

# 47<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL WOMEN'S

**RAINBOW GIRLS** \* **HOLLY NEAR** \* **MELBA'S KITCHEN** \* **BE STEADWELL**  
MISS BROWN \* NAN WASHBURN & THE NWMF ORCHESTRA \* RUTH KING \*  
JESSE POWERS \* TO YOU \* RANI BIFFLE-QUIMBA & THE DRUM CHORUS \* JULES TAYLOR \*  
RENEE JANSKI & THE NWMF CHORUS \* JORI COSTELLO & THE UKULELE CHORUS \* SKANKS \*  
BONNIE MORRIS \* DIANNE DAVIDSON \* INDIGIE FEMME \* TAMMY L. HALL \* JANELL BANKS \*  
ATTA \*  
GONZALEZ \* SONiA disappear fear \* DEIDRE MCCALLA \*

# MUSIC FESTIVAL

JULY 6<sup>TH</sup> - 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

MADISON MARRIOTT WEST HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER  
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# Welcome to the 47th Annual National Women's Music Festival

It is my great honor to Welcome everyone to this year's amazing Festival!! I want to especially thank the WIA/NWMF Board of Directors, Producers and all of our crew and volunteers who are here today for all your hard work and passion...this is a labor of love.

As always, our 2023 Festival will continue our long herstory of celebrating and building a community of women who come together to share our talents, our stories, our energies, and our knowledge – all while enjoying amazing music, art, and laughter! For these few days, we create a safe space together to simply be ourselves in all of our rainbow diversity...and support each other where we are.

## A Big Thanks to Kate Peterson

Kate Peterson has created the logo for this year's Festival and Kate, you have knocked it out of the park AGAIN! Thank you so much for your willingness to share your creativity with all of us...great job on the cover design for the program too. Attendees - make sure you check out the Festival t-shirts and get one before we run out in the Marketplace!

## Congratulations to Our Very Own – Linda Wilson

A shout out to our Board VP and NWMF Producer/Stage Production Manager, Linda Wilson, who will be receiving OLOC's 2023 Del Martin-Phyllis Lyon Old Lesbian Pride Award in Tempe, AZ this November. The OLOC Steering Committee noted "Linda has been at the forefront of women's music and culture and continues to provide the soundtrack for countless Lesbians, old and young." We couldn't agree more – when you see Linda whizzing by on her Festival scooter, please give her a shout out!

## We Can't Do This Without Our Interpreter Crew

Thank you to Sunny Pffifferling-Irons, Interpreter Coordinator, and your amazing interpreters for the powerful work you do throughout the Festival! I know this is a Labor of Love and a passion for everyone on your team...your efforts help the Festival to be more accessible for us all...THANK YOU for your support all these years.

## Honoring the Passing of Two of Our Greats

Since we were last together, we lost two women who were integral parts of our Festival family – Wahru Cleveland and Arden Eversmeyer. Wahru was our NWMF Women's Drum Chorus Director and Coordinator for MultiCultural/Women of Color (MC/WoC) activities for years – I called her "the drumbeat of our Festival." And many of you may have spoken to Arden over the years as she continued her quest to capture our life stories for her Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project (OLOHP). Please check out the Festival schedule and join us for a Celebration of Wahru at the MC/WoC event Saturday at 4:30p – and witness Barb Kucharczyk's two showings of the video produced for Arden's virtual memorial service. We profoundly miss them both.

**Other Highlights for This Year** (check the schedule for more details) You have four opportunities to hear **Holly Near** this year – Friday she is our featured Keynote speaker and doing a workshop on her new archival website *Because of a Song* - join her for Singing in the Atrium Saturday at 8:30am - and performing onstage Saturday night!!

**Marketplace** is HOPPING this year – vendors, music/comedy/open mic/jams on the Living Stage, Festiware, even Grab & Go lunch... check it out DAILY.

**Live Auction** – new time Saturday 11:30a-12:30p on the Spotlight Stage and you DO NOT want to miss this – grab your lunch and join us...we have lots of SURPRISES.

**We have ways to move you** – Tai Chi, Chi Gong, Low Impact Line Dancing is back, Chair Yoga, DJ Dance and much more.

**Singles and Solos** – check out the schedule for Drop-In and Dine-Out options and several workshops geared just for you. So glad you have joined us!

Confused about **Where the Rooms Are?** Check out the Festival map in the back of this Program to get your bearings!

## We Need Your Help

As always, we are actively looking for women who love NWMF and want to see it continue and grow! The Board is looking for someone who can help us with our financial planning, budgeting, and accounting needs for our non-profit...an important aspect of our commitment to financial health for our festivals going forward. If you have experience in these areas and know non-profits, I would love to talk with you. Contact me, Terri at wianwmf.president@gmail.com

## Thank You to Our Many Contributors

These days, there aren't many places where you can explore so many aspects of women's music and culture; learn from like-minded women; and meet women whose experiences are unlike yours – all in one place. We know there are so many causes and organizations out there who are asking for your support – check out the Contributors Page for several ways you can support WIA/NWMF as we build towards our 50th Annual Festival in 2026.

## Have a wonderful Festival...and welcome back!

Terri Worman

President of the Board

Women in the Arts/National Women's Music Festival, Inc

## Table of Contents

WIA Board President Welcome Letter .....	3
WIA Board of Directors and Staff .....	4
Festival Information .....	5
Contributors .....	6
Thursday Schedule/Workshops .....	7
Friday Schedule/Workshops .....	9
Saturday Schedule/Workshops .....	13
Sunday Schedule/Workshops .....	17
Women in the Arts Awards .....	18
Artist Profiles .....	21
Orchestra Program & Profiles .....	27
Gardner-Watkins Recitals .....	31
Workshop Presenter Profiles .....	32
Marketplace .....	36
Marketplace Map .....	37
Marriott Hotel & Conference Center Map ....	38

# *It Takes A Village to Produce a Festival*

## **Women in the Arts Board of Directors**

Terri Worman, President ..... Chicago IL  
Linda Wilson, Vice-President ..... N. Fort Myers FL  
Leslie D. Judd, Treasurer ..... Phoenix AZ  
Mary Spillane, Secretary ..... Omaha NE  
Helen H Yee, Director..... Columbus OH  
Lisa Ferraro, Director..... Columbus OH

## **Festival Staff and Coordinators**

12 Step Coordinator - Wendy Ripnow - WI  
Accessibility Coordinator - Rosie Kae - WI  
Artist Liaisons - PJ Matthews - AR, Jules Taylor - AR  
Auction Coordinator - Tess Imholt - FL  
Auction Procurement - Lois McGuinness - FL  
Auctioneer - Diana Cook - IN  
Auctioneer Assistant - Sandy Appleby - IN  
Community Housing - Terri Worman - IL  
Day Programming Producer - Mary Spillane - NE  
Dine With the Artist Coordinator - Lisa Ferraro - OH  
Emerging Artists Coordinators - Lisa Ferraro - OH, Helen Yee - OH  
Festival Artwork - Kate Peterson - MI  
Festi-wear Coordinator - Carol Vitelli - FL  
Film Festival Coordinator - Bettie Owen - CA  
Interpreter Coordinator - Sunny Pfifferling-Irons - IN  
Hotel Liaison Pre-festival - Leslie D. Judd - AZ  
Hotel Liaison (On-Site) - Ellen Dugger - MO  
Marketplace Coordinator - Maria Nasca - IL  
MultiCultural/Women of Color (MC/WoC) Coord. - Helen H Yee - OH  
Orchestra Co-Producer - Leslie D. Judd - AZ  
Orchestra Co-Producer, Logistics Manager - Kaia Skaggs - MI  
Orchestra Atrium Recitals Pre-Site Coordinator, Logistics Assistant - Sarah Gillespie - WI  
Orchestra Atrium Recitals Site Coordinators & Hosts - Emmy Rozanski - WI, Allison Schweitzer - WI  
Orchestra Editing and Proofing - Susanne DiVincenzo - CA  
Orchestra Artist Procurement - Alexis Carreon - WI  
Package Concierge - Marilyn Krump - WI  
Performer Care Coordinator - Deb Hall - PA  
Performer Care Staff - Cookie Gibbs - PA, JoAnne Mills - FL, Jo Ellen Vogt - FL, Sue Ebetsch - IL, Lori Reardon - IL, Kim Patience - FL, Cherie Glascock - WI, Rachael Whitehead - WI  
Pet Registration Coordinator - Joelle Holt - AR  
Photographers - Janice Rickert - IN, Carolyn VandeWiele - IN  
Piano Tuner - Rachel Alexander - MI  
Program Design - Linda Wilson - FL  
Program Editors - Mary Spillane - NE, Terri Worman - IL  
Red Tent Clan - Rain Gaia - WI, Holin Blackmoon - WI, Harvest Brown - WI, FireHawk Stewart - WI, Renee Cranesister - WI, Mildred Olsen - WI  
Registration Coordinator - Gail Fairfield - IN  
Registration Asst. Coordinators - Raven Girgen - MN, Kay Ediger - KS  
Room of Remembrance Coordinator - Sara Karon - WI  
Transportation - Bonnie Zwiebel - WI  
Video Manager - Jessica Whalen - AR  
Videographers - Alex Thompson - MO, Kim Blackhorse - WI, Genny Johnson - CO, Starla Lee - MN  
Volunteers/Work Exchange Pre-Fest - Mary Spillane - NE  
Volunteers/Work Exchange On-Site - Kelli Sander - IL  
Whova Coordinator - Joelle Holt - AR  
Workshop Coordinator (On-Site) - Terri Worman - IL

## **Festival Stages**

Producer/Production Manager - Linda Wilson - FL

## **SheRocks Stage**

Stage Manager - Linda Wilson - FL  
Assistant to Stage Manager - Melodie Griffis - AR  
Sound Engineer - Colleen Clark - MD  
Lighting Engineer - Root Choyce - TX  
Sound/Stage Crew - Sondra Bolte - IN, Ronda Jean - AR  
Janis Kidder - FL, Tanis Clark - WI  
House Manager - Mary Spillane - NE  
Asst. House Manager - Judy Carroll - NE

## **SpotLight Stage**

Stage Manager - Retts Scauzillo - NY  
Sound Engineer - Suzanna Mallow - MD  
Lighting Engineer - Carol Branson - MO  
Sound/Stage Crew - Lynn O'Dell - MO, Pamela Hess - KS  
House Manager - Elizabeth Andersen - KS

## **Living Room**

Host - Nancy Scott - TX  
Sound Engineer - Paula 'PJ' Jellis - MI

**SheRocks Side Stage Sound Engineer** - Kaia Skaggs - MI

## **Work Exchange and Volunteers**

Adlai Neubauer OH	Karen Grigsby NE
Angela Stiverson IN	Karen Milstein WI
Angela Martin WI	Kathleen Severt FL
Barbara Chusid WI	Linda Herzberg SD
Barbara Lea FL	Linda Spencer FL
Barbara Sherwood NY	Lisa Dawn FL
Barbara Sturrock ONT CA	Luanne Offenbacher KY
Becky Rathke MN	Lucia Dryanski IA
Becky Whitney FL	Marcey Goldstein IL
Bobbi Weinstock FL	Marge Keller FL
Brianna Miller OH	Marsha Tiffany OH
Carol Rand OH	Marti Nerenstone IA
Carol Hwang CT	Megan Calders NY
Cathy Banks FL	Michelle Erschen WI
Charlotte Ellis MO	Nancy Maloy NY
Christine Powers IA	Nancy Greenwald WI
Cindy Redman FL	Pamela Henry MD
Colleen Riley KS	Patricia Lopes IN
Cynthia Pulham FL	Patti Kardia MI
Dayna Foster FL	Peggy Finnegan WI
Deb Solheim IL	Petrovnia Charles WI
Deborah Ridgeway NM	Robin Starch MN
Diane Silver KS	Sandra Zingler WI
Donna Del Sordo FL	Sara Fleming FL
Eileen Hamper CA	Seasi Ober MO
Ellie Hall IL	Sharron Park IN
Emily Oakley WI	Su Penn MI
Gabrielle Freedom FL	Sue Schnitzer AZ
Jaime Palma WI	Sue Peterson IL
Janet Stewart OH	Suzanne Grey
Jeanne Trifone FL	Thistle Pettersen WI
Jill Christianson MD	Tina Horth NY
Joanna Pallos OH	
Judy Brandt WI	
Julie Sherwood WI	

# Festival Information

## 12-Step Meetings

An AA/NA Meeting will be held daily - Thurs 2pm in Amoja; Fri 2pm in Bernice; and Sat 1pm in Amoja. If you need additional support or information, stop at the Accessibility Desk in the Festival Registration area.

## Accessibility

No flash photography. Flashes can be a serious health hazard for some people. Many people today have developed chemical sensitivities. Please respect that the air is a common resource and chemicals can make some sick. Use unscented and safer personal care products and do not use perfumes and essential oils while in the hotel and conference area. If you are a person with chemical sensitivity, please use gentle communication techniques to work together to solve problems. ASL interpreters for workshops will be provided on request to the fullest extent possible. Submit your requests at the Accessibility Desk. Please allow two hours advanced notice for filling requests.

## NWMF Gardner & Watkins Composers Recitals

Recitals will be held in the Atrium and include soloists and ensembles performing an array of original and classic women composers. These are scheduled this year mid-mornings to early evenings on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Check the placards in the Atrium and specific artists scheduled below the Orchestra in this program and join us for amazing music and talent.

## Auctions

The Silent Auction will be open to accept donated items at 9am daily. You can pick up your winning bidded items from and will not be open during the evening concerts. Come get a bid number. This bid number will be used for both the Silent and Live Auctions.

### Silent Auction Hours

Thursday 10am-7pm

Friday 9am-7pm

Saturday 9am-Closes at 2pm - **All Bids Final**

You can pickup your winning bids items from 3-7pm in the Auction Room, which will not be open during evening concerts.

Live Auction items can be previewed in the Silent Auction Room.

**Live Auction - Saturday at 11:30am on the Spotlight Stage**

## Service Dog/Pets Policy

We want the National Women's Music Festival to be a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. When bringing your pet or service animal to the festival, please remember that not everyone is a pet lover. Some people have a fear of dogs. Others may have allergies to specific pets. We welcome our four-legged friends and ask owners of all pets to register their pet with our Pet Coordinator in the Festival Registration area. NOTE: Non-pet owners – please ask permission before approaching or petting a pet or service animal. Festival Policy: If any dog, including a service dog, exhibits behavior that is disruptive to others, such as barking, whining, jumping, urinating indoors, or snapping, the owner is required to bring the dog under control immediately. This also goes for any other pet's behavior that may be considered disruptive to others. If your pet or service animal's behavior continues, the owner must remove the animal from the setting for the duration of the concert, workshop, meeting, etc. Full Pet policy is at [nwmf.info/festival-info/#Pet-Policy](http://nwmf.info/festival-info/#Pet-Policy)

## Emerging Artist Contest!

For the past 45 years, Women in the Arts has hosted a contest to encourage and support emerging female artists. Three contestants

will be performing throughout the week – and You, our wonderful Festival audience, will have an opportunity to vote for your favorite emerging artist and help us select the winner! The artist with the most votes gets to return in 2024, all expenses paid, to perform an entire set on the SheRocks stage. Thank you for participating and good luck to all our contestants!

## Festival Choruses

We have three festival-long workshops which end with the participants performing on the SheRocks stage on Sunday morning: the Women's Drum Chorus, directed by Rani Biffle-Quimba; the Women's Ukulele Chorus directed by Jori Costello; and the Women's Vocal Chorus directed by Renée Janski. See Workshop Schedules for more information.

## Meals at the Marriott

If you are wearing a festival wristband, you are eligible for the Marriott breakfast buffet in the Atrium at the price of \$9.00, good Thurs-Sun. If you paid for a room that includes breakfast for two, you will receive breakfast tickets when you check in at the hotel front desk. The Atrium is reserved for Festival attendees to network, share meals, and enjoy recital performances. New this year---A grab & go lunch will be available daily from 11:00-1:30 in the Marketplace. Enjoy a bit of shopping and open mic performances with your lunch! A dinner buffet will be available as well – watch for announcements each day.

## MultiCultural/Women of Color Series

The MultiCultural/Women of Color Series focuses on inclusivity, inviting multicultural women, women of color, their friends, allies, and partners to come together in a series celebrating diversity through listening to, participating in, and supporting each other's unique talents and gifts. Everyone is welcome to participate and experience women's music from the diverse perspectives of our rich cultural heritages.

## MultiCultural Women and Women of Color Reception and Celebration

All women are invited to join their sisters of color on Saturday starting at 4:30pm in Everywoman for our "Celebration of Wahru." Join the celebration and conversation as we share our memories of our friend and visionary, Wahru Cleveland. Let's talk, make new friends, celebrate women of color – and continue Wahru's vision of "sisterly persistence for social justice." Dinner may be purchased from the Hotel dinner buffet and drinks are available for purchase at the bar. All food and drink may be brought into the reception area. There will be an Open Mic so sign-up when you get there.

## Living Room Stage in the Marketplace

Join Nancy Scott for Open Mics and Jams daily and after the SheRocks concerts. Laugh along with Jules Taylor for Comedy Improv and join Helen H Yee for Tai Chi and Chi Gong sessions. Check the daily schedule in The Living Room – a place to hang out, relax and enjoy.

## Singing in the Atrium

Please join **Holly Near** as she leads us in raising our voices to "*Singing for Our Lives*" on Saturday morning at 8:30. You can pick up a copy of the lyrics at the Festival Registration desk.

**Save the Date June 20–23, 2024**  
**48th National Women's Music Festival**

## WIA/NWMF Contributors

**We value everyone's currency of exchange, be it time, expertise, or money. The Festival exists and persists because of everyone who attends and contributes in any way. We are grateful for your support.**

**Donations received June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023**

Alex Thompson  
Alexis Carreon  
Anonymous  
Arden Eversmeyer & Barbara Kucharczyk  
CA Keith  
Carol Vitelli  
Carolyn Muska  
Cynthia Fulton  
Denise Breard  
Eileen Hamper  
Gaye Pitchford  
Ginger McGovern  
Helen H Yee  
Houston Family Foundation  
Jane Russell & Christine Moranda

Janice Rickert & Carolyn VandeWiele  
Jill Marcus  
Joelle Holt  
Lara Straughan  
Leslie D. Judd  
Linda Bernhard  
Linda Wilson & Barbara Lea  
Lisa Ferraro  
Margaret Keefe  
Margie Adam  
Mariamne H. Whatley  
Marilyn Krump  
Mary Ciner  
Mary Speegle  
Mary Spillane & Judy Carroll

Melanie Collins  
Nan Washburn & Catherine Byrd  
Nancy Ann Worcester  
Nancy Schraufnagel  
Nancy Scott  
Patricia Kardia  
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Ruth Clark  
Sue Denis & Pam Smith  
Sue Goldwomon  
Susan Burton  
Susan Higgins  
Terri Worman & Paula Basta  
Virginia J. Link  
Your Inner Vision

### Support Women in the Arts, Inc., Producers of the National Women's Music Festival

#### Your "Will" Can Provide A Legacy for the Future of Women's Culture

Making a gift to WIA/NWMF in your will is a simple way to support the festival and leave a legacy for women in the future. Please consult your attorney to write or update your will and use the following information:

Women in the Arts/National Women's Music Festival, is a nonprofit corporation, operating under the laws of the State of Indiana, with a principal address of PO Box 5211, Evanston IL, 60204. Federal ID# 31-1053482; not-for profit registration # NFP 731202-04

#### Help Us Keep WIA/NWMF Going Strong

Did you know we will be celebrating our 50th Annual Festival in 2026?! Your contribution of any kind - monthly, annually or one-time - will help us continue to support women's music and culture for years to come!



