The Song School

August 11-15, 2019 • Lyons, CO Schedule and Course Descriptions

Sunday, August 11th

TO DO LIST:

- Sign up for open stage lottery. All schedules will be posted during lunchtime on Monday in the Blue Heron Tent. (Registration Tent)
- Check master roster information at registration desk for accuracy.

1:00 Campgrounds Opens

2:00 - 5:00 Student Registration

Visit us at the Blue Heron Tent and pick up your Song School schedule, wristband, official Song School laminate, reusables, biobag for compostables and other goodies.

5:30 - 6:00 New Student Meet and Greet - Wildflower Pavilion

First timer? Meet up with Song School veterans, an instructor or two, ask that burning question, and get some sage advice on how to make your week enjoyable.

"Eighty percent of life is just showing up." - Woody Allen

Monday, August 12th

TO DO LIST:

- Sign up by 9:15am for open stage lottery. All schedules will be posted during lunchtime in the Blue Heron Tent.
- Check master roster information at registration desk for accuracy.
- Mentoring sheets will go out at 9am each morning for that day's mentoring sessions.

8:00 - 9:15 Student Registration

Visit us at the Blue Heron Tent and pick up your Song School schedule, wristband, official Song School laminate, reusables, biobag for compostables and other goodies. Help yourself to tea or coffee and fruit and pastries next door at the beverage area. Burritos and snacks available at Bloomberries Booth next to bathhouse.

8:00 - 9:00 Yoga

Yogi Heather Hottovy will help celebrate the start of your day with a gentle yoga routine each morning. No prior experience necessary. Complimentary mats and blocks provided. (Meet by silo.)

9:15 - 9:45 Orientation

Official welcoming: we'll cover logistics, put the program in perspective, introduce instructors, and get you prepared for the week. Please be there... (Wildflower Pavilion)

9:45 - 10:15 Opening Session: The Song School Community Gathering

"Walking thru the door is the only audition." Our opening session together, and the one and only Dr. Ysaye Marie Barnwell will lead us all in song and have us resonating in time and in tune for the week ahead. (Wildflower Pavilion)

10:30 - 12:30 Electives

- 1) **Directed Writing with Paul Reisler** Thirty years ago, a friend gave me the best advice I've ever heard regarding songwriting. He told me to get up every morning and write a song, complete it, and put it in a file folder and not look at it for 6 months. Not a good song or a long song necessarily, just a song. Two years and several hundred songs later, I realized that I had not only learned a lot about the craft of songwriting, but a great deal about how to generate ideas and images and carry them through, how to dance around writer's block and how to fool myself into approaching my writing in a fresh way each day. If you want to write songs on a regular basis, you need a reliable technique that you can use whenever you sit down to write. You'll be writing a song during this workshop and gathering the tools you'll need to write on a daily basis. This is a 4-day workshop and you should participate in all the sessions to get your song finished. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- 2) **Inspiration: Where Do Songs Come From?** This session with Steve Seskin and Pat Pattison explores ways to "jump start" your creativity with morning pages, object writing, etc. We will try to empower you to write about more than just your own life and to use emotional moments as catalysts to inspire you. We'll also delve into the power of fiction and examine what's really important in songs emotional truth. My friend Allen Shamblin always says "A great writer never lets the facts get in the way of the truth." (Mountain Lion Tent).

"Sometimes the most ordinary things could be made extraordinary, simply by doing them with the right people." – Nicholas Sparks

3) Performance with Amy Speace - A 4-day comprehensive look at The Art & Craft of **Performance -** We write songs to express our journeys in life but we share them with others to connect, to allow the audience to find their own truth in what we sing. A performance at the highest level can be a deeply meaningful, almost spiritual experience for the singer and the audience, elevating the ordinary into the extraordinary. This is the Art of it. Getting to the deeper level. The Craft are the tools we practice, just like scales when learning an instrument. In this class, using specific exercises developed from theater and improv, we arrive at a deeper layer, a kind of back door to the song, with the experience of a radical shift in how you experience your own Performance and a sure-fire cure for stage fright! No commitment necessary to all 4 classes, you can take all 4, you can come in for just 1, but it is a comprehensive, so that each day will build on the next. Day 1 and 2: The Song. We will spend 2 days delving into the method (a few questions we ask of the song and the performer). Come prepared with a song you know well enough to sing without lyrics, bring your instrument or sing acapella. Cover songs are fine. It's just as powerful to watch someone else work as to do the work yourself. This is the heart of the work. (Festival Main Stage)

- 4) **Song Editing** Oftentimes the songs we write can benefit greatly from an outside caring perspective and some extra attention to detail, no matter how great or small. Maybe the key needs to change to suit what works best with our vocal range, or the tempo, or maybe the bridge could use that extra lift by going to a minor chord as opposed to the major. Or perhaps the words could be tightened up and we can actually say more with less. And sometimes we just need to explore other options to make sure we are truly satisfied with where a song is at. We'll look at some examples of songs pre-edit and post-edit, and then edit some songs on the spot. Presented by Cara Luft. (Hummingbird Tent)
- 5) Capo Envy: Obsessive Capo Disorder Have you seen artists using partial or multiple capos and wondered "What on earth are they doing!?" Chances are you've been stricken by capo envy. This workshop with Justin Roth will demonstrate the simple keys to understanding why and how partial capos can enhance your guitar sound and elaborate your sonic palate without complicating your guitar parts. It's easier than it looks! Most times, using partial capos actually make your songs easier to play, but they will sound like you're playing richer and more compelling chords. You will learn a simple way to use single or multiple capos to enhance your guitar sound and apply it to songs you've already written or songs to come using chords you already know in standard tuning. Kyser "Drop-D" (5 string) and "Shortcut" (3 string) capos will be provided for use during the workshop and are available for purchase from Justin. Some guitar experience is necessary, but this workshop is open to beginners as well as seasoned players. Come find out just how easy it is and take a leap forward with your sound. Justin is Kyser Capo sponsored artist and instructor. (Coyote Tent)
- 6) **Build a Wholehearted Life: How Your Music Dreams Fit into a Balanced Life!** This workshop is designed to inspire, encourage, and provide you with insight into how you can create a balanced life that includes your musical aspirations but isn't limited by them. In this workshop, we will help you to identify what makes you feel alive and whole, as well as what your music gives to others. This workshop is for everyone, regardless of whether you make a living making music (or hope to) or you just live for the love of music! Presented by Ellis Delaney and Terri Delaney. (Lizard Tent)

7) Miscellany With Vance Gilbert - Jump into the Song School with this multi-faceted look at songwriting. Vance toured for 1 1/2 years with George Carlin. He has a song on a Grammy nominated children's album. He's got 16 albums to date, 4 on Rounder Records. He's been a cause celeb at the very festival you'll attend this weekend, and at many (and for that matter most) major festivals throughout North America. He pays his mortgage successfully by playing music and teaching performance. Something is working... So, here's a chance to be part of an examination of 5 writing, singing, playing, performing points Vance has honed in the last few years that make his musical journey even more fruitful than ever... 1. Writing With 3 Active Notebooks. I still may not be as prolific as you are, but it brought me from 5 - 6 keeper songs a year to about one a month. I'll share why and how, particularly how I "get rid of the editor" so that I can write more freely... 2. Vocal Health For the Road. Here's why - what to eat, when to sleep, exercise, water. 3. Guitar Technique - Playing Less So It Seems Like More. Get the guitar out of the way, then put it back so that it really does make your song work! 4. Owning A Large Stage. Playing a festival somewhere? Large auditorium? Overwhelmed? Let's take a look at how to deal with "in-intimate" playing situations 5. (if there's time) Playing Covers - When and Where and How. (Blue Heron Tent)

- 8) Next Level Voice Class Join Ron Browning for a fun and engaging class on how to find your best voice and performance. Discover your unique sound through conversation--after all, your singing voice is your speaking voice! Use simple tricks of casual conversation to make your singing have a more intimate and honest delivery. Learn the dos and don'ts of lyric interpretation. Learn about the projection power found in a baby's cry and learn how to use it in singing for a more soulful expression, or to have more vocal power. Add "cry mode" to your vocal techniques and walk away from all vocal faults and your fear of high notes. And, of course, this will allow you to walk away from vocal fatigue once and for all. Both vocal and performance techniques will be taken into consideration for the more advanced singers. Come with questions. Guitars and recorded tracks are welcome. Or sing a cappella! (Bear Tent)
- 9) Creative Writing For Beginners: We'll all Beginners! What can we do to make writing more of a well exercised muscle, rather than a holy occurrence? What if writing each day, whether the tiny journal paragraph or the beginnings of a personal essay, can effect the way we write our songs? This class with Haley Heynderickx will less involve the art of songwriting, and more, hone in on the cultivation of a curious life. What a blessing we have the opportunity to gather our experiences and share! (Spider Tent)
- 10) Guitar Basics Novice / Early-Intermediate level This workshop with Arthur Lee Land covers guitar basics that will help you deliver your songs with more variety and punch. Topics covered: various picking and right hand strumming/muting techniques, anti-spider finger technique to learn new chords faster, making it easier to move between chord changes and basic techniques for using capos for alternate chord forms and inversions. We will also touch on ideas to help embellish your songs by adding tasty guitar fills using basic hammer on/pull off techniques in common guitar keys. (Eagle Tent backstage)
- 11) **Mentoring:** Rebecca Folsom (Turtle Tent)

12:30 - 1:30 Lunch Break

TO DO: Confirm open stage performance times posted in Blue Heron Tent.

