

THE 49TH NATIONAL WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL



LINDA TILLERY AND THE FREEDOM BAND • NWMF ORCHESTRA ENSEMBLE
MELANIE DeMORE • VIOLET AND THE UNDERCURRENTS • VICKIE SHAW
KRISTEN FORD TRIO • SONiA disappear fear • LISA KOCH
AMOR Y LUZ • ADRIENNE TORF AND VOICES OF THE REVOLUTION
JOY CLARK • NEDRA JOHNSON • AMELIA RAY • e nina jay • HANNE KAH
JEANNIE TANNER • CHRISTIE LENÉE • RANI BIFFLE-QUIMBA • JORI COSTELLO

JULY 3-6, 2025 • MIDDLETON WI • NWMF.INFO



Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live in a community where you feel free to be and do what makes you happy, share common ideals with your neighbors, have fun together, and truly feel like you belong?

Wonder no more!

Welcome to The Resort on Carefree Boulevard.
A lifestyle community where you can be you!

Community

Carefree is a place where new friends are waiting to share your favorite pastimes, where neighbors look out for each other, and where you share a sense of belonging and solidarity. People are friendly and welcoming, and the homes are well-maintained and beautiful.



Amenities

Beautifully updated private clubhouse – a perfect venue for dances and a multitude of social opportunities.



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278 home & RV Lots in a meticulously maintained & gated park. Imagine owning one of our beautiful properties for your vacation, or for year-round living. Homes at The Resort have been carefully planned to take advantage of the wonderful lifestyle synonymous with Southwest Florida.



Come experience the warmth of Carefree
where you can be you!

For more information, please contact
Marianne Stinson (SL3327691)

marianne@ResortOnCB.com / 508-740-9226



Visit us at **ResortOnCB.com** to view
properties currently **FOR SALE**

Since 1997

A continuing value - Carefree, established in 1997, is still going strong. Located in sunny North Fort Myers, Florida - close to beaches, activities, restaurants, and shopping...



Activities

Whether you are a sports enthusiast or enjoy relaxing by the pool, there are interests and activities for every age and ability at Carefree: Pool, hot tub, 2 lakes for kayaking and catch-and-release fishing, group biking and kayaking, pickleball, pottery room, a myriad of classes and activities ...

Welcome to the 49th Annual National Women's Music Festival

It's so good to see so many women arriving from places far and wide to celebrate our 49th Annual Festival! Welcome! It truly takes a village to bring you this amazing event, so thank you to the WIA/NWMF Board of Directors, NWMF Producers, and all of our crew and volunteers who are here this week for all your hard work and passion...this is a true labor of love!

Since 1974, NWMF has continued 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, comedy, and written/spoken word! Now more than ever, we come together for these few days to create a safe space to simply be ourselves in all of our rainbow diversity... and support each other where we are. Thank you for keeping our vision alive.

What about that 2025 Festival Logo?! In February, we challenged you to take our "What Does the National Women's Music Festival Mean to You?" word survey and 54 women responded! We captured the most used words to create a Word Cloud...A Big Thanks to Linda Wilson and Kate Peterson for working your magic – Linda, for your Word Cloud and piano silhouette concept and Kate, for applying your creativity to our final product! The results of our recent Fest Merch Pre-Sale event also helped us figure out the official Festival T-shirt - collaboration at its finest!

The WIA/NWMF Board of Directors and the NWMF Orchestra are proud to congratulate Autumn Maria Reed as the winner of the 2026 Young Women of Color Composers Competition! Ms. Reed's commission will result in the creation of a new piece for orchestra to be premiered at the 50th Annual National Women's Music Festival in 2026. She will be working with our own Nan Washburn, NWMF Orchestra Music Director and Conductor, in the process...We look forward to 2026!

Check out the Festival Info Page for highlights on Meals, Marketplace, Auctions, Recitals, Multicultural Women of Color Celebration and more – and Check Out the Festival Map in the back of the Program to get your bearings! Hint: Salon E is Everywoman.

Herstorian Bonnie Morris is back to interview women who attended NWMF in the 1970's and 80's for our continuing Oral Herstory Project – tell us your story as we document the early years on video! Bring your best 5 to 10-minute memories – reserve your slot in the Festival Registration area.