Give today at [donorbox.org/wia-nwmf-general-donation](https://donorbox.org/wia-nwmf-general-donation) or use this QR code

#### WIA/NWMF Zoom Concerts/Open Mics



Did you know you can hear short performances by some of NEXT year's performers at our Zoom Concerts/Open Mics starting this October through June 2024 - and maybe highlight your own talent? All from the comfort of your own home? WIA members get to attend FREE!

Become a Member today at  
[donorbox.org/wia-nwmf-inc-annual-membership](https://donorbox.org/wia-nwmf-inc-annual-membership) or use this QR code

## Save the Date

48th Annual  
National Women's  
Music Festival  
NWMF.info

June 20-23  
2024



# Thursday Schedule

(Key: Time-Event-Room) All Stage Houses open 1/2 hour prior to start of stage (unless otherwise stated)  
Names in parentheses throughout the program are the names of the interpreters for the Deaf.

6:30-10am - Breakfast ..... Atrium  
9a-7:30p - Registration Open ..... Conference Center Lobby  
10a - Silent Auction Room Open ..... Mendota  
11a-2:30p - Recitals ..... (See Recital Schedule)  
11a-1p - Lunch Buffet ..... Atrium  
12noon - Marketplace Opens ..... Michigan  
1-4p - Red Tent Open ..... Cris  
1-5p - Room of Remembrance Open ..... Marty  
1-5p - Living Room Stage..... Marketplace/Michigan  
**1pm - Tai Chi/Chi Gong - Helen Yee**  
**2-3:30p - Nancy Scott hosts the Emerging Artists**  
*Kat Zel, Backyard Betties & Regina Sayles*  
**4p - Comedy Improv - Jules Taylor**  
1-5p - Workshops & Film Series ..... (See Workshop Schedule)  
1-2:50p - NWMF Women's Chorus ..... Lucie  
2-2:50p - Beginning Hand Drum with Rani ..... Wahru  
2-2:50p - 12-Step Meeting ..... Amoja  
2-3:30p - Jam with Nancy Scott & Emerging Artists .... Living Room  
4-6p - Recitals ..... (See Recital Schedule)

5-7p - Dinner Buffet ..... Atrium  
6:30p - SheRocks Stage - House Open ..... Superior  
**6:55p - Opening Ceremony (Jenny McKitrick)**  
**7p - One Fine Day - A Film by Kay Weaver**  
*(Jenny McKitrick)*  
**7:10p - Indigie Femme (Laura Kolb)**  
**8:10p - Mimi Gonzalez (Emily Kimmel-Kurtz)**  
**9:00p - INTERMISSION**  
**9:10p - Side Stage - Kat Zel (Natasha Escalada-Westland)**  
**9:20p - Ruth King (Jenny McKitrick)**  
10:25p - Open Mic with Nancy Scott ..... Living Room  
Open Mic and/or Open Jam. Artists and attendees meet and play together. Storytellers and comedians are welcome to join. A place

## Staying at the Madison Marriott West Hotel?

The number of sleeping rooms used by the Festival attendees plays a crucial role in setting the costs to both you and the Festival. The more rooms used by festival-goers, the cheaper the rooms. But if we overestimate our room needs, we pay a penalty. Help us know the actual number of rooms used by women at the Festival this year.

Tell us the following:

1. Your Marriott hotel room number
2. Your check-in date and how many nights you're staying in the Marriott Madison West
3. The names of any roommates sharing your room at the Marriott.

If you didn't tell us these 3 things when you checked in, please stop by Festival Registration to let us know. If your plans change mid-Festival (stay longer, stay shorter, change roommates, etc) please let us know.

## LIVE AUCTION

**Saturday 11:30 - 12:30**  
**Spotlight Stage**

WONDERFUL TRIPS & ITEMS TO BID ON!

All Live Auction items can be previewed  
in the Silent Auction Room

# Whova

**Got a question about the festival?**

**Check the Whova App**

Artists	Auctions
Show Times	Meals
Workshops	Open Mics
Marketplace	Drumming

**It's like having a  
festival program on  
your phone!**

If you didn't receive the invitation from us, go to your app store and download the Whova App. After downloading, create an account.

## Thursday Workshops

### 1:00-4:00p Red Tent Clan The Red Tent

Cris

The Red Tent offers a safe space where women come together for a variety of experiences and conversations. The Red Tent is open for relaxation, conversation, and meditation.

### 1:00-4:00p Holin Blackmoon Mother's Wisdom - Divination for Women in The Red Tent

Cris

Divination is an ancient skill practiced by women for millennia, a tool that can offer us a window into the flow of our lives. Knowing that flow, we can make choices that empower us as women. As a service for women at the festival, 20-minute tarot readings will be offered in the Red Tent throughout the weekend at no charge. A sign-up sheet will be available or simply drop by. Come with a question in mind and an open heart.

### 1:00-4:00p FireHawk Stewart Hand Massage, Relax and Rejuvenate

Cris

Energy points in our hands connect to every part of our bodies. A hand massage can be more than just relaxing. Come to the Red Tent and sign up for a 10-minute hand massage. Treat yourself to a little luxury.

### 1:00-2:50p Renée Janski NWMF Women's Chorus

Lucie

Singers! Join me, Renée Janski, for women's chorus this year! We will be doing some of our greatest hits from our last 6 years together as well as new favorites and a number with the ukulele chorus for our Sunday performance! I can't wait to make music with YOU!

### 1:00-5:00p Sara Karon Room of Remembrance

Marty

The Room of Remembrance is available throughout the Festival. It offers a quiet space for those in mourning to escape the frivolity and hubbub of the Festival and remember our departed loved ones - and for all Festival attendees to honor the lives of those we have lost.

### 2:00-2:50p Harvest Brown Welcome to the Red Tent: Opening Ritual

Cris

Start your festival in the Red Tent. We will come together to recognize and celebrate the bond between women. Today we will raise Goddess energy to bless our sacred space and dedicate the red tent to a place for women to gather, rest, and reenergize.

### 2:00-2:50p Rani Biffle-Quimba Beginning Hand Drum

Wahru

We will go over the basics of hand drumming. Our focus will be hand control; technique for base, tone, slap, and flam; drum etiquette; and how to play in a drum circle.

### 2:00-2:50p Wendy Ripnow 12 Step Meeting

Amoja

An AA/NA meeting being held.

### 2:00-3:20p Be Steadwell Pop Songwriting with Be

Holly

Singing together, playing with lyrics, writing our own tiny songs. NO experience needed.

### 2:00-3:30p Nancy Scott Song Swap & Jam

Living Room

Join noted singer-songwriter Nancy Scott and the 2023 emerging artist contestants in the Marketplace to meet other musicians for a song swap in a safe and welcoming space. Bring your voices and/or your instruments... guitars, fiddles, drums, etc. Listeners welcome.

### 2-3:50p Lance Link & Pat Calchina Taking Care of Business (Part 1): Getting Our End-of-Life Stuff in Order

Gwen

Part 1 of this 3-part workshop presents resources for dealing with emotional, financial, and physical issues facing us in our "golden years." Come share topics of concern, and we will send you home with leads to follow on your own.

### 3:00-3:50p Sally Jeaux, Ordained Priestess & Rev. Boye Set the Intention for Our Festival - Meditation Circle

Amoja

Women are invited to sit in circle to set individual and group intentions for the Festival. Take a moment to come together, be still, let go of our home lives and become present for our weekend together.

### 3:00-3:50p Helen H Yee Let's Talk: What are Microaggressions?

Bernice

Join our conversation as we discuss how to identify and understand microaggressions and exclusionary behaviors as well as how to stop them.

### 3:00-4:50p Film Series FANNY: The Right to Rock

Everywoman

"One of the most important bands that has been buried!" (David Bowie) In the 1960s, two Filipina-American sisters got together with other teenage girls to play music. Their garage band would evolve

into the legendary rock group FANNY, the first all-women band to issue an LP with a major record label. Despite releasing five critically-acclaimed albums over five years, their groundbreaking impact in music was written out of history...until the bandmates reunite 50 years later with a new rock record deal. This film incorporates incredible archival footage of the band's rocking past with interviews with music icons Bonnie Raitt, The Go-Go's Kathy Valentine, The Runaways' Cherie Currie and many others. 96 Minutes. Closed Captioned. After the film: Live streaming Q&A with June Millington of FANNY!

### 3:00-4:50p Jori Costello NWMF Women's Uke Chorus--Tune up and Sing out!

Lucie

This year's theme is Reason to Celebrate! Throughout the festival, we will be learning 3 upbeat and joyful songs celebrating the love of gathering together, the love of good friends, and the love of our 4-legged companions. We will perform on Sunday in turn with the other festival choruses on the main stage! All skill levels welcome, tuners a must, and singing is most definitely encouraged! Practice materials given on site and available online, including mp3s, by emailing: jori@joricostello.com

### 3:00-4:50p Rani Biffle-Quimba Opening Drum and Dance Jam

Wahru

Join Rani for a high-energy start to the Festival!

### 4:00-4:50p Lance Link Singles and Solos Space Drop-In

Gwen

Drop in and hang out. Meet sister Singles and Solos. Rest up between workshops.

## Diana Cook

NWMF Auctioneer

Estate and Appraisal Consultation  
219-763-3741

Ladydi@megsinet.net



# Friday Schedule

(Key: Time-Event-Room) All Stage Houses open 1/2 hour prior to start of stage (unless otherwise stated.)  
Names in parentheses throughout the program are the names of the interpreters for the Deaf.

6:30-10am - Breakfast .....	Atrium	12:30p Spotlight Stage - House Open.....	Wisconsin
9a-7:30p - Registration Open .....	Conference Center Lobby	<b>1p - Jesse Powers</b> ( <i>Laura Kolb</i> )	
9a-7p - Silent Auction Room Open .....	Mendota	<b>2p - Janell Banks</b> ( <i>Isis Dixon</i> )	
9a-5p - Workshops & Film Series .....	See Workshop Schedule	<b>3p - Nancy Day</b> ( <i>Natasha Escalada-Westland</i> )	
9a-5p - Room of Remembrance Open .....	Marty	2-2:50p - 12-Step Meeting .....	Bernice
10a-9p - Marketplace Open .....	Michigan	2-3:50p - NWMF Festival Chorus .....	Lucie
<b>10a - Keynote Address -- Holly Near</b> .....	<b>Superior</b>	2-3:50p - Intermediate/Advanced Hand Drum/Rani .....	Wahru
10:30a-4p - Red Tent Open .....	Cris	4-6p - Recitals (See Recital Schedule).....	Atrium
11a-1p - Lunch in the Living Room .....	Michigan	5-6:30p - Shabbat Service.....	Bernice
11a-1p - Lunch Buffet .....	Atrium	5-7p - Dinner Buffet .....	Atrium
11:30a-1p - Recitals (See Recital Schedule) .....	Atrium	6:30p - <b>SheRocks Stage</b> - House Open .....	Superior
11:30a-5p - Living Room Stage .....	Marketplace/Michigan	<b>7p - Be Steadwell</b> ( <i>Isis Dixon</i> )	
<b>11:30a - Open Mic with Nancy Scott</b>		<b>8p - SONiA disappear fear</b> ( <i>Emily Kimmel-Kurtz</i> )	
<b>12noon - Emerging Artist</b>		<b>9p - INTERMISSION</b>	
<i>Kat Zel, Backyard Betties &amp; Regina Sayles</i>		<b>9:10p - Side Stage - Backyard Betties</b> ( <i>Natasha Escalada-Westland</i> )	
<b>2:30p - Tai Chi/Chi Gong - Helen Yee</b>		<b>9:20p - Dianne Davidson &amp; Band</b> ( <i>Sunny Pfifferling-Irons</i> )	
<b>4p - Comedy Improv - Jules Taylor</b>		10:30 - DJ Dance - Line Dancing - Spotlight Stage - Wisconsin	
12-1:50p - NWMF Uke Chorus .....	Lucie	10:30p - Open Mic with Nancy Scott .....	Michigan

## Friday Workshops

<b>9:00a-5:00p Sara Karon</b>	<b>Marty</b>	a documentary to help get this painful subject out into the light of day after having been suppressed on many levels. Let's tap into our feminine power and discuss this issue!	readings will be offered in the Red Tent throughout the weekend at no charge. A sign-up sheet will be available or simply drop by. Come with a question in mind and an open heart.
<b>Room of Remembrance</b>			
The Room of Remembrance is available throughout the Festival. It offers a quiet space for those in mourning to escape the frivolity and hubbub of the Festival and remember our departed loved ones - and for all Festival attendees to honor the lives of those we have lost.			
<b>9:00-9:50a Eugenia Fernandez</b>	<b>Deidre</b>	<b>9:00-9:50a Renée Janski</b>	<b>Lucie</b>
<b>Low-Impact Line Dancing</b>		<b>Chair Yoga</b>	
Join me for a fun and easy way to move to music. No previous dancing experience is needed. You will have one foot on the floor at all times.		Join Renée for a good morning! Let's improve our mobility and flexibility with chair yoga. All bodies and abilities welcome and safe.	
<b>9:00-9:50a Janalea Hoffman</b>	<b>Holly</b>	<b>10:30a-4:00p Red Tent Clan</b>	<b>Cris</b>
<b>Women Whose Fathers Really Wanted a Boy</b>		<b>The Red Tent</b>	
Many women experienced their Father's and/or Mother's wanting a boy child. In some cases, it was blatantly obvious. In other cases, there were many subtle or unconscious clues. In this workshop, you will have the opportunity to share your own story, hear other stories, and discuss ways to heal and move forward. This has been a difficult subject for many families to discuss. The presenter is working on		The Red Tent offers a safe space where women come together for a variety of experiences and conversations. The Red Tent is open for relaxation, conversation, and meditation.	
		<b>10:30a-4:00p Holin Blackmoon</b>	<b>Cris</b>
		<b>Mother's Wisdom - Divination for Women in The Red Tent</b>	
		Divination is an ancient skill practiced by women for millennia, a tool that can offer us a window into the flow of our lives. Knowing that flow, we can make choices that empower us as women. As a service for women at the festival, 20-minute tarot	
			<b>12:00-12:50p Ruth Landau</b>
			<b>Bernice</b>
			<b>Staging Our Aging</b>
			With the passing of our beloved friend, Esther Fuller, we formed "Esther's Village." What started as a group to discuss "Do you have a will?" has become a vital support system for my wife and me as we navigate our new normal of living with dementia. Come learn how we used COVID to our advantage, certifying our "Villagers" as Personal Care Attendants who are eligible to be paid through a long-term care policy. It's a Win-Win-Win model for how we can provide loving support and employment for one another!

## Friday Workshops

### 12:00-1:20p Toni Armstrong Jr. Amoja Lesbian Vampires to Watch Out For

Vampires (or earlier versions of life-sucking undead creatures) appear in the mythologies of almost every culture. This workshop will trace the history of vampire paradigms in modern literature, with a focus on how female vampires fit in - and have been erased. We'll also highlight major lesbian vampires Carmilla, Gilda, Sterling O'Blivion, and others. Some discussion of important genre movies will be included as well. Bonus: free door prizes!

### 12:00-1:20p Christine Powers Ferron Journal Writing: Enjoy the Journey

Create, reflect, record, connect. Journal writing is different for everyone. It can awaken our feelings and provide insights into problems, help us find clarity in the midst of chaos and crisis. More than a diary, journals serve as a path to self-discovery. Learn the why and "how-tos." Explore resources, lots of takeaways. Prompting exercises make it fun. Share in a safe space. Bring a journal (paper or electronic, whatever works best for you). Presenter will have a few available for purchase.

### 12:00-1:50p Film Series Everywoman Rafiki—BANNED IN KENYA!

A hip tale of first love "reminiscent of the early work of Spike Lee" (Screen Daily) that's "impossible not to celebrate" (Variety). Bursting with the colorful street style and music of Nairobi's vibrant youth culture, Rafiki is a tender love story between two young women in a country that still criminalizes homosexuality. Kena and Ziki have long been told that "good Kenyan girls become good Kenyan wives" - but they yearn for something more. Despite the political rivalry between their families, the girls encourage each other to pursue their dreams in a conservative society. 83 Min. English, Swahili with subtitles.

### 12:00-1:50p Lance Link Gwen Taking Care of Business (Part 2): How Do You Want to Be Remembered?

You are part of "Women's Herstory." How do you want to be remembered? You're the only one who knows what you've accomplished. What do you want others to know about your life's works? Option: Write your own obituary.

### 12:00-1:50p Jori Costello Lucie NWMF Women's Uke Chorus--Tune up and Sing out!

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### 1:00-1:50p Mary Waitrovich Bernice Song Circle for Musicians and Singers

Connect with other musicians. Share songs with an attentive and supportive audience. Perform one song, and we will take a few moments to appreciate it and provide feedback and encouragement. Be inspired by the creativity and passion of women who make music. Listeners welcome.

### 1:00-1:50p Rain Gaia - Red Tent Cris Moon Journal Practice

By establishing a Moon Journal practice, we can remember our original cycling



**WPI Festival On the Land July 25-30**

**MUSIC CAMP FOR WOMEN & GIRLS**

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LEARN/PLAY TAIKO DRUMMING/FRAME DRUM, UKE ENSEMBLE, FUSION ORCHESTRA, WOMEN AND GIRLS ROCK BAND, SINGING, BLUES RIFFING, SCRIPT WRITING, POETRY, SIGNING TO SONGS, ETC.

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## Friday Workshops

selves. We will discuss ways to follow the Moon and Her cyclic energies in support of our physical and mental health.

### 1:00-2:20p Holly Near Deidre Because of A Song

Holly Near will discuss the making of Because of a Song - an historic archival website free to all at [www.becauseofasong.org](http://www.becauseofasong.org). The archive documents a small part of the extraordinary lesbian music that rose out of Oakland, CA and the greater Bay area. Holly will explain how this was conceived and put together, and how women can document women's music history in their own geography...leaving a trail.

### 1:00-2:50p Anne Dornberg Holly Single After Age 50: Information and a Facilitated Discussion

This workshop will discuss the joys and challenges of living as a single lesbian or bisexual woman. The presenter will facilitate an open discussion about how we - and our broader culture - perceive single women over age 50. Workshop participants will have an opportunity to meet and get to know other single women attending the conference.

### 2:00-2:50p Wendy Ripnow Bernice 12 Step Meeting

An AA/NA meeting being held.

### 2:00-2:50p Gail Fairfield Amoja A Conversation about Writing and Illustrating Children's Books

Join Gail Fairfield to talk about creating children's books. This is not a presentation, although Gail will read one or two stories and share what she's learned in the process of creating her first book. It's also not really a how-to workshop. Instead, it's an opportunity for those who have written and/or illustrated children's books - or want to do so - to talk about the joys and pitfalls of this kind of endeavor.

### 2:00-3:20p Sally Jeux, Ordained Priestess & Rev. Boye Ferron Celebrate Yourself as Crone

Are you a woman over 50 who has stopped her monthly blood cycle for any reason? Let's celebrate our last rite of passage. We will tell our stories, release old baggage, and ceremonially move into our crone years with joyful anticipation. No religious affiliation required.

### 2:00-3:50p Renée Janski Lucie NWMF Women's Chorus

Singers! Join me, Renée Janski, for women's chorus this year! We will be doing some

of our greatest hits from our last 6 years together as well as new favorites and a number with the ukulele chorus for our Sunday performance! I can't wait to make music with YOU!