1:30 - 4:00 Creative Songwriting Groups: Session 1

The first of four daily longer songwriting and elective sessions. See all instructor descriptions below. Each instructor will meet at the following location:

MEETING PLACES

- o Ysaye Barnwell Coyote Tent
- o Ellis Lizard Tent
- O Rebecca Folsom Eagle Tent (backstage)
- o Mary Gauthier Mountain Lion Tent
- o Bonnie Hayes Festival Main Stage
- o Haley Heynderickx Bear Tent
- o Patty Larkin Trout Tent
- o Cara Luft- Spider Tent
- o Pat Pattison †- Blue Heron Tent
- o Paul Reisler Wildflower Pavilion
- o Steve Seskin Hummingbird Tent
- Ysaye Barnwell will offer: Approaches to Songwriting: Building Writer's Blocks What kind of song do you want to write? All songs are possible. Let's break the mold by writing a different kind of song: a jingle, a hymn, a game song, an aria, a ring shout, a round, a lullaby, an anthem, a Broadway show tune. You name it; let's write it. Time to write something you never thought of before. This is one way to build your writer's blocks. (Coyote Tent)
- ▶ Ellis will offer: Intentional Performance: Performing From the Inside Out Most performing workshops focus on techniques designed for you to be seen as a professional, being polished, and letting the songs shine. Those are incredibly important skills, but not what this workshop is about. Ellis invites you to also consider how audiences need to be "seen" and how magic happens when the performer tunes in to the beauty of the audience. Real connection happens naturally when a performer is both self-aware and tuned in to others. In this engaging workshop, you will practice a new model that focuses on valuing who you are AND valuing the people in your audience! Bring your instrument and come ready to perform! (Lizard Tent)
- Rebecca Folsom will offer: Vocal Freedom Workshop In this class you will learn tools (some traditional and some very nontraditional) to open and expand your vocal range, resonance, and character, along with tools to open and expand your performance ease, depth and brilliance. You will be given key adjustments particularly focused to your voice/your body that with little effort make fundamental shifts to your overall Vocal and Performance Freedom. We will alternate diving into teaching moments for the whole class to practice the exercises, and having individual volunteers perform. Come ready to sing with the group and sing individually if you choose to volunteer. We will embody the practices moving beyond mental understanding to the knowing "ah ha" of relaxing into your best voice and best performance ever. These shifts are lasting and you can take them with you for the rest of your life. Vocal Performance Freedom! (Eagle Tent backstage)

Mary Gauthier will offer: The Art of Songwriting - In this class I will help you understand how to make your songs resonate with listeners. I will work with you and your songs, encouraging you to break through fear-based ruts, and guiding you to take greater risks that will deepen your writing. You will also see other people do their work and learn from watching their process. We all have to push through firewalls of fear, confusion and self-doubt as we write, and in this class we will see how exposing our vulnerability allows a songs truth to emerge. Once we understand this, our songs will connect us to ourselves and to other beings in ways we never could have imagined. These new connections inevitably bring us joy. All art is a walk from the known towards the unknown. The uncovering and revealing of emotional truth is a powerful source of transformative beauty, the creation of art. (Mountain Lion Tent)

- ▶ Bonnie Hayes will offer: Finding the Chords: The Emotional Understory of Your Song- The chord progression of a song provides the emotional understory to your lyrics and melody, the "film score" to your song's lyric story. But for some of us, using chords in an emotional way is hindered by difficulty with "thinking" about harmony. This class will walk theory-resistant writers through the basics of creating a chord progression that says what you want it to say, using harmonic rhythm to make the song move, how modes can set a tone, finding chords that support your melody, and creating surprises in your songwriting. (Festival Main Stage)
- ▶ Haley Heynderickx will offer: All in Good Humor Do you find the subtleties of humor desirable in songwriting? Are you prone to making fun of yourself for being human? If so, you may be in the right mindset to tumble through the weeds of humorous songwriting. We're not talking about belly jiggling or slapstick funny, we're talking "lime in the coconut" funny. What makes a melody humorous? What within rhythm can feel whimsical? What tools can we add in our songwriting to feel more personal and perhaps silly? This class will explore all such questions with the intent of adding more personality to our tunes, no matter the subject at hand. Being naturally funny is not a pre-requisite. However, group participation is. Be prepared to acknowledge your songwriting demons. (Bear Tent)
- ▶ Patty Larkin will offer: The Finish Line We all have our share of half written songs that we pass by on the way to the next fresh page of our songwriting notebook. Perhaps it's the first verse and a chorus, maybe just a line, a grand start, yet there it sits: the Unfinished Song. Bring in a couple of songs that have been "in process" for the last year or the last decade, and we'll look at pathways to completion. Time will be spent opening up the essence of what you're "trying to say", the inspiration for the song in the first place. We'll partner in 10 minute co-writing teams, and talk about options available lyrically and harmonically that might inspire a way for you to get to the finish line. (Trout Tent)
- Eara Luft will offer: Let Your Song Speak There is no "right" way to write a song, but there are tools and tips we can explore that can help bring a song to life. We'll examine the beauty and power of rhythm, rhyme, structure, chord voicing, melody and its interaction with the lyric, and how to incorporate these tools into a song you need to sing. We'll spend time in group discussion while we listen to examples, tackle questions and use collaborative songwriting exercises. We'll talk about the line between the personal and universal, and the value in editing and exploring different options. Students will have the chance to co-write an original song, as well as time to write on their own. Bring paper, your voice, instrument of choice and an open heart. Oh, and we'll also have loads of fun: (Spider Tent)

→ † PLEASE NOTE: Pat Pattison will offer: A Songwriting Master Class - This class will have twelve students pre-selected ahead of time. All students are welcome to observe the process. (Blue Heron Tent)

- ▶ Paul Reisler will offer: Harmony and Chord Substitution We'll learn how to set chords to your melody, how to shade the emotion of the moment with a proper choice of chords, chord types and substitutions, using harmony to control forward motion, creating contrast in your song structure, and much more. In addition, we'll take one song and harmonize it in 8 different ways using different types of chord substitutions. This is a participatory workshop that will give you specific techniques and inspiration to use in your music. Previous participation in one of Paul Reisler's melody workshops is recommended but not required. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- Steve Seskin will offer: Let's Write a Song This class will offer students a chance to work on a brand new song from scratch with my direction. I will walk you through the process of coming up with an idea, developing the lyric and finding music that compliments it well. During this process I will provide song prompts to get things started. In the course of this class, students will most definitely start a song. After the initial burst of creativity, we will listen to what you've come up with and make some suggestions from there in the spirit of helping each other move the process along. There may be some collaboration as well. On Thursday during my rewriting class students can bring their starts into the class and we can take a further look at what might need a bit more work. Attendance is not required on Thursday in order to do this class. Students can also show me what they're working on privately in a mentoring session. (Hummingbird Tent)

4:15 - 5:30 Monday Electives

- 1) **Embellishing Your Song Intermediate/Advanced levels -** Bring your songs to this interactive workshop with Arthur Lee Land and learn new ways to embellish your song by adding tasty guitar fills, substitute chord changes, various picking and strumming approaches, alternate chord forms and inversions, varied capoed positions and more. (Eagle Tent backstage)
- 2) WRITE. SING. PLAY. I have found nothing else that brings me more joy than creating songs and sharing them in a way that I might not be able to articulate well otherwise. I believe we all have the ability to tap into our true selves as songwriters and performers and to share what is unique about each of us. It might mean getting out of our own way, digging deep, and doing the work to get there. We'll discuss and share techniques and tips to write, sing, and play into the hearts and heads of our listeners. Presented by RJ Cowdery. (Mountain Lion Tent)
- Automating Your Career & Creativity: Using Productivity Principles DIY musicians wear all the hats, often all at once. So how does one not drown in an overwhelming to-do list?! Emily Ann Peterson, songwriter and bestselling author of *Bare Naked Bravery: How to Be Creatively Courageous* walks you through her favorite software/robots for career creatives. Attendees will learn how to pick the right tool and receive an introduction to tools that help to: create a system for DIY booking, organize & automate your next album production/release, build a membership site for your patrons, automate scheduling and payments for music lessons, up-level your creative output, automate your social media without faking it. (Blue Heron Tent)

4) **Writing Songs of Service** - Mary Gauthier and Steve Seskin will talk about some of the projects they have been a part of these past few years. From Songwriting With: Soldiers and working with **WIR** (Women In Recovery), to Operation Respect (Don't Laugh At Me) to writing songs with the Parkland school shooting survivors, we have been pointing our pen and our pain at causes that mean something to us and can hopefully be in service to the healing of the people we are lucky enough to work with. We will offer some ideas about how you might do the same. (Bear Tent)

