realize their true musical potential through his weekly YouTube lessons, private instruction, and his online video platform - Guitar Club.

GRIMM, JACKSON (Asheville, NC) **Performer, Jackson Grimm Band**

www.jacksongrimm.com jacksongrimmusic@gmail.com

Jackson Grimm has been a full-time performing musician since 2016. Studying education in undergrad, it was only natural for him to combine his love of music and his love of teaching shortly after that. Jackson teaches at the Academy for the Arts in Asheville, NC, as well as offers private virtual instruction and some workshop teaching at various festivals and music camps across the country.

HILL, JOHN (Zanesville, OH) **Performer, Rainmaker Blues Trio**

www.facebook.com/JohnHenry&TheRainmakers
johnnybluesman1957@gmail.com

John Henry is self-taught and has played and sung in many bands in many genres since 1976. He ran a weekly blues show and open stage for six years, with performers ranging from beginners to experienced professionals. This gave beginning-to-intermediate players valuable experience in performing on-stage and as a member of a band, leading to the formation of successful local bands. He formed John Henry & The Rainmakers over ten years ago, a vehicle to present his original songs and entertain blues lovers. The band frequently plays festivals, clubs and private events. His 2021 album "John Henry & The Rainmakers" was a top-five finalist in the 2022 International Blues Competition for Best Self-Produced Album.

HOFFER, JAKE and MORRIS, STEPHEN (Columbus, OH)
Festival Performers, Fialla fialla.com

Jake and Stephen are two-thirds of the blazing Columbus Irish group Fialla. Jake imbibed Irish music from family and friends at an early age and settled on flute and tin

whistle. Stephen has an equally long pedigree in Irish music, developing ear-catching, toe-tapping proficiency on the bodhrán, or Irish drum.

LEWIS, AARON JONAH (Detroit, MI)

Performer

aaronjonahlewis.com

Champion fiddler Aaron Jonah Lewis has been elbow-deep in traditional American fiddle and banjo music since first lessons at the age of five with Kentucky native Robert Oppelt. Lewis has taken blue ribbons at the Appalachian String Band Festival in Clifftop, WV, and at the Old Fiddlers



Convention in Galax, VA, the oldest and largest fiddlers convention in the country. Also noted for mastery of multiple banjo styles, he spends most of the time teaching, touring as a solo performer, with the Corn Potato String Band, and other projects.

LINDROTH, JIM (Columbus, OH) **Performer, All Those Who Wander** jimlindroth.wordpress.com/irish-traditional

Jim Lindroth is a percussionist living in the Columbus area. He has a background in classical percussion but dove deep into folk percussion during his Master's program. He has given bodhrán workshops at Columbus Percussion and DRUM Percussion Studio (Greenville, SC) and teaches group classes and private lessons on the instrument.

MANN, APRIL (Cincinnati, OH) **Performer, Goldenthread / April Eight** aprileight.com April@AprilEight.com

Since 2016, April Mann has been creating and sharing her original songs and stories on her podcast April Eight Songs & Stories with hundreds of thousands of listens across the globe. She also tells traditional pedagogical fairytales, fables, and myths for children in grades 1-5. April shares her stories full of songs for all-ages at fairy and folk festivals

nationally as April Eight. Her favorite stories center around everyday people encountering the unseen world hidden in plain sight.

PUTNAM, JEFF (Mt. Vernon, OH) putnamjeff@hotmail.com

Jeff Putnam has played guitar and other instruments in bands for over sixty years in a variety of styles, including folk, bluegrass, Celtic, Scandinavian, and rock/pop.

RACE, PAUL D. (Springfield, OH)

creekdontrise.com paulracemusic.com racep@donet.com

Paul has been playing and writing music of all styles since the 1960s, but he especially loves traditional music and the instruments on which it is played. These instruments include guitar, banjo, autoharp, dulcimer, and psaltery. Paul has written many articles on such instruments at CreekDontRise.com/Acoustic. Paul's music blog is PaulRaceMusic.com.

SACKS, HOWARD & JUDY (Gambier, OH)

Howard and Judy Sacks are nationally known as scholars, presenters, and performers of American folk music. They were the 2008 recipients of the Ohio Heritage Fellowship Award for their role in documenting and supporting Ohio folk arts. In 2014 they performed across China in a musical tour sponsored by the US State Department.

