

# Performers, Workshop Leaders, and Workshops

*Workshops are open to anyone interested, regardless of recommended skill level, at the discretion of the instructors.*

**Beginner:** no experience or very little

**Advanced Beginner:** understands the layout of the instrument, can find notes and learn to play a melody from memory

**Intermediate:** can play presented pieces without too much difficulty, can finger, embellish, and chord without intensive instruction

**Advanced:** can play easily, has a wide repertoire of music, and can easily learn new techniques

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## MIKE ANDERSON

**Saturday, 11:00AM, Workshop E**

**Advanced Beginner and Up**

**Right Hand Techniques** (mountain dulcimer)

This workshop will cover strumming and right-hand techniques.

**Sunday, 11:00AM, Workshop E**

**Beginner**

**Lap Dulcimer “Boot Camp”** (mountain dulcimer)

First, place the dulcimer string-side up on your lap. We’ll cover basic skills ranging from strumming to reading tablature to keeping the silly thing from sliding around.

**Sunday, 12:00PM, Workshop E**

**All**

**Hugo Kringle: Holiday Sing-alongs** (mountain dulcimer)

These techniques focus on playing for singing with kids of young-minded older folks. These will not be fancy-pantsy arrangements because kids don’t care about that style!

**Sunday, 1:00PM, Workshop E**

**All**

**We Don’t Need No Stinking Tab** (mountain dulcimer)

We will focus on playing basic back-up chords to accompany singing.

**Sunday, 3:00PM, Workshop E**

**Advanced Beginner to Intermediate**

**Mike’s Original Fiddle-type Tunes** (mountain dulcimer)

We’ll learn some of Mike’s compositions, such as “Hannah’s Dance,” “Katie on Coffee,” and “Drunkard’s March.”

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## PRIYA DARSHINI

**Sunday, 2:00 PM, Workshop D**

**All**

**Physiology of the Voice, Voice Technique and Breath Work**

Having had two vocal cord surgeries in her formative years, Grammy nominated singer and composer Priya Darshini journeyed around the world and inward, researching and exploring the human voice as an embodied instrument. This workshop will focus on understanding the physiology of the human voice, voice health, vocal and mindfulness technique, and powering the voice with breathing techniques. With class interaction and examples, Priya will demonstrate how the human voice is a special embodied instrument, requiring a technical, yet holistic approach.

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## CAROLE EHRMAN

**Saturday, 2:00PM, Workshop E**

**Advanced Beginner to Intermediate**

**Barbara Allen (and Untwisting Chord Positions)** (mountain dulcimer)

We will learn to play the classic folk tune Barbara Allen. We will play melody alone, then learn to add chords with helpful hand positioning. If chord playing is like playing Twister for you, come to this class and learn some logical moves that smooth out your chord playing.

**Sunday, 2:00PM, Workshop B**

**Beginner**

**Hands-on Mountain Dulcimer**

Loaner instruments are available so that you can take your first group class in mountain dulcimer. You will be playing your first song in a few minutes! Strumming, fretting, and basic rhythm will be covered in a low stress workshop.

**Sunday, 3:00PM, Workshop B**

**Intermediate to Advanced**

**International Christmas Songs** (mountain dulcimer)

There is plenty of time before Christmas to master these fun and beautiful international Christmas songs. Bring a capo if you have one. We’ll try “Noel Nouvelet,” “Christmas Day i’da Mornin’”, “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming,” and more.

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## FEBRUARY SKY

**Saturday, 12:00PM, Workshop E**

**Advanced Beginner to Advanced**

### **Rhythm Mountain Dulcimer for Songs & Tunes Part I**

Learn to play basic chords on mountain dulcimer as rhythm backup for other instruments or vocal parts in songs. We will start with an easy, familiar song and learn the chords for it. We'll then use those chords for a simple tune where the lead instrument is guitar. We'll learn the chords for several more songs and tunes as time permits. Chord sheets for songs and tunes will be provided.