- 5) I Still Got It Staying Relevant After A Certain Age This popular workshop will have its fourth airing. This discussion kinda speaks for itself. After years of practice and hard work, all the goodness of what you do has really come together and you have some grey hair. We'll talk about your age, station, health, direction, and expectations. Singing styles, dropping keys, what you sing about, and some truth telling will be present too. While there'll be plenty of discussion, be prepared to play and sing. Presented by Vance Gilbert. (Coyote Tent)
- 6) Unlocking the Mysteries of the Music Biz A unique Q & A session with Madison House's Adam Bauer answering your questions about how one steps into the music business and what agents, managers and venues do and deal with on a daily basis. Is it all glamour and glitz? Learn about the nuts and bolts when getting involved in supporting artists or becoming a touring one. (Lizard Tent)
- 7) Cracking the Code Part 1: Basic Chord Theory for Guitarists: Understanding the Major Scale, Keys and Triads- Julie Andrews was right -- it all starts with Do Re Mi! This gentle introduction to music theory will start right at the beginning with an easy-to-understand, guitar-based introduction to scales, keys and triads. Together we will learn how to create a family of notes called a "key," using the basic "code" contained in the major scale. We will also learn how to generate a family of basic 3-note chords, or triads, within each key. Exploring the basics of intervals will help us to demystify major and minor chords. We also discover how these different chord "qualities" remain constant across different keys, thereby making musical shorthand systems, such as "Nashville numbering," easier to understand. We will finish with a brief discussion of "extended harmonies," by learning to create 7th chords from the major scale. By understanding and appreciating the fundamental language and symbols of music, you can enhance your creativity and improve your communication with other musicians. Presented by John Linn. (Spider Tent)

"The ability to appreciate music is the defining quality of our humanity." – Oliver Sachs

8) Preparing to record? Reviving the Forgotten Art of Pre-Production - Fueled by your questions, this workshop with Justin Roth will talk about the pros and cons of different approaches to consider when preparing to record. Before you run to the studio, there's a less glamorous, but far more important step to take before you begin --- Pre-production. You've got your songs, but are you prepared to really start recording? You wouldn't run a marathon "off the couch" without preparation and training, would you? So, let's not record an album "off the couch" either. Whether you're new to recording or a seasoned pro, pre-production serves an important role in preparing for a successful recording experience. Mapping out your plan, instrumentation ideas, album goals, expectations, and most importantly, making sure they realistically align with your budget, are all helpful decisions to be made before you enter the studio. We'll also talk about the roles of engineer vs. producer, budgeting and fan funding, self-recording vs. a "real" studio, full album or EP, digital release or CD...the list goes on and on. Bring a notepad and your questions and let's get down to it. This is a crucial step to help turn your dream of recording into a fully realized final product and it can save you a lot of money and frustration in the long run as well. (Hummingbird Tent)

- 9) Guaranteed Groove: Rhythm for Non-Drummers Steady time is important for all musicians, not just drummers. It can affect your ability to write interesting songs, play with other musicians, record your music using a click track (or a drummer), and most importantly, to engage your audience. If you can't keep a consistent groove, even if you're just playing solo, your listeners will lose interest. I believe everyone has an innate sense of rhythm the trick is getting in touch with it. In this hands-on, interactive class we'll learn how to count and feel various beat subdivisions, and employ them in different types of strumming patterns. Does your guitar playing feel stuck in a "rhythmic rut"? Do you hate playing to a click? This is a fun, energetic class to give you practical tools for finding your own inner groove! Remember to bring your guitar with you to class, and a strap if you have one. This is an ideal class to prep you for Bonnie Hayes' class Writing from Groove. Presented by JJ Jones. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- 10) Your Guitar/Your Songs In this workshop with Patty Larkin we'll explore guitar techniques that can provide the singer/songwriter/guitarist with alternative textures for their songs. We'll look at right hand and left hand techniques, embellishments and short breaks that can add to the song's dynamics and lyrical impact. Bring your guitar, a song to share, and let's have some fun! (Trout Tent)
- 11) **Mentoring** see sign-ups in Blue Heron Tent

6:00 - 7:30 Song School Barbecue

The barbecues are open to Song School students and their registered guests. Your wristband is your meal ticket. Head chef: Markus Chesla. **Please remember to reuse and compost everything. Thanks!** (Eagle Tent - Backstage)

7:30 Open Stage

Confirm your day and time posted in Blue Heron Tent. (Wildflower Pavilion)

Tuesday, August 13th

TIP OF THE DAY

If you have a Festival related question or problem, please let us know before class or during lunch break today so we can help you work out a solution before the Festival. Use message board as needed.

TO DO LIST

- Mentoring session sign ups. Sign up sheets for Tuesday will be put out at 9am in the Blue Heron Tent. Check back at liunchtime for additions during the day.
- Your night to play the open stage? Confirm your time at Blue Heron Tent.
- Musical supplies will be available for sale after class today (4:15-5:15pm) in front of the bathhouse! Call ahead to Sean at HB Woodsongs for special requests at 303-449-0516.

8:00 - 9:00 Yoga

Yogi Heather Hottovy will help celebrate the start of your day with a gentle yoga routine. No prior experience necessary. Complimentary mats and blocks provided. (Meet by silo.)

9:30 - 9:50 All Group Session: Live Performing Basics

Join Vance Gilbert for a quick review of the nuts and bolts of live performing. A perfect mini- primer or reminder for the evening open stages, especially if you're new to performing live. (Wildflower Pavilion)

10:00 - 12:00 Electives

- 1) **Directed Writing with Paul Reisler** Thirty years ago, a friend gave me the best advice I've ever heard regarding songwriting. He told me to get up every morning and write a song, complete it, and put it in a file folder and not look at it for 6 months. Not a good song or a long song necessarily, just a song. Two years and several hundred songs later, I realized that I had not only learned a lot about the craft of songwriting, but a great deal about how to generate ideas and images and carry them through, how to dance around writers block and how to fool myself into approaching my writing in a fresh way each day. If you want to write songs on a regular basis, you need a reliable technique that you can use whenever you sit down to write. You'll be writing a song during this workshop and gathering the tools you'll need to write on a daily basis. This is a 4-day workshop and you should participate in all the sessions to get your song finished. We will not take new people after the 2nd day. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- 2) Song Session with Steve Seskin and Bonnie Hayes these sessions take an in-depth look at participant's songs, finding teachable moments to benefit not only the writer but observers as well. We'll identify strengths in each song and look at what could be even better. This session is open to as many people as wish to attend. We'll probably get to 3 or 4 songs each morning, showing you tools to move the songs further ahead. We prefer that people play live so we can more easily suggest different approaches, especially when it comes to melody and phrasing. This class is offered on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and it's fine to attend one or more sessions. Bring several lyric sheets. (Mountain Lion Tent).

Performance with Amy Speace - A 4-day comprehensive look at The Art & Craft of Performance - We write songs to express our journeys in life but we share them with others to connect, to allow the audience to find their own truth in what we sing. A performance at the highest level can be a deeply meaningful, almost spiritual experience for the singer and the audience, elevating the ordinary into the extraordinary. This is the Art of it. Getting to the deeper level. The Craft are the tools we practice, just like scales when learning an instrument. In this class, using specific exercises developed from theater and improv, we arrive at a deeper layer, a kind of back door to the song, with the experience of a radical shift in how you experience your own Performance and a sure-fire cure for stage fright! No commitment necessary to all 4 classes, you can take all 4, you can come in for just 1, but it is a comprehensive, so that each day will build on the next. Day 1 and 2: The Song. We will spend 2 days delving into the method (a few questions we ask of the song and the performer). Come prepared with a song you know well enough to sing without lyrics, bring your instrument or sing acapella. Cover songs are fine. It's just as powerful to watch someone else work as to do the work yourself. This is the heart of the work. (Festival Main Stage)

- 4) **Getting Started With Altered Tunings** Do you want to explore altered tunings, but don't know where to start? This workshop with Justin Roth will introduce reasons why and ways to understand, compose in, convert songs to, and switch between different altered tunings to help you find a new approach and sound for your songs. Don't worry about the music theory part. We will learn a "theory-lite" way of understanding and relating altered tunings to songs you've already written or songs to come. Using altered tunings doesn't have to be a scary thing. Handouts will be provided to get you started with multiple chord positions in DADGAD and CGDGBD, as well as tuning tips to help you get in and out of different tunings quickly. Come find the richness and new sound your guitar has to offer! (Trout Tent)
- Planning Ellis Delaney (performing songwriter) and Terri Delaney (artist manager/social worker), will teach you friendly tools for time management and organization that are designed for wandering creative-minded songwriter types who regularly feel overwhelmed and lost. Says Ellis, "Setting aside songwriting time has always been challenging for me amidst a busy touring schedule, being a mom and doing all those music business-y things on my to-do list. All of the traditional left-brained time management and organizing skills haven't worked for me. I have found that structure is freedom and we can't wait to show you these tools." (Lizard Tent)
- 6) **Next Level Voice Class** Join Ron Browning for a fun and engaging class on how to find your best voice and performance. Discover your unique sound through conversation--after all, your singing voice is your speaking voice! Use simple tricks of casual conversation to make your singing have a more intimate and honest delivery. Learn the dos and don'ts of lyric interpretation. Learn about the projection power found in a baby's cry and learn how to use it in singing for a more soulful expression, or to have more vocal power. Add "cry mode" to your vocal techniques and walk away from all vocal faults and your fear of high notes. And of course this will allow you to walk away from vocal fatigue once and for all. Both vocal and performance techniques will be taken into consideration for the more advanced singers. Come with questions. Guitars and recorded tracks are welcome. Or sing a cappella! (Bear Tent)

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7) Writing From the Soul Side - Do you ever find yourself writing or singing tunes just on the outside edge of the folk/Pop/tradition, even questioning whether what you're doing is folk or singer-songwriter? Sure you do. There's a home for you. We'll take a Look at Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson etc.-influenced styles of writing and how they might tiptoe their way into your acoustic thing. Martin Sexton does it, Jonatha Brooke too. Tell me, doesn't Chris Stapleton have at least one toe of his foot firmly planted in the Soul House? We'll discuss the country/soul albums of Don Was (80's) and Ray Charles (late 50's) that were landmark. We'll look at some of your work too - you know you have something in your notebook that's more Lauryn Hill than it is Wreck Of The Edmund Fitzgerald. We'll take a look at the Guitar stylings that make this approach come alive, and examine the why and how they hold up as acoustic tunes. Presented by Vance Gilbert. (Hummingbird Tent)

