

MOUNTAIN DULCIMER FEATURED ARTIST

Sue Carpenter first played a mountain dulcimer in 1981 and was immediately captivated by its simplicity and challenged by its fingerpicking possibilities. Her innovative fingerpicking style has won her many awards including 2005 National Mountain Dulcimer Champion at the Walnut Valley Festival in Winfield, KS. As an instrumentalist, Sue is best known for her expressive style and exceptional technical ability. As a teacher, she is well known for her challenging, highly organized and intensive methods, nurturing patience, and energetic enthusiasm mixed with a healthy dose of fun. After years of playing piano and organ, Sue finally felt “at home” when she picked up a dulcimer for the first time, knowing that this was the instrument she had been unconsciously searching for all her life. <http://www.suecarpenter.net/>

MOUNTAIN DULCIMER WORKSHOP LEADERS

Bill Collins has been in love with the Appalachian dulcimer for nearly 20 years. In his performing and teaching, he seeks to bring out the dulcet qualities of the dulcimer and expand its repertoire. He has written three books of dulcimer arrangements and recorded a CD of dulcimer solos and duets with Nina Zanetti, entitled *The Sum of the Parts*. Bill was featured performer at Cranberry in 2009.

Ron Ewing has been building and playing dulcimers since 1970. He has taught and performed at numerous festivals throughout the East, and is especially known for his lively renditions of Irish, Appalachian, and Euro fiddle tunes. On the building side, his innovative designs include the dulcimer capo, the dulcimette, baritones, and extra frets, such as the ½ and the 1½. When not travelling the festival circuit, he resides in Columbus, Ohio.

Judith Giddings began playing the dulcimer after her retirement as a college professor of special education. She enjoys playing for hospice patients in their homes and in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, and performs at community events, often with a harpist friend. http://mountaindulcimer.ning.com/profile/JudithGiddings?xg_source=activity

George Haggerty has been teaching dulcimer, for over 25 years, in workshops and private and group lessons. His ability to bring out feeling and expression with this versatile instrument, along with his easy going Vermont manner and humor makes his workshops enjoyable and fun. George and his wife, Mary, own and operate a music shop, FOLK CRAFT MUSIC, in Jacksonville, Vermont, where they sell hand-crafted dulcimers and other related musical items. His CD's, *The Best of Just Friend* and *Just Friends ... One More Time*, are dulcimer instrumentals. He and Mary are sponsors of their annual festival in Vermont, “August Dulcimer Daze”, now in its twentieth year. <http://www.augustdulcimerdaze.com/>

Lori Keddell has been playing dulcimer for more than 25 years, and has taught classes and workshops for children and adults in NY, VT, PA, MA and CT. She has coordinated the annual Mountain Dulcimer Music Fest in Albany, NY since the first festival in 1989, and has been on the staff of the Cranberry Dulcimer Gathering since 1987. She has published 4 books of dulcimer music: *A Treasury of Christmas Music for the Mountain Dulcimer*, *A Mountain Dulcimer Potpourri – 33 Songs in DAA*, *Night Songs and Lullabies for the Mountain Dulcimer*, and *Dulcimaniac's Delight - A Multitude of Minor Melodies in DAC Tuning*.

Bernd Krause has been building mountain dulcimers for over 34 years. He graduated from Guitar Research and Design School in Vermont and is a member of the Association of Stringed Instrument Artisans (ASIA) and the Guild of American Luthiers. (GAL). He also builds guitars, mandolins and other instruments.

Carollynn Langley began teaching and performing with the mountain dulcimer at festivals, in schools, and camps from New England to North Carolina about a dozen years ago. She and her husband, Gene, have recorded a CD, *Speak a Little Louder, Please*, and she has published a book, *Singing in Harmony, My Dulcimer & Me*. The 1996 Cranberry Gathering is where she bought her first dulcimer and now she's happy to be co-coordinating the Gathering with Gene. They're looking forward to celebrating Cranberry's 35th year July 22-24!

www.quietcreekmusic.com

Beth Lassi has led workshops at several festivals in the northeast and has performed in a variety of settings during the last few years. She and Nina Zanetti are authors of two duet books, *Tunes for Two or More - Volumes 1 and 2*, and they are featured on the CD, *Masters of the Mountain Dulcimer Play Music for Christmas*. Beth is mountain dulcimer coordinator at Cranberry.