**Saturday, 1:00PM, Workshop E**

**Advanced Beginner to Advanced**

### **Rhythm Mountain Dulcimer for Songs & Tunes Part II**

We will build on what we learned in Rhythm Dulcimer I, adding minor chords, modulations, etc. Again, we will start with a familiar song and learn the chords for it. Then we will use those chords for a tune where the lead instrument is the guitar, and then learn the chords for several more songs and tunes as time permits. Chord sheets for songs and tunes will be provided. You do not need to have taken Part I to attend.

**Sunday, 11:00AM, Workshop A**

**Advanced Beginner to Advanced**

### **Celtic Guitar: Songs and Tunes, Lead and Rhythm in DADGAD**

Participants will learn guitar chords in the DADGAD tuning often used for Celtic guitar arrangements and learn to play them on one or two easy songs. Phil will teach one or two simple tunes, and participants will have the choice of learning Phil's lead part or Susan's rhythm backup in DADGAD. Chord sheets and tablature will be provided.

**Sunday, 12:00PM, Workshop A**

**Advanced Beginner to Advanced**

### **Ballads and Story Songs (any instrument or voice)**

Ballads (or story songs) that are now considered traditional were often sung unaccompanied so that the words were not obscured by the instruments. Story songs are being written to this day, and it is important to keep accompaniments to them relatively simple so that the story can come through. We will sing and play some old and new ballads and story songs with simple accompaniments and invite participants to play and sing along. Lyrics and chord sheets will be provided.

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## CHRIS FOSS

**Saturday, 12:00PM, Neal Peck New Talent Stage**

**All**

**All-Instrument Jam with Chris**

**Sunday, 12:00PM, Neal Peck New Talent Stage**

**All**

**All-Instrument Jam with Chris**

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## MOTO FUKUSHIMA

**Saturday, 10:00AM, Workshop E**

**All**

### **Improvisation and Conversation (any instrument)**

Improvisation can seem daunting, but think of it as a conversation through music. This workshop encourages you to express your ideas and engage with the responses from other musicians. It's about the joy of sharing your musical voice and the excitement of interactive musical dialogues.

**Saturday, 3:00PM, Workshop B**

**All**

### **Japanese Music for All Instruments (any instrument)**

Immerse yourself in the enchanting world of Japanese traditional melodies and discover the three fundamental pentatonic scales that form the backbone of this music genre. We will delve into the history of Japanese music and explore the Zen mindset to fully appreciate the beauty of transience and imperfection found in these sounds.

**Sunday, 10AM, Workshop B**

**Intermediate to Advanced**

### **How to Write Your Song (any instrument)**

Beyond learning and playing traditional songs or standards, creating your own music is a thrilling next step. This workshop will be your guide on where to start and how to develop and arrange your ideas into a song. You might already have the next hit waiting in your imagination!

**Sunday, 3:00PM, Workshop A**

**All**

### **How to Practice: Fun with a Metronome (any instrument)**

Mastering your instrument requires practice, and while there are no shortcuts, there are more effective methods to explore. This workshop focuses on the critical role of the metronome in practice, revealing how this simple device can vastly improve your timing and musicality across all instruments.

**Sunday, 4:00PM, Workshop A** **All**  
**Ear Training for Beginners** (any instrument)  
Ear training is crucial for musicianship, allowing you to identify pitches, intervals, melodies, and rhythms by ear. This workshop introduces basic exercises in singing intervals and simple melodies, offering tips for practicing ear training at home and applying these skills in real-world situations.

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## **BING FUTCH**

**Saturday, 10:00AM, Workshop D** **Intermediate**  
**How One Little Fret Will Change Your Life on Mountain Dulcimer**  
More and more players are adding the 1+ and 8+ frets to their dulcimers and loving it! In this workshop, you'll discover how these frets can be useful for not only playing tunes but also understanding the basics of music theory. The workshop includes a spin through a couple of cool tunes that really take advantage of those extra frets.

**Sunday, 4:00PM, Workshop C** **Advanced**  
**The Art of Flatpicking and How to Do It** (mountain dulcimer)  
The mountain dulcimer makes chord-melody style arrangements sound great, and the same can be said when it's flat-picked. Focusing on melodic movement and minimal drones, this workshop introduces techniques for finger placement and picking exercises for accuracy through jigs, reels, and old-timey tunes. I'll also share techniques for mixing flat-picking and strumming for a more dynamic sound. Have a capo handy for playing in different keys.