- 8) Take a Lead Break On Your Own Song Novice/Intermediate levels We will use chord changes from participant's songs and Arthur Lee Land's "Live Looping" technology to provide a framework for exploring intermediate and advanced soloing ideas. Building on pentatonic pattern ideas, we will be covering techniques to help you develop clarity in your phrasing such as Major and Minor Pentatonic Scale Substitution, Motif Playing, Question & Answer, Melodic & Rhythmic Repetition, Target Notes and Color Tones. (Eagle Tent)
- 9) **Singing In The African American Tradition** Participants will be learning traditional African rhythms and chants, chants from the African diaspora, Spirituals, Shouts, and Gospels all in the Oral Tradition. No experience is necessary, only a passion for singing with others. Led by Ysaye Barnwell. (Coyote Tent)
- 10) **Point of View: Choosing Your Best Lens** Illuminate your songwriting. Involve your audience more deeply in your song by creating the most potent lens for them to look through. This session will focus on Point of View as a tool, illustrating and understanding all the possible angles for viewing and their effects on the listener. Choosing the right Point of View is the difference between "Wow" and 'Next." Presented by Pat Pattison. (Blue Heron Tent)
- 11) **Mentoring Sessions** see sign-ups in Blue Heron Tent

12:00 - 1:30 Lunch Break

TO DO: Confirm open stage performance times posted in Blue Heron Tent.

"All the arts we practice are apprenticeship.

The big art is our life." – M.C. Richards

1:30 - 4:00 Creative Songwriting Groups: Session 2

Your daily dose of songwriting and more. See all instructor descriptions below. Each instructor will meet at the following location:

MEETING PLACES

- o Ysave Barnwell Coyote Tent
- o Mai Bloomfield Lizard Tent
- O Rebecca Folsom Yurt (behind Wildflower)
- o Mary Gauthier Mountain Lion Tent
- o Bonnie Hayes Festival Main Stage
- O Haley Heynderickx Bear Tent
- o Patty Larkin Trout Tent
- o Cara Luft- Spider Tent
- o Pat Pattison †- Blue Heron Tent
- o Paul Reisler Wildflower Pavilion
- o Steve Seskin Hummingbird Tent
- ➤ <u>Ysaye Barnwell will offer: Arranging a Cappella Vocals</u> Bring your new songs or old songs and we will do them a cappella, creating harmony lines and rhythmic lines in set and improvised arrangements. (Coyote Tent)
- Mai Bloomfield will offer: The Healing HeArt of Song Many of us have had, or know someone who has had a dramatic life-changing experience (a diagnosis, an accident, a loss, or even a triumph!) after which, we are forever changed. Some of us may be in the middle of that journey right now. As songwriters, how do we handle these experiences? Sometimes we avoid the topics that matter most for fear of not doing them justice in a song. So we put it off, waiting for some perfect time (which rarely comes) and before we know it, we've built a block around the very thing that has touched our heart the most. As a cancer survivor, Mai brings a unique perspective to the notion that our greatest challenges can give way to our greatest insights. (This is good news for songwriters!) She's developed a method that will help you tap into your own personal experience, and draw out something inspired, cathartic, healing. The point isn't to write the all-important song about that most significant event of your life, but rather, to honor that experience for the way it changed you, and pull something from that place. This is a songwriting workshop, so you will leave with a new song. And also a conduit to something powerful that was born from something challenging. Through crisis comes opportunity. Through the heART comes art. (Lizard Tent)
- Rebecca Folsom will offer: Your Vulnerability is a Superpower Performance with Persona Play Would you like unconscious beliefs to stop holding you back from your most vibrant, stellar self? Would you like to have more consistently great performances, more stability, agility and ability onstage, and more connection with your audience? We will dig in and with humor magnify parts of ourselves (personas) that we either deny or long to be. By befriending and integrating them, you strengthen your whole self, boosting your capabilities onstage and on the greater stage of your life. Instead of unconsciously working against you, these personas then become allies that give you more confidence, authenticity and emotional range in your performances. The workshop is experiential, fun, effective, and deeply enlightening. (Yurt, behind Wildflower Pavilion)

Mary Gauthier will offer: The Art of Songwriting - In this class I will help you understand how to make your songs resonate with listeners. I will work with you and your songs, encouraging you to break through fear-based ruts, and guiding you to take greater risks that will deepen your writing. You will also see other people do their work and learn from watching their process. We all have to push through firewalls of fear, confusion and self-doubt as we write, and in this class we will see how exposing our vulnerability allows a songs truth to emerge. Once we understand this, our songs will connect us to ourselves and to other beings in ways we never could have imagined. These new connections inevitably bring us joy. All art is a walk from the known towards the unknown. The uncovering and revealing of emotional truth is a powerful source of transformative beauty, the creation of art. (Mountain Lion Tent)

- **Bonnie Hayes** will offer: **Writing From Groove** Groove, or the rhythmic structure of a song, is a critical component of creating an emotional landscape for your song, yet most songwriters leave it largely unexplored. In this workshop, we'll examine various ways of creating a groove and using it to make your songs more effective and varied, including in-class writing and maybe even playing together. Bring your instrument, and be ready to dig a canyon! (Festival Main Stage)
- Haley Heynderickx will offer: All in Good Humor Do you find the subtleties of humor desirable in songwriting? Are you prone to making fun of yourself for being human? If so, you may be in the right mindset to tumble through the weeds of humorous songwriting. We're not talking about belly jiggling or slapstick funny, we're talking "lime in the coconut" funny. What makes a melody humorous? What within rhythm can feel whimsical? What tools can we add in our songwriting to feel more personal and perhaps silly? This class will explore all such questions with the intent of adding more personality to our tunes, no matter the subject at hand. Being naturally funny is not a pre-requisite. However, group participation is. Be prepared to acknowledge your songwriting demons. (Bear Tent)
- Patty Larkin will offer: Character Songs Every song tells a story, some more than others. Writing in the voice of a character can free the songwriter up to walk in someone else's shoes. I have found that during the writing process the Character Song can have a mind of its own. It's as if I'm a witness to the writing. Telling a story in the character's voice allows you to see with their eyes, speak with their voice, tell their tale. We'll cover the structure of narrative story writing as it applies to writing in the first person, write a group song together, and discuss ideas for performing character songs live. (Trout Tent)
- ➤ Cara Luft will offer: Let Your Song Speak There is no "right" way to write a song, but there are tools and tips we can explore that can help bring a song to life. We'll examine the beauty and power of rhythm, rhyme, structure, chord voicing, melody and its interaction with the lyric, and how to incorporate these tools into a song you need to sing. We'll spend time in group discussion while we listen to examples, tackle questions and use collaborative songwriting exercises. We'll talk about the line between the personal and universal, and the value in editing and exploring different options. Students will have the chance to co-write an original song, as well as time to write on their own. Bring paper, your voice, instrument of choice and an open heart. Oh, and we'll also have loads of fun: (Spider Tent)

→ <u>† PLEASE NOTE</u>: Pat Pattison will offer: A Songwriting Master Class — This class will have fifteen students pre-selected ahead of time. All students are welcome to observe the process. (Blue Heron Tent)

- Paul Reisler will offer: Writing Songs for Musicals, Opera, Song Cycles, Theatre, and Film We're songwriters. We have to cram a lifetime into a few minutes, reveal character through a couple of telling details. But there are stories that are too large to fit inside the walls of song—stories that demand space and time to unravel and reveal. There's something alluring about a project that you can keep diving deeper and deeper into over months, years, and even decades as the Song School alum Anais Mitchell did with her multiple Tony winning musical, *Hadestown*. I've been drawn to writing long form ever since I started doing the music for the plays of my late wife, Julie Portman over 35 years ago. It was something about wanting to tell a story that didn't fit within the walls of three minutes...or even five. And now, I'm hooked on writing musicals. They have taught me so much about songwriting. They are my last act. Our job as songwriters and composers is to deepen the experience of the story, to say what can't be said. We'll explore all the principals of dramatic structure and tension that shape the arc of the long-form story. We'll transform dialog and narrative into song and use underscoring to shade emotion. We'll see where the story leads us...(Wildflower Pavilion.)
- Steve Seskin will offer: Melody Class In focusing on melody writing, I teach from a place of writing melodies for lyrics. Prosody is the marriage of music and lyric. We explore ways to determine if the overall vibe of the music feels right, and look at specific parts of songs in terms of choosing an appropriate melody that milks the emotion that the writer would like the listener to feel from the lyric. I also talk about phrasing and accents. There is an important word in every sentence. We look at choosing accent places that stress the right syllables and help drive home your point. Music can actually change the meaning of a lyric when used to its fullest potential. We also discuss rhythm and range and how to use them effectively in songs. (Hummingbird Tent)

4:15 Creative Gap... with a couple offerings for over achievers.

