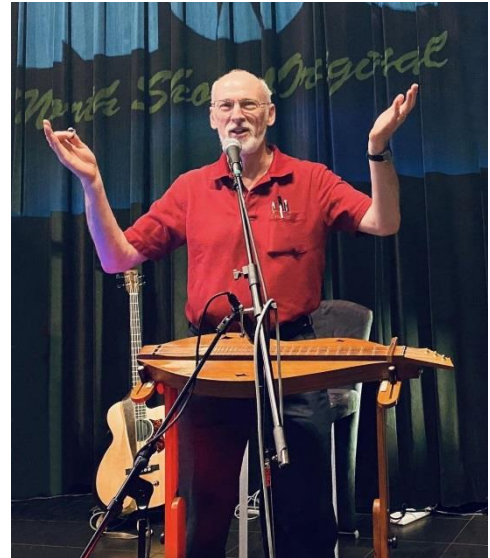


Mountain Dulcimer Music Fest 2024 Workshop Leaders



Carolyn Brodginski was a quick study when she finally got her hands on a mountain dulcimer after four decades playing guitar. The sweet sound, and many voices of the dulcimer opened a new musical world and opportunities. It wasn't long before the dulcimer was integrated into the sound of her band, and she began teaching privately, at festivals, and at St. Francis Hospital where she worked as a therapeutic musician from 2015 until Covid hit in March of 2020. But Covid didn't slow her down. Carolyn has been a regular song leader, and two-time mystery guest in Pat Clark's weekly "Send In The Music" jam since March of 2020. She also used all that free time to master another stringed instrument, the Celtic harp. An award-winning singer/songwriter, four of her original songs have been featured in the music sampler of Dulcimer Players News, including her latest song, "Sherry's Diamonds", a harp/dulcimer duet, which was in the August 2022 edition. www.carolynbrodginski.com

Sam Edelston comes to mountain dulcimers from the direction of chords, songs, and popular music (similar to how most people learn the guitar). He's on a mission to bring dulcimers to the general public through songs they already love in genres like rock, pop, folk, blues, country, and even jazz and classical music. (He's also written nearly 700 songs.) His online videos have been viewed over 1,000,000 times, in over 190 countries. Sam chairs the Nutmeg Dulcimer Festival, held every October in Milford, CT. He's performed or taught at numerous folk festivals, dulcimer festivals (including MDMF many times), and other venues in the Northeast and across the country, as well as QuarantUNE and other online festivals. He is now a full-time musician, and also teaches dulcimer courses and gives private lessons on Zoom. And check out his new CD, *Making Waves!* www.SamTheMusicMan.com



David Fox earned his Master of Music Education degree from Shenandoah Conservatory at Shenandoah University (5-String Banjo and Appalachian Dulcimer), and his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Nyack College (Low Brass). He has been teaching since 1988, and has been in the Herkimer Central School District Music Department for the past 21 years, where he just retired after 31 years of teaching music in NY. David is member of Rags to Riches, and a member of the Mohawk Valley Chamber Brass sextet for several years. He is also an Adjunct Music Instructor at Morrisville State College –SUNY Morrisville, directing the Music Ensemble and the Pit Orchestra. This year marks his 19th year as the New York State American Legion Boys' State Program Band Director. You can also find him every summer as "the vendor out in the campground" with parts and repair service at the Pickin' in the Pasture bluegrass music festival in Lodi, NY.

Tom Irving is a dulcimer player and an innovator, always looking for better ways to do things. He is the creator of Possum Pads, as well as ergonomic noters and wrist rests for dulcimer players. Based in Massachusetts, where he founded the New England Dulcimaniacs, he loves music, art, and dulcimer folk for they are all great folk!