**Saturday, 3:00PM, Workshop C** **Intermediate**  
**A Simple Way to Play D, G and A: Mountain Dulcimer Magic!**  
Bring your capo and learn a sweet trick that will get you playing hundreds of tunes easily in three different keys! Then, once we practice using familiar tunes, we discover the source of the magic using scales to figure out options for melody and harmony.

**Saturday, 5:00PM, Workshop D** **All**  
**Learning To Play Native American Flute**  
This beautiful, haunting, and expressive instrument dates back 4000 years on the North American continent. Originally used in courtship and later in ceremonies and, more recently, ensemble performances, the Native American flute now enjoys great popularity in all types of music. You'll be surprised at just how easy it is to play! Learn the basics: flute anatomy, how to hold it, breath control, major/minor scales, ornamentation techniques, and how to discover your very own spirit song. The key does not matter if you wish to bring your own.

**Sunday, 4:00PM, Workshop B** **Beginner to Intermediate**  
**Ukulele—You Da Drummer**  
Your strumming hand has a lot of work to do, especially when playing different styles of music. From bouncy island tunes to driving rock and roll and ska, there's more than one way to strum a uke. We'll get into many different techniques using chucking, muting, splaying, and more.

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## **LYNN GARREN**

**Saturday, 4:00PM, Workshop D** **Everyone**  
**Barn Dance Basics**  
Put on your dancing shoes and join us for some great fun in preparation for tonight's dance! Learn the easy moves needed for the tunes. Bring a friend, and your two left feet, two right feet, or one of each. No prior experience needed.

**Saturday, 6:00-8:00PM, Goold Park Bandshell** **Everyone**  
**Barn Dance**  
Join Lynn with Bill Robinson and Friends, plus anyone who wants to play or dance, as we enjoy the evening!

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## **DONNA HERULA**

**Saturday, 2:00PM, Workshop A** **Advanced Beginner to Intermediate**  
**Acoustic Blues Fingerstyle Guitar**  
Donna will explore blues fingerstyle guitar techniques, such as dead thumb and walk-up octaves, and teach songs in standard and/or drop D tunings.

**Saturday, 4:00PM, Workshop A**  
**Intro to Acoustic Slide Guitar**

**Beginner to Advanced Beginner**

Learn all you will need to know to play acoustic slide guitar (e.g., guitar set up, playing clean notes) and add color to your guitar playing. Donna will introduce the songs, licks, and rhythmic patterns of slide guitar masters in open G tuning. Donna will bring extra slides if you don't have one.

**Saturday, 5:00PM, Workshop A**

**All, no instrument needed**

**Women in the Blues** (no instrument needed)

Hear the songs and stories of the great women blues singers, songwriters, and instrumentalists such as Bessie Smith, Ma Rainey, Memphis Minnie, Etta Baker, Jessie Mae Hemphill, Koko Taylor, Bonnie Raitt and Sister Rosetta Tharpe. Women were a dominating force in blues music beginning in the 1920s and continue to have an impact today. This workshop will demonstrate various types of blues music and discuss the women that made these styles popular.

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**DIANE IPPEL**

**Saturday, 4:00PM, Workshop B**

**Intermediate**

**Dynamics** (hammered dulcimer)

We'll learn: 1) how not to sound like a sewing machine; 2) popping the melody above the accompaniment; 3) phrasing and emphasis; and 4) finding and using your loudest loud and your softest soft.

**Saturday, 5:00PM, Workshop B**

**Intermediate**

**Barrel Jumping** (hammered dulcimer)

We will focus on: 1) horizontal and vertical hammer agility; 2) flams; and 3) how to reach far away notes with precision and clarity.

**Sunday, 1:00PM, Workshop C**

**Intermediate**

**Repetition and Variation** (hammered dulcimer)

You'll learn to use repetition and variation as a tool to create fluidity, unity and moments that prick your ear in your arrangements.

**Sunday, 4:00PM, Workshop C**

**All**

**Tonal Depth** (hammered dulcimer)

Create tonal depth using single, double, triple, and quadruple octave notes and hammer placements. Learn when, why, and how not to create harmonic mud.