### 2:30-3:50p Suzanne Gray Gwen So You Want to Buy an RV

The road is calling. Before buying, learn how to evaluate your needs and what type of RV might be best for you. Our video will walk you through questions to ask yourself - budgeting; new vs. used; dealers and private sellers. The goal is to help you make the best decision and give you links to a variety of information. Is RVing right for you? Find out. A live Q&A with a certified level 1 RV technician will follow the video. A Blog from the workshop <https://twogalsgo.blog/>

### 2:30-3:50p Rani Biffle-Quimba Wahru Intermediate/Advanced Hand Drumming

This workshop will focus on Afro-Centric rhythms and sound techniques; playing with balance; keeping time; how to mix in polyrhythm patterns; playing the dunun (heartbeat bass drum) and more. Some drumming experience will be helpful but is not required.

### 2:30-4:20p Film Series Everywoman Nelly & Nadine - 2022 TEDDY AWARD WINNER!

"Astonishing, beautiful, heart rending and inspiring!" (Vocal Media). The unlikely love story of two women falling in love on Christmas Eve 1944 - in the Ravensbrück concentration camp. Despite being separated in the last months of the war, Nelly and Nadine manage to later reunite and spend the rest of their lives together. For many years their love story was kept a secret, even to some of their closest family. Now Nelly's granddaughter, Sylvie, has decided to open Nelly and Nadine's unseen personal archives and uncover their remarkable story. 92 Minutes. French Swedish Spanish and English w/ English subtitles.

### 3:00-3:50p Lance Link Amoja Singles and Solos Space Drop-In

Drop in and hang out. Meet sister Singles and Solos. Rest up between workshops.

### 3:30-5:00p Elena Higgins & Tash Terry Bernice Navajo Beauty Way

Be captivated learning about Navajo philosophy around the "Beauty Way," also known as, "Hozho Jigo," followed by a "Beauty Way" chant and song to be shared

around a traditional drum.

### 3-3:50p Pat Mullan, Nzingah Smith, Renaye Brown, Susanne DiVincenzo, Debra Temple, Georgianna Kreiger, Jessica Hom & Brenda Thompson Gardner-Watkins Room New Recipes from MELBA'S KITCHEN

Hang out with some band members from MELBA'S KITCHEN for a casual, relaxing session. They'll play original tunes, some favorites, and chat about the influence of Black women musical geniuses Melba Liston, Mary Lou Williams, and their music going forward.

### 3:00-4:20p Gareth Mann & Joy Bang Deidre Discovering Your Inner Poet

Using dictation apps and voice memos on her iPhone, Gareth Mann, Poet Laureate of Elgin, Illinois, will share her method of creating songs and poetry in spite of arthritic hands. Participants will experiment with their own creations in this experiential workshop.

### 3:00-4:50p Barbara Kucharczyk Holly Celebrating the Life of Arden Eversmeyer

Play a video recording of the webinar "Celebration of Arden's Life" broadcast on Apr 4, 2023

### 3:30-4:50p Mimi Gonzalez Ferron Write Hear for National Women's Music Fest

Join this generative writing workshop and leave with work you created in the safe space of other women writing together. All skill levels are welcome. This is prompt-driven with timed segments to write and the option to share what came through.

### 4-4:50p Louise Goldberg & Mary Reynolds Amoja How the Music Gets You: A Talk About Music Theory

Music Theory is thought of as so boring that even many musicians would rather skip it! We're going to do our best to explain why we find it fascinating, and how a simple organization of sounds can change one's whole outlook.

### 4:30-6:30p Christine Powers Hotel Lobby Singles Dinner Out

**LIVE AUCTION**

**Saturday @ 11:30am**

**Spotlight Stage**



## EMERGING ARTIST CONTEST!

For the past 45 years, Women in the Arts has hosted a contest to encourage and support emerging female artists. Three contestants will be performing throughout the week – and You, our wonderful Festival audience, will have an opportunity to vote for your favorite emerging artist and help us select the winner! The artist with the most votes gets to return in 2024, all expenses paid, to perform an entire set on the SheRocks stage. Thank you for participating and good luck to all our contestants!



**The Backyard Betties** are a country-folk group based out of Calgary that are sure to get your toes tapping. Their high energy show features engaging and heart-felt original

songs written by lead singer Nancy Laberge. The blend of harmonies by drummer Sarah Nielsen provide a rich sound that captivates. More recently Pip Hazell has joined the group to provide high-energy background vocals for a rounded sound. The group's showcase experience is rooted in their passion to communicate personal experiences of love, life, and loss through music. In February 2023, Nancy released a new single titled "Just Leave", with two more recordings set to be released later this year. Nancy has two full albums released, "When We Were Friends" (2016) and "Write from the Heart" (2011), as well as a single release "Free to Run" (2019) which was featured in the documentary *The Secret Marathon*.



Third generation musician singer, **Kat Zel** has been studying and living in Edmonton the past eight years.

Passionate about the vibrant music scene in western Canada, Kat found herself the lead singer & song writer fronting the band Rareflower. During 2019, Kat continued to pursue her Indie career path while recording, songwriting, cowriting and gigging on a regular basis. As a hard working, multiple year nominee for the Edmonton Music Awards, Kat "has been delivering music for the masses with groovy beats, hooky songs, relatable lyrics and great musicianship. Her vocals are raw and edgy. She's one to watch – that's for sure.", Rhea March of C.J.S.R. radio. CBC Music Challenge, Ottawa have compared Kat to "the next Janis Joplin", and commented that "Her unique psychedelic sound will resonate with your soul, she will leave you mesmerized!"



In constant search of truth in her lyrics along her musical journey, **Regina Sayles'** acoustic-driven, singer/songwriter melodies connect you to the everyday human

condition. As a vocal chameleon, Regina belts and croons to the center of life's heart strings. Unapologetic for who she is, Sayles is an active advocate for women and the LGBTQ+ communities through her music and stage performances. Based in East Stroudsburg, PA, Regina tours whenever possible while remaining passionately dedicated to her loyal and loving local fan base. Regina has released two solo Eps, *It's Home* and *The Ann Street Session*. When she's not playing solo, she can be found joining the Craig Thatcher Band. In January 2023, Regina released her single, "Rollin' in the Hay," her first solo single release in ten years! Regina will be releasing an EP of new music in the upcoming year.



Springwood Cabins, near the beautiful Hocking Hills State Park, outside of Logan, Ohio.

[springwoodcabins.com](http://springwoodcabins.com)

740-385-6143 Lana Wall, owner

## Saturday Schedule

6:30-10am - Breakfast .....	Atrium	12:30-2:20p - NWMF Women's Chorus .....	Lucie
8:30am - Join <b>Holly Near</b> in <i>Singing for Our Lives</i> .....	Atrium	1-1:50p - 12-Step Meeting .....	Amoja
9a-7:30p - Registration Open .....	Conference Center Lobby	1-2:50p - NWMF Drum Chorus practice .....	Wahru
9a-4:30p - Workshops & Film Series ...	See Workshop Schedule	3-7p - Pickup your Winning Bids @ Silent Auction ....	Mendota
9a-5p - Room of Remembrance Open .....	Marty	4-4:30p - Recitals (See Recital Schedule) .....	Atrium
9a-2p - Silent Auction Room Open.....	Mendota	4-5pm - Comedy Improv /Jules Taylor .....	Living Room Stage
9-11:30a Recitals (See Recital Schedule) .....	Atrium	4:30-6p MultiCultural Women and Women of Color Reception and Celebration .....	Everywoman
9:30-11:20a NWMF Uke Chorus .....	Lucie	5-7p - Dinner Buffet .....	Atrium
10a-9p - Marketplace Open .....	Michigan	6:30p - SheRocks Stage - House Open .....	Superior
10a-Noon - Open Mic with Nancy Scott .....	Living Room		
10:30a-4p - Red Tent Open .....	Cris	<b>6:50p - 2023 Memoriam</b>	
11a-1p - Lunch in the Living Room .....	Michigan	<b>7p - Deidre McCalla and Band</b> ( <i>Isis Dixon</i> )	
11a-1p - Lunch Buffet .....	Atrium	<b>8p - Holly Near</b> ( <i>Laura Kolb</i> )	
<b>11:30-12:30 - Live Auction - Spotlight Stage</b> .....	Wisconsin	<b>9p - INTERMISSION</b>	
12:30a - Spotlight Stage - House Open .....	Wisconsin	<b>9:10 - Side Stage - Regina Sayles</b> ( <i>Natasha Escalada-Westland</i> )	
<b>1p - NWMF Orchestra, Nan Washburn, Director</b>		<b>9:20p - Rainbow Girls</b> ( <i>Sunny Pfifferling-Irons</i> )	
	( <i>Sunny Pfifferling-Irons</i> )	<b>10:20p - All Festival Jam</b>	
<b>2p - Tammy Hall</b> ( <i>Isis Dixon</i> )		10:30p - Living Room - Meet and Play -----	Michigan
<b>3p - Miss Brown to You</b> ( <i>Emily Kimmel-Kurtz</i> )		Open Mic and Jam with Nancy Scott	

## Saturday Workshops

<b>9:00a-5:00p Sara Karon</b>	<b>Marty</b>	<b>9:00-11:30a Film Series</b>	<b>Everywoman</b>	and decision making process about writing "songs with a message." (Nancy will have a keyboard and guitar to use) Bring a notebook and pen.
<b>Room of Remembrance</b>		<b>In Her Words</b>		
The Room of Remembrance is available throughout the Festival. It offers a quiet space for those in mourning to escape the frivolity and hubbub of the Festival and remember our departed loved ones - and for all Festival attendees to honor the lives of those we have lost.		<i>In Her Words: 20th Century Lesbian Fiction</i> documents the history and impact of lesbian fiction from the 1920s through the 1990s. Narrator Lillian Faderman recounts the impact key world events had on LGBTQ history throughout the decades. Through interviews from numerous trailblazing lesbian authors including Ann Bannon, Rita Mae Brown, Jewel Gomez and Sarah Waters, we learn how these world events helped shape their stories and to what extent the stories were reflections of the authors' own lives as they looked for affirmation and their place in the world. 100 Minutes. Close captioned. After the film: Q&A with the filmmakers		
<b>9:00-9:50a Gail Fairfield</b>	<b>Ferron</b>			<b>9:30-10:50a Peggy Patty &amp; Phyllis Lau Wahru</b>
<b>Astrology 2023</b>				<b>Vibrational Sound Bath to Soothe Your Body, Mind and Soul</b>
Join Gail Fairfield for an astrological look at the current social-political scene and some insights into using the available energy in a productive manner, personally and/or professionally.				Join us as we explore the healing properties of Vibrational Sound. Science confirms vibrations help us de-stress in these challenging times. Discover the soothing auditory experience of relaxing into the healing vibrations of Himalayan singing bowls, gong, tuning forks, rattles, etc. You are invited to relax into the Sound!
<b>9:00-10:20a Janis Kidder</b>	<b>Gwen</b>			<b>9:30-11:20a Barbara Kucharczyk</b>
<b>Way Out There: Conversation with a Lesbian Rocket Scientist</b>		<b>9:30-10:50a Nancy Day</b>	<b>Amoja</b>	<b>Celebrating the Life of Arden Eversmeyer</b>
Janis Kidder was an openly lesbian rocket scientist for the Space Shuttle Program. Hear her unique insider's point of view, and about a variety of women astronauts we should know. And what's next, cosmically speaking, now that the Shuttle program has ended?		<b>Creating Your Path, Vision and Change in Song</b>		Play a video recording of the webinar "Celebration of Arden's Life" broadcast on Apr 4, 2023
		Together in this workshop, we will all contribute our personal goals and visions for individual change and include ways that we may empower and contribute to our future as women and for our future generations. We will build a powerful song together! Nancy will share her experience		<b>9:30-11:20a Jori Costello</b>
				<b>NWMF Women's Uke Chorus--Tune up and Sing out!</b>
				This year's theme is Reason to Celebrate! Throughout the festival, we will be learning 3 upbeat and joyful songs celebrating the love of gathering together, the love of

## Saturday Workshops

good friends, and the love of our 4-legged companions. We will perform on Sunday in turn with the other festival choruses on the main stage! All skill levels welcome, tuners a must, and singing is most definitely encouraged! Practice materials given on site and available online, including mp3s, by emailing: jori@joricostello.com

### 9:30-11:20a Sara Karon Marty Lesbian Widows

Losing a life partner changes everything that comes after. There are things that only those who have experienced a similar loss can understand. Come share your experiences, memories, struggles, questions, and strategies with others. This workshop is for lesbian widows only.

### 10:00-10:50a Helen H Yee Bernice Chi Gong for health and well being

I will focus on 1 of the 5 routines to the soaring crane medical Chi Gong practice and go through several Chi Gong exercises. My focus is on the healing aspects of the form and the flow of healing chi energy within the movements. Allow me to help you tap into the healer within thru this wonderful and powerful component of Chinese medicine.

### 10-11:20a Suzanne Gray & Patti Kardia Deidre Lesbian Co-Housing and Retirement Communities - What's Next?

Let's discuss what's next in creating housing for lesbians. This workshop will provide an opportunity for those interested in the topic to network and discuss housing and community needs as we age. Updates on existing and planned projects welcome.

### 10:30a-4:00p Red Tent Clan Cris The Red Tent

The Red Tent offers a safe space where women come together for a variety of experiences and conversations. The Red Tent is open for relaxation, conversation, and meditation.

### 10:30a-4:00p FireHawk Stewart Cris Hand Massage, Relax and Rejuvenate

Energy points in our hands connect to every part of our bodies. A hand massage can be more than just relaxing. Come to the Red Tent and sign up for a 10-minute hand massage. Treat yourself to a little luxury.

### 10:30a-4:00p Holin Blackmoon Cris Mother's Wisdom - Divination for Women in The Red Tent

Divination is an ancient skill practiced by women for millennia, a tool that can offer us a window into the flow of our lives. Knowing that flow, we can make choices that empower us as women. As a service for women at the festival, 20-minute tarot readings will be offered in the Red Tent throughout the weekend at no charge. A sign-up sheet will be available or simply drop by. Come with a question in mind and an open heart.

### 10:30-11:20a Alex Thompson Ferron Ready, Set, Go! Kickstarting Your Writing

You've been meaning to get around to it. Now is the time. This workshop will show you how to start and keep going, providing helpful hints, hopefully amusing anecdotes, and exercises to stretch your imagination. Bring paper and pencil. What have you got to lose?

### 10:30-11:20a Janell Banks Gwen The Benefits of just simply: Laughing

There's more to laughter than just the chuckle, you could be saving your own life by simply laughing! Learn 7 health benefits to the joys of laughter!

### 12:30-1:20p Kristi Hallisy Everywoman Tai Chi for Optimal Aging and Wellness

Tai Chi is a mind/body exercise that promotes calm mental focus while building leg strength and endurance, balance and stability. This session promises to make this remarkable exercise accessible to people of all ages, abilities and physical conditions. Come be a Tai Chi player!

### 12:30-2:20p Renée Janski Lucie NWMF Women's Chorus

Singers! Join me, Renée Janski, for women's chorus this year! We will be doing some of our greatest hits from our last 6 years together as well as new favorites and a number with the ukulele chorus for our Sunday performance! I can't wait to make music with YOU!

### 1:00-1:50p Jesse Powers Deidre Creating Music From The Body

Explore a new method of creating--with your beautiful body! We will explore together how we can use these magnificent vessels to bring forth meaningful musical creations. Turn in and deepen your connection to your body by including it in your creative process.

### 1:00-1:50p Wendy Ripnow Amoja

### 12 Step Meeting

An AA/NA meeting being held.

### 1-2:20p Rev. Boye & Sally Jeux, Ordained Priestess Ferron Creating a Culture of Disability Awareness at Our Community Events

The Disabled Community is the only minority group anyone can join at any time. I envision a Women's Culture that is accessible to elders and welcoming to all like-minded women. There are some simple steps we can take to be aware of our ableist assumptions and ensure accessibility is built into our communities and events, not just an afterthought. Women with Disabilities are encouraged to attend and share their experiences.

### 1:00-2:20p Janalea Hoffman Holly How to Use Essential Oils for Enhanced Wellness

Come to this workshop to tap into some ancient wisdom and current research on healing with plants. We will cover different essential oils and how they can be used to support different systems in the body. Learn how oils effect our brains, memory, inflammation and more. The research is fascinating and hopeful to be able to include plant-based medicines to increase our level of wellness WITHOUT SIDE EFFECTS!!! Also learn about oils with dogs and cats.

### 1:00-2:50p Diane Silver Bernice Poet's Circle

We will share stories and provide support for each other as poets and discuss: Where are the best markets? How do you survive the ups and downs of a poet's life? Anyone who considers poetry to be a driving force in their career is welcome.

### 1:00-2:50p Pat Calchina Gwen Taking Care of Business (Part 3): What makes life meaningful enough to go on?

At what point is quality of life not worth the effort to maintain it? This workshop will explore alternative approaches to the dying process, and your own Final Exit.

### 1:00-2:50p Rani Biffle-Quimba Wahru NWMF Women's Drum Chorus Practice

This is the final rehearsal for the drum chorus.

### 1:30-3:20p Toni Armstrong Jr. Everywoman The Land: For Women. For Girls. Forever.

Come hear the latest, and get your questions answered, about the 651 pristine acres of forest-and-fern land being



## Saturday

purchased "for women, for girls, forever." (Former site of the Michigan Womyn's Music Fest.) Four different week-long gatherings are happening this summer. Sign up today to become a Landmother.

**2:00-2:50p SONiA**

**Amoja**

### **Remember Me**

Recent scientific findings have discovered that songs can unlock hidden memories in the brain. This workshop will dive into the details of music's unique magic. And then she will guide you to create original lyrics or a complete original song that encompasses lovely memories that you and your loved one, a spouse, a parent, a sibling, or a friend have shared. So, deep into the years to come, the song will imbed itself in the brain of both parties and can be shared and enormously helpful for recognizing one another and shared experiences. This is a win win win.

**2:00-3:20p Ruth King. Healing the Hurt that Breeds Hate**

**Deidre**

Ruth weaves songs, excerpts from her memoir, and poetry to make sense of racial healing. As a biracial Black woman who was raised her first years of life by White racist grandparents and told her she was not Black, Ruth brings the cure she has found to heal our racial divides.

**3:00-3:50p Mary Waitrovich**

**Bernice**

### **Song Circle for Musicians and Singers**

Connect with other musicians. Share songs with an attentive and supportive audience. Perform one song, and we will take a few moments to appreciate it and provide feedback and encouragement. Be inspired by the creativity and passion of women who make music. Listeners welcome.

**3:00-4:20p Joan Lipkin**

**Ferron**

### **Finding Essential Moments In Your Story**

One of the biggest challenges for new and established writers is finding crucial moments that can illuminate their stories. The workshop includes conversation, writing, and the chance to be surrounded by new or old friends.

**3:00-4:20p Meadow Muska**

**Holly**

### **"Strong Women, Full of Love & Joy" Photos of Lesbians in the 70's**

Come see or remember our visual herstory. Videos & photos of opening Weekend of Oregon Women's Land in Oregon, Minnesota Country Women, Rising Moon, Mel's, Del Lago, Two Harbors, Gertrudes Silver Note Cafe, Starflower Company, Amazon Kung Fu, Amazon Soccer, Women's Coffeehouse, Commitment Ceremony, New Mexico Solstice and Women Spirit

Festivals, early lesbian erotica, shared by the photographer Meadow Muska.

**3:00-4:20p Shelley Graff**

**Lucie**

### **Womyn Singing In Sacred Circle**

Singing In Sacred Circle, which honors traditions of the late Kay Gardner, is an opportunity for each womoon to share voice and spirit through song. While learning short, repetitive women-centered and earth-based songs/chants from a wide variety of traditions, power rises from the center of the circle as all voices.

**3:30-4:20p Lance Link**

**Gwen**

### **Singles and Solos Space Drop-In**

Drop in and hang out. Meet sister Singles and Solos. Rest up between workshops.