Bonnie Leigh is a singer, songwriter and Music Practitioner. Bonnie's music reflects her thoughts of home, family, love, life and nature. As a Music Practitioner, Bonnie takes her dulcimer and harp to Hospice patient's bedsides in hospitals & nursing homes as a form of physical and mental healing and relaxation. Bonnie has been teaching dulcimer since 1991 at festivals and has 3 recordings accompanied by books with dulcimer tab.

<http://www.bonnieleigh.com>

Lucy Joan Sollogub, a dulcimer player and teacher from Norwood, Massachusetts, has taught and performed with the mountain dulcimer for 3 decades! She has published two music books (a collection of Jewish Music and a book for advancing dulcimer players) and has performed and taught at folk and dulcimer festivals in New England and New York. She plays in the duo "Ladies Triumph" with hammered dulcimetist Barb Levine.

Carol Walker is a happily retired high school choral teacher (recipient of the NJ Governor's Teacher of the Year Award in 2003), and has been a popular dulcimer workshop leader for many years. She has served on the organizing committee of the Pocono Winter DulcimerFest, now preparing for their 10th festival. As a multi-faceted instrumentalist, Carol has shared her talents with Wayfarers & Company, an eclectic old-time group for which she sings and plays upright bass, harp, piano, dulcimer, and melodica. Her new book and CD of Manx music, have received high praise from musicians all over the United States and the UK. Carol is married to professional world-class touring guitarist, Toby Walker. <http://www.musicladycarol.com/>

Norm Williams is co-founder of The Pocono Dulcimer Club and co-coordinator of their Winter DulcimerFest held every January in Stroudsburg, PA. Norm began teaching out of necessity in 2002 and has been on faculty at festivals throughout the Northeast (including the Pocono Winter DulcimerFest; DAA Mountain Dulcimer Music Fest, August Dulcimer Days, Music by the Bay, the Cranberry Dulcimer Gathering, Maiden Creek Old Time Festival & at Augusta Heritage Center, WV). In addition to dulcimer he plays guitar and banjo. Norm is a lover of Old Time music and plays with the band Wayfarers & Company and on occasion sits in with his friends The Druckenmillers. Norm lives with his wife, Erin, in Breinigsville, PA.

www.wayfarersandco.net or www.poconodulcimerclub.org

HAMMERED DULCIMER FEATURED ARTIST

Bill Spence has been a musician for over 50 years, playing banjo, guitar, autoharp and the instrument he is best known for today, the hammered dulcimer. In 1970 Fennig's All-Star String Band was formed, and in 1973 his LP *The Hammered Dulcimer* was released and this first recording has sold close to 100,000 copies to date. This recording captured the fancy of a new generation of musicians, and became the source of inspiration for countless hammered dulcimer players and dance musicians around the world. Four more recordings followed: *Saturday Night in the Provinces* in 1975, *The Hammered Dulcimer Strikes Again* in 1977, *Fennigmania* in 1981, and *The Hammered Dulcimer Returns* in 1992. The last three feature fiddler George Wilson and Toby Stover on piano. The trio has played for dances, concerts, festivals, weddings and parties for over 38 years. Website: www.oldsongs.org/billspencemusic

HAMMERED DULCIMER WORKSHOP LEADERS

Cliff Cole has been playing hammered dulcimer since 1985. Cliff's background is in percussion. Since the age of fifteen, Cliff has studied various types of music including rock, blues, jazz and folk. Cliff plays in the folk group DayBreak. The members of DayBreak have been performing together since 1989. The group has delved into many musical styles including Celtic, old time, American folk and early music. Cliff has composed many original tunes, and traditional arrangements. DayBreak has produced six CD's. Cliff and his wife Pamela live out in the woods not far from Quakertown, Pennsylvania. <http://www.daybreakfolk.com/>