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**ILACE MEARS**

**Saturday, 1:00PM, Workshop A**

**Intermediate to Advanced**

**What Can I Do with This Tune?** (hammered dulcimer)

Building successful arrangements begins with a well-equipped toolbox. Fill yours with these harmonic, rhythmic, and decorative options. Get more mileage out of tunes you already know. Assemble unique arrangements to communicate and entertain more effectively.

**Saturday, 2:00PM, Neal Peck New Talent Stage**

**All**

**All Instrument Jam with Ilace**

**Sunday, 12:00PM, Workshop B**

**All**

**Strong Hands, Agile Hands** (hammered dulcimer)

Exercise your hands and your brain! Build strength, agility, accuracy, balance, AND smoothness using the full range of your instrument. Excellent long-term benefits!

**Sunday, 4:00PM, Workshop D**

**Intermediate to Advanced**

**Playing Back-up: The Art of Accompaniment** (hammered dulcimer)

Be a strong foundation and achieve the satisfaction of helping someone else shine. Providing rhythmic, harmonic, and graceful back-up is a valuable asset. Discover shortcuts to successful support.

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**LINDA MELHORN**

**Saturday, 12:00PM, Workshop C**

**Beginner**

**Ukulele Basics**

Learn three or four chords during this workshop and be able to play a simple, fun song by the end of it.

**Saturday, 4:00PM, Neal Peck New Talent Stage** **All**  
**All Instrument Jam with Elwood Garden Ukulele Society**  
**Sunday, 3:00PM, Workshop D** **Beginner**  
**Ukulele Basics**  
Learn three or four chords during this workshop and be able to play a simple, fun song by the end of it.

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## **FRANCO PINNA**

**Saturday, 2:00PM, Workshop D** **All**  
**Folkloric Rhythms in Jazz** (any instrument)  
In this workshop, we will talk about the intervention, influence, and development of folkloric rhythms and sounds from around the world into jazz and how it helped shape the evolution of the art form.

**Saturday, 3:00PM, Workshop D** **All**  
**Improvising Rhythmic Ideas** (any instrument)  
This workshop will be focused primarily on improvisation exercises. We will clap a rhythm in a circle, and each participant will improvise rhythms using specific methods explained in the workshop. The students will be encouraged to explore the melodic possibilities of each instrument using these techniques.

**Sunday, 10:00AM, Workshop A** **All**  
**Odd Meters** (any instrument)  
In this workshop, we will try to expand our basic knowledge of rhythm beyond 4/4 and 3/4, with an introduction to odd meters. As a group, we will use a portion of our time together to focus on playing a steady beat without changing it and will discuss the relevance of achieving good time.

**Sunday, 2:00PM, Workshop A** **All**  
**Introduction to Rhythms from South America** (any instrument)  
In this workshop, players will learn many different rhythms from South America, specifically, the candombe (inscribed by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of the World) and the Chacarera. We will introduce polyrhythms as well, one of the main components of these rhythms. We will then explore combining grooves from other parts of the world and will analyze their similarities. By clapping along, and learning these rhythms, players will learn to exercise new ways of musical thinking and explore the possibilities beyond musical genres.

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## **DEBBIE PORTER**

**Saturday, 10:00AM, Workshop C** **Advanced Beginner to Intermediate**  
**Tradition Continues in the Carter Family Style** (mountain dulcimer)  
The Carter Family repertoire has been loved for years. Build your repertoire of Carter style tunes by learning new arrangements, varying voicings of simple chords, and singing along (yes, you can). Techniques learned will help you master many other musical styles. If you have a capo, bring to the session for tips on playing in different keys. If you don't have a capo, yet, no worries. Learn how a capo may be helpful in your future! DAD tuning

**Saturday, 12:00PM, Workshop D** **Intermediate**  
**Singing Along with your Dulcimer...in Harmony** (mountain dulcimer)  
Do you love to sing? Do you love harmony but have no one to harmonize with? Let your dulcimer take the harmony note. This session provides tips for those who love to sing with their instrument, using both chords and harmony notes. With a beautiful old tune as the template, you will learn how to apply this technique to other songs you love to sing, how to create arrangements that suit your voice and style. We'll be using DAD tuning.