**4:30-6:00p Helen H Yee Deidre/Everywoman MultiCultural Women and Women of Color Reception and Celebration**

All women are invited to join their sisters of color on Saturday for our "Celebration of Wahu." Join the Open mic and share your memories of our friend and visionary, Wahu Cleveland. Let's talk, make new friends, celebrate women of color – and continue Wahu's vision of "sisterly persistence for social justice."



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# Sunday Schedule

6:30-10a - Breakfast ..... Atrium  
 9a-2p - Registration ..... Open Conference Center Lobby  
 10a-1p - Room of Remembrance Open ..... Marty  
 10a-2p - Marketplace Open ..... Michigan  
 10a - Universal Worship Service ..... Holly  
 10:30a-12:30p - Red Tent Open ..... Cris  
 10:30a - SheRocks Stage - House Opens ..... Superior

**11a - Women's Drum Chorus, Rani Biffle-Quimba, Director**  
*(Sunny Pfifferling-Irons)*

**11:20 - Women's Ukulele Chorus, Jori Costello, Director**  
*(Emily Kimmel-Kurtz)*

**11:40 - Women's Vocal Chorus, Renée Janski, Director**  
*(Jenny McKittrick)*

11a-1p - Lunch..... Marketplace, Michigan  
 11a-1p - Lunch Buffet ..... Atrium

**12:30p - SheRocks Stage - House Opens ..... Superior**

**1p - MELBA'S KITCHEN with special guest, Tammy Hall**  
*(Isis Dixon and Laura Kolb)*

**2:30p - Closing Ceremony Rev. Boye**

**10a-1p Sara Karon**

**Marty**

## Room of Remembrance

The Room of Remembrance is available throughout the Festival. It offers a quiet space for those in mourning to escape the frivolity and hubbub of the Festival and remember our departed loved ones - and for all Festival attendees to honor the lives of those we have lost.

**10:00-10:50a Rev. Boye & Sally Jeux, Ordained Priestess**

**Holly**

## Universal Worship Service

A Sunday Service honouring the religious traditions of the world as equal sources of the Divinity. Candles, songs & readings from the sacred texts of the world with Spirituality, Acceptance, Appreciation, Harmony, Beauty and Peace. No religious affiliation required. <http://www.sufimovement.org/universalworship.htm>

**10:30a-12:30p Red Tent Clan**

**Cris**

## The Red Tent

The Red Tent offers a safe space where women come together for a variety of experiences and conversations. The Red Tent is open for relaxation, conversation, and meditation.

**11:00-11:50a Harvest Brown**

**Cris**

## And now we say goodbye...Closing Ritual for the Red Tent

This is your last chance to visit the Red Tent. Today we gather to have one last energizing breath within this safe women's space. Come to our closing ritual where each woman will be blessed for her coming travels and daily mundane tasks.





## 2023 Women in the Arts Awards

### **The Jane Schliessman Award for Outstanding Contributions to Women's Music**

Jane Schliessman, a native of Racine, Wisconsin, attended the I.U. School of Law in Bloomington, IN. After graduation, she made Bloomington her home and worked as an attorney for the Legal Services Organization and in private practice. She specialized in women's issues and domestic relations. Her interests revolved around the arts and included creative writing and her love for women's music. She was involved in the first group of 13 women who revived the NWMF in Bloomington in 1982.

Jane was committed to peace and social change and spent time at the Seneca Women's Encampment for a Future of Peace and Justice (known as Peace Camp), even picnicking atop a buried nuclear warhead. Jane was 35 when she died in 1986 of colon cancer.

**The Jane Schliessman Award is presented to Deidre McCalla for her life-long body of music, her workshops and willingness to share it all.**



In 1975 Deidre McCalla walked off the graduation dais at Vassar College directly onto the mainstage of the 2nd National Women's Music Festival in Champaign-Urbana,

IL. Since that time Deidre has maintained a consistent presence in what came to be known as Women's Music charming audiences from Maui to Maine with her engaging stage persona and songwriting chops that reveal an unyieldingly honest perspective expressed with a lyric touch that relentlessly celebrates the power and diversity of the human spirit. Deidre McCalla worked with the ground-breaking lesbian owned recording company Olivia Records for 11 years. Her first Olivia album *"Don't Doubt It"* is included in the LGBT Collection at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of American History and listed by *Ms Magazine* as one of 25 Classic Women's Music Albums. *"With A Little Luck"*, her second Olivia album, earned a San Francisco Cable Car Award. Her current album, *"Endless Grace"*, has been embraced by the greater folk community as one of the 10 Best Folk Albums of 2022.

### **The Jeanine C. Rae Award for the Advancement of Women's Culture**

Jeanine C. Rae was a guiding light to many

women's journeys during the women's movement in the 1970s and early '80s. An ordained minister, psychotherapist, political activist, and the mother of three children, Jeanine touched the lives of innumerable women throughout her short lifetime.

She was a co-founder and co-owner of The Women's Touch, Indianapolis' first women's bookstore and counseling center, in 1976. The Woman's Touch was the nucleus of a community that then created *Woman Space* newspaper, the first area hotline for women, feminist worship services, WomanShine Theatre, concert productions, and more. She was one of the midwives to the rebirth of NWMF during its move from Champaign, Illinois, to Bloomington. Her spirit continues to nurture the soul of this festival.

**The Jeanine C. Rae Award is presented to MELBA'S KITCHEN for their ongoing work in creating women's culture.**



MELBA'S KITCHEN is an all-women big band that celebrates Black musical geniuses Melba Liston, Mary Lou Williams, and their friends. Melba Liston (1926-1999) was a brilliant trombonist, composer and arranger who toured and wrote for Dizzy Gillespie, Quincy Jones, Gerald Wilson, and collaborated for decades - in the Ellington/ Strayhorn mode - with piano titan Randy Weston. Mary Lou Williams (1910-1981) was a virtuosic pianist, composer and arranger who worked with all the greats, including Duke Ellington. Williams was also famed for the after-hour gatherings in her Harlem apartment, where she mentored the likes of Monk, Dizzy and Sarah Vaughan. MELBA'S KITCHEN, co-led by trombonist Pat Mullan and woodwind player and Musical Director Nzingah Smith, aims to bring recognition to Liston and Williams through kindness, joy, political action, and fun. The band has performed at jazz and art destinations including YOSHI's, San Francisco's de Young Museum and the venerable Freight and Salvage.

**The Sarah Dwyer WIA Board of Directors' Special Appreciation Award is presented to Debra Hall and Dr. Mary Spillane**

Sarah Dwyer began volunteering at the festival as a massage therapist for workers and eventually served as Board president

through several years of change and growth. An occupational therapist by profession, she was committed to social justice, especially for the disabled. No matter what her work with NWMF entailed, she served with deep commitment, down-to-earth practicality, and laughter.



**Debra Hall** is currently being happily retired and enjoying her grandchildren, playing pickle ball and ukulele as well as kayaking swimming and playing poker.

In her spare time Debra and her partner, Cookie, run a Cafe where they winter in Florida.

Debra has an Undergraduate degree in Physical Education and a Masters in Counseling Ed Psychology. As a Senior High Counselor, she developed Transitions High School in PA for recovering students. Over the span of 25 years, coached High School Volleyball, Softball, Basketball and Swimming.

Debra and her staff currently prepare meals for about 90 women, including the staff and artists, at the National Women's Music Festival. All of this with crock-pots and warming trays.



**Dr. Mary Spillane** has been committed to women's music since first attending the National Women's Music Festival and Michfest in 1985.

She has worked in a variety of crew positions at NWMF from 1995-present and has served on the WIA/ NWMF board since 2010. Since retiring from a 40-year career as a behavioral and assistive technology consultant, Mary has enjoyed having more time to learn about and serve as board liaison for Festival Registration and the Marketplace. In addition to serving on the board, Mary currently works as the Day Programming Producer, Work Exchange Coordinator, SheRocks House Manager, and coordinates the video crew. She is very proud to be a part of the longest running women's music festival in the US.

**The 2023 Kristen Lems Social Change Through Music Award is presented to Holly Near and Barbara "Wahru" Cleveland**

## 2023 Women in the Arts Awards



**Holly Near's** parents taught her and her siblings to be curious about the world and to consider creative nonviolence.

Living on a small ranch in northern California, recordings

ordered from mail order catalogues filled the house with songs from all over the world in unfamiliar languages and multiple styles. One sister went on to be an actor/director; another a dancer/teacher. Holly, after adventures on Broadway and in Hollywood, soon was drawn to social change music and cultural activism – joining the likes of Belafonte, Odetta, Seeger, Fonda, Gilbert, Sosa, Dr. Reagon and later, Meg Christian. Refusing single issue politics, Holly connected the dots between multiple social change movements through song and collaboration. For over 50 years Holly has been a soaring voice for consciousness, inviting us to be bravely curious about one another and ourselves. Performing artist. Vocalist. Feminist. Author. Critical thinker. Record producer. Insightful songwriter. Cancer and stroke survivor.

**This is Holly Near.**



**Barbara "Wahru" Cleveland,** scientist, educator, concert producer, musician, and activist, passed away November 13, 2022, leaving a legacy of positive influence

on the lives of others. She was passionate about social causes, generously sharing her time and talents to effect change and fight injustice.

Wahru was a trail-blazer in the quest for integrated educational opportunity in Oklahoma. Support was devoted to volunteering with many organizations: Friends of the Homeless' drug rehab program, Immigration Services, Red Cross, Pathways, Ohio Sickle Cell Association, Marysville Reformatory for Women, Girlz Rhythm n' Rock Camp.

Voting rights were important to Wahru, and she organized learning sessions in Columbus. In the early 80's, her non-profit feminist bookstore was founded and still endures as a resource center for women. At NWMF,

she led the Drum Chorus, provided drum workshops, taught self-defense, and led the Women of Color initiative and events.

**Barbara "Wahru" Cleveland** will be fondly remembered as a selfless humanitarian, with a caring heart open to all.

**The Ruth Ann Rowan Believer Award is presented to Mimi Gonzalez.**

Ruth Rowan was a shero of National Women's Music Festival. She is remembered for her generous heart and enthusiasm. Ruth first attended NWMF in 1986, began serving as ASL interpreter in 1990, and was a board member from 2005 until her untimely death in 2016. She coordinated the interpreters and Marketplace. Ruth was a teacher of Deaf students and the sign language interpreter for Muse, Cincinnati Women's Choir. She was married for 30 years to her longtime love, Marsha. It was women's music and interpreting that brought their daughter, Tammy, into Ruth and Marsha's lives. They all met at a Therese Edel concert where Ruth was interpreting in 1990. Tammy became a festival favorite, often interpreting onstage with her mom.

Ruth was dedicated to keeping NWMF thriving for years to come. Not only did she contribute money personally, she produced fund raisers to benefit NWMF. Marsha remembers Ruth at the festival, saying "Sometimes she was so tired she could not move and I would think 'Why is she working so hard?' Then I would see her on stage or in the merchant area talking to women, welcoming women, and she was happily in her element. She loved this festival and did everything in her power to keep it going."

**Ruth was a Believer!**



**Mimi Gonzalez'** 30+ year LGBT comedy performance career has been supported and encouraged by the many Pride

events and a lesbian circuit of festivals from Michigan to California. All along the way, poems just keep showing up in her joke notebooks. Since earning her MFA, she's reveled in helping others discover the joy of listening to their creative impulse and tapping into the vein of writing waiting to be heard inside themselves. An excellent community building and healing opportunity, her "Write Hear" writing workshops are in-demand programming requested by LGBT

centers and online communities, including The Center in LA and Women on the Net.

2023 marks the sixth year of her post-Michfest project to create a Women's Weekend event on the first weekend in June. "Go Girl! Saugatuck" survived the pandemic shutdown of two years and is on its way to becoming the "Midwest's Dinah" where women pre-game their summer. Dance parties, workshops, shows, and an open mic at the "Gospel of YOU Brunch" celebrate all women ready to party the summer-in together in south western Michigan - just a mile from the Great Lake and right before summer solstice.

**The Sharon and Phyllis Roark Philanthropy Award is presented to Jean Arden Eversmeyer**



**Jean Arden Eversmeyer,** 91, was born in Stevens Point, WS. She passed away November 14th, 2022.

Spending her adult life in TX, Arden earned a Bachelor & Master degree in Education and taught 30 years in Houston public schools. Arden had two long term partners: Tommie Russum (33 years) and Charlotte Avery (31 years, married in 2008). Arden made significant contributions to the lesbian community: She founded Lesbians Over Age Fifty (LOAF); Houston Social organization; six years Mayoral appointee to Houston Agency on Aging; founded/directed Women's Oral Herstory excerpt anthologies; served 14 years on Old Lesbians Organizing for Change steering Committee; and established an Endowment Scholarship at TX Woman's University. Among the honors Arden received: three Mayoral Proclamations; Woman Trailblazer Award from US Dept. of Energy; 2014 National Woman of Character, Courage and Commitment; Honorary Marshal, Houston Pride Parade. Arden is loved and appreciated for her contributions to NWMF.

**The 2023 Women in the Arts Technical Skills Award is presented to PJ Matthews**



Since 2012, PJ Matthews has worked as a sound crew member on various stage at the NWMF.

As the Sound Engineer for Big Bad Gina live performances, she was introduced to the



## 2023 Women in the Arts Awards

National Women's Music Festival. She became the Sound Engineer on the Spotlight Stage in 2016. PJ was committed and willing to learn new equipment, but not always under the best conditions. She kept the sound alive on the Spotlight Stage. PJ was promoted to the Artist Liaison position this year. PJ is a retired PhD Psychotherapist currently living in Eureka Springs AR, where she works as an EMT with the local Volunteer Fire Department. For fun, PJ plays the Cajon and sings backup with friends and local musicians.

### The 2023 Women in the Arts Marketplace Award is presented to Carol Vitelli



Carol Vitelli is a community builder, with a goal of uniting and helping lesbians. She has volunteered at numerous women's music festivals including NEWMR, Campfest, and Sisterfire.

Her many years as coordinator of the Cuntree Store at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival prepared her for coordinating

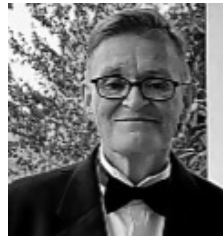
the Festiewear booth at NWMF. She loves that her dear friends are part of the crew every year.

While living on Long Island, NY, Carol helped to establish the Women's Alternatives Community Center. She also started the lesbian bicycling group, Different Spokes.

Happily retired in sunny Gulfport, Florida with her spouse Marge, Carol spends most of her time playing tennis and chairing the Sonia Plotnick Women's Health Fund (SPHF). Since 1996, SPHF has helped over 1,000 women in the Tampa Bay area with their healthcare expenses.

Carol is thankful to have the opportunity to be a part of NWMF.

### The 2023 Women in the Arts Volunteer Award is presented to Julie Sherwood



Julie Sherwood has always gotten her greatest joy from helping others. She blames being the daughter of a U.S.

Postal Carrier for her sense of responsibility, learning to take care of details before they became problems. She blames her preparedness on the Girl Scouts with whom she has been a member since third grade.

She was Chrysler Corporation's token female dealer technical trainer for 25 years. Currently she is a school bus driver, high school sub, woodworker, welder, and an ASE certified master automotive technician.

She attended 37 Michigan Womyn's Music Festivals where "I learned I could do anything, learn anything, and be me. It was Heaven." Since 2010, she has also volunteered at NWMF and her sense of responsibility and preparedness has made her a valued member of the Workshop crew for many years. She does everything she is asked...auto mechanic, workshop tech and presenter-whisperer, van/truck driver, and making us laugh!

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## Artist Profiles



**Be Steadwell** is a singer-songwriter from Washington, DC. A blend of soul, acapella, and folk, Be calls her music QUEER POP. In her live performances, she utilizes looping, vocal layering, and beatboxing to compose her songs on stage. Be's original music features earnest lyricism, and Affirming LGBTQ content.

As she pursued her career in music, she began a career in film. Shooting and editing her own music videos, Be combined her love of music with narrative film. After receiving a BA at Oberlin College, Be completed her MFA in film at Howard University in 2014. Her film, *Vow of Silence*, was featured in film festivals around the world, including Black Star, HBO's OutFest, The Schomburg Center, Inside Out Toronto, and Fringe Fest UK. In 2017, Issa Rae featured *Vow of Silence* on her Short Film Sundays YouTube Channel.

Be has shared stages with fellow artist Activists Big Freedia, Nona Hendryx, Nikky Finney, and Gina Yashere. In 2017, Be sang at The Women's March on the National Mall behind Maxwell and Janelle Monae in Toshi Reagon's Big Lovely Band. In May 2018, Be released her newest album *Queer Love Songs*. This year, Be composed the music for The Alvin Ailey dance company's production of *The Gone*. In her latest work - *A Letter to My Ex, the musical* - Be tells stories of love, loss, and intimacy through a collage of music, movement, and film - narrating one character's journey through the year following a breakup. [besteadwell.com](http://besteadwell.com)



**Bonnie Morris, PhD** is a women's history lecturer at the University of California-Berkeley and a nationally recognized expert on the role of women's music in lesbian culture. The author of sixteen books, she has devoted more than thirty years to documenting the women's music movement, first publishing *Eden Built By Eves*, a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award, and more recently, *The Disappearing L* and *The Feminist*

*Revolution*. Her research on women's music, Olivia Records, and American lesbian culture will one day be housed at the Radcliffe Institute's Schlesinger Library. In the past few years, Dr. Morris won a D.C. Arts and Humanities grant and a writing residency in Wales; organized the first-ever exhibit on the women's music movement at the Library of Congress; arranged for Olivia albums to be part of the Smithsonian; received the Ruth Rowan Believer Award from the National Women's Music Festival; and accepted the exciting role as Olivia Records' official historian and archivist. Dr. Morris has been a featured speaker at conferences and museums throughout the country and continues to profile women's music history for the Smithsonian. As a lesbian author, she also published the time travel novel *Sappho's Bar and Grill* for Bywater Books, which was a Finalist for the Foreword national award in LGBT fiction. In 2018, she won the Devil's Kitchen Award from Southern Illinois University. Bywater recently published the sequel, *Sappho's Overhead Projector*. Her latest book *What's The Score*, a history of women's sports, was released in 2022. [bonniejmorris.com/](http://bonniejmorris.com/)



**Deidre McCalla** doesn't merely take the stage – she owns it. Her songs embody hope and celebration, struggle, loss, and longing – sometimes all in one song! Her powerful songwriting exhibits an unyieldingly honest perspective grounded in her life and expressed with a lyric touch that is simple and direct - and fearlessly celebrates the power and diversity of the human spirit.

A singer-songwriter-guitarist for close to five decades, Deidre is a Black woman, mother, lesbian, feminist who has long been in the forefront of the growing number of Black musicians reconfiguring perceptions of how Black folk do folk. A much beloved performer in folk and women's music circles, Deidre has shared the stage with a long list of notables that includes Suzanne Vega, Tracy Chapman, Holly Near, Odetta, Cris Williamson, and Sweet Honey in the Rock.

With five independent albums to her credit, she has touched audiences from Maui to Maine, in church basements and college coffeehouses, and Carnegie Hall. Her most recent release, *Endless Grace*, dominated the June 2022 Folk Radio Charts as the #1 Album. *PopMatters*, *Rhythms Magazine*, and the Folk Alley Listener Favorites Poll ranked *Endless Grace* among the Ten Best Folk albums for 2022. Her first Olivia Records album, *Don't Doubt It*, is listed as one of 25 Classic Women's Music Albums by *Ms. Magazine*. In 2021, Deidre received a SERFA Award from the Southeast Regional Folk Alliance for distinguished service and exceptional contributions to folk music in the Southeast region of Folk Alliance International.