Join us in the Marketplace Thursday at 3:30p as we rename the Living Room stage as the Ruth Rowan Stage! Ruth believed in the Festival and loved the merchant area - no better place to honor her legacy!

Coming Back in 2026: the WIA/NWMF Juried Art Exhibit...Interested? Join Gail Fairfield for a Conversation on what that means and how you could be a part of it.

FINALLY - Thank You to Our Many Contributors and Members

These days, there aren't many places where you can explore so many aspects of women's music and culture; learn from diverse-minded women; and meet women whose experiences are unlike yours – all in one place. You have stepped up over the years whenever we've asked – and we still need your help to meet our budget obligations for 2025. 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!

Terri Worman

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

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Whova

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Got a question about the festival? Check the Whova App

Artists ♦ Show Times ♦ Workshops
Marketplace ♦ Auctions ♦ Meals
Open Mics ♦ Drumming

It's like having the 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.

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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
Janis Kidder, Treasurer Riviera Beach, FL
Mary Spillane, Secretary Omaha, NE
Betty Lepps, Director Vancouver, BC
Elizabeth Andersen, Director Roeland Park, KS
Helen H Yee, Director Worthington, OH
Trish Bangert, Director Boulder, CO

Festival Staff and Coordinators

Accessibility Coordinator - Rosie Kae - WI
Artist Liaison - Michiko Bailey-Thorne - FL
Auction Coordinator - Tess Imholt - FL
Auction Procurement - Lois McGuinness - FL
Auctioneer - Diana Cook - IN
Auctioneer Assistant - Sandy Appleby - IN
Day Programming Producer - Mary Spillane - NE
Festival Artwork - Kate Peterson - MI
Festwear Coordinator - Carol Vitelli - FL
Festival Herstorian - Dr. Bonnie Morris - CA
Festival Interns - Francesca Cina - WI, Ava Collier - MI,
Haley McIntosh - IL, Maelee Greenwood - IL,
Maryclaire Sullivan - WI, Ally Wojtowicz - IL
Film Festival Coordinator - Bettie Owen - CA
Finance Coordinator - Leah Williams - FL
Finance Team Lead - Annie Hackenberg - SC
Hotel Liaison Pre-festival - Leslie D. Judd - AZ
Hotel Liaison (On-Site) - Ellen Dugger - MO
Interpreter Coordinator - Sunny Pfifferling-Irons - IN
Interpreters - Emily Kimmel-Kurtz - MI, Isis Dixon - IN,
Jenny McKittrick - WI, Laura Kolb - OH, Nakiyah Kilpatrick - IN
Marketplace Coordinator - Maria Nasca - IL
MultiCultural/Women of Color Coord. - Helen H Yee - OH
NA Coordinator - Wendy R - WI
Orchestra Music Director - Nan Washburn - MI
Orchestra Manager - Kaia Skaggs - MI
Orchestra Atrium Recitals Coordinator - Emmy Rozanski - WI
Orchestra Atrium Recitals Host - Carol Carlson - WI
Orchestra Artist Procurement - Alexis Carreon - WI
Package Concierge - Marilyn Krump - WI
Performer Care Coordinator - Deb Hall - PA
Performer Care Staff - Cookie Gibbs - PA, Christy Crandall - TN,
Denna Starwalt - OK, Jen Larson - OH, Joanna Pallos - OH,
Marion Banzhaf - TN, Sara Wolfersberger - IL, Sarah Wheeler - AR,
Sue Ebetsch - IL

Festival Stages

Producer/Production Manager - Linda Wilson - FL

SheRocks Stage

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

SpotLight Stage

Stage Manager - Retts Scauzillo - NY
Sound Design - Suzanna Mallow - MD
Lighting Design - Lauren Spiegel - MI
Sound/Stage Crew - Tanis Clark - WI, Cheryl VanDeKerkhove - MI,
Skylar Caron-Mahal - IN
House Manager - Elizabeth Andersen - KS

Ruth Rowan Stage (Marketplace)