**Saturday, 1:00PM, Workshop D** **Beginner to Advanced Beginner**  
**Starting Out or Starting Over on Mountain Dulcimer?**  
Just out of the box or just taking that dulcimer off the wall? No worries, this class will get you well on your way to enjoying playing. Deb will share absolute beginning tips and techniques, good habits, and a number of tunes that you will be able to play right away. Left hand patterns and a variety of strums will be covered. We'll be using DAD tuning.

**Saturday, 5:00PM, Workshop C** **Advanced Beginner to Intermediate**  
**Keeping It Fun: Yes, Uke Can!!!** (ukulele)  
One of the best ways to sustain your interest in playing music is by building your repertoire. This can be repertoire of songs and styles or repertoire of strumming and picking skills. This session will provide lots of ideas, resources, and tips for building your repertoire. Playing with a group, mixing up strums and picking styles, and stretching your interest in

musical genres? What do you need to keep the uke fun? Baritones welcome, too! No ukes will be left behind! We'll be using GCEA or DGBE tuning.

**Sunday, 1:00PM, Workshop D**

**Advanced Beginner to Intermediate**

**Two Kinds of Ukulele Music—Country AND Western** (ukulele and voice)

From the Carter Family to today radio hits, country and western music is popular for a reason. There are great country songs that tell stories of love, life and fun. This workshop will build your repertoire of great country music arranged for all ukuleles whether tuned in GCEA (tenor) or DGBE (baritone). Come sing along and learn new tunes that you will love to play alone or with others.

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**NATE PULTORAK**

**Saturday, 11:00AM, Workshop C**

**Intermediate**

**Dancing Down the Road to Lisdoonvarna** (hammered dulcimer)

Learn how to liven up your Irish music while learning a personal favorite slip jig, "The Road to Lisdoonvarna."

**Saturday, 3:00PM, Workshop E**

**Intermediate to Advanced**

**Accessorize Your Playing!** (hammered dulcimer)

It has been said that what separates us from the animals is our ability to accessorize. Whether or not that is entirely true, this workshop will add some color and sparkle to your music with fun techniques such as muting, plucking, and valley notes.

**Saturday, 4:00PM, Workshop E**

**Intermediate**

**Vespers: A Study in Expressiveness** (hammered dulcimer)

It is a comfortable evening as the church bells quietly toll in the distance and a slight breeze rustles the leaves. Out of the quiet of the waning day is born the song Vespers by Dave DePasqua. Come learn this peaceful tune while gaining the skills of playing with dynamics and rubato.

**Sunday, 11:00AM, Workshop B**

**Beginner**

**A What-i-mer?** (hammered dulcimer)

So, you stumbled into a Dulcimer Festival! What is this thing, where did it come from, and what can YOU do with it? These questions, and more will be answered in this introductory workshop, where you might even come away with one of your first tunes!

**Sunday, 1PM, Workshop B**

**Intermediate**

**Snowflake Breakdown** (hammered dulcimer)

Spring has sprung, but there still remain the echoes of a hit tune by Wally Traugott in the air: the reel known as "Snowflake Breakdown." Learn this quirky Canadian fiddle tune and explore a more chromatic side to the hammered dulcimer.

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**BILL ROBINSON AND FRIENDS**

**Saturday, 2:00PM, Workshop C**

**All**

**Forever Friends** (hammered dulcimer)

Learn one of Bill's new tunes in his amicable teaching style!

**Saturday, 6:00PM, Goold Park Bandshell**

**Everyone**

**Dulcimer Old-Time Dance**

**Sunday, 1:00PM, Workshop A**

**All**

**Snapping the Rag** (hammered dulcimer)

Learn another of Bill's new tunes in his friendly teaching style!

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**CINDY SHELHART**

**Saturday, 11:00AM, Workshop A**

**All**

**Double Time: An Intro to the Double-Strung Harp and Its Music** (any harp or none)

"This is really cool...How do I play this thing?" Double-strung harp (DSH) specialist Cindy Shelhart will introduce you to the exciting possibilities of this unique harp. Depending on the participants, we may have a chance for beginners to try playing a DSH, and/or for more experienced players to share or learn a tune. Bring your own DSH (if you have one) or single-row harp, and a music stand, for this workshop. Handouts will be used, with verbal cues. Everyone is welcome!