Deidre is a proud member of AFM Local 1000 and the North American Folk Alliance. [deidremccalla.com](http://deidremccalla.com)



**Dianne Davidson** is a singer, songwriter, guitarist, performer, and producer whose style and range escape categorization. There are a lot of good singers around today and a lot of talented musicians. There are performers who draw large crowds wherever they play. But there are few true artists. An artist leaves a lasting impression because what they express

is unique. Dianne is an artist. Be it blues, rock, folk, or even reggae, she performs with a robust intensity taking her listeners on a musical journey that few are likely to forget.

Born in West Tennessee, Dianne was a gifted and precocious child singing and writing songs at an early age and forming her first band at age eleven. At seventeen, she opted for an album in lieu of a diploma, and fine-tuned her school of rock education in settings as diverse as rowdy West Tennessee bars, California nightclubs, Greenwich Village listening rooms, major festivals, and, in time, Carnegie Hall.

Dianne has recorded five albums, toured as a member of Linda Ronstadt's band, and has provided backing vocals for a host of major league performers such as B.B. King, Jimmy Buffet, Tammy Wynette, Barry Manilow, and Leon Russell. [diannedavidson.com](http://diannedavidson.com)

**Save the Date June 20–23, 2024**  
**48th National Women's Music Festival**

## Artist Profiles



**Emily Kimmel-Kurtz** currently works as an Educational Sign Language Interpreter in the Kalamazoo, MI area. During the school year, Emily works as an ASL Interpreter with deaf, hard of hearing, and non-verbal students K-12. When not working, Emily enjoys spending time outside with her son, Ezra, and their newest canine family member, Samson.



**Holly Near** is still one of the most consistent and well-informed voices for change, even after 50 years of bold work. Her work is loving, challenging, funny, thought provoking, and remains rooted in the global community. As an outspoken singer and ambassador for peace, Holly brings a unique integration of world consciousness and self-evaluation, always growing and sharing

experience humbly and boldly.

Holly discovered her unique and recognizable voice at an early age, learning to sing along with recordings of some of the world's great singers. Throughout her career, she has enjoyed collaborations with such artists as Mercedes Sosa, Ronnie Gilbert, Inti Illimani, and Emma's Revolution. In 1974, she started sharing paths and songs with the wave of new lesbian feminist performers such as Meg Christian, Cris Williamson, Linda Tillery, Mary Watkins, and Alive! She dove into the feminist movement, trying to understand the depth of sexism and homophobia by turning those lessons into song.

As a songwriter, Holly takes up the challenge of turning big concepts into small, personal stories. In response to the slaughter of the students at Kent State, she wrote *It Could Have Been Me*. Following the assassinations of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk in San Francisco, she penned *Singing For Our Lives*, which became an anthem for the LGBTQ community and appears in the Unitarian Church hymnal.

In 2019, Holly began a website project called *Because of a Song*, an online historic archive that documents some of the influential artists that rose from the feminist lesbian music scene in Oakland, California. The site can be viewed at [becauseofasong.com](http://becauseofasong.com)

A recipient of dozens of awards from organizations such as the ACLU and the National Organization of Women, Holly was one of Ms. Magazine's Women of the Year recipients and has been nominated for Grammys as well as the Legends of Women's Music Award. [hollynear.com/](http://hollynear.com/)



**Indigie Femme** has circled the globe, stirring audiences and gathering fans for more than a decade. Along the way, they've been 2017 Indigenous Music Award nominees; 2016, 2014 and 2012 New Mexico Music Award winners; 2013 Aboriginal Peoples Choice as Best International Duo; 2011 Native American Music Award winners and Sacramento Women of Color & Diversity Honorees; and 2010

Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards. They are especially well known in the two-spirit world of indigiqueer performance.

**Elena Higgins** (Maori/Samoan) and **Tash Terry** (Navajo/French/Irish) are only two women but they represent nearly a dozen ethnic traditions. In dark times and light, their unique blend of harmonies, rhythms, and instrumentation leave audiences spellbound and hopeful. Elena's rich voice has been compared to that of Etta James and Tash has been said to echo Melissa Etheridge.

Elena brings her Maori and Samoan ancestors from New Zealand in new and moving vocals. Whether strumming her Australian Maton (upside-down guitar), offering harmonies or performing sweet acapella, she moves her audience to embrace her glorious smile and haunting sounds.

Tash comes from the Navajo Nation bringing with her that Nation's songs and stories. She grew up hearing the mystical music of her masani (grandmother) whose awe for mother earth and devotion to Navajo ways was unshakable. Tash now renders that enduring spirit through her own musical interpretations both traditional and modern.

Indigie Femme has 8 CDs in their collection of songs. They will be releasing their 9th CD, *Just To Be*, in May 2023. [Indigiefemme.com](http://Indigiefemme.com)



**Isis Dixon** has worked as an interpreter for 16 years, 13 of which, as a VRS interpreter for Sorenson Communications. She received her BA in Deaf studies and Interpreting from Bethel University of Mishawaka, IN in 2007. Since 2020, Isis has devoted time mentoring and supporting minority ITP students. Excluding her sojourn in

Arizona as a child, Isis has been a lifelong resident of South Bend, Indiana. When she's not interpreting and/or supporting students, she enjoys: creating art, writing poetry, dancing, nature walks, music, and family.



**Jan Martinelli** (bass) is a native San Franciscan who has toured and performed with dozens of bands and artists at major festivals, performance halls and clubs throughout the country. Known for her stylistic range from Latin, Jazz and Funk to Blues and Folk, her soulful approach to the bass can be heard on more than thirty CDs and albums. Jan was an original member of the Bay Area's popular Wild Mango, a seven-piece World

Jazz ensemble. She appeared on the cover of Southwest's inflight magazine Spirit, in a feature article Women & Jazz, and has played major jazz festivals such as Aspen, Barbados, Monterey, San Francisco and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Jan is currently a member of several Bay Area bands and has been touring with Holly Near since 2012.



[NWMF.info](http://NWMF.info)

**Save the Date  
June 20-23, 2024  
48th National Women's  
Music Festival**

## Artist Profiles



**Janell Banks** hails from Kansas City, Missouri by way of Houston, Texas. She has always been a natural goofball and class clown. Her quick wit, charisma, and ferociously aggressive style of comedy gives the audience a raucous and hilarious interactive show. Janell is a radio personality and producer of the *Comedy Power Hour* at KUAW 98.5

FM, content creator, and touring comic. These are not jokes - they are side-splitting PSA's! Banks is regarded as one to watch. She has appeared on the Michael Colyar Morning Show as a regular, features for Rodney Perry and April Macie of Tiffany Haddish: *They Ready*, and has opened for Luenell, Tommy Davidson, Chris Spencer, and many more! [missjuslaugh.com](http://missjuslaugh.com)



**Jenny McKittrick** is a native Madisonian. She is a certified interpreter in Wisconsin and nationally. She enjoys interpreting in all kinds of situations including medical, educational, community, and entertainment settings. For over a decade, she has been providing sign language interpreting services as an independent contractor in the Madison area. [jennymckittrick@yahoo.com](mailto:jennymckittrick@yahoo.com)



**Jesse Powers** is a self-proclaimed "Joy Reminder-er" and conscious indie pop musician in Columbus, OH. With her tumbling vocal stylings, powerhouse melodies, and infectious energy, Jesse Powers seeks to awaken and entertain those who listen. Her poignant and playful lyricism set atop catchy melodies create a musical skydiving experience - a long lyrical jump into the

depths of the human heart softened by a parachute of body-moving instrumentation. Wasting no time, her penetrating and positive songs fly straight to the body and soul.

She often shares her music at country-wide spiritual gatherings, including the VISTA conference, the CSL Minister's Conference, SOAR, and the CSL Teen Summer Camp. She can also be found playing at local venues in her home base of Columbus, Ohio - frequently as a guest singer with several bands, including the famed Columbus Irish group, The Drowsy Lads.

Jesse's songwriting chops have also gained recognition from songwriting contests all over the country. Her song "*The Love Song of Everything*" was a finalist in the 2021 Great American Song Contest and nominated for a Positive Music Award in 2022. Her 2020 lockdown anthem, "*Alpaca Socks*," was a finalist in the Mid-Atlantic Song Contest for Jazz Vocal Performance. In 2017, she finished in the top four contestants in the Voice for Columbus singing contest. She had the honor of performing with her fellow finalists and the Harmony Project Choir on the Lincoln Theatre Stage. Her debut album, *Begin*, was released in November, 2017. Her second full-length album, *To Remember*, was released in summer 2021. Find her music on all platforms: [jessepowersmusic.hearnow.com](http://jessepowersmusic.hearnow.com) and purchase vinyls, CDS, and more at [jessepowersmusic.com](http://jessepowersmusic.com)

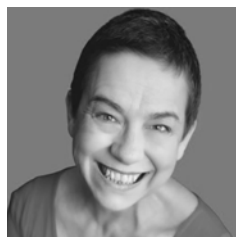


**Jori Costello** is a singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, performer, playwright, visual artist, and teacher based out of the Ozark Mountains in Fayetteville, AR. In her fifth decade of performing, Jori has been in several bands, choirs, been a solo performer, festival emcee, stage manager, dance DJ, and now in its 3rd year, the radio host for the women's music show, *Go Sistah Go*.

Her one-woman musical tribute, *Songs of My Soul*, has been featured at 7 regional festivals and venues. Collaborating with actor/director Jules Taylor, Jori has added soundscape, original music, music direction, and live performance for several Northwest Arkansas theatres. Jori teaches private lessons in multiple instruments, serves as a session staffer at Girls Rock Camp Madison, and is the creator of a summer camp music program.

Since becoming fascinated with the ukulele, Jori has written about 3 dozen songs on this tiny, portable instrument. 2023 marks the 5th annual NWMF Ukulele Chorus directed by Jori. This year's theme is "Reason to Celebrate" and will feature songs by Therese Edell, Deidre McCalla, and an original by Jori herself.

Listen to Jori's radio show, *Go Sistah Go*, every Friday at 3pm CST. [KPSQ.org](http://KPSQ.org)



**Jules Taylor** is a team member of Phunbags Comedy Improv in Fayetteville Arkansas and has taught improv and acting for 20+ years. As an actor she has been in theatre, film and tv, and has directed numerous stage plays and musicals. When not onstage you can find her trying to teach her cats improv games.



**Laura Kolb** first interpreted at NWMF in 1983. She is the creator and director of Deaf THINK POSITIVE, a space for healing and recovery from addictions and trauma. [DeafThinkPositive.com](http://DeafThinkPositive.com) and the Think Positive Facebook page.



**Louise Goldberg and Mary Reynolds**, who make up the duo, Miss Brown to You, have appeared all over central Oklahoma, playing jazz, blues, folk and original music, since 1990. They are frequently featured at the Woody Guthrie Festival and recently appeared at the Kerrville Folk Festival.

**Louise Goldberg** holds a Bachelor of Music from Boston University and a Master of Music from Oklahoma City University. She has appeared with a wide variety of performing groups as pianist, vocalist, and guitarist. She has composed musicals for Oklahoma City Children's Theatre and is a frequent contributor to musical productions at Carpenter Square Theatre, Oklahoma City Theatre Company, and most notably, the Pollard Theatre. For the last several years, Louise has also composed music for film and TV, scoring



## Artist Profiles

placements in *Counterparts*, *Bojack Horseman*, and *The Young and the Restless*, among others.

A classically trained vocalist, **Mary Reynolds** can call upon an eclectic repertoire of traditional material and American popular songs. She is a multi-instrumentalist, playing guitar or bass as required. Some of her compositions and interpretations were featured in the *Fast Folk Musical Magazine* when she lived in New York City in the early 80's - they are archived at the Smithsonian Institution. While living in Austin, in the 90's, she was a frequent performer on the Austin scene, including as a bassist in Nancy Scott's band, and was spotlighted in a solo on "Live Set," the venerable live radio broadcast of KUT Radio. missbrowntoyou.com



### MELBA'S KITCHEN

**Nzingah Smith** is co-leader, musical director and saxophonist with MELBA'S KITCHEN. She is also a flautist, composer, and music educator. Nzingah studied music at Reggie Workman's New Muse in Brooklyn; Billy Taylor's Jazzmobile in Harlem; and at The Berklee College of Music in Boston. Her teachers and mentors have included Jimmy Heath, Frank Foster, Frank Wess, Kenny Barron, and Bill Barron.

**Pat Mullan** is co-leader and trombonist with MELBA'S KITCHEN. She has a decades-long track record playing with and managing big bands in the SF Bay Area. Mullan leads the trombone quartet, TROMBONGA.

**Georgianna Krieger** is the lead alto sax player with MELBA'S KITCHEN. She also performs and records on soprano and bari sax, teaches the saxophone, and is a visual artist in the San Francisco Bay Area. Georgianna recently released a CD of original compositions through <http://bandcamp.com> which includes original artwork that accompanies each song.

**Cyntha Mah** is a native Bay Area multi-instrumentalist, and has performed at Yoshi's, Freight and Salvage, the California Jazz Conservatory, and Ashkenaz in genres as diverse as big band jazz, harmonica ensemble, body music and Brazilian choro. Mah currently plays with the Cal Alumni Big Band, the Albany Jazz Band, and on alto and flute with MELBA'S KITCHEN.

**Jeunesse Monroe-Speed**, a California native, has played alto and tenor sax with various Bay Area community bands, including the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Band, Vallejo Community Jazz Band, and MELBA'S KITCHEN.

**Brenda Thompson's** musical career spans 25 years of teaching, plus international touring with a roster of musicians including Joe Henderson, Dianne Schuur, Paquito D'Rivera, and Toshiko Akiyoshi. She performs on all the saxes, clarinet, bass clarinet, piccolo, flute, oboe, and English horn.

**Marina Garza** (MELBA'S KITCHEN lead trumpet) holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Baylor University and a Masters of Music Education and Jazz Studies at the University of North Texas. She has been a professional trumpet player and music educator for over 20 years and has composed many Jazz and Latin Jazz originals and arrangements.

**Sue Leonardi**, on trumpet and flugelhorn, is on first-call basis with MELBA'S KITCHEN. She performs with numerous Bay Area groups, also contributing significant leadership, including the Community Women's Orchestra, Contra Costa Wind Symphony, and the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Band.

**Jessica Hom** focused on the trombone twenty years ago, after a brief interlude with flute, and there's been no going back. Jessica has played with SF Bay Area groups like the West County Winds, the Community Women's Orchestra, Mary Lou's Apartment, the University of California Jazz Ensemble, and classical wind groups.

**Debra Temple**, pianist with MELBA'S KITCHEN, resumed piano performance after her engineering career intervened. Her musical path was influenced by her choral performance in Mary Lou Williams' *Mass*. Debra plays in big bands, jazz combos, church groups, and musical theater. She gravitates toward trombone as her second instrument.

**Susanne DiVincenzo** is the bass player with MELBA'S KITCHEN. She played bass for the 1970's-80's jazz band, ALIVE! Since then, she's played cello for Tony Bennett, Natalie Cole, and Andrea Bocelli. On returning to the SF Bay Area, Susanne has played with Jazzphoria, Sven's Masterful Orchestra, SFLG Freedom Band, and other projects including Joy Alive! and World on Fire.

**Nancy Geimer**, at the drum set in MELBA'S KITCHEN, also plays with Midnight Kitchen Blues, the Oakland Civic Orchestra, the California Repercussions, and the Hayward Municipal Band. A former member of the South Bay Big Band, Left Coast Sextet, and Mary Lou's Apartment, she has roots in the University of California Marching Band.

**Renaye Brown**, as the percussionist with MELBA'S KITCHEN, brings Cuban and Brazilian rhythms to the band's jazz repertoire. She's studied in San Francisco, Cuba, and Puerto Rico. Renaye is a multi-instrumentalist who has performed with groups like Sistah Boom; Azucar y Crema; Azucar con Ache; and on bass with Gwen Avery.

**Deborah Tisdale** is a SF Bay Area vocalist with a background in secular and sacred music. Her musical influences span genres including classical, pop, country, gospel and spiritual. Deborah has performed with, among others, Anthony Brown's Asian American Jazz Orchestra and Jacqueline Hairston's choral spirituals ensemble at Carnegie Hall.



**Mimi Gonzalez** is a road-tested, high-octane comedian who takes the audience on a wild ride from the profound to the profane. Bawdy and political, her ferocious idealism of inclusion has been embraced by colleges, Prides, comedy clubs, resorts, festivals, cruises and even battlefields. Mimi's answered the call of duty to the U.S. armed forces and made them laugh in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Kosovo, Korea, Japan, and Guam.

## Artist Profiles

"Funny is Funny," and "Latino Laugh Festival." She's even been a morning-show co-host on New York's WPYX.

She's used her Journalism degree to commit random acts of publishing which have included interviewing Camille Paglia for *On Our Backs* magazine and was a featured monthly columnist in *Get RI Magazine*. You can find her on the road, working her walnut farm in Michigan, or on Facebook. [mimigonzaalez.com](http://mimigonzaalez.com)



**Nancy Day** is celebrating her return to NWMF on the Spotlight Stage this year! Nancy began writing her own music and lyrics before the age of five and has made her living at music since 1982. She felt a specific calling to bring her commitment to, and love of music, to diverse audiences through the years as a performer, singer/songwriter, vocalist,

pianist, producer, studio musician and dynamic entertainer. Nancy has produced seventeen albums of original music and lyrics, has written music and lyrics for five musicals, and has toured throughout the US and Canada as a solo artist and with other musicians. Nancy dedicates her time and energy to helping us all overcome hardships through her empowering lyrics and poetry, and uplifting, romantic and unforgettable melodies. Nancy has also toured with her original award-winning Survivor music, (for those recovering from abuse, violence, and sexual assault), for years, and presently continues to include songs of hope and healing for all kinds of survivors. She is known for her spark of spontaneous humor in every show and she creates songs "in the moment" with lyrical ideas provided by every audience. Nancy writes music in support of many causes and she cares deeply about creating a world of acceptance and love, human rights and freedoms, as well as inspiring us all to care about the future of our planet. You are in for a one-of-a-kind and fully entertaining experience with Nancy Day! [nancydaymusic.com](http://nancydaymusic.com)



**Nancy Scott** has been performing her original songs plus a few favorite covers for 40+ years mostly in the Austin, TX area. Nancy put out her first recording on Vinyl and cassette titled *Both Sides of Me*. It was later transferred to CD's. Many wonderful Austin locals participated in the making of that 1st album. In 1995, Nancy with wonderful Austin area musicians, including

fantastic Austin songwriter and the producer for this album, Betty Elders, made Nancy's 2nd recording called *Heartprints in Clay*. Nancy also has a live CD from a concert in El Paso, TX (1988) with a wonderful trio called "The Therapy Sisters." It's called *Nancy Scott Live with the Therapy Sisters*. Presently Nancy is hoping to get all the songs she has written since these 3 CD's recorded within the next few years. [nancyscottmusic.com](http://nancyscottmusic.com)



**Natasha Escalada-Westland** was 20 and at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival back in the late 80's and was entranced by the stage interpreters. She wandered up to get a closer look, then found herself in middle of a group of ASL using folks. She knew she had to learn it and spent the next few years making Deaf friends and taking classes. She eventually pursued a Master's Degree in Deaf Education, and ended

up teaching D/deaf students for 18 years. During that time, she became a nationally certified and state licensed interpreter. She stopped teaching in 2015 and has been professionally interpreting in the community and on VRS since then. She now feels like she's returning full circle and has the opportunity to interpret where it all started - at a women's music festival!



**Rainbow Girls** is an eclectic folk trio hailing from the golden countryside just north of California's Bay Area. **Vanessa May, Erin Chapin, and Caitlin Gowdey** seamlessly combine soul-touching

harmonies, varitextured instrumentals, and poignant lyrical content into a beautiful sonic tapestry. Throughout their performance, voices are paired with an ever-changing amalgamation of acoustic and slide guitar, keys, upright bass, harmonica, and an array of vocal techniques creating an engaging and often emotionally moving live show.

