

NWMC 2016 Teachers and Classes

Level (1) – beginner Level (2) - some experience Level (3) - intermediate

Brogan Beginning Ukulele - The Basics (1) We start with how to hold and tune the instrument.

Learn some fundamentals from the ground up in a patient and fun environment. 3 chords, 2 strums, 2 ukulele tricks, 3 songs. This workshop assumes no experience with the ukulele. Songs will have 1-2 chords. We will learn 'Crawdad' so that we can join the fiddles, guitars, accordions and harmonicas in a big band!

Ukulele Level 2 - Barely Beyond Beginner - Strum Class - (2) Are you feeling fairly secure with some chords and a down strum, yet feeling bored with your playing? Learn to use the ukulele as your rhythm section, and become the backbone of your band of one, or more! We start with the utilitarian double strum and learn to distinguish the difference between straight and swing "feel." Add strategic accents: damping, scratching, rolls and triplets - suddenly you are playing a bossa beat or swing, or rock or folk. The songs in this workshop will have 2-4 chords.

Fingerstyle Ukulele (Level 2-3) In this class we will apply fingerstyle patterns and techniques to a few chords. Students can expect to work on a duet, incorporating a melody into the picking pattern. The student will get a handout with a few common patterns for pop and folk songs.

Cindy Line Dance Repertoire Class(1-3) Learn three or four fun choreographed line dances with non-complicated steps and no turns (since we are dancing on carpet!) Some country songs, some pop. All levels welcome. Come for one or learn them all. We will dance them Saturday night.

Friday Late-Night Song Circle (1-3) Join Cindy after the opening for a song circle in Jessie's Lodge.

Saturday Night Dance Don't go to bed after the Saturday show! Stay and dance! No partner needed and everybody welcome.

Coty Intermediate Clawhammer Banjo (2-3) In this class we'll look at how to incorporate effectively hammer-ons, pull-offs, and slides using interesting banjo tunes as our template. We'll also start to work on the next step to the classic bum-ditty pattern - the drop thumb! This class assumes a basic understanding of clawhammer banjo right hand technique.

Maybelle Carter Style Guitar (2-3) Maybelle Carter is considered to be the mother of country music, and her distinct style of guitar playing influenced the country music sound and countless musicians. We'll break down how to play that style and learn a Carter Family classic in the process. Students should be able to make a 'cheater' F chord – not the barre chord.

Songwriting (1-3) A class for both the newbie and seasoned writer, we'll use this time to delve into our songwriting muse! Some people are more lyrically inclined. For others the melody is the key. We'll use games and exercises to explore the limitless possibilities to craft a song.

Crystal A Ensemble Singing (1-3) This class is an extension of the morning choir. Class starts with traditional Italian based pedagogy, singing in unison, and harmony. You will learn how to follow a choral score and find out if you are an Alto, Mezzo, or Soprano. Class will learn a piece to share for the Saturday night show (always optional to perform). A desire to sing is all that is required!!

All-Camp Choir (1-3) Once a year the most amazing choir assembles for 45 minutes to lift their voices and celebrate in song. We sing, play, move, listen, blend, laugh and love. Are you ready to join the magic?

Crystal R Intermediate Fiddle (2-3) We will play a variety of beautiful tunes and look at bow technique to enhance the tone of your instrument. An ability to read music a bit can be helpful for this class. Also we will learn an easy tune to play in the ensemble class with guitars, bass, and accordion.

Intermediate Mandolin (2-3) Come to mandolin if you like to play waltzes and beautiful melodies. Notation, Chords and Tablature will be provided. (Music stand is useful for this class).

Improvisation (2-3) I will be teaching a few simple tools that will enhance your ability to play your instrument with friends. You will learn how to find the notes that will work in a variety of common keys and gain an understanding of the design of many songs so you understand how to play along. All instruments welcome.

Janet Beyond Beginning Bass (2-3) So you've got the basics, got the gig, played a few and now you want to spice it up, make it swing, make it rock, and keep the band and the audience hopping. We'll take it from the basics and add some pizzazz with rhythm and runs that you can build upon as you play and learn new tunes. Bass, the lowest form of enjoyment!