**Saturday, 12:00PM, Workshop A** **All**  
**Jig Jam: Triple-Time Tunes** (harp)

Love a good toe-tapping tune? Jigs are for you! We'll play Irish & Scottish jigs and slip jigs that sound great at any tempo. Bring your own harp, music stand, and pencil (with eraser) for this workshop. Handouts will be used, with verbal cues; beginner-friendly lead sheets will also be provided.

**Saturday, 2:00PM, Workshop B** **All**  
**On the Other Hand: Lead Sheet Arranging** (harp)

Harp players love lead sheets and fake books. But what do you do with your left hand? We'll answer that question—and more—as we take a road trip through lead sheet arranging with accompaniment patterns and learn how to turn a tune into an arrangement “on the go.” Bring your own harp, music stand, and pencil (with eraser) for this workshop. Handouts will be used, with verbal cues.

**Sunday, 11:00AM, Workshop D** **All**  
**Heavenly Hymns: Traditional Hymn Tunes** (harp)

Which came first: the traditional tune or the hymn? Either way, some of our most beloved hymn texts are set to traditional tunes from Europe and North America. We'll play through several tunes that you can share in worship services, healthcare settings, and more. Bring your own harp, music stand, and pencil (with eraser) for this workshop. Handouts will be used, with verbal cues; beginner-friendly lead sheets will also be provided.

**Sunday, 12:00PM, Workshop D** **All**  
**Bonnie Ballads: Scottish Slow Airs** (harp)

Scotland's songs and slow airs are a perfect fit for your harp. Let your fingers relax as we learn and play beautiful tunes from the Scottish song, fiddle, and pipe traditions. Bring your own harp, music stand, and pencil (with eraser) for this workshop. Handouts will be used, with verbal cues; beginner-friendly lead sheets also provided.

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## **ANNA STANGE**

**Saturday and Sunday All Day, Family Area** **Everyone**

The young-at-heart (of all ages) are welcome to visit, play, and create at the Family Area, near the information tent at the west festival entrance.

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## **JOEL STYZENS**

**Saturday, 1:00PM, Workshop B** **All**  
**Rhythmic Foundations** (no instrument needed)

Improve your rhythmic confidence through all the most common subdivisions of rhythm. Learn more about rhythmic relationships and counting exercises that will help you “lock it in” and develop more awareness and control of “elastic time.” Become friends with the almighty metronome and learn how to master your internal clock. This is a rhythm bootcamp you didn't know you needed (or didn't want to admit you needed).

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## **RICK THUM**

**Saturday, 10:00AM, Workshop A** **Beginner**  
**Making Your Hammered Dulcimer Easy to Understand and Play**

You will learn the basics needed to start playing your dulcimer. You do not need to read music. I will show you the tricks to make learning a song easier and teach you your first embellishments. You will understand how your instrument works and will be able to make it sound like what made you want to play it. Come get started.

**Sunday, 11:00AM, Workshop C** **Intermediate**  
**Harmonies and Drones Made Easy** (hammered dulcimer)

Thirds make great harmonies until they don't work. Find out why and how to make them work. Drones create that definitive hammered dulcimer sound. Playing harmonies with drones will make your playing sound magical. This is a fun workshop with lots of playing. You will use “Ode to Joy” to try out your new skills. Come have fun learning.

**Sunday, 12:00PM, Workshop C** **All**  
**Good Hammer Skills Make Great Playing** (hammered dulcimer)

Developing good hammer skills early on will make you a better player. You will learn a proper and efficient way to hold and use your hammers. This will have you playing with less effort, more dynamics and a way smoother feel. If time permits, you will learn how to make your hammers roll. Come have some fun getting properly hammered with me.

**Sunday, 2:00PM, Workshop C**

**Advanced Beginner**

**Chords Made Easy to Unlock Your Hammered Dulcimer**

You will learn how to play chords, using the whole dulcimer, without knowing the names of your notes. Chording does not have to be hard. Chords unlock your instrument. This is the first class to beginning to understand how to play chords. A fun and easy way to start using more of your dulcimer. See you there!