Their music delves deeply into themes of the human experience: hopeful love, honest self-reflection, and pursuits of social justice. Their latest album, *American Dream*, crystallizes these ideas in acoustic amber, encapsulating a beautiful new direction for their ever-evolving sound.

Originally formed in Santa Barbara, CA in 2010, the Rainbow Girls have spread their musical wings both internationally and domestically, from busking on the streets of Europe, to playing pubs and theaters in the UK, to house concerts, festivals, and shows in the US. [rainbowgirlsmusic.com](http://rainbowgirlsmusic.com)



**Rani Biffle-Quimba** studied and performed as a drummer with Wahru for several years. She has also attended workshops by Ubaka Hill and Nurudafina Pili Abena, among others. She is considered an accomplished drummer on the djembe and dunun. Rani was a member of the NWMF's first drum chorus and has participated in this festival as a workshop presenter, assistant director of the NWMF drum chorus, assistant facilitator

for drum jams, and in performances with Sistah Ngoma. She has also performed with Judy Piazza, the Sirens, Nuru, Wahru, and others at the Ohio Womyn's Music Festival and Wimifest. This year's NWMF Drum Chorus will be led by Rani.

**LIVE AUCTION**  
**Saturday @ 11:30am**  
**Spotlight Stage**



## Artist Profiles



**Renée Janski** is the right rockin' reverend! She adds pagan gospel flair and jazz stylings to every performance, be it choral or solo. She's been a music director and performer for over 30 years. Janski has toured with Big Bad Gina and works with Pianolinguus and Muses on the Road. She has 5 albums and is working on her 6th. She is a celebrated composer, choral director,

and arranger. Janski has served her local UU congregation since 2007. She resides in the Ozark mountains of Arkansas with her wife, RJ, and their dogs, Dolly and Rainbow.



**Ruth King** is a blues recording artist whose music is original and heartfelt - described as Acoustic Blues. The show draws on the eclectic shades of her musical origins and reaches into the soul of true folk, soul, jazz, rock, and blues enthusiasts.

Born listening to Dot Records' rhythm and blues recording artists from

Washington, D.C. in the late 50s, Ruth was surrounded by the live original music of her parents. Music which inspired her early years of self-taught guitar playing, singing, and songwriting. In later childhood years, her step-dad, an outstanding jazz drummer, filled their home with the musical genres of jazz and swing music.

Her debut album, *Attache*, was released in the mid-1990s and her single, "Back to Start" received accolades with radio airplay. Ruth's next three records found her career increasing in visibility. Studies at FSU School of Music instructed her in classical voice training and song composition - giving way to practical applications in production as she wrote musical parts for strings, brass, and the bassoon on her latest CD, *HOME*. *HOME* is now featured worldwide on popular music streaming platforms.

Having performed for many at the House of Blues, on concert stages, college circuits, and for music festival audiences nationwide, 2023 finds Ruth singing songs and presenting programs on the topics which match the release of her long-awaited memoir, *RUTH*. Ruth brings hope, healing, and a unique rhythm to our World today through her life, writings, and music.



**SONiA disappear fear** is a world class composer and artist whose talent for writing in a variety of genres and languages has garnered her a vast following worldwide. SONiA's double CD, *LiVE at MAXiMAL*, was in the first round running Grammy for Folk Album of the Year.

Looking at her touring schedule past and future (over 20 countries so far), one can trace decades of dedication to various humanitarian and animal rights' causes. Her 2019 CD, *By My Silence*, is in response to the rise of hate and anti-Semitism around the world. Her 2020 compilation, *Love Out Loud*, encourages people to embrace their identity while highlighting the ongoing push for LGBT equality.

From the Sydney Opera House to the Kerrville Folk Festival and a

bomb shelter in the Negev, she has shared stages and caves with many of her heroes; Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, Nickel Creek, Green Day, Emmylou Harris, GEORGE, John Fullbright, Sheryl Crow, Lucinda Williams, Joan Jett, and Bruce Springsteen at the Light of Day Benefit concert (2014).

Awards include 6 GLAMAs including Female Artist of the Year; GLAAD (Gay and Lesbian American Anti-Defamation) Award for Best Album (previous recipient Elton John); Coin of Honor from a joint coalition of the United States Military for her humanitarian efforts; and Spirit of Folk Music Award from Folk Alliance International (2017).



**Sunny Pfifferling-Irons** holds a BEI-2 Advanced interpreter license. The majority of her work is in the medical field, but she lives for NWMF each year! She has interpreted in education, community, VRS and performing arts. Sunny lives on a small farm in Goshen, Indiana with her wife and daughter. When not interpreting, she enjoys gardening, hiking, riding her horse, and making maple syrup from her own trees.



**Tammy Lynne Hall** began playing the piano at age four, in Dallas, Texas, where she was raised by two grandmothers, a grandfather and numerous aunts and uncles. Her earliest memories of the piano were of climbing onto the piano bench and picking out the notes to tunes she heard on the radio, the record player, or something the choir sang at church. A young pianist for several

churches and choirs; juried recitals that led to awards in regional and national competitions; and attending the prestigious and progressive Mills College in Oakland, CA made it quite evident that Music had chosen Tammy to walk its path. These early experiences would form the triad of Tammy's core sound: a fusion of Jazz, Gospel and Classical.

In pursuit of developing her own voice and the experiences of a 'Jazz' life, Tammy left Mills College and gained more improvisational and accompanying experience sitting in with local bands in the Bay Area and then in Brussels for 2 years. Back in the Bay Area, she has worked with vocalists Etta Jones, Holly Near, Linda Tillery, Pamela Rose, Melba Moore, Queen Esther Marrow, award-winning cabaret singer and actress Connie Champagne, the Supreme Mary Wilson, The Montclair Women's Big Band, violinist Regina Carter, drummer and bandleader Allison Miller, and many more.

In 2017, Tammy received the award for Best Musical Direction from the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle for her work in Pamela Rose's *Blues Is A Woman*.

Tammy's continued involvement with her musical and cultural community include working as an instructor/lecturer (faculty)/mentor with a number of schools and non-profit arts organizations dedicated to making music and theatre accessible to under-funded inner-city children in and around the Bay Area. In 2019, Tammy was recognized by the San Francisco Chapter of the Human Rights Commission, as one of the recipients of its inaugural Pleasant-Leidesdorff San Francisco Community Stalwart Award.

[tammyhall.com](http://tammyhall.com)



**National Women's Music Festival Orchestra Chamber Ensemble**  
**Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor**  
**July 8, 2023, 1:00 PM**

**Program**

Sinfonia Pallade e Marte (1713) Maria Margherita Grimani (1680 – c.1720)

Allegro

Largo

Allegro

Cembalo Concerto in G minor (1734) Wilhelmine von Bayreuth (1709-1758)

I. Allegro

Susan Gaeddert, piano

Image (1918) Germaine Tailleferre (1892-1983)

Symphony No. 2 (1847) Emilie Mayer (1812-1883)

II. Scherzo (arr. Nan Washburn)

The Cider House Rules Main Theme (1999) Rachel Portman (b. 1960)

(arr. Larry Moore)

Party Line for Woodwind Quintet (2021) Mary Watkins (b. 1939)

Soul of Remembrance from Five Movements in Color (1993/2022) Mary Watkins

(arr. Nan Washburn)

Broken Journeys (2019) Alice Gomez (b. 1960)

Yanaguana (2022/2023) Alice Gomez (b. 1960)

World Premiere of arrangement for chamber orchestra

## Orchestra Profiles



**Nan Washburn** (music director, conductor) will celebrate her 25th season as Music Director of the Michigan Philharmonic and her 8th time performing at the NWMF. She is the winner of The American Prize in Orchestral Conducting, professional division 2013, The American Prize Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for the Performance of American Music, professional division, 2016, and 19

ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming from the League of American Orchestras. She first came to national attention as a co-founder, Artistic Director, and Associate Conductor of the San Francisco-based Women's Philharmonic. As a leading authority and advocate for orchestral works by women, she serves on the board of the Women's Philharmonic Advocacy; has been recognized with the Distinguished Service Award from New York Women Composers; the Outstanding Local Hero Award from KQED, San Francisco; the Jeanine C. Rae Award from NWMF in 2016; and in 2021, she was named as one of Crain's Detroit Notable LGBTQ in Business. At NWMF she has conducted the world premieres of Kay Gardner's *Ouroboros* in 1994, Mary Watkins' *The Initiate* in 2016, and Cara Haxo's *Remember* in 2022.



**Alice Gomez** (composer and percussionist). Alice Gomez's compositions capture the awe-inspiring spirit of ethnicity in the language of contemporary music. Her first orchestral composition, *Primitive Echoes*, was premiered in November of 1992. *Primitive Echoes* is a Native American inspired Concerto for Timpani and Chamber Orchestra and was the

catalyst for Gomez's career as a symphonic composer. In 1993, she received a three-year award from Meet The Composer, Inc., to serve as Composer in Residence for The San Antonio Symphony and The Guadalupe Dance Company. She composed several Central American inspired works with the intent of drawing in new symphony audience members from San Antonio's largely Latino community. After completing a very successful residency, Gomez was able to sustain a steady influx of commissions for new works, while building an international reputation as one of the leading Latina composers of concert music.

Alice Gomez has received numerous Composer's Awards from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP). Her music is performed by symphony orchestras, choirs, dance companies, theaters, solo instrumentalists, and at institutions of higher learning and musical study. Gomez's contributions to a multitude of musical genres are internationally acclaimed.



**Mary Watkins** (composer) is an eclectic composer as well as a pianist, arranger, recording artist, and record producer. Much of her music reflects a love for many styles – jazz, gospel, country, rock, classical and pop. She has composed for solo piano for both adults and children;

for wind ensembles, string quartet, chamber, and full symphony orchestra; for solo vocalist, vocal ensemble, and large chorus; and for theater, dance, and film. She is the recipient of awards from several granting foundations including Opera, America, Meet The Composer, National Endowment for the Arts, Gerbodi Foundation, Zellerbach Family Fund and California Council for the Arts. She was chosen for the first commission awarded by the NWMF Orchestra for creation of *The Initiate*, which received its world premiere at the 2016 festival. She has completed five operas; the latest, *Emmett Till*, created with Clara Coss as librettist, premiered in New York City, March 2022.



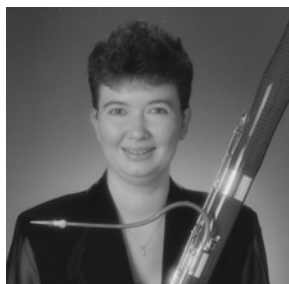
**Dr. Olga Draguieva** (violin 1) has won violin competitions in Bulgaria and the U.S. At 16 she became a member of the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra and played in concert tours of Europe and Asia. In Bulgaria, she served as associate concertmaster of the New Symphony Orchestra-Sofia. In the U.S., Olga has played with Tampa Opera, Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, and Florida Orchestra. She is a member of the Madison Symphony Orchestra and regularly performs

with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra. Olga holds a DMA degree from UW-Madison in Violin Performance. She has made the world premiere recording of *Pieces for Solo Violin* by Bulgarian Composers. Dr. Draguieva maintains a private violin studio on the west side of Madison.



**Alexis Carreon** (viola). For more than 3 decades, violist and violinist Alexis Carreon has performed as a soloist, principal, and ensemble player for numerous chamber and symphony orchestras in the Los Angeles, Madison, and Chicago areas. She is a versatile performer in many musical genres, including solo, chamber, symphonic,

operatic, Broadway, world, and jazz, as well as in film and television. Alexis' live performances, recordings, and tours include Aretha Franklin, Bonnie Raitt, John Tesh, Rod Stewart, Michael Crawford, Tony Bennett, David Arkenstone, James Galway, Nita Whitaker, David Foster, Wayne Newton, David Benoit, Suzanna Guzman, Barry Manilow, Herbie Hancock, Stanley Clarke, Chick Corea, Enrique Iglesias and others. Alexis performed Kay Gardner's *A Rainbow Path* in 2012 and performed subsequent years with the NWMF Orchestra and ensembles. She is always thrilled to be working with Nan Washburn, Leslie Judd and all of the talented NWMF musicians! Presently Alexis is the Office/Personnel Manager and substitute violist of the Madison Symphony Orchestra.



**Carol Rosing** (bassoon) is a native of Portage, WI. She received her Bachelor of Music degree in Bassoon Performance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, studying with Richard Lottridge, and her Master of Music Degree and Professional Studies Degree in Bassoon Performance at the Manhattan School of Music, where she

## Orchestra Profiles

studied with David Carroll and Frank Morelli, respectively.

Carol is currently the principal bassoon in the Oshkosh Symphony, contrabassoon in the Madison Symphony, and second bassoon in the Wisconsin Wind Orchestra. In addition, she was principal bassoon in the Beloit Janesville Symphony for 15 years, and has also performed with the Milwaukee Symphony, the Milwaukee Chamber Orchestra, Green Bay Symphony, Fox Valley Symphony, Dubuque Symphony, Wisconsin Philharmonic, Racine Symphony, Kenosha Symphony, Orchestra Iowa, and Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra. She has performed internationally with groups in England, Scotland, Austria, and Italy. Carol also has vast chamber music experience, having performed with numerous woodwind quintets, trios, and chamber ensembles over the years.

Carol currently serves as the Bassoon Lecturer at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, as well as the Lecturer of Bassoon at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and the Bassoon Instructor at Beloit College. She also maintains a private teaching studio.



**Emily Hancock** appears in the third episode of season three of *Now Hear This*, the PBS travel series hosted by acclaimed violinist Scott Yoo which focuses on the histories and stories of classical composers. The third episode features the music and backstory of Aaron Copland and was filmed during the 2021 Colorado College Summer Music Festival. You can also hear Emily

on Spotify and Apple Music performing with the Oberlin Orchestra in a recording of Jesse Jones' "Innumerable Stars, Scattered in Clusters."

As a student at Oberlin, Emily co-founded the organization Oberlin Students for Gender Inclusivity in Music (OSGIM) whose purpose is to celebrate women, transgender, and non-binary classical and contemporary musicians and composers through the organization of recitals, talks, and other events. OSGIM sponsored an Oberlin Winter Term orchestra and choir in January 2020 that performed exclusively music by women and transgender composers.

When she is not playing the clarinet, you can find Emily listening to her favorite podcast or eating her daily bagel and dirty chai latte!



**Kaia Skaggs** (flute). Kaia is a multi-instrumentalist and sound engineer living in Ypsilanti, Michigan. She studied flute performance at Vanderbilt University and cello performance at The University of Kansas. She has performed in numerous orchestras and chamber groups over the years and as a soloist promoting the music of women composers. Her performances include appearances at the National Women's Music Festival and Michigan Womyn's

Music Festival and touring Israel with the folk group Assis Harim. Kaia played flute and recorder in the first live performance of Kay Gardner's *A Rainbow Path* and was a member of the orchestra for

the premiere NWMF performances of Gardner's *Ouroboros*, Mary Watkins' *The Initiate*, and Cara Haxo's *Remember*. The reprisal of *A Rainbow Path* at the 2012 NWMF was Kaia's dream. She is better known in recent years for her work as a sound engineer at the nationally renowned folk/acoustic venue The Ark in Ann Arbor and as the Main Stage sound engineer for the National Women's Music Festival.



**Dr. Laura Medisky** (oboe) is an oboist and Alexander Technique teacher based in Madison, WI. She served as Acting Principal Oboe of the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra from 2016-22 and in the Rockford Symphony from 2021-23. She has been a member of the Madison Symphony Orchestra, and also performs with the Elgin and Dubuque Symphonies, Fresco Opera, Capital City Theatre, and Bach Dancing and Dynamite Society. Medisky has

performed concertos with orchestras in Wisconsin, Nebraska, Illinois, and Idaho. Her solo album, *Personalities: 21st-century American Music for Oboe*, was released in 2012 on the Centaur Records label.

As a guest artist, Medisky presents oboe masterclasses and Alexander Technique workshops at music institutions and conferences throughout the United States. At home in Madison, she is the owner of the thriving Medisky Oboe Studio LLC and is a regular clinician for area schools. Recognized for her creativity and innovation in studio teaching, Medisky was a featured guest on the "Mavericks" series of the podcast *Double Reed Dish*. In 2018, Medisky co-founded the LunART Festival in Madison, serving as a Festival Director for the first two seasons. She has served on faculty at UW-Platteville, Luther College, Maranatha Baptist University, and Edgewood College.



**Laurie A. Jarski** (cello) is a composer, cellist, singer/songwriter, guitarist, multi-string instrumentalist, and owner/director of Broughton Music Center, Northville Center for Music & Art, & WPI Festival On the Land Music Camp for Women & Girls. Laurie is a professional cellist in the C•O•R•Etet String Quartet, Octocelli Cello

Ensemble, Presence of Three Trio, Red Willow Dream, the Battle Creek Symphony, and has served as principal cellist with the NWMF Orchestra. She currently coaches a 'String Quartet Plus' program in Northville & Kalamazoo for youth & adult string players, and coached at a Sturgis Chamber String Music Retreat.

Laurie is co-producing an original album scheduled for release in early 2024. Her recent composition commissions include *The Nine Trees of KL Ave*, 2021, for banjo, minstrel banjo, mandolin, dulcimer, string quartet & percussion, as a part of 'The Music In Place' project and the *Egyptian Blue Jazz Bowl* for Solo Guitar & Untitled Brazilian Mirage for two cellos, minstrel banjo, classical guitar, doumbek & egg shakers was commissioned for the Kalamazoo Institute of Art's *Unveiling American Genius Resonance Music Project*, 2020.

Laurie has composed commissions for orchestra, chamber orchestra, choir, and a variety of chamber ensemble pieces. Larger ensemble and orchestral compositions include, 'God Rest Ye! Orchestral Renderings'; 2015, 'Funky Blues for Cello Quartet'; 2012, 'The

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## Orchestra Profiles

Star to Every Wandering Bark' for Choir, Chamber Orchestra, and Percussion; 2010, Travel Modalities for 16 Celli; 2008, An Amethyst Remembrance for Mezzo Soprano, Chamber Choir and Orchestra; 1995. Laurie's interplay of antiphonal, rhythmic, and colorful fabric is woven around lyrical song-like melodies, a natural extension of Laurie's folk music origin, as singer/ songwriter from age 9 and onward. A natural tendency to have percussive attributes cross over to instruments not usually slated as percussion, is of particular interest, and vice versa. Instrumental role switches, provide some interesting sound textures! In a recent work, Rhythm Cordia for Solo Cello, Laurie further blurs the idiomatic lines between cello and guitar, with a variety of pizzicato techniques, and col legno variations embedded into the piece.



**Maynie Bradley** (violin 2) began playing the violin at age three with the Suzuki Strings of Madison. She went on to study with professors Eugene Purdue and David Perry, graduating with distinction from UW Madison with degrees in music performance and psychology. Starting in September 2022, she will be a member of the

Griffon String Quartet, an ensemble based in Door County, WI. Maynie is passionate about providing stimulating and fulfilling education for children of all ages and backgrounds. Her experience includes teaching at Music con Brio, an inclusive and community-based music program in Madison and providing autism therapy to children through Achieving Collaborative Treatment (ACT). She also participated in a workshop with members of the New-York based ensemble Decoda to study community engagement through music. Additionally, she has coached chamber groups with the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras (WYSO) and volunteered with Madison Music Makers.