Janet/Kathleen Be in a Band (1-3) Here's your chance to play or sing in a real live band! We will create bands from whoever comes, and each band will put together a tune and have fun. All instruments, all levels of players, and singers are welcome. We need vocalists!

Kathleen Guitar Back Up--Bass Runs & Beyond! (2) Can you change chords easily but wonder how to make back-up sound more interesting? We will start from beginning—how to hold the flatpick—and add some strumming rhythms, bass runs and hammer-ons. We'll use songs to practice the rhythms and runs, and at the end of class we'll play "Crawdad Song" in a band with banjos, accordions, harmonicas and fiddles! Flatpicks provided. Come even if you have flatpickaphobia.

Laura Silverstein Introduction to Bluegrass Banjo (1-2) Bluegrass banjo style involves picking the strings in patterns or "rolls." You will get started playing some roll patterns on the banjo, and by the end of the day you will play "The Crawdad Song" in a band!

Fingerpicking Kickstarter (2-3) Ready to move beyond strumming your guitar to accompany your songs? We'll get your picking hand, thumb, and fingers oriented and earn some fingerpicking patterns to add variety to your guitar playing as you sing. Sample songs will be provided, and you can bring songs you like.

Pick a Tune! Fingerstyle Guitar (2-3) Using mostly first position chords, we'll look at how you can play the melody and bass lines at the same time so that you can play a break (musical interlude in a song) or a whole song as a fingerstyle guitar arrangement. We'll explore how to find the melody notes of a song within the chords of the song. Some songs and tabs will be provided, and we may also have time to try out songs you'd like to arrange in this style.

All-Levels Jam (1-3) Bring your instrument/voice and play tunes Sunday morning in the lodge!

Laura Smith-Clawson Beginning Clawhammer Banjo (1) Clawhammer (Old Time) banjo is easy to learn: just one pattern with your right hand and you've got most of what you'll need! We'll work on you getting that pattern so that it's automatic, concentrate on a few chords with your left hand, and then learn how to coordinate the two. I will bring a couple of extra banjos for class.

Laura S-C: Duet Harmony – the Thrill of Close Harmony Singing (2-3) Harmony singing is one of the most satisfying ways to make music with other people! We will concentrate on duet singing and learn how to find the 'tenor' harmony, which is the harmony above the melody line using a song or two to practice (for lower voices we'll learn how to sing the tenor part an octave lower). Open to any one who can sing a melody.

Linda Songs of the Earth Slow Jam (1) Add your voice and/or instrument to a song circle for those who want to practice with easy chords at a beginner's pace. Songbooks with chords will be provided. Our musical geology tour might go from the "Red River Valley" to the "Green, Green Grass of Home" to "Rocky Mountain High."

Marie Beginning Guitar (1): Longing to hold the lovely shape in your arms? Wishing you could learn a few chords and make your fingers move as quickly as your voice? In this class we'll learn some simple chords, some strategies for moving easily from one to another, a few ideas about playing tunes, and a little right hand technique. This is a beginning class, but advanced practitioners are welcome to come help beginners.

Shy Singers (1-3) Do you long to sing, but find yourself afraid to open your mouth in public? Do you belt out the tunes in the shower, but stop singing as soon as the water is turned off? Did someone tell you "just mouth the words"? In this session, we're going to find our voices and learn to use them more confidently. Every human voice is sacred; if we can talk, we can sing.

MyLinda Beginning Marimba #1: La Bamba (performing class) (1) We will learn a fun marimba arrangement of this classic song and maybe even sing a little.

Beginning Marimba #2: (1) Mhondoro (non-performing class)

See Shona Singing (below) for a description of this song. We will learn a simple marimba arrangement to this ancient and haunting song.

Shona Singing: (1-3) Mhondoro Mhondoro are the most powerful spirits in Shona culture, and when they are not possessing a human they reside in the lion. Lions (Mhondoro) protect the land and its rightful inhabitants. We will learn an ancient song praising the Mhondoro. Three distinct vocal layers interweave to the accompaniment of drums, hosho and a fun clapping pattern.