Email: tom468strings@yahoo.com



Lori Keddell has been playing the dulcimer since 1985, and has taught classes and workshops for both children and adults in building and playing cardboard dulcimers. She was instrumental in organizing our first MDMF in 1989, and has been the coordinator since 1991. She was on the staff of the Cranberry Dulcimer and Autoharp Gathering from 1987 to 2016, and has been an instructor at numerous festivals in New York, VT, MA, PA and CT. With George Haggerty, she taught a week-long Dulcimer Elderhostel class in Vermont for many years. She has published 5 books of arrangements for the mountain dulcimer, each with an accompanying CD. Her newest book, "Lullabies and Night Songs for the Mountain Dulcimer" contains 78 lullabies from around the world. She has also contributed many pieces of music to the monthly newsletter of the Dulcimer Association of Albany.

Bernd Krause has a Bachelor's degree in Woodworking and Design and has been building mountain dulcimers, guitars, mandolins, ukuleles, etc., for over 44 years. He has taught dulcimer building at high school shop classes where over 100 students built their own instruments from design to completion, and has conducted building and dulcimer history workshops for dulcimer festivals, schools, historical societies, business groups and woodworker groups. For over 10 years he has demonstrated dulcimer building at the Agricultural Museum at the Great New York State Fair.

www.facebook.com/KrauseInstruments



Sandy Lafleur, from Wilton, NH, has been playing and sharing her love of the dulcimer for over 25 years and has taught many workshops over the years at the DAA, Dulcimer Daze, and Nutmeg festivals, among others. A contra dancer, caller, and dance organizer her greatest joy comes from bringing people together around music. She also teaches out of her home in NH and on Zoom. Her goal for her dulcimer students is to help each player find their own unique musical voice. www.wanderingdulcimer.com

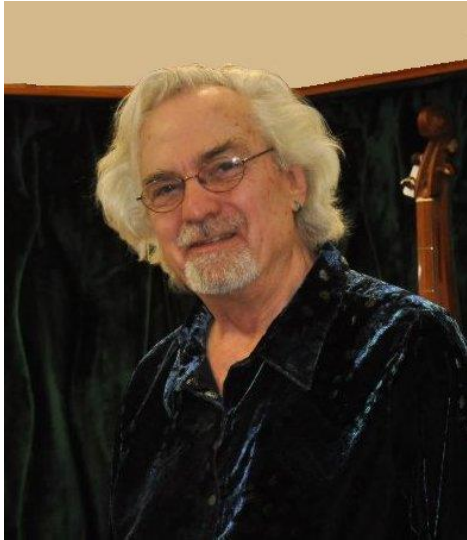
Bonnie Leigh, CMP - a Certified Music Practitioner, performer/teacher and singer/songwriter, actively performs and teaches her gentle style of playing with the mountain dulcimer across the northeast coast. Bonnie has taught at eleven dulcimer festivals in the east and has been giving lessons, teaching at festivals and performing since 1991. You'll find her at historical villages, libraries, clubs, meetings, coffeehouses and nursing homes. Her easy manner makes learning to play fun and relaxed. As a Music Practitioner Bonnie plays the dulcimer and small harp at the bedside of hospice patients. Bonnie's original songs of life and family can be found on her 3 recordings and 3 songbooks to accompany the recordings, all in dulcimer tab. Bonnie has also written 3 poem books and "*From My Heart to Yours - Thoughts and experiences of a Music Practitioner Intern*" a booklet. For more information, contact Bonnie at bonnie@bonnieleigh.com



Ellen Pratt has been playing dulcimer for twenty-three years. She began writing her own music in 2004. She has performed at numerous open mics and taught at festivals throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states and at online festivals. Ellen's style of playing is a mix of traditional and contemporary. In the last few years, she has been arranging and composing multipart pieces for ensembles. She has written 12 books of ensemble arrangements. Ellen plays dulcimer and banjo in the elementary school where she teaches second grade. She has worked with students and their families to build cardboard dulcimers so that students could learn to play them and has taught several after-school dulcimer programs. Ellen played with the Northeast Dulcimer Orchestra in Connecticut for several years. She is a member and session leader of the First National Dulcimer Orchestra. She co-coordinates Vermont's August Dulcimer Daze festival with Bonnie Leigh. www.ellenprattdulcimer.com