SAMS TODD (Athens, OH)

sams@stewmac.com www.facebook.com/stringtherapyband
5thfretproductions.com/appalachianswingbluegrass.html

Todd Sams has played banjo semi-professionally and professionally for 42 years. He has played in bands with Tony, Larry and Wyatt Rice, Tim O'Brien, David Grier, Ricky Simpkins, Clay Hess, The Rarely Herd, RetroGrass, String Therapy, The Brickersons, Coal Cave Hollow and Appalachian Swing as well as others. He has also given banjo lessons off and on over those 42 years as well as being the Bluegrass Banjo instructor at Allegheny Echoes in Marlinton, WV for the past five years.

SCHLENKER, ADAM

(Newark, OH) **Performer**

www.5thfretproductions.com

www.youtube.com/adamschlenker

adamschlenker.5thfret@gmail.com



Adam Schlenker is an educator, performer, and composer of Acoustic American Roots Music. Born and raised in southern West Virginia, Adam is now based near Columbus, Ohio, where he is the Coordinator of American Roots & Bluegrass Music Studies at Denison University. Adam founded 5th Fret Productions in 2009 combining online, video-based lessons with one-on-one instruction. He adopted online video conferencing early on as a teaching platform and now his private student base stretches across the US and throughout Europe and Australia. Adam has been featured in publications like *Flat Picking Guitar Magazine* and *Bluegrass Unlimited* and is an instructor at a numerous music camps including the Nashville Flat Pick Camps and Perry Stenback International Guitar Camp (Denmark).

SZUCH, BRIAN (Westerville, OH) **Performer, The Dirty Windows** szuch2230@gmail.com

Dirty Windows lead guitarist Brian Szuch is a multi-instrumentalist and producer. He is also the lead guitarist for the Dan Orr Project. With DOP, he has shared the stage with ZZ Top, .38 Special, Night Ranger, and Joey Molland of Badfinger. He is also a member of Columbus bands Avalon Nine and Halfway Home. For this workshop, he'll be joined by members of the popular John Prine tribute band, The Dirty Windows.

TAMULEVICH, DAVID and GLOVER, LIBBY (Ann Arbor, MI) **Performers, Mustard's Retreat / David Tamulevich, Founder Tamulevich Artist Management**

www.tamulevich.com david@tamulevich.com

David Tamulevich has been a songwriter, performer with

Mustard's Retreat, and booking agent and manager for nearly 50 years. He has worked on building and maintaining the careers of countless artists from Peter Yarrow to Dar Williams, Ani DiFranco to Richie Havens, Tom Paxton, John Gorka, Utah Phillips, and many others. Some of the songs he, in conjunction with former Mustard's Retreat member Michael Hough, have written are on their way to being considered classics. In particular, *[Ours Is A] Simple Faith*, and *Gather the Family* were recently included in the *Rise Again* songbook. Libby Glover, a founding member of Mustard's Retreat, took a decades-long sabbatical from the legendary trio until a return to her home state of Michigan led to a rebirth of the group as a duo.

VAN KLEEF, DEBORAH and CALEM, JOANIE (Cleveland Heights, OH / Columbus, OH) dvankleef@igc.org
joaniecalem.com joaniecalem@gmail.com

Deborah Van Kleef believes that music is indispensable to the work of making the world a better place. She has performed for nearly 40 years at rallies, conferences, fundraisers, coffeehouses and other special events. She is adept at choosing the right songs for each occasion and getting a crowd singing along. Joanie Calem is a singer/song-writer, storyteller, music teacher, and inclusion advocate, who performs for audiences of all ages and abilities. She is a firm believer in the power of music to bring people together across boundaries of all kinds.

WELLING, GEORGE and FRED STAUNTON (Worthington, OH)
george.welling@gmail.com wernickmethod.org/event

George Welling and Fred Staunton are certified instructors in the Wernick Method for Bluegrass jamming, teaching classes and workshops in Central Ohio for the past three years, including the Central Ohio Folk Festival, Ohiolina, and Mohican festivals. Both host local jam sessions and perform in area groups.