Instrument - Description: Two days into the song school and your instrument is covered in dust and grime and is buzzing in a new spot. Or maybe the neck is warping or a tuning machine broke. Learn simple techniques to maintain your guitar and prevent problems, and learn how to identify and fix some common issues that all too often lead to frustration and expensive repairs. We are spending a week learning to care for our craft, our voices, and performances, why not learn to take care of our guitar, fiddle or mandolin as well. We'll look at selecting the right strings for instrument style and playing technique, changing strings, cleaning your instrument: what to use, what not to use, humidity control - cracks, popped out frets, neck warping and how to prevent it all, understanding neck relief, why it matters and some techniques to adjusting it and understanding intonation and how adjust it if needed. Presented by Dan Harris. (Coffee Bar next to Blue Heron Tent)

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2) Alan Explains It All - This workshop will cover a wide range of topics crucial to the success of the performing songwriter, and tailored to the students interests, including why building an internet identity is much more than creating a webpage. We'll cover using email, web research, and social networking effectively, as well as making one's music available online. We'll also talk about booking strategies, building community coalitions, getting the most out of a sound check, and/or ways to make a living as a musician in the post-CD economy. There are countless challenges out there. Alan Rowoth is the creator of "folkmusic.org", one of the most comprehensive sources for folk and acoustic music resources on the World Wide Web and will let the students dictate where the conversation goes. (Blue Heron Tent)

3) Mentoring Sessions - see sign-ups in Blue Heron Tent

4:15 – 5:30 HB Woodsongs Traveling Music Store

The easy way to have items like picks, strings, capos, music, delivered to you. Feel free to call them ahead of time with special requests (303-449-0516). They will set up in front of the bathhouse in the courtyard immediately after class.

5:30 - 8:00 Dinner and snacks served on site (Visit the Bloomberries Booth next to the bathhouse for a convenient dinner.)

8:00 Open Stage

Confirm your day and time posted in Blue Heron Tent. (Wildflower Pavilion)

"Everything passes through the opening of the ear; we speak, read, sing and dance with our ears, we maintain a vertical posture, establish relational dynamics and laterality thanks to our ears."

A.A. Tomatis

Wednesday, August 14th

TIP OF THE DAY

Pace yourself and enjoy!

TO DO LIST

- Mentoring session sign-ups. Wednesday sheets out at 9am in the Blue Heron Tent.
- Your night to play the open stage? Confirm your time at Blue Heron Tent.

8:00 - 9:00 Yoga - Heather Hottovy will help celebrate the start of your day with a gentle yoga routine. Complimentary mats and blocks provided. (Meet by silo.)

9:30 - 10:00 Community Morning Sing - Join Ysaye Barnwell for inspired harmony singing. A wonderful way to start your day! (Wildflower Pavilion)

10:15 - 12:00 Electives

- 1) **Directed Writing with Paul Reisler** This is a multi-day workshop that is progressive. Sorry, no new people after Tuesday. (Hummingbird Tent)
- 2) Raise the Vibration: Infusing Your Songwriting with the Power of Mantra We might think of mantras in relation to meditation, yoga, or spiritual practice. But in many ways, mantras exist in the songs we write and sing. Songs and mantras both act as vehicles to transport the listener to a state of being or awareness. They help connect us to our higher self and to each other, and they can anchor us when we feel off-course. What would it sound like if you wrote a song inspired by a mantra? In this class we'll explore some fun ways of creating a personal mantra by pulling from your own life experience. (This is the juicy stuff!) We'll do some writing exercises, we'll tune in to our surroundings, and we'll break off for personal songwriting time and then share our songs at the end. Yes! You will come away from the class with a new song infused with the power of a mantra. You may be surprised what it opens up in your songwriting practice, and in your life! Presented by Mai Bloomfield. (Mountain Lion Tent).
- Performance with Amy Speace A 4-day comprehensive look at The Art & Craft of Performance. <u>Day 3. The Performer</u> Who are you? What is your "Thing?" What are you bringing to the stage, before you put on your costume, your makeup, your guitar? What is essentially YOU that you may or may not be aware you're taking with you every night and, once you know, are you using that knowledge in your performance? That is: are you working *against* your own essence or using it *for* a more powerfully authentic performance? Day 3 is about The Performer, who you really are and the different performance choices that offers. (Wildflower Pavilion)

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4) **Next Level Voice Class-** Join Ron Browning for a fun and engaging class on how to find your best voice and performance. Discover your unique sound through conversation--after all, your singing voice is your speaking voice! Use simple tricks of casual conversation to make your singing have a more intimate and honest delivery. Learn the dos and don'ts of lyric interpretation. Learn about the projection power found in a baby's cry and learn how to use it in singing for a more soulful expression, or to have more vocal power. Add "cry mode" to your vocal techniques and walk away from all vocal faults and your fear of high notes. And of course this will allow you to walk away from vocal fatigue once and for all. Both vocal and performance techniques will be taken into consideration for the more advanced singers. Come with questions. Guitars and recorded tracks are welcome. Or - sing a cappella! (Bear Tent)

- 5) **Singing In The African American Tradition** Participants will be learning traditional African rhythms and chants, chants from the African diaspora, Spirituals, Shouts, and Gospels all in the Oral Tradition. No experience is necessary, only a passion for singing with others. Presented by Ysaye Barnwell. (Spider Tent)
- 6) Writing From A Title Starting with a powerful and effective song title, this session shows you to build it into a completed lyric, including finding an effective title, developing your idea to make your title or chorus grow, setting it to appropriate rhythm and tempo, using stressed vowel sounds to brainstorm ideas, finding title placement, and developing contrasting sections. These tools will make your writing process more efficient, and your lyrics more effective. This is how Nashville writers write a song every day--sometimes two! Presented by Pat Pattison. (Blue Heron Tent)
- 7) Somatic Racial Justice Workshop- Folk music has long been a promoter of social justice but has struggled to talk about racial injustice directly. Come learn how to grow your capacity to engage with the topic of racialized trauma and injustice. Utilizing the work of Resmaa Menakem (we will have his books available for purchase). With Terri Delaney and Ellis Delaney. (Lizard Tent)
- 8) Making a Chart and Playing With a Band Do you wish you could jump on the stage with a band and give them a road map for your song?, but find that your songs are a little too complicated for that to work well? Do you lack the language to communicate what you want to musicians? In this class, learn how to make a chart, clarify your song arrangement, and communicate the groove to musicians. Presented by Bonnie Hayes and JJ Jones. (Coyote Tent)
- 9) Crowdfund Like a Boss Crowdfunding is possible for every level musician! After successfully running and funding three Kickstarter campaigns herself, Heather Mae launched her crowdfunding consulting business to help manage and advise other independent musicians and entrepreneurs. In this workshop, she will share her step-by-step plan to successfully launch a campaign by showing you how to hack Kickstarter's algorithm (yes! Kickstarter has an algorithm), craft your personal story into a compelling campaign that draws in NEW fans, create an incentive calendar that drives fan engagement, and more. Did you run a crowdfunding campaign that failed? Are you interested in raising funds for your next album but don't know where to start? Heather loves crowdfunding and she is stoked to share her insight with you! (Trout Tent)

10) Take a Lead Break On Your Own Song - Intermediate/Advanced levels — We will use chord changes from participant's songs and Arthur Lee Land's "Live Looping" technology to provide a framework for exploring intermediate and advanced soloing ideas. Building on pentatonic pattern ideas, we will be covering techniques to help you develop clarity in your phrasing such as Major and Minor Pentatonic Scale Substitution, Motif Playing, Question & Answer, Melodic & Rhythmic Repetition, Target Notes and Color Tones. (Eagle Tent)

11) **Mentoring Sessions** – Steve Seskin (Turtle Tent), others tba. Check sign-ups at Blue Heron Tent

12:00 - 1:30 Lunch Break

Confirm open stage performance times posted in Blue Heron Tent.

1:30 - 4:00 Creative Songwriting Groups: Session 3

Your daily dose of songwriting and more. See all instructor descriptions below. Each instructor will meet at the following location:

MEETING PLACES

- o Ysaye Barnwell Lizard Tent
- O Rebecca Folsom Wildflower Pavilion
- o Mary Gauthier Mountain Lion Tent
- O Vance Gilbert Eagle Tent (backstage)
- o Bonnie Hayes Coyote Tent
- o Halev Hevnderickx Bear Tent
- o Patty Larkin Trout Tent
- o Cara Luft- Spider Tent
- o Pat Pattison †- Blue Heron Tent
- O Steve Seskin, Paul Reisler Hummingbird Tent
- Ysaye Barnwell will offer: Approaches to Songwriting: Building Writer's Blocks What kind of song do you want to write? All songs are possible. Let's break the mold by writing a different kind of song: a jingle, a hymn, and game song, an aria, a ring shout, a round, a lullaby, an anthem, a Broadway show tune. You name it; let's write it. Time to write something you never thought of before. This is one way to build your writer's blocks. (Lizard Tent)
- Rebecca Folsom will offer Zen Mind, Beginner Mind: Performing, Painting, Music and Poetry Workshop This is one unique and surprisingly freeing workshop! We will actively mix three different creative mediums; playing music, painting with acrylics, and writing prose. Participants will rotate and take turns with each media. Experience the freedom and delight of bypassing your inner rational critic as you surprise and entice your inner muse into ecstatic expression! No experience necessary. Come ready to paint, to write and to play. All art supplies will be provided, just bring your voice and/or instrument and writing journal. (Wildflower Pavilion)