Nan Beginning Harmonica (1) Let's play! In this workshop you'll learn how to hold the harmonica, get vibrato, and even how to get that elusive single note. We'll play some tunes and have a great time with this accessible, portable little instrument. Please bring a 10-hole G harmonica or buy or borrow one from me at the beginning of our class.

Beyond Beginning Harmonica (2) Do you already know how to hold a harmonica? Have you taken the beginning class and tried to play single notes? Then Beyond Beginning is for you! This class will explore different harmonica techniques such as adding chords to a melody, block-tongue style playing, and of course, bending notes for that famous moaning blues sound. You will need G and C harmonicas. (Nan will have a few of both keys for sale and a few G loaners.) We will pair up to try rhythm and blues-style cross harp. Come have a blast and stretch a bit with your cool little harp pal. We will join guitars, fiddles, accordions and banjos to play a bluegrass tune!

Nova Piano Accordion: Beyond the Basics with a Bluegrass Lilt! (2-3) You know the chords on the left hand and understand bellows phrasing, so let's learn some accompaniment and a melody for a bluegrass tune. Then we'll join up with the fiddle, harmonica, banjo and guitar classes to create a bluegrass big band!

Music Theory: What the heck is this theory stuff, and why would I want to know anyhow? (1-3) Find out where the "one, four and five" chords come from, how a scale can change your life, and how this knowledge will allow you to use your brain as a capo! Bring any instrument (including voice) to help make sense out of nonsense, and to squeeze fun out of the fundamental.

Intermediate Piano Accordion: (2) Let's look at what skills you have so far, stretch them further, learn some new techniques, and play a song together using all of these ideas!

Robin Beginning Mandolin (1) Get to know this versatile little instrument from the ground up. We'll start with the basics – tuning, how to hold and use the pick, a few scales and chords – and apply them to a deceptively simple old-time melody. Bring a mandolin to class.

Beginning Fiddle (1) Look, Ma - no frets! The fiddle is a wonderful, expressive instrument with three interdependent parts - the fiddle, the bow, and the player. Learn the basics of how to put these three elements together. We'll go over fundamental mechanics including tuning, how to hold the bow, and what to look for in a decent student instrument. From there we'll develop a major scale and assemble the notes into a familiar tune. Bring your attentive ears and a functional fiddle and bow (if you have them). A limited number of loaner instruments may be available for the class.

Shelly/Linda R. Writing Musical Parodies (1-3) Funny songs with sing-along choruses can add zest and laughter to any special occasion. And we sure need ways to relieve the stress after watching the news. Satires can add an entertaining "spin," and get your message (lightly) to an audience. Examples will be provided, and you can try your hand at rewriting the lyrics to easy, familiar tunes.

Shelly The Great Camp Sing-off (1-3) Clear your throat and drink that honey-lemon tea. It's time for a game of dueling larynxes! The class will be divided into two teams. The goal is to help your team out-sing the other team, by thinking of a song that includes the "Sing-Off Word" (drawn from a stack of cards), and singing at least six words from the song. For example, the word is "Home." Team A sings, "Oh give me a home, where the buffalo roam." Team B strikes back with, "Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home." The teams take turns, until one team is stumped, or time is up, and the next card is drawn. Come be the 'super hero' of your team.

Tissi West African Drumming Beginning (1) In this class we will cover a brief history of West African Culture, hand technique, and West African rhythm and a song, including the dynamics of the music - the intro, breaks during the rhythm, and drum calls. We will be playing the Djembe hand drum and also the Djun Djuns. Drums will be provided, but please bring one if you can. This class will be taught in a fun and no-stress environment.

Cajon and Bell Basics (1-3) This class will focus on hand technique for the Cajon. It includes the bell and clave. We will learn the Afro-Cuban Rumba. We will also learn a very exciting Brazilian Samba, a festive and fun rhythm. There will also be breaks within the rhythm taught to create exciting dynamics for the rhythm. This will be a fun and encouraging class.