SamEdelston is into all kinds of interesting things on both hammered and mountain dulcimers, ranging from classical to classic rock (and even traditional folk music). He is also chair of the Nutmeg Dulcimer Festival, held every fall in Connecticut. www.NutmegDulcimer.com

Marya Katz describes herself as a musician, an educator, a lover of growing things, and a lifelong learner. She is a National Board Certified Teacher (Early/Middle Childhood Music, 2002), taught public school vocal music for 33 years, and conducts the adult choir at her church. She plays hammered dulcimer and sings with the folk group Simple Gifts of the Blue Ridge, teaches and performs at various dulcimer festivals along the East Coast, enjoys working with private students, is featured on several recordings, and has published two books of her dulcimer music. Two of her tunes have also been published in Dulcimer Players News. More information can be found on her web page at <http://www.dulcimations.com>.

Paul Mueller and his band, Mecca Bodega, have performed in such diverse venues as the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, Woodstock 1994, Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall, Prairie Home Companion, the Sydney (Australia) Fringe Festival, and the Music Under New York – Arts For Transit program, as well as on numerous CDs and award winning film soundtracks. www.meccabodega.com

Curtis Osgood is a past HD coordinator at Cranberry. A multi instrumentalist, he has been playing dulcimer for 30 years now. He tours in ensemble, with dance bands (Rosie's Ready Mix), and also as a soloist. He has released the full length *Newfield Sessions* CD. He can be heard on 6 other recording projects as well as on PBS TV's documentary on Cornell University. Visit <http://www.curtosgood.com> for more.

Dave Reber has evolved a unique musical style with the hammered dulcimer since the mid-1990s, composing arrangements that make full use of this unusual instrument. His arrangements are lyrical and often atypical for a folk instrument. His background as a drummer in high school and beyond provided the skills for the steady rhythm and syncopation he displays. He has trained under many of the top hammered dulcimer performers in the country, traveling to workshops in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New England, and Tennessee. He has played and taught at various festivals, churches, senior centers, and jam sessions throughout the eastern United States.

Bob Wey has been playing hammered dulcimer for 38 years and, since he was his first student, reckons he's been teaching for just as long. He performed actively from 1975 to 2000, was Winfield champ in '77, and was a founder of the Cranberry Gathering 'way back when.

AUTOHARP FEATURED ARTIST

Bryan Bowers, for over four decades, has been to the autoharp what Earl Scruggs was to the five-string banjo. He presents instrumental virtuosity combined with warmth, eloquence, expression and professionalism and brings all of this to his teaching as well as his performances. From his rather unglamorous beginning as a street singer, Bryan Bowers has become a major artist on the traditional music circuit. He has redefined the autoharp and is also well known as a singer-songwriter. Bryan has a dynamic outgoing personality and an uncanny ability to enchant a crowd in practically any situation. His towering six foot four inch frame can be wild and zany on stage while playing a song like "Dixie" and five minutes later he can have the same audience singing "Will the Circle Be Unbroken" in quiet reverence and delight.

<http://www.bryanbowers.com/>

AUTOHARP WORKSHOP LEADERS

Todd Crowley, a retired English teacher now living in PA, started singing folk music as a boy, and was introduced to the autoharp by Bryan Bowers in 1981. The many folk instruments (over 100) he has collected have become Todd's Musical Petting Zoo, a fully interactive hands-on touring exhibit which is seen at numerous larger festivals throughout the country. For smaller festivals, like Cranberry and the Hotafest, Todd usually just brings his "DiaToddNics" Autoharp and Dulcimer Play Station. Todd performs frequently and has been a featured performer at the California Autoharp Gathering since 2007. <http://www.diatoddnics.com/>

Cindy Harris has been making and teaching music with voice, autoharp, fiddle and a variety of other instruments for as long as she can remember. A particular interest is traditional music of many varieties, and her repertoire includes everything from Irish tunes and Israeli dance music played on autoharp, to dark Appalachian fiddle tunes. But her playful side can't resist amusing modern songs about real life, which somehow co-exist with folk songs from long ago. Over the last few years, her musical activities have included autoharp instructor and performer for Pittsburgh's Calliope Folk Music School, the Cranberry Dulcimer Gathering, the Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering, Dulcimore, and the Chestnut Ridge Dulcimer Festival. She has also been a company musician for Pittsburgh Playback Theatre, and she currently directs an a cappella women's ensemble and teaches autoharp.