2019 Song School Wednesday

Mary Gauthier will offer: The Art of Songwriting - In this class I will help you understand how to make your songs resonate with listeners. I will work with you and your songs, encouraging you to break through fear-based ruts, and guiding you to take greater risks that will deepen your writing. You will also see other people do their work and learn from watching their process. We all have to push through firewalls of fear, confusion and self-doubt as we write, and in this class we will see how exposing our vulnerability allows a songs truth to emerge. Once we understand this, our songs will connect us to ourselves and to other beings in ways we never could have imagined. These new connections inevitably bring us joy. All art is a walk from the known towards the unknown. The uncovering and revealing of emotional truth is a powerful source of transformative beauty, the creation of art. (Mountain Lion Tent)

- ▶ Vance Gilbert will offer: Songwriting Through the Eyes of Performance A great song does not by itself get heard. It needs to be performed so that a producer, publisher, record exec, and most importantly your fans can be part of its full impact. It's a "collision course" Vance offers, where performance and songwriting are inextricably intertwined entities. Here's your chance to pick up and hone some skills that will make your song and its presentation shine. Everything from keeping time, arrangement of the song, what key, "getting the guitar out of the way", the cliché police, posture, vocal stuff, even how to approach the stage and plug in the guitar will be examined on the mic in a safe and supportive "open mic-ish" atmosphere. (Eagle Tent backstage)
- ▶ Bonnie Hayes will offer: Writing Emotional Melodies Learn how to write melodies that will carry the emotion you want to evoke straight into your listeners' minds and hearts. it all comes down to writing intentionally—and knowing a few awesome tricks! We'll examine some key ideas in writing melodies and try to use the techniques with some in-class writing assignments. (Coyote Tent)
- Haley Heynderickx will offer: All in Good Humor Do you find the subtleties of humor desirable in songwriting? Are you prone to making fun of yourself for being human? If so, you may be in the right mindset to tumble through the weeds of humorous songwriting. We're not talking about belly jiggling or slapstick funny, we're talking "lime in the coconut" funny. What makes a melody humorous? What within rhythm can feel whimsical? What tools can we add in our songwriting to feel more personal and perhaps silly? This class will explore all such questions with the intent of adding more personality to our tunes, no matter the subject at hand. Being naturally funny is not a pre-requisite. However, group participation is. Be prepared to acknowledge your songwriting demons. (Bear Tent)
- Patty Larkin will offer: Songwriting From the Right Side of the Brain- Techniques for making lyrical leaps of faith sparked by the non verbal, intuitive right side of the brain, using Betty Edwards' book, "Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain,", as the jumping off point. We'll look at ways to make connections to the pictures of a song, as well as how to use the voice and instrument in hand to paint the sound of words, transitioning from nonverbal soundscapes to lyrics. (Trout Tent)

Eara Luft will offer: Let Your Song Speak - There is no "right" way to write a song, but there are tools and tips we can explore that can help bring a song to life. We'll examine the beauty and power of rhythm, rhyme, structure, chord voicing, melody and its interaction with the lyric, and how to incorporate these tools into a song you need to sing. We'll spend time in group discussion while we listen to examples, tackle questions and use collaborative songwriting exercises. We'll talk about the line between the personal and universal, and the value in editing and exploring different options. Students will have the chance to co-write an original song, as well as time to write on their own. Bring paper, your voice, instrument of choice and an open heart. Oh, and we'll also have loads of fun:) (Spider Tent)

- ➤ <u>PLEASE NOTE: Pat Pattison will offer: A Songwriting Master Class</u> This class will have twelve students pre-selected ahead of time. All students are welcome to observe the process. (Blue Heron Tent)
- Paul Reisler & Steve Seskin will offer: Songwriting in the Parallel Universe Writing with Kids - Paul is the founder and artistic director of Kid Pan Alley where he has written over 2,700 songs with 65,000 children and has recorded 5 albums of those songs featuring artists including Amy Grant, Sissy Spacek, Delbert McClinton, Cracker, Suzy Bogguss and many others. Steve has been writing songs for many years with his Kids Write Songs program and also as part of Peter Yarrow's Operation Respect. He's used his songwriting skills to help heal communities that have suffered tragedy, most recently at Parkland. Songwriting with kids is fun. It's part of how we give back some of what has been given to us and it helps sow the seeds for a new generation of songwriters. It's also great for our own songwriting chops because we have to work quickly using our intuition and wits. There's no time for the dreaded editor. Kids' minds work in the way we wish ours would when we write songs--non-linearly. And songwriting with kids may be the most likely way to make money with your songwriting. We'll work with the different ways that Paul & Steve have developed and we'll write part of a song together so you can see the process. The rest of the time will be discussing ideas about how to generate ideas, focus the song, and come up with the music. Then we discuss how to use your songwriting skills to serve your community and develop a music career in a parallel universe to the music business. (Hummingbird Tent)

1:30 - 4:00 Mentoring – Judith Wade (backstage), others TBA.

4:15 - 5:30 Electives

1) Plug In: Acoustic Instrument Amplification - So you have your guitar and your song and you're ready to hit the stage. You've spent countless hours honing your act and conjuring up beautiful sounds on your instrument, and now you need to plug in. Along with all the other skills you work to master as a performing acoustic artist, plugging in an acoustic instrument is an essential skill which can really help you sound your best. In this class we'll be investigating the various ways to get your instrument plugged in and sounding great, including: Acoustic instrument pickups / selecting the best one for your instrument and style, using various types of Preamps and DI boxes, using EQ to dial in the best sound for your instrument and pickup combination, adding and using effects - reverb, compression, delay etc. We will have a number of our preamps to try (FELiX, ALiX and BiX) with a high quality PA system. Participants are asked to bring their instruments so we can do hands-on experiments with everybody's particular setups. Presented by Michael and Eben Grace. (Wildflower Pavilion)

2019 Song School

2) **Experimenting With Altered Tunings and Multiple Capoes** - This workshop is about expanding musical possibilities on the guitar – have you ever felt limited by having to play in standard tuning all the time (i.e. hard chord fingerings, etc), or confused by other people using altered tunings and multiple capos and making it sound so good. This workshop will introduce you to the magical world of multiple three-string capos with altered tunings! The focus of the workshop is to begin to open up your musical thought processes to the experimentation Bill has developed through necessity. He will show you his process for using altered tunings and capo schemes to produce very colorful guitar sounds that used to be only possible with three and four finger chords, but now with just one and two fingers! Presented by Bill Nash. (Mountain Lion Tent)

- 3) Enhance Your Solo Performance With ... The Art of Live Looping Through dynamic performance, demonstration and audience participation, multi-instrumentalist Arthur Lee Land teaches the fundamentals in The Art of Live-Looping. The elements of musicianship, technology, sound engineer, arranger and entertainer all come together in this 21st century artform. Learn how Arthur combines traditional instruments and emerging technologies to create an entire one-man band and how you can use live-looping to enhance your live performances. Live-looping is also a great tool for writing songs and practicing your instrument. Students will participate in improvised song creation and build their own loops. (Eagle Tent backstage)
- 4) Ear Training For Songwriters Have you ever heard a haunting melody in your head that would be perfect for that song you're writing, but for the life of you, you can't figure out what it is? Wish that you understood the music you hear all the time better, or could learn songs faster? Ear training! What is it? Essentially, it is a system of training your ears and your brain so that ultimately you can hear anything and be able to know what it is, sing it, play it and write it down. Ear training has fundamentally changed the way I write music. Having trained ears gives you the freedom and understanding to let your creativity run wild and write, play and sing anything you can imagine. Come join me for a fun, interactive class on ear training for songwriters! We will learn the basics using your own songs as a jumping off point, sing together, and more. You will leave with a packet and the tools to easily continue this training at home until you are an ear training superstar! Bring an original song with a simple, singable melody. Presented by Oliver Esposito. (Trout Tent)
- 5) **Applied Groove** We'll explore and demo some of the digital tools mentioned in Bonnie and JJ's groove classes for working on your timing and rhythm, writing from a groove, and changing up your strumming patterns. Free software like Garageband, the many mobile apps that contain drum loops and samples from a variety of musical styles, as well as more sophisticated metronome apps, can be incredibly useful in the songwriter and guitarist's arsenal. Presented by Bonnie Hayes, JJ Jones (Coyote Tent)
- 6) **Healthy Voice** This session with Clare McLeod will give an overview of vocal health, a little myth-busting, what to do in case of a problem, and best practices to keep you singing healthily throughout your life. Operating from a thorough understanding of how the voice works, Clare will help you explore options and choices that will put you in the drivers seat. Come with your voice questions! (Blue Heron Tent)

2019 Song School

7) Jazz Standards the Vance Way - Yes, you have a folk guitar. Yes you know about six or seven chords. No you don't have to approach a jazz tune like some sort of Tony Bennett or George Benson. Yes you can sing from the Jazz Standard repertoire, even a capella, and no you don't have to be a jazz singer to do so. Enough this jazz yes and no - come take a look at some tunes you may have ignored because you didn't sound like Ella. We'll look at vocal approach, some alternate chords you can grab, and you'll sound like, well, like *you* doing those tunes you've always wanted to do. Presented by Vance Gilbert. (Bear Tent)

- 8) Passport Required: International Touring Without a Record Label, Agent or Manager Touring outside the USA presents some daunting logistical challenges. But it can also prove immensely rewarding, artistically, professionally and personally. This workshop with Mike Beck examines the nuts-and-bolts of touring internationally, including getting gigs, making contacts, transportation, P.A. and backline, financial realities of touring overseas, as well as strategies for maximizing your impact before, during and after your tour. Handouts include contact info for European and Asian venues, booking agencies and radio stations as well as a planning sheet and actual tour budget. (Lizard Tent)
- 9) Arrangements for 2 Voices & 2 Instruments Join Cara Luft and JD Edwards as they talk about and give examples of their arrangements for two voices and two instruments. They will explore how they choose harmony parts and how their instrumentation serves their vocals and the song. (Spider Tent)
- 10) Mentoring Sessions Judith Wade (backstage campground), others TBA

5:30 - 8:00 Dinner and snacks served on site (visit the Bloomberries booth)

8:00 Open Stage

Confirm your day and time posted in Blue Heron Tent. (Wildflower Pavilion)

"Why not go out on a limb? That's where the fruit is."