Butch Ross is perhaps the only performer to have shared stages with Homer Ledford, a Led Zeppelin tribute band and a death metal band whose name he won't repeat. Butch has been gleefully smashing disparate genres of music together for nearly twenty years. Treating the mountain dulcimer like a prism, he has used it to conquer everything from Bach to Beethoven to the Beatles to Metallica. Most recently covering Radiohead's wildly oblique album "Kid A" with dulcimer, uke & a loop pedal. His restless musical curiosity and virtuosity, coupled with his innate ability to break complex concepts into simple ideas, have made him an in-demand teacher and performer at many folk and dulcimer festivals both in the US and abroad. He is a live-looper, producer and remixer, a regular contributor to DPN, plays bass, drums, percussion, keyboards, electric & acoustic guitars, ukulele, can play banjo (but doesn't) and the Kazakh dombra. Tho' his true love remains the mountain dulcimer. www.butchross.com

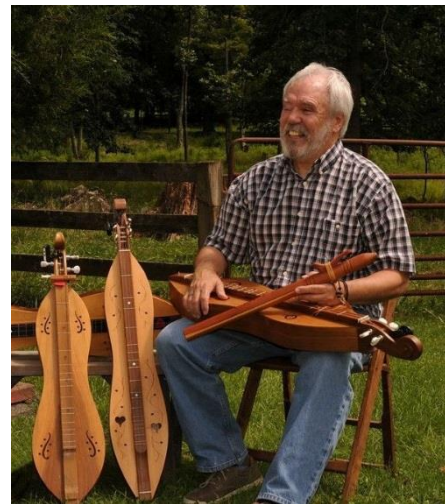




Dwain Wilder is heir to the famous Sunhearth mountain dulcimer design created by his friend Walter Martin. He has extended and improved the original Sunhearth, and now offers nine models in Standard and Concert Series. Each dulcimer is designed and voiced specifically for the musical needs of the client commissioning it. Dwain also relishes teaching, and holds individual classes and apprenticeships in his Bear Meadow Studio. A video documentary of his dulcimer building process and techniques is in progress. He is also a published poet, essayist and editor —and a long-time activist in the fields of racial justice and the climate crisis. He leads the library team for a small international group of climate scientists, sustainable economists, bio-diversity experts, videographers and publishers, and conducts training for grass-roots activists in non-violent direct action. Dwain lives with his wife and their cat and dog, in a quaint cottage at the edge of a large dark forest.

www.BearMeadow.com

Norm Williams is co-founder of The Pocono Dulcimer Club, and the Pocono DulcimerFest in East Stroudsburg, PA; a co-founder of the Maiden Creek Old Time Music Festival. Norm began teaching in 2002 and has been faculty/performer at festivals throughout the Northeast since (including the DAA Mountain Dulcimer Music Fest, August Dulcimer Days, French Creek Music Retreat, Maiden Creek Old Time Music Festival, Ashokan Music & Dance Camps & others). He offers private, personal instruction in person or via ZOOM. In addition to mountain dulcimer, he plays guitar, ukulele & banjo. Norm is a lover of Old Time music and performs solo as well as with the bands' *Wayfarers & Company*, *Tom & Betty Druckenmiller*, and *the Dulcimer Boys* with Cliff Cole & Rob Yoder. He has several recordings and is a radio host at WDIY 88.1 FM in Bethlehem, PA. Norm is currently semi-retired and resides with his wife, Erin, in Emmaus, PA. <https://www.awayfarer-normw.com/>



Nina Zanetti is the 2008 National Mountain Dulcimer Champion. She comes to the mountain dulcimer from a diverse musical background, including choral music, violin, viola, piano, and shape note singing. She plays regularly at churches, historic sites, and community events and has taught at dulcimer festivals throughout the country and online. Nina is especially fond of the “softer side of dulcimer” and has a strong interest in American folk hymns, Early Music, and ensemble playing. She has produced several books of solo arrangements for mountain dulcimer and has co-authored four books of duet/ensemble arrangements (the *Tunes for Two or More* series, with Beth Lassi.) She is featured on *Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer Play Music for Christmas* (CD) and has recorded a CD with Bill Collins, as well as two solo CDs, *Beside Still Waters* and *Winter's Light*. www.ninazanetti.com