Gene Langley learned to play Autoharp at Cranberry about 12 years ago while listening to Drew Smith. He was so fascinated by Drew he at once wanted to play, even though he had never been successful at playing anything. Now he plays and sings with his wife at many places. www.quietcreekmusic.com

Glenn Scott is a multi-instrumentalist who performs and teaches autoharp, guitar, and mandolin in the Boston area. He acquired his first autoharp in 1966, and over the years has recorded on autoharp with such ensembles as Married With Chitlins, The Moose Hill Ramblers, and his current band, Spinning Lily. Glenn has been featured performer at Mt. Laurel, and has twice taught 'harp at the Bay Path Hammered Dulcimer Festival in Massachusetts. This is Glenn's third appearance as a workshop leader at Cranberry.

Drew Smith has played the autoharp since 1969. He has won the National and International Championships, Mountain Laurel Gathering championships, and blue ribbons at the Old Fiddler's Convention in Galax, VA, and was inducted into the "Autoharp Hall of Fame" in 2002. Drew has developed an unusual style of autoharp playing that is both melodic and exciting, capturing musical notes accurately with fiddle tune speed. His constantly expanding repertoire includes music ranging from Appalachian Old-Time, 1920's and 30's, British Isles, Scandinavian and Russian, all the way to Calypso, tangos, Dixieland and many other styles. He has been performing and teaching at festival workshops for many years.

Robbie Wedeen is a singer/songwriter of warmth and wit. Her original songs draw from diverse musical forms such as blues, ballads and music of the Renaissance. Her songs express a modern view of woman within the creative vitality of the American folk tradition. Robbie has received a *Meet the Composer* grant. She has performed and led workshops at NOMAD, NEFFA, and The Philadelphia Folksong Society and created song writing workshops for the New York Society of Folk Music and the Cranberry Dulcimer & Autoharp Gathering. She has performed widely in the NY/Tristate area and toured in Europe, as well. Robbie's original songs can be heard on her CD, *Bluejay Gold*, and the recently issued CD, *Having a Ball*, with the Triple Play All-Stars, the featured band at the Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering in 2006.

WORKSHOP LEADERS – SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

Toby Stover is a pianist, singer, dancer and a veteran of over 20 years in theater arts. She is familiar with indigenous music styles and is an acknowledged master of New England style rhythm piano accompaniment. Toby has worked in the USA as well as abroad with groups such as Bottle Hill, Allistair Anderson, Fiddle Fever, and Walt Michael and Company. She has performed and recorded with Fennig's All-Star String Band and The Vanaver Caravan for over 30 years, and is manager of FAKOLI DANCE & DRUM Company.

George Wilson is a talented, multi-instrumental virtuoso and singer, whose repertoire includes a wide variety of traditional and folk styles. After having one violin lesson at age 9, becoming an adolescent folk guitarist & teenage rock bass player, George picked up the fiddle in earnest around 1970. Since then he has become a popular contra-dance fiddler in the Northeast (& Northwest.) He added banjo in the early 1970s & is an accomplished interpreter of Uncle Dave Macon songs. He's played with Fennig's All-Stars since 1975, the Whippersnappers since 1976, & numerous other players & groups. He has recorded with the 2 aforementioned groups & has 3 recordings of his fiddling, the latest being *A Collection of Northern Tunes*. He also does lots of teaching & workshops. <http://www.oldsongs.org/georgewilson.html>