**Sunday, 3:00PM, Workshop C**

**Intermediate to Advanced**

**Overlapping Scales Used for Blind Runs and Embellishments** (hammered dulcimer)

Some players look so free moving all over their instruments while playing. Imagine yourself doing that. After this class you will have the knowledge to play like that. You will learn a new way to see your scales and how they overlap each other in large blocks. This will increase your ability to loosen up and embellish freely.

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**DAVID WILSON**

**Saturday 11:00AM, Workshop B**

**Beginner to Intermediate**

**Fiddle Essentials / Posture and Technique Basics**

We will review: fiddle and bow parts, posture for comfort, string names, tuning, bowing patterns, tempo setting, volume, tone hand coordination; tricks for playing smooth and pretty; double stops, drone note choice magic; and vibrato, for the pretty stuff! We'll combine simple techniques for a polished sound. Let's play easy scales with good intonation. Then we will all play a very familiar tune.

**Saturday, 12:00PM, Workshop B**

**Beginner to Intermediate**

**Mandolin Essentials**

We'll cover posture and technique basics; the parts of the mandolin; picks and picking/rhythm techniques you can use now; right hand grip and posture; left hand posture; right-left coordination; fingering with comfort; tone; volume; and professional tuning tricks. Let's learn easy common chords and the chord form/shapes professionals use. We'll explore the simple ideas that make picking more musical: eighth notes, tremolo, double stops. Let's play a familiar tune and play rhythm, too.

**Saturday, 4:00PM, Workshop C**

**All**

**My 2023 Winfield Mountain Dulcimer National Championship-Winning Tunes**

"Angelina Baker," "Moon Shadow," two original tunes, a little Dylan anyone? I'll show you how to use the middle string for the melody, place chords in the melody, insert rhythm with a banjo-type finger roll, use double stops, and syncopate the melody.

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**MAX ZT**

**Saturday, 10:00AM, Workshop B**

**All**

**Hammered Dulcimer Fluidity**

The hammered dulcimer is one of the few instruments in the world with such a large geographic area to cover. This means that there are some really unique patterns to the instrument, and when you understand all the variations, you can fly through your instrument with ease. Learning variations of chords and how to visualize their connections is a great step in becoming fluid on the dulcimer.

**Saturday, 1:00PM, Workshop C**

**Intermediate to Advanced**

**Speed Exercises: Elevate your Hammered Dulcimer Playing**

Discover techniques to help elevate your playing. Mastering certain patterns and exercises will improve your accuracy, agility, and grace in transitioning between notes. Join us as we unveil the secrets to unlocking your full potential with the dulcimer.

**Saturday, 3:00PM, Workshop A**

**Intermediate to Advanced**

**Improvising Beautiful Melodies** (hammered dulcimer)

The hammered dulcimer is made for improvisation. By its very nature, the hammered dulcimer offers an open canvas for your own creativity, enabling you to craft melodic and rhythmic motifs that will resonate deeply with yourself and your audience. By learning a few simple patterns and musical tools, you will walk away with a beautiful beginning to your journey with improvisation.

**Sunday, 2:00PM, Workshop E**

**Beginning-Intermediate**

**Ambidextrous Independence** (hammered dulcimer)

There are many techniques to increase one's hand independence. We will focus on the patterns of the dulcimer, different phrases and figures, and how to best utilize one's practice time. This will greatly improve one's accuracy, agility, and

grace while moving from note to note. Let us have the patterns and beauty of the dulcimer teach us while we get more in control of our playing.

**Sunday, 4:00PM, Workshop E**

**All**

**Meditation and Indian Classical Music** (any instrument)

For the past fifteen years, I have been traveling to Mumbai, India, studying with the great santoor maestro, Pandit Shivkumar Sharmaji. Last year, he passed away at the young age of 84, but his music lives on! In this workshop we will dive into the depth of the beautiful and uplifting pentatonic Raga Hamsadhwani. Specifically, we will focus on the Alap (introductory rubato) format, and its Gat (simple melody) that follows.