**Dr. Sarah L. Gillespie** (French horn, celesta) is Instructor of Horn at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. She received her Doctorate of Musical Arts and a Masters in Horn Performance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her Bachelor of Horn Performance and Music Education degrees from Louisiana State University. Sarah hosts a private studio of students aged 9-90 and

believes that music education is for everyone and for life. Sarah is third horn of the La Crosse Symphony Orchestra and freelances with various orchestras in Wisconsin and Iowa. Chamber music is her favorite genre of music to perform and she performs regularly with the Underground Chamber Collective, Pensissimo Woodwind Quintet, and Third Lake Brass Quintet. Sarah, an advocate for women composers, has premiered works at the National Women's Music Festival, the LunART Festival, and the International Women in Brass Conference. She also sings as a choral section leader at St. Bernard's Catholic Church and as a cantor and soloist at eight parishes throughout the Catholic Diocese of Madison. When she is not performing, Sarah might be found hiking with her husband or biking around Madison's beautiful lakes.



**Dr. Susan Gaeddert** (piano, keyboard) is active in the Madison area as a collaborative pianist, working with professional musicians and students of all ages coaching singers and instrumentalists for auditions and performances. She has toured the state with Opera for The Young, taught at Edgewood College, taught private and group lessons, and performed with a number of local musicians at festivals and recitals in the

Madison area. Susan holds degrees in Piano Performance, Pedagogy, and Collaborative Piano. Recently, she embarked on a career change and obtained a degree in Urban/Regional Planning from UW-Madison, graduating in 2020. She now works as Community Programs Director for 1000 Friends of Wisconsin, an organization specializing in land use and transportation planning. Susan is excited to be back at NWMF in 2023!



**Susanne DiVincenzo** (contrabass) is a founding member of the all women jazz quintet, Alive! who have performed at many National Women's Music Festivals. She played cello with the first NWMF Orchestra conducted by Antonia Brico in 1978 in Champaign-Urbana. She has also played bass in recent NWMF Orchestras, including this year's NWMF Women's Composers Series Presents. She is

currently involved in many musical projects: teaching workshops at the CA Jazz Conservatory in Berkeley, CA and playing with the newly formed trio with Terry Garthwaite and Barbara Borden called "Joy Alive!" Together with Barbara Borden and Naomi Newman, she has been writing music for the new play, "Between Worlds" produced by the Yiddish Ensemble Theatre, about the lesbian poet and Warsaw ghetto survivor, Irena Klepfisz. The play will be produced at the Live Oak Theatre in Berkeley, CA in August, 2023. Susanne will be playing bass on the SheRocks stage on Sunday with Melba's Kitchen, the 14-woman big band featuring the compositions and arrangements of Melba Liston and Mary Lou Williams from the 1940s. The Melba's Kitchen Ensemble will also be featuring New Standards by Women in the Atrium during the Festival.

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....music, tie-dye clothing, painted rocks, jewelry, fabric bowls, custom art, rainbow and pride shirts, drums, ukuleles, flutes, gourds, wire wrapping, Lesbian Connection, bamboo socks, silk scarves, stained glass, and **Festival Shirts and Aprons.**

### Have lunch in the Living Room

#### Check out the Living Room Stage

Open Mic ♦ Comedy Improv ♦ Tai Chi/Chi Gong

## Gardner & Watkins Atrium Recitals

### From Parlor to Concert

Hosts – Emmy Rozanski & Allison Schweitzer

Thursday, July 6

11am- 2:30pm - To be announced – see Atrium placard

4-6pm - An Evening of Brass featuring Sarah Gillespie, Allison Schweitzer, Emmy Rozanski and TBA

Friday, July 7

11:30am-1pm - Keys and Improvisation – Leslie D. Judd and TBA: see Atrium placard

4-6:00pm - Composers Serious and at Play

4- 4:45pm - Laurie A. Jarski with Nancy Day, Jorian Costello, Maynie Bradley, Susan Gaddert

4:50-5:25pm - Nancy Day with Roberta Greenspan, Jorian Costello, Sarah Gillespie and Laurie A. Jarski

5:30 to 6:00 - Melba's Hot Plate - members of Melba's Kitchen big band playing New Jazz Standards by Women Composers, curated by Terri Lyne Carrington

Saturday, July 8

9-11:30am – TBA: see Atrium placard

4:05-4:30pm - Celebrate Wahu – Indigie Femme, Elena Higgins, Tash Terry



**Allison M. Schweitzer** (horn) studied music and new media/journalism at Valparaiso University ('05). Allison teaches horn and currently performs with Avec le

Bois Woodwind Quintet and The Firefly Brass Duo. She's performed with the Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra, Menomonee Falls Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Summer Philharmonia and Concord Chamber Orchestra.

In 2019 Allison founded Wisconsin Music Ventures – a live music series with a focus on outdoor and/or unusual event sites. Since COVID, WMV has become a community for musicians that supports them in their work, alongside continued hosting of performances. Allison and WMV also consult for other area live music events.

Allison has worn a variety of hats within the arts and entertainment field from music journalism to house management to box office to arts education to orchestral

business management to marketing; being the Executive Director of a local symphony orchestra to a Guitar Festival Consultant. For more about her, visit [allisonschweitzer.com](http://allisonschweitzer.com).



**Emmy Rozanski** (trombone) is an enthusiastic music educator and active freelance trombonist in the Chicago and Milwaukee areas. She is a

teaching artist for Sistema Ravinia and low brass instructor at several high schools in the Illinois suburbs. In the summers of 2018 and 2019, Emmy traveled to El Salvador as a teaching artist with MusAid, leading classes in technique and ensemble skills as well as teaching private lessons. She is currently the principal trombonist for the Milwaukee Philharmonic and Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra and regularly performs with a variety of ensembles throughout Wisconsin and Illinois. Emmy has presented on the topics of growth mindset and motivation as they pertain to musicians and educators at the 2019 International Trombone Festival and International Women's Brass Conference. She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in trombone performance from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, as well as Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in trombone performance from Arizona State University. A passionate visual artist, as well as musician, she has written and illustrated a children's book about the trombone, Mr. Fitch Joins the Band.



**Leslie D. Judd** (composer). Climbing upon the piano bench of my mother's old upright, to reach the keys at 18 months old, I fell off the bench. I kept climbing

until I did not fall, reaching until I could feel the touch of those keys vibrate through my hands and soul. I have always known music was a guiding light, a doorway to new worlds and often escape. Music makes life better. Music drives culture in either direction of change. I write because I must, like I must breathe. Music is a stage of life best offered when shared. Whether improvising on keys for my dog Moses, producing an orchestra, playing for my mother and her cottage of lost memories, where they miraculously and naturally remember music above all else, I continue to find reason to play on.



**Melba's Hot Plate** is the combo-offshoot from MELBA'S KITCHEN big band which will be performing on the SheRocks stage on Sunday. "Hot plate"

in jazz parlance means a "hot recording" and this group embodies that vibe. The group formed to play tunes from the newly released "New Standards; 101 Lead Sheets by Women Composers" book edited and curated by Terri Lyne Carrington, drummer and founder of the Berklee Institute of Jazz and Gender Justice. The Hot Plate members are Nzingah Smith, Cynthia Mah, and Georgianna Krieger on saxophones; Marina Garza on trumpet; Pat Mullan on trombone; Deborah Tisdale on vocals; Nancy Geimer on drumset; Renaye Brown on percussion; Debra Temple on piano; and Susanne DiVincenzo on acoustic bass.



**Roberta Greenspan** (violin). Roberta Greenspan (violin). It has been over 50 years since Roberta picked up a violin for the first time. Since then, her musical journey has ventured from playing

classical music and backing up numerous folk musicians to winning the West Virginia Fiddle Contest in 1983 and starting the contra dance band Whiskey On Tap. She played in Pittsburgh, both accompanying Nancy Day and alongside her in variety shows. She has participated in Michigan Fest song circles, toured with human rights and Earth First troubador Alice DiMichele and civil rights singer Vic Sadot. As fiddler and singer with the Buckerettes, and as half of the duo, Cuddle in the Cosmos, both groups were selected for NPR rotation in the Western United States.

Robert states that when music is a conduit to join hearts and minds, every cell can be in a vibrational collaboration of oneness as a healing and connecting medium of love. minds, every cell can be in a vibrational collaboration of oneness as a healing and connecting medium of love.

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**LIVE AUCTION**  
**Saturday @ 11:30am**  
**Spotlight Stage**

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## Workshop Profiles

**Alex Thompson** is published in a book of poetry titled *My Tree Called Life* and published novels at age 71: *Kal and Julie*, *Ozark Puzzlement*, *Ozark Trouble*, and a nonfiction work *Writing Your Book: I Did-You Can!* available on Amazon. Thereby proving, it is never too late. She has attended NWMF a lot and can be currently found there as a videographer.

**Anne Dornberg** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with over 30 years of experience developing and facilitating workshops on a broad range of topics including white privilege, unconscious bias, gender discrimination, LGBTQ+ concerns, and Ethics. She also enjoys nature, dogs, swimming, reading, eating, traveling and movies.

**Barb Jording** and **Liz Wharton** have put thousands of miles on a variety of RVs over 33 years traveling from Baja to Newfoundland and Alaska to Florida. Barb is an RVTI Certified RV Technician. Liz is a retired psychotherapist, artist, and adventurer. They teach classes in RV maintenance for women for RVing Women and lead "women-only" caravans for Adventure Caravans. Here's their Blog from the workshop <https://twogalsgo.blog/>

**Barbara Kucharczyk** is a retired US Air Force Lt. Colonel, having served 21.5 years as an Aircraft Maintenance Officer. She is a SC Ambassador for the Military Women's Memorial. She also taught high school Health, Physical Education and Sex Education in VA and NJ, and was a high school Special Education Aide in TX.

**Be Steadwell** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Bettie Owen** worked for seventeen years for Wolfe Video, managing the release of over one hundred LGBTQ films to every conceivable platform. She continues to consult on special projects for Wolfe. Bettie first came to the National Women's Music Festival in 2017. She and her wife Eileen were so excited about the event, they asked to volunteer, and Bettie has assisted with acquisition and presentation of films at the fest the last several years. Bettie's other great love is playing the ukulele, and she has been part of the Festival ukulele chorus at each NWMF she has attended.

**Brenda Thompson** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Christine Powers** is a former college professor who is passionate about helping others grow, create, learn, and explore. "I have tons of journals that I have kept since I was a child. Ever organized, I keep different ones for travel, relationships, life milestones, working, and just for bitching!" A solo traveler to lesbian events, she also has experience in helping solo/single travelers get to know one another and find new friends.

**Debra Temple** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Diane Silver** is a Pushcart Prize-nominated poet and performer who seeks to tease open the scar tissue life layers over our hearts. She has been published in *Ms. Magazine*, *The Progressive*, *The Lavender Review*, *MockingHeart Review*, *The Coop*, and many other venues.

**Elena Higgins** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Eugenia Fernandez** has been attending and/or working at NWMF for more than 30 years. She has been line-dancing for over 10 years and has 30 years of teaching experience.

**FireHawk Stewart** is an ordained Priestess in the Dianic Wicca tradition and a member of the Red Tent Clan. As a priestess of transformations, she is dedicated to helping women find the power to heal themselves in simple and naturalistic ways.

**Gail Fairfield** has used her choice centered approach in her work with astrology/tarot clients and students since the 1970s. She also finds joy in creating children's books and *The MOSTLY True Stories of Roly Poly's Great Lake Adventures* is whimsical and richly illustrated. Gail and Roly Poly live in Bloomington, Indiana. Go to <http://www.gailfairfield.com> for astrology or tarot. Go to <http://www.GailFairfieldInks.com> for more about Roly Poly.

**Gareth Mann** is the current Poet Laureate of Elgin, Illinois and Artistic Director of Femmeprovo, an all-female acting company she founded in 2008. She is a produced playwright, including two full-length musicals, and is a skilled poetic performance artist.

**Georgianna Kreiger** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Harvest Brown** is an ordained Dianic Priestess. She has chosen to dedicate her service to setting up and priesting the Red Tent. Harvest has been celebrating and honoring the Goddess through Dianic feminist Wiccan practice for over 25 years. She has been serving the women via the Red Tent for 9 years.

**Helen H Yee** is a self-taught bass player with an all-female rock band and a fourth-degree black belt in Taekwondo teaching Tai Chi and Qi Gong in the US and abroad. An author, Helen wrote and published her *Memoir: I BELONG HERE* – the story of a Chinese immigrant bullied through her formative years, but no longer passively accepting it. Helen's heart is to support, inspire, and represent business women, lesbians, and Asians.

**Holin Blackmoon** is an ordained High Priestess in the Dianic Tradition of Wicca and a member of the Red Tent Clan. Happiest chopping wood and carrying water, she lives by oil lamp and internet and has been making magick and mischief for over 50 years.

**Holly Near** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Janalea Hoffman** is a Music Therapist with Master's degrees in Music and Psychology. She has been studying and using essential oils for 30 years and has developed music therapy techniques for inner healing. Janalea has written a book and published 16 therapeutic music CD's. She received a Spirit Award for her Innovative work with music and medicine. Janalea is very involved with natural healing techniques, is a dog/cat rescuer, and has experience using essential oils for our animal family members.

**Janell Banks** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Janis Kidder** worked as an openly lesbian rocket scientist from the beginning to the end of the Space Shuttle Program. She was on the accident investigation and return-to-flight teams for both Challenger and Columbia, and was instrumental in pressuring the conservative Lockheed Martin Corporation to provide LGBT employee benefits.

**Jesse Powers** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Jessica Hom** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.



## Workshop Profiles

**Joan Lipkin**, an internationally known writer, educator and facilitator, specializes in helping people of many backgrounds (LGBTQ+, cancer, disabilities, elders, students) write their stories. She is widely published and the recipient of a Visionary, Arts Innovator, and Ethical Humanist Awards.

**Jori Costello** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Joy Bang** never stops singing! Whether it is around a campfire, chiming in with her radio, or worshipping at synagogue, her robust alto fills the air. A college acting major, Joy makes magic every time she presents poetry, be it her own or that of others.

**Kristi Hallisy, PT, DSc** is an Associate Professor at the UW-Madison Doctor of Physical Therapy program. A nationally recognized Tai Chi speaker, teacher, and researcher, she will share with you ancient Chinese Tai Chi secrets for optimal aging and wellness.

**Lance Link** came out into feminism and lesbian community in 1974, and has been raising Hell about the patriarchy, sexism, racism -- all the -isms, actually -- ever since. She and a few like minds started *Women Against Rape*, and *Hag Rag Intergalactic Lesbian Separatist News* in Milwaukee in the '70s and '80s. She wants to encourage her sisters to live to fight another day.

**Louise Goldberg** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Marti Nerenstone**, a retired attorney, grew up in the Reform movement, studied in Jerusalem during college, and served in West Germany as an Army chaplain assistant for an Orthodox rabbi. With her guitar, she is currently the lay leader for a Reconstructionist chavurah.

**Mary Reynolds** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Mary Waitrovich** has performed at NWMF and other festivals as a singer/songwriter and as a member of the comedy troupe Flaming Dykasaurus.

**Meadow Muska** photographed Lesbians of the 70's in Minnesota and Oregon. She graduated from Ohio University with a BFA in photography and was working as a photojournalist when she believes she was outed as a lesbian and fired. These are beautiful photos of a unique time in our

herstory.

**Mimi Gonzalez** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Nancy Day** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Nancy Scott** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Nzingah Smith** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Pat Calchina** is an 80 year old retired history teacher. She has taught women's history and lesbian history, currently interviews area lesbians for the GLBT Oral History Project at UW Madison and facilitates an ongoing death and dying group in Madison, Wisconsin.

**Pat Mullan** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Patti Kardia** spent 20 years in a cohousing community in Ann Arbor as well as 7 years working to promote cooperative communities, including housing. She is currently isolated in rural mid-Michigan but loves thinking about and developing intentional community, especially with other lesbians!

**Peggy Patty** loves the rejuvenating effects of music and sound vibrations. She's been facilitating drum circles, SoundBaths, and Crystal Bowls Meditations in central Illinois and around the Midwest for over 20 years. Peggy enjoys presenting workshops on the healing effects of Sound Vibrations on our Body, Mind, and Soul. Email at [earthbeat3@gmail.com](mailto:earthbeat3@gmail.com)

**Phyllis Lau** began drumming over two decades ago and facilitated monthly circles. She is always inspiring when she plays her native american flute during a SoundBath as attendees relax deeply into the vibration.

**Rain Gaia Foster** is an ordained priestess, practicing in the Dianic Tradition founded by Z Budapest, for 20+ years. She is devoted to ritual, altar practice, womyn's mysteries, and sovereign spaces. She is Crone, Artist/Maker, Witch, 2nd Wave Feminist Dragon Womyn.

**Rani Biffle-Quimba** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Renaye Brown** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Renee Cranesister**, a Member of the Red Tent Clan, has been involved with women's community and spiritual exploration throughout her life. With a local animal shelter, she "grows babycats," providing neonate care to orphaned kittens. She lives in Madison with her partner of many years and their fur family.

**Renée Janski** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Rev. Boye** is an Interfaith Minister, Drum Guardian, feminist Poet, and Essayist. She works as a Disability Advocate and is the producer of the "True Tales by Disability Advocates" Podcast. (<https://www.artsparktx.org/truetalespodcast/>). She lives in Austin, TX with the love of her life, Sally Jeaux.

**Ruth Landau**, aka "Dr. Ruth," is a wife, caregiver, pet lover, gardener, farm owner, veterinarian. She and her beloved wife Leila were introduced by Esther Fuller many moons ago; dear Esther (1935-2018) continues to guide them in their journey of love.

**Sally Jeaux** is an ordained Priestess of RCGI. Therapist, Ritualist, Feminist, and Priestess of The Wheel, Sally uses her creative energy to write liturgy, craft altars & walk the healing path with children from hard places. Sally lives a blessed life with her delicious partner, Boye.

**Sara Karon** is a long-time Fest attendee. She has organized the Room of Remembrance and Lesbian Widows workshop since losing her beloved Catherine Odette in 2012. She also is pleased to organize the Friday night Shabbat service.

**Shelley Graff** is a longtime teacher/healer/singer/songwriter who believes her sacred journey is guiding her to share the Singing In Sacred Circle experience with other womyn around the country. She loves singing with womyn and building song communities. Her four CDs ([Goldenrod.com](http://Goldenrod.com)) are a tribute to the healing/sounding singing circle work of the late Kay Gardner. Visit: [facebook.com/public/Shelley-Graff](https://facebook.com/public/Shelley-Graff); [shelleyg.com/](https://shelleyg.com/) Contact: [shelleygraffmusic@gmail](mailto:shelleygraffmusic@gmail.com)

**SONiA** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

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## Workshop Profiles

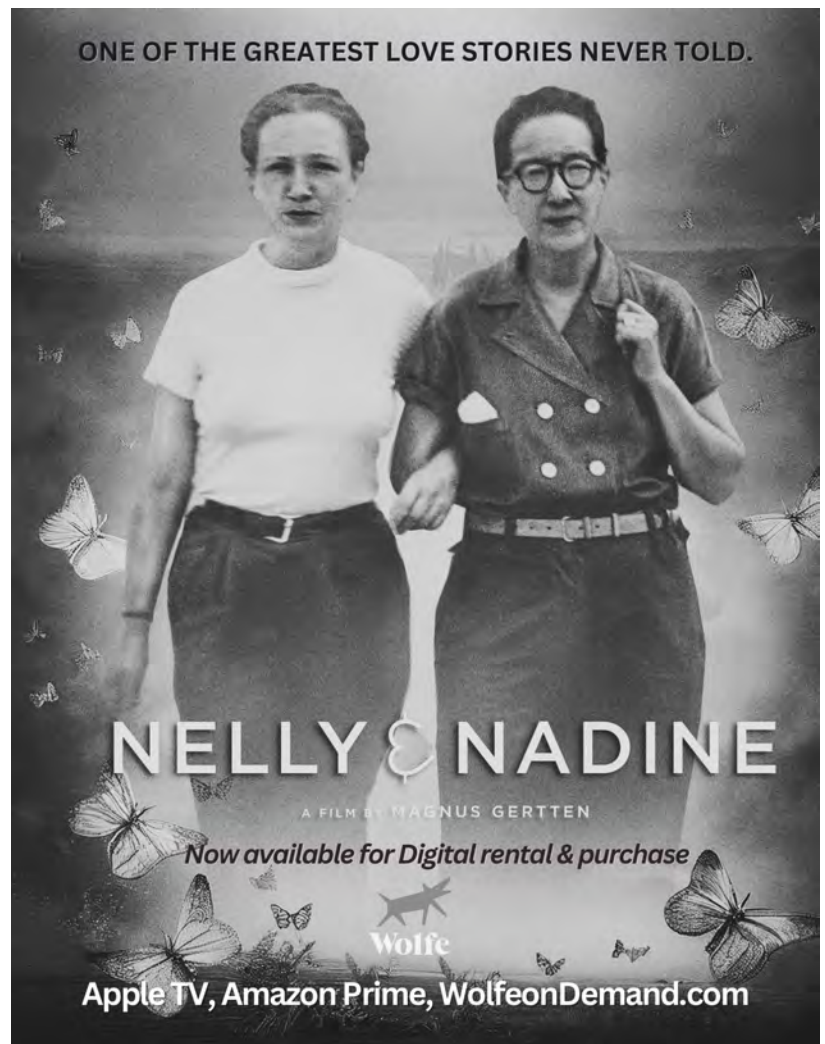
**Suzanne Gray** is interested in working to create housing options for lesbians as we age, and moderates <https://facebook.com/groups/lezcohouse/>, a Facebook group which has more than 5,000 members engaged with this topic. Suzanne also participated in the first all-female RV technician training at the RV Technical Institute and holds a level 1 certified RV technician.