— Will Rogers

2019 Song School Wednesday

Thursday, August 15th

TIP OF THE DAY

Pick up your Festival wristbands. (Festival Box Office opens from noon - 9pm)

TO DO LIST

- Your night to play the open stage? Confirm your time at Blue Heron Tent.
- Mentoring session sign ups out at 9am in Blue heron Tent.
- Song School Vehicles off site during lunch break. All vehicles without on-site festival vehicle passes must be off property by 1:30pm.

8:00 - 9:00 Yoga

Heather Hottovy will help celebrate the start of your day with gentle yoga. (Meet near silo.)

9:30 - 12:00 Creative Songwriting Groups: Session 4

The final songwriting session and more. See all instructor descriptions below. Each instructor will meet at the following location:

MEETING PLACES

- o Mai Bloomfield Yurt (behind Wildflower)
- o Ellis, Terri Delaney Lizard Tent
- o Mary Gauthier Mountain Lion Tent
- o Vance Gilbert Eagle Tent (backstage)
- o Bonnie Hayes Coyote Tent
- o Haley Heynderickx Bear Tent
- O Patty Larkin Trout Tent
- o Cara Luft- Spider Tent
- O Clare McLeod Wildflower Pavilion
- o Pat Pattison †- Blue Heron Tent
- o Steve Seskin Hummingbird Tent

"Often the creative urge, once we express it, brings real relief in whatever form it takes. We have an inner sense that we can make what is into what we feel could and should be."

- Fred Rogers

Mai Bloomfield will offer: The Healing HeArt of Song — Many of us have had, or know someone who has had a dramatic life-changing experience (a diagnosis, an accident, a loss, or even a triumph!) after which, we are forever changed. Some of us may be in the middle of that journey right now. As songwriters, how do we handle these experiences? Sometimes we avoid the topics that matter most for fear of not doing them justice in a song. So we put it off, waiting for some perfect time (which rarely comes) and before we know it, we've built a block around the very thing that has touched our heart the most. As a cancer survivor, Mai brings a unique perspective to the notion that our greatest challenges can give way to our greatest insights. (This is good news for songwriters!) She's developed a method that will help you tap into your own personal experience, and draw out something inspired, cathartic, healing. The point isn't to write the all-important song about that most significant event of your life, but rather, to honor that experience for the way it changed you, and pull something from that place. This is a songwriting workshop, so you will leave with a new song. And also a conduit to something powerful that was born from something challenging. Through crisis comes opportunity. Through the heART comes art. (Meet in Yurt behind the Wildflower Pavilion.)

- Ellis and Terri Delaney will offer: Undefended Songwriting Are you interested in writing with an undefended heart? In this workshop, Ellis (performing songwriter) and Terri (somatic therapist) will help you work with your body & nervous system to be less defensive and more open-hearted as you write. It is nearly impossible to create when your nervous system believes there is a threat. The truth is that good writing is vulnerable writing, and if you have a history of not being seen, just trying to write will create a defensive body response. We will explore bottom-up practices (vs. top-down) that will help you grow your capacity to stay engaged and be intimate with creativity instead of spacing out, avoiding, fighting or running away. Come prepared to write and move your body! (Lizard Tent)
- Mary Gauthier will offer: The Art of Songwriting In this class I will help you understand how to make your songs resonate with listeners. I will work with you and your songs, encouraging you to break through fear-based ruts, and guiding you to take greater risks that will deepen your writing. You will also see other people do their work and learn from watching their process. We all have to push through firewalls of fear, confusion and self-doubt as we write, and in this class we will see how exposing our vulnerability allows a songs truth to emerge. Once we understand this, our songs will connect us to ourselves and to other beings in ways we never could have imagined. These new connections inevitably bring us joy. All art is a walk from the known towards the unknown. The uncovering and revealing of emotional truth is a powerful source of transformative beauty, the creation of art. (Mountain Lion Tent)
- Vance Gilbert will offer: Songwriting Through the Eyes of Performance A great song does not by itself get heard. It needs to be performed so that a producer, publisher, record exec, and most importantly your fans can be part of its full impact. It's a "collision course" Vance offers, where performance and songwriting are inextricably intertwined entities. Here's your chance to pick up and hone some skills that will make your song and its presentation shine. Everything from keeping time, arrangement of the song, what key, "getting the guitar out of the way", the cliché police, posture, vocal stuff, even how to approach the stage and plug in the guitar will be examined on the mic in a safe and supportive "open mic-ish" atmosphere. (Eagle Tent backstage)

▶ Bonnie Hayes will offer: A Lyric Generating Class - For some of us, coming up with lyrics is hard work. It can seem like we have a million ideas when we're driving or washing the dishes, but when it's time to songwrite, our minds go blank! In this class, we'll try our hands at several methods of generating lyric ideas, including destination writing, deep diving into your sense memory, random word lists, working from rhyme, alliteration and assonance and "jamming" out lyrics. We'll also discuss some lyric development processes, like writing from a title, finding your true north, and prewriting. (Coyote Tent)

- Haley Heynderickx will offer: All in Good Humor Do you find the subtleties of humor desirable in songwriting? Are you prone to making fun of yourself for being human? If so, you may be in the right mindset to tumble through the weeds of humorous songwriting. We're not talking about belly jiggling or slapstick funny, we're talking "lime in the coconut" funny. What makes a melody humorous? What within rhythm can feel whimsical? What tools can we add in our songwriting to feel more personal and perhaps silly? This class will explore all such questions with the intent of adding more personality to our tunes, no matter the subject at hand. Being naturally funny is not a pre-requisite. However, group participation is. Be prepared to acknowledge your songwriting demons. (Bear Tent)
- Patty Larkin will offer: Style is Everything- This session will take a drive through the multitude of musical styles available to us as songwriters. Bring in a song of yours and a work in progress, and we'll spin the style wheel and see where it lands. There is a lot to be learned by singing a song in another musical style, another voice, even if only for a moment. It can allow you to "hear" the lyrics in a fresh light, leading to new interpretations and inspiration. Guitarists: bring a tuner and a capo. Singers: bring a percussion instrument. (Trout Tent)
- ➤ Cara Luft will offer: Let Your Song Speak There is no "right" way to write a song, but there are tools and tips we can explore that can help bring a song to life. We'll examine the beauty and power of rhythm, rhyme, structure, chord voicing, melody and its interaction with the lyric, and how to incorporate these tools into a song you need to sing. We'll spend time in group discussion while we listen to examples, tackle questions and use collaborative songwriting exercises. We'll talk about the line between the personal and universal, and the value in editing and exploring different options. Students will have the chance to co-write an original song, as well as time to write on their own. Bring paper, your voice, instrument of choice and an open heart. Oh, and we'll also have loads of fun:) (Spider Tent)
- ➤ Clare McLeod will offer: Your Voice: A Guided Tour Your sound is the result of a dynamic process in which several parts of your body interact. In this session, you'll develop your understanding of the structures that make up the quality of your voice and strengthen both your consistency and versatility. Operating from a thorough understanding of how the voice works, Clare will help you deepen your connection to your instrument, your material and your audience. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- → † PLEASE NOTE: Pat Pattison will offer a Songwriting Master Class This class will have twelve students pre-selected ahead of time. All students are welcome to observe the process. (Blue Heron Tent)

From that dreamy/stream of consciousness place. That part of songwriting is super important to the process. Rewriting involves considering what you've already written and in many ways is a lot more tedious. In this class we will examine all types of rewriting. Are you rewriting because the content is not serving the moment in the song, or is the problem the tone of how you put forth your idea? We'll also look at how to know when a song is done and the wisdom of sticking to the task versus putting a song away for a while and giving it a rest. In the first part of the class, I will use some of my own songs to illustrate rewriting techniques, showing what I had, what I changed it to and why. In the 2nd part we will take a look at some participant songs we started in the Monday class to see what parts might benefit from a little rewriting. (Hummingbird Tent)

9:30 - 12:00 Mentoring Sessions – Judith Wade (backstage campground along river), others TBA

12:00 - 1:30 Lunch Break - please read below!

All Song Schoolers without on-site festival vehicle passes must move their vehicles out of the campground parking area to the designated Song School parking area at the Planet Bluegrass Farm. Turn right at exit and go ½ mile past Apple Valley Road to Farm entrance on left. It's a short walk back over the bridge and to the grounds!