**Susanne DiVincenzo** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Tash Terry** is a performer. See Artist Profiles.

**Toni Armstrong Jr.** has decades of effective experience in women's music and lesbian community building. She's been a concert producer, musician, festival photographer, publisher (*HOT WIRE* magazine), GLSEN youth leadership director, and founder of BLAST (Bi, Lesbian, and Straight Together) Women of the Palm Beaches.

**Wendy Ripnow** celebrated 38 years clean this past June 15. She relies on 12 step groups and all things Goddess to empower this journey. She supports and is supported by women to stay clean. She enjoys all types of music, gardening, yoga, Lake Superior, rockhounding, reading, editing, and writing.



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**[LeslieDJuddComposer@gmail.com](mailto:LeslieDJuddComposer@gmail.com)**



## 2023 Marketplace Craftswimin

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At Olivia, we are doing something special. We are all LGBTQ+ women, all the time! All Olivia trips—whether big cruises and resorts, intimate riverboat and luxury trips, or off-the-beaten-track adventure tours—are created specifically for our community. We charter entire ships, resorts, and excursions so you can feel completely free to be you. Autumn Nazarian [autumnn@olivia.com](mailto:autumnn@olivia.com)

### 2 – Kneadful Things Massages

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Mullein (Christine Yvonne) Hilbert  
[planetearthgirrl@hotmail.com](mailto:planetearthgirrl@hotmail.com)  
608-628-8241

### 3 – Inner Mountain Stones and Woods

Handcrafted toys for transformation. Wands, rattles, sticks, wire wrapping, altars and gourds.  
Sandie Buttry  
Inner mountain stones & woods/facebook  
[little\\_willow777@yahoo.com](mailto:little_willow777@yahoo.com)

### 4 – Lesbian Connection

Lesbian Connection Magazine - The free worldwide forum of news & ideas for, by and about lesbians.  
Lisy Harmon  
[LC@LConline.org](mailto:LC@LConline.org) 517-371-5257

### 5 – Goldenrod Music

Women's music CDs, DVDs, books and cool merch by the festival artists.  
Susan Frazier & MJ Stephenson  
[goldenrod.com](http://goldenrod.com)  
[sales@goldenrod.com](mailto:sales@goldenrod.com) 517-484-1712

### 6 – Twin Star Designs

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Facebook:Twinstar Designs  
[esyule@yahoo.com](mailto:esyule@yahoo.com) 479-601-4519

### 7 – Barb's Custom Crafts and Rocks

Hand Painted Rocks and Jewelry. Hand painted rocks with inspirational sayings/PRIDE designs.  
Barb Sanders [bp561152@gmail.com](mailto:bp561152@gmail.com)

### 8 – Sewing in Circles

Textile designs for fun and function.  
Rose Halik, Owner/Designer  
Rose Halik Textile Designs (Facebook)  
[sewingincircles.com](http://sewingincircles.com)  
608-444-5638

### 9 – Rhythmic Medicine

Rhythmic Medicine is owned by Music Therapist, Janalea Hoffman specializing in holistic healing products. BioAcoustic Mats - allows you to feel music vibration throughout your body - great for relaxation and anxiety. Therapeutic music composed by Janalea at specific rhythms to slow down heart rate and blood pressure. Cathedral Drums - easy to play, excellent for meditation with a beautiful rich tone. We have amethyst BioMats with infrared that are very effective for reducing inflammation and pain. Native American Flutes - fun and easy to play. Essential Oils. Come to our booth and experience our products.  
Marilyn Miller  
[music@rhythmicmedicine.com](mailto:music@rhythmicmedicine.com)  
[rhythmicmedicine.com](http://rhythmicmedicine.com) 913-710-8535

### 10 – Peace and Pride

Rainbow Specialties - Jewelry and other queer gear. Mostly silver and rainbow jewelry and some queer stuff.  
Ruth Debra [ruthdebra@icloud.com](mailto:ruthdebra@icloud.com)

### 11 – A Pane in the Glass

Fabulously Unique, hand-made mosaics for your space. Genevieve Johnson  
[genevievejohnson628@yahoo.com](mailto:genevievejohnson628@yahoo.com)  
Facebook/genevievesapaneintheglass  
402.359.0380

### 12 – Uncommon Floworks

Uncommon Floworks is a collection of art made with the fluid art technique. Every piece is original and made by women. We make canvas, jewelry, coasters, clocks, and much more. We also have the ability to take custom requests. We believe everyone needs pretty things in our lives that make us smile. We look forward to seeing you at our booth. Christina Sanchez  
[facebook.com/Uncommonfloworks](https://facebook.com/Uncommonfloworks)  
[uncommonfloworks@yahoo.com](mailto:uncommonfloworks@yahoo.com)

### 13 – Designs in Wire

Beautifully crafted wire wrapped bracelets, charms, pendants and earrings in stainless steel, sterling silver and gold.  
Dorie Hodal  
[dorie.hodal@gmail.com](mailto:dorie.hodal@gmail.com) 630-479-1341

### 14 – Broughton Music & Art Center

Musical Merchandise, including instruments, accessories, sheet music & private lessons. We are a women-owned and cultivated music product and music lesson business. We have two permanent locations serving both the Southwestern & Southeastern Michigan communities. We offer musical instruments, guitars, drums, sheet music,

accessories, and musical instruction at the music festivals we've served.

Laurie A. Jarski  
[broughtonmusiccenter.com](http://broughtonmusiccenter.com) 269-271-6409

### 15 – The Land Sustainment Shop

Non-profit to raise funds for purchase of the MICHFEST Land. This space is intended for any woman who wants to support The Land through resale, silent auctions or donation of goods or services. All proceeds/profits go to We Want the Land Coalition, to support their mission to preserve The Land for women and girls - forever. Our first goal is to pay off the Land. Next, infrastructure to make the Land able to maintain larger groups of women. Also, to help with accessibility so more women can be comfortable on the Land. ACCEPTING DONATIONS AT NWMF. PO Wood – Land HO  
Lauren Merrell [facebook.com/groups/TheLandSustainmentSh](https://facebook.com/groups/TheLandSustainmentSh)  
[pofinally@msn.com](mailto:pofinally@msn.com)

### 16 – OUT!wear Pridewear & Accessories

Quality Custom Pridewear and accessories, apparel and promotional products, since 1994, featuring "something for everyone." Sizes 6 mo. to 6X. Custom, custom, we do custom! Michelle Denley  
[www.outwear.com](http://www.outwear.com) & [msndesigngroup.com](http://msndesigngroup.com)  
[yomaria@outwear.com](mailto:yomaria@outwear.com)

### 17 - National Women's Music Festival Merchandise

NWMF festival shirts, merchandise, souvenirs, jackets, magnets, stickers, pet sitter gifts – all the festival swag you need and cannot live without, while supporting "the greatest and longest running Women's Music Festival in the World!" (YES!) Carol Vitelli – Festiewear Coordinator, featuring her "all-star" staff and michfest's finest "swag sellers." Stop and visit and see what is new in "festie" swag this year.

## Visit the Marketplace

Get your Bingo card at Festieware  
Visit Craftswimin for a stamp

You might win 2024 Festival Pass

Have lunch in  
the Living Room

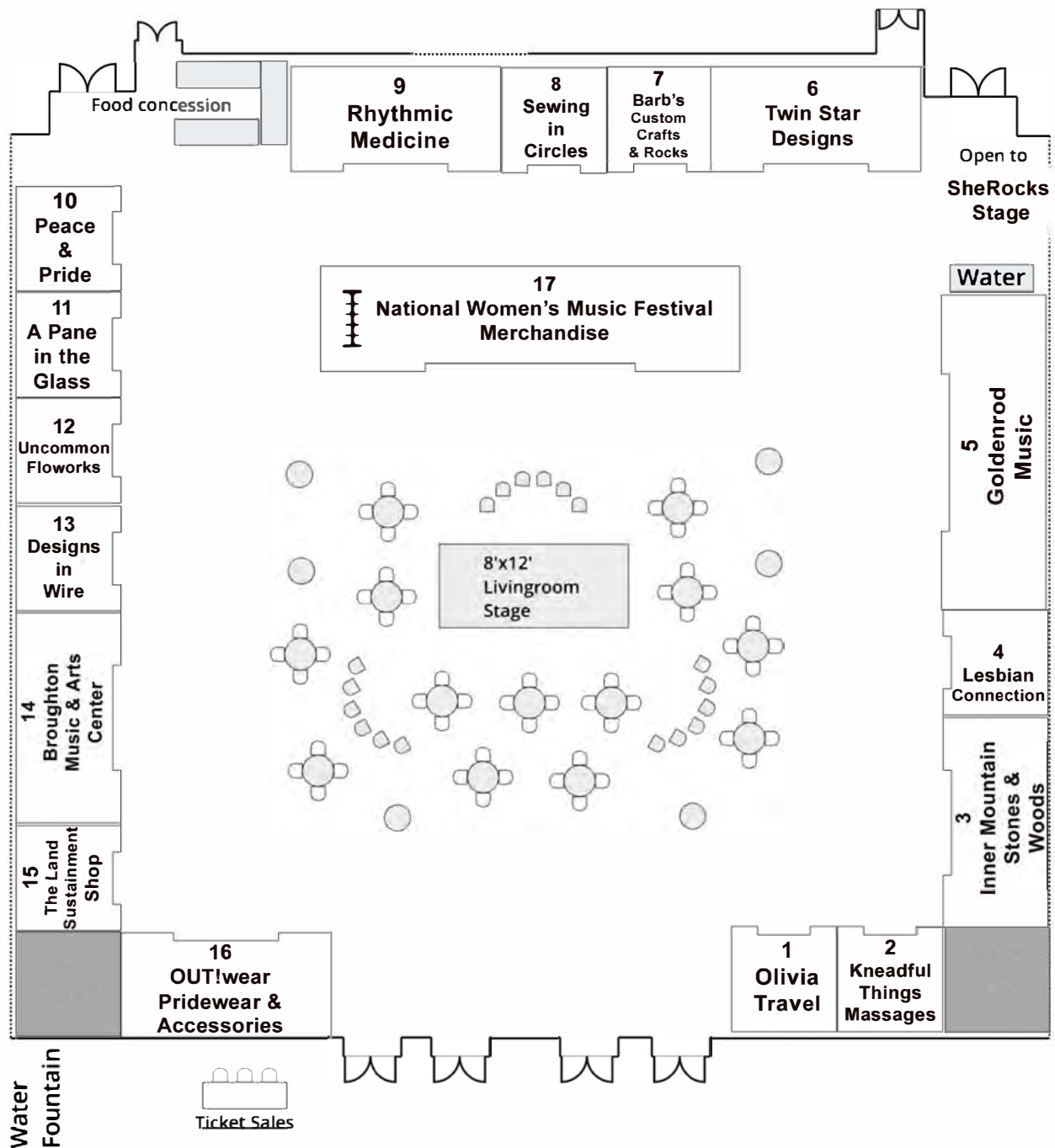
Check out the Living Room Stage  
Open Mic  
Comedy Improv  
Tai Chi/Chi Gong

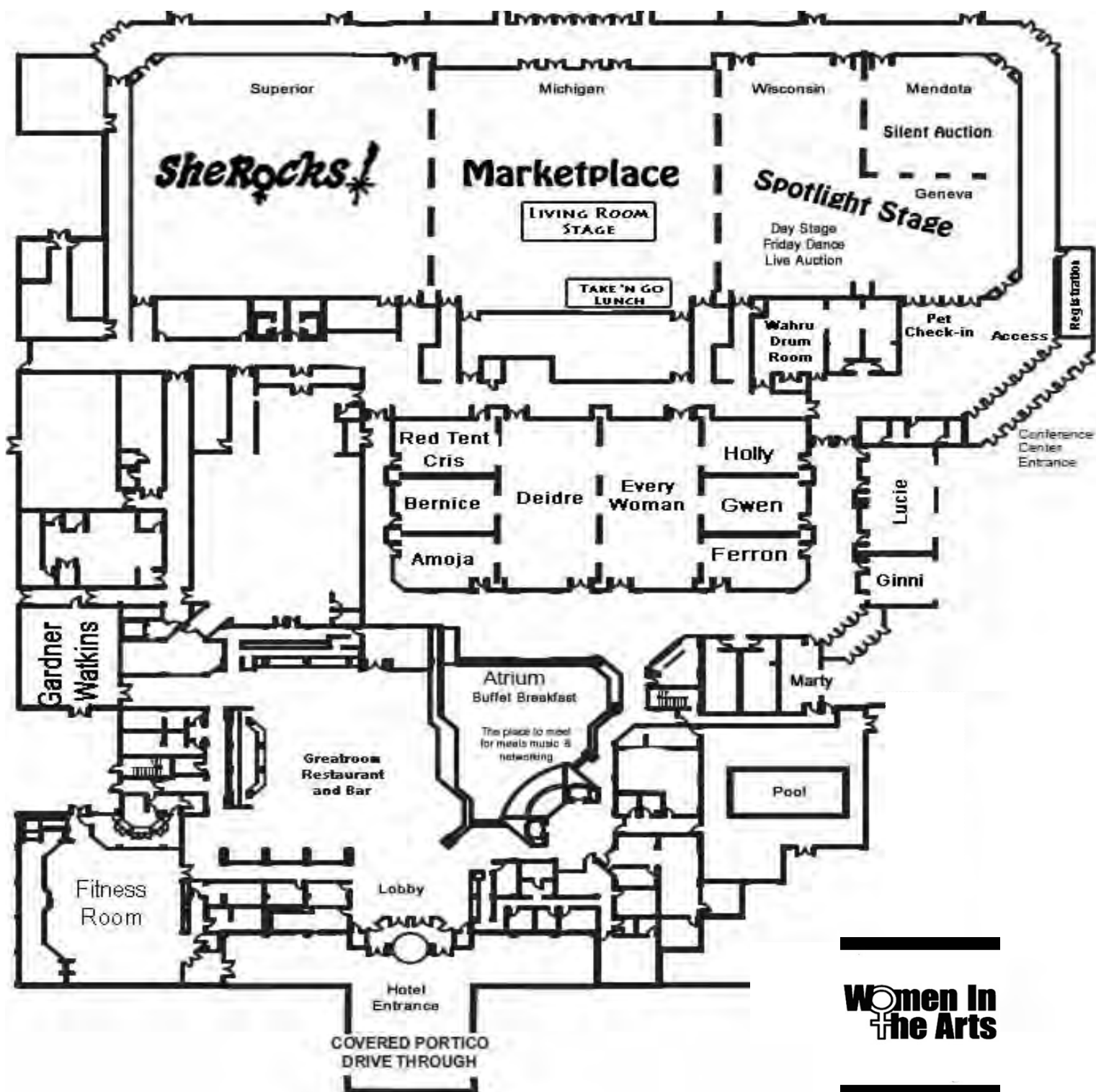
# MARKETPLACE - MICHIGAN ROOM

**Marketplace opens for business @ noon on Thursday**

**Friday & Saturday opens at 10am**

**Sunday 10am to 2pm**





**Women In  
the Arts**



SCAN ME







An International  
Community of  
Lesbian Elders



Una Comunidad  
Internacional de  
Lesbianas Mayores

# OLOC 2023 NATIONAL GATHERING!

*¡Encuentro Nacional De OLOC 2023!*

**November 15–19, 2023**

**in Tempe, Arizona\***

*“Love, Laughter, RESILIENCE”*  
*“Amor, Risa, RESISTENCIA”*

*with Old Lesbians -*  
**AND SO MUCH MORE!**

**Saturday, Nov. 18 at 7:30 pm**

**LAUGH FEST**  
**KAREN WILLIAMS!**



**Friday, Nov. 17 at 7:30 pm**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

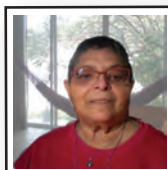


Bettina Aptheker, Ph.D.  
active in civil rights  
and anti-war  
movements of the  
1960s and 1970s,  
and has since worked  
in developing feminist  
studies

Karen Williams has the unique distinction  
of being the nation's first openly Lesbian  
Black comic to include specifically Lesbian  
material in her act. Her solo comedy  
special "I Need a Snack" filmed live in  
Hollywood – and produced by Andrea  
Meyerson of AllOut Films – is a LOGO TV  
favorite and available on DVD.

## LOC DAY FACILITATOR

María Luisa 'Papusa' Molina, Ph.D.  
Executive Director, Instituto Kanankil  
Merida, Yucatan, Mexico



– former General Director of the  
National Institute for Women in Mexico – former  
Director of the Instituto Quintanarroense de la  
Mujer in Cancún – co-founder of Women Against  
Racism

*\*DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Phoenix Tempe*

2100 S Priest Dr, Tempe, AZ 85282

OLOC: P. O. Box 100129  
Cranston, RI 02910  
info@oloc.org • 1-888-706-7506  
facebook.com/nationaloloc

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15**

**9:00 am–4:00 pm**

**LESBIANS OF COLOR DAY:**

*Evento Para Lesbianas de Color:*

Facilitated by Dr. María Luisa 'Papusa' Molina

**WHITE LESBIANS EXAMINE  
UNCONSCIOUS RACISM  
DAY**

Facilitator TBD

To connect to GATHERING INFO  
on our website: [www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org)  
pause your phone camera over this  
and click on the link message.







# SUMMER 2023 ON THE LAND

**JULY 18-23**

**SINGING AND PLAYING ON THE LAND  
GIRLS FEST  
SERENITY & SOBRIETY ON THE LAND:  
A WEEK OF RECOVERY IN THE WOODS**

**JULY 25-30**

**BIG MOUTH GIRL - GATHERING ON THE LAND  
WPI (WOMEN PLAYING INSTRUMENTS)**

**AUGUST 1-6**

**FERN FEST**

**AUGUST 8-13**

**MILLION WOMEN DRUMMERS  
"GATHERING OF SOULS"**

4 weeks of camping, concerts, workshops, chill time and other various activity options. Check our site for links to details.