1:30 - 3:00 Electives

- 1) **Directed Writing Songsharing with Paul Reisler** In this final session, participants will perform material gleaned from the morning songwriting sessions. This session goes until 4:30pm if necessary. (Mountain Lion Tent)
- 2) **Harmony Singing -** Come experience for yourself the fun and unique qualities of singing with others in harmony and learn how to capture the essence of a song with your voice. You will learn listening techniques, how to sing better lines while picking up some vocal techniques and exercises along the way. Join Cara Luft and JD Edwards for a fun and empowering experience! Everything is taught by ear and learned as a group. (Spider Tent)
- 3) Advanced Vance 301 It's time. You're a seasoned performer or you've done a performance class with Vance, Amy Speace, or Kathy Mattea. Great! Now let's string 2-3 songs together in an effective "set" and look at pacing, keys, time signature and subject material. We'll look at the shape of the performance, patter, and what makes you and your thing most effective: *Note class is open to all, but participation requires a minimum 10 15 minute commitment. Presented by Vance Gilbert. (Eagle Tent)
- 4) **Finding Melody In Your Surroundings -** In this session with Bonnie Paine, we will open our ears to the sounds around us and explore how those can be woven together to form melodies that people can relate to. As humans we often forget that there are many forms of communicating besides the words spoken out of human mouths. This will be a time to listen for tones that may resonate in certain spaces, a time to consider in what ways everything is expressing it's part of an existence that we all stem from and how music can be drawn from that. (Bear Tent)

5) **Arranging a Cappella Vocals** - Bring your new songs or old songs and we will do them a cappella, creating harmony lines and rhythmic lines in set and improvised arrangements. Presented by Ysaye Barnwell. (Coyote Tent)

- 6) You Can Play and Teach the Ukelele The uke is a gateway instrument. Easy to play and so affordable. In this workshop with Bill McGinnis, participants will learn a simple and effective lesson plan which they can share in their own communities. Bill has used this lesson plan to teach basic ukulele to groups and individuals in schools, libraries, churches and anywhere people have a desire to make music. If you don't have a uke, no worries, there will be several on hand but participants are encouraged to bring their own if possible. Even if you have never played the uke before you will emerge from this workshop with the skills needed to teach it, (so long as you have basic guitar skills). You too can become a kumu ukulele (ukulele teacher). Mahalo Aloha! (Lizard Tent)
- This interactive workshop with Justin Roth will demonstrate techniques to add color and character to your guitar parts to make them more compelling and dynamic. Your guitar parts do not need to be complicated in order to be interesting. However, your guitar can be more than just a harmonic backdrop for your songs; it can have a voice, and authority, all its own! We'll look at right-hand techniques to add melodic lines to your chord changes, percussive techniques and tone/timbre variations to create contrast and make your songs come alive. By working within your individual level of guitar playing and expanding upon what you're already doing, we'll explore ways to complement your songs, without complicating them. Don't tell anyone I said this, but you can even do it without partial capos or altered tunings! All levels are welcome in the class because using these techniques effectively starts with learning how to **listen** for what's missing, or what's getting in the way. (Trout Tent)
- 8) **Performance Session 4 The Show: Putting It Together** Now that we know what we are trying to DO (The Technique) and who we ARE (Essence), we deal with the show. First, we tackle banter. When is it necessary and when is it just nervous babble that takes us (and our audience) out of the connection? Then, we tackle the arc of the set as an extension of the narrative of the songs and the performer and how to order songs for each set. And how your knowledge of the work we did on Day 1-3 can help you make choices of your banter and song choice; even which songs to cover. (Wildflower Pavilion)

"No one can realize how substantial the air is, until he feels its supporting power beneath him. It inspires confidence at once."

— Otto Lilienthal

9) Takin' Care of Business: Setting Up For Success in the Music Business - Question: Do you know the secret of how to end up with a million dollars in the music industry? Start with 2 million dollars! Unless we already have a couple million in the bank, independent artists and songwriters need to make sure we are on top of the business aspects of our recording, songwriting and performing activities. This workshop -- hosted by two touring songwriters and recording artists, attorney Mark Monroe Gibson and Access Film Music's "Chicago" Mike Beck - will take participants through a check-list and review of critical business infrastructure for every performance / recording / songwriting career, including the setup, structure and form of your business, an inventory of intellectual property assets (copyrights and trademarks), and possible regulatory requirements. It will also include a discussion of important considerations for various common music industry contracts, music publishing matters, licensing music to film / tv / video games / advertising, trademarks, how to get your royalties from performance rights organizations (PROs) like ASCAP, BMI, SoundExchange, and more. Presented by Mark Monroe Gibson and "Chicago" Mike Beck (Blue Heron Tent)

10) **Mentoring Sessions** – see sign-ups in Blue Heron Tent

3:15 - 4:30 Electives

- 1) **Directed Writing Songsharing with Paul Reisler (continued)** In this final session, participants will perform material gleaned from the morning songwriting sessions. This session goes until 4:30pm as necessary. (Mountain Lion Tent)
- 2) Music, Movies, Money: How To Make The Movie Business Work For Your Music Most independent recording artists are seeking opportunities to expose their music to a wider audience and are eager to earn money with their music. Having your music included in a popular film, television series, video game or new media outlet can serve both these goals, and it's not as far out of reach as you might expect. This workshop "Music, Movies & Money" will show you how to make the movie, television and video game industries work for you and your music. Benefits include increased revenue, new promotion and exposure opportunities, connections with new audiences, prestige and more. This workshop will unveil the process behind the scenes, and show you several paths to bring your music to the big screen. Presented by Mike Beck (Blue Heron Tent)
- 3) **Fingerpicking Good!** Whether you've never fingerpicked before, or feel you've plateaued in your guitar playing, this interactive workshop with Justin Roth will teach you why and how to incorporate fingerpicking into your box of tools. We will cover multiple fingerpicking patterns and other important basic techniques to help you to either begin, or to improve, your fingerpicking and gain finger independence, control and clarity. This workshop is open to all levels, beginner-advanced. (Trout Tent)

School of Rock for Folkies - With voices and instruments working together in a group context, participants will acquire the "tools" necessary for bringing a song to life. Does that sound like fun or what!? Come prepared to rock out folk-style (i.e. taking rock songs and folkin' them up!). If you sing (untrained more or less) and/or play an instrument (beyond the beginner stage), then this class is for you. Some of those "tools" mentioned will include: how to learn and arrange a song as a group, dynamics within a song, blending instruments, listening to each other, knowing when to play simply and when to step it up, how to play in support of the vocalist or soloist, and how to get out of the way and let the song speak. If time allows, we will also explore how to do tasteful fills, how to sing in harmony, and performance techniques. Any acoustic instrument is welcome and don't forget about the voice! Come prepared to have fun! Presented by Cara Luft and JD Edwards. (Spider Tent)

- 5) **Rap Up and Exploring the Possible** Bring us your question about the Music Business, Living a Creative Life, or anything you learned this week and are wondering about. A chance to process and collaborate. There are no dumb questions. Presented by Amy Speace and Mary Gauthier. (Lizard Tent)
- 6) We Are The Changemakers: Songs Turned Movement Turn your live show into a radical experience in the hearts of your fans. Music is an essential tool to social justice movements. Whether at a 20 person house concert or at a festival of 2000, your live show can be an experiential catalyst for change. In this workshop, award-winning songwriter and radical social justice activist, Heather Mae, will show you how to use your songs and authentic presence to transform your fan's concert experience to inspire empathy and breed action in their own communities. Whether your focus is LGBTQ+ rights, Black Lives Matter, or body positivity: when words fail, music speaks...loudly. (Eagle Tent)
- 7) **Fill Your Cup: Toning Workshop** This workshop with Rebecca Folsom will have a leaning towards vocal toning, releasing and relaxation. The voice is the barometer of the soul, and the instrument is you. Training your whole being to be awake, at ease, and working in synchronicity you gain access to your own authentic, balanced, passionate voice. We will practice a very unique blend of traditional and non-traditional vocal technique, martial arts, yogic posture, Toltec and Taoist exercises. Together we will embody agile, grounded vocal resonance, and culminate toning and harmonizing together. (Wildflower Pavilion)

Inversions and Arpeggios - Why do guitarists learn scale patterns anyway? In Part 2 of Cracking the Code, we will explore applications for writing and arranging with scales and triads, based on our knowledge from Part 1 of the class. First, we will gently learn the fundamentals of *chord inversions*, easily unlocking the upper regions of the fretboard, where you'll be able to play the chords you already know in different ways and in different places. We will discover how triads "overlap" *across* the neck of the guitar, which will help us see how triads are fundamentally connected to scale shapes in specific regions around the guitar neck. We will learn new arrangement techniques with *arpeggios*, by simply playing triads notes one at a time in different patterns. We will apply our new skills by playing along with some simple chord progressions from familiar songs. By creating your own geography of the neck with scales, triads and arpeggios you can discover the Grand Unified Field Theory of guitar! I hope this course will help you expand your versatility and creativity in writing, arranging and embellishing your songs. Presented by John Linn. (Coyote Tent)

- 9) **Home Recording for the Technophobe -** From the iPhone to Pro Tools, getting the music down is essential, whether it's capturing the moment, or recording a CD. When I built my first home studio I didn't know how to turn on a computer. Seriously. I am basically a Technophobe who has been producing records, recording basic tracks and overdubs in my own studio for over twenty years. Information on gear, low key recording techniques, recording project management. Presented by Patty Larkin. (Bear Tent)
- 10) Mentoring Sessions See sign-ups in Blue Heron Tent

4:45 - 5:15 Song School Closing

Our final session brings us all back together for a final community gathering led by Ysaye Barnwell in the Wildflower Pavilion.

6:00 - 7:30 Song School BBQ and Mercantile

The BBQ's are open to all Song School participants and their registered guests only. Head Chef: Markus Chesla. **Please reuse and compost everything!** (Backstage)

• Instructors and students will have books and CD's for sale backstage during the BBQ.

7:30 Open Stage

Confirm your day and time posted in Blue Heron Tent. (Wildflower Pavilion)