Host - Jori Costello - AR
Sound Engineer - Elaine Giles - MD

Festival Staff and Coordinators Continued

Pet Registration Coordinator - Joelle Holt - AR
Photographers - Janice Rickert - IN, Carolyn VandeWiele - IN
Program Editors - Elizabeth Andersen - KS, Mary Spillane - NE,
Terri Worman - IL
Red Tent Clan - Carol McCollum - WI, Cynthia Rose - WI,
FireHawk Stewart - WI, Holin Blackmoon - WI,
Harvest Brown - WI, Mildred Olsen - WI, Rain Gaia - WI,
Registration Coordinator - Gail Fairfield - IN
Registration Asst. Coordinators - Raven Girgen - MN, Kay Ediger - KS
Room of Remembrance Coordinator - Sara Karon - WI
Transportation - Kim Patience - FL, Lori Reardon - FL
Sharon Dunbar - FL
Video Manager - Jessica Whalen - AR
Videographers - Alex Thompson - KS, Genny Johnson - CO,
Kim Blackhorse - WI, Lynn Bielecki - MI, Ngozi Rogers - IN,
Starla Lee - MN
Volunteers/Work Exchange Pre-Fest - Mary Spillane - NE
Volunteers/Work Exchange On-Site - Kelli Sander - IL
WIA's Got Talent Coordinator - Helen Yee - OH
Whova Coordinator - Joelle Holt - AR
Whova Assistant - Sarah Wheeler - AR
Workshop Coordinator (On-Site) - Terri Worman - IL

Work Exchange and Volunteers

Adlai Neubauer - OH	Christine Bassett-Jellema - DE	Jill Christianson - MD	Linda Herzberg - SD	Pamela Henry - MD
Amanda Davidson-Zellar - MI	Christy Fulton - OH	Jorie Manley - WI	Lisa Braun - KS	Penny Burton - IL
Angela Martin - WI	Colleen Riley - KS	Judy Brandt - WI	Lou Peters - OH	Pia Farrell - OH
Angela Schmidt - IA	Deb Solheim - IL	Julie Sherwood - WI	Luanne Offenbacher - KY	Sally Jeaux - TX
Anne Prestwor - WI	Deborah Chabi - IL	Karen Grigsby - NE	Lucia Dryanski - IA	Sandra Zingler - WI
Annette Billings - KS	Debra D'Alessandro - PA	Karen Gephart - OH	Marge Keller - FL	Shell Gottsagen - FL
Arlette Mican - MI	Diane Silver - KS	Kathleen Severt - FL	Maria Calderon - IL	Sue Peterson - IL
Barb Hunt - OH	Donna K Jackson - TX	Kay Ries - MN	Martha Williams - OH	Susan Cooper - KS
Becky Whitney - FL	Elain Donnoe - MI	Kelley Sargent - OH	Marti Nerenstone - IA	Teresa Damme - OK
Bev White - NE	Frankie Karns - WI	Kevyn Radcliffe - WI	Mary Ann Hergenrother - MI	Thistle Pettersen - WI
Bridget Franks - NE	Iva Goldsmith - WI	Kim Farrell - WI	Mary Jane Quick - OH	Terri Allen - KY
Carol Hwang - CT	Jacqueline Thomason - FL	Kristen Maly - MO	Megan Calders - NY	Tina Horth - NY
Carol McLeod Orso - FL	Jamie Clark - WI	Laura Volk - FL	Michelle Erschen - WI	
Cedar Moss - WI	Jeanne Trifone - FL	Laurie McNally - OH	Nancy Greenwald - WI	

Festival Information

NA Meetings

An NA Meeting will be held daily in Marty (Madison Boardroom) – Thur. 5:00-5:50pm; Fri. 12:00-12:50pm; Sat. 1:00-1:50pm. If you need additional support or information, stop at the Accessibility Desk in the Festival Registration area.

Accessibility

Visit the Accessibility Table in the Registration Lobby for assistance. 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 classical music by women composers. These are scheduled mid-mornings to early evenings on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Check the placards in the Atrium and specific artists scheduled in this program and join us for amazing music and talent.

Auctions - Mendota

Wednesday - 1:00-5:00p - Auction room open to receive auction items and for bidders to sign up

Thursday - 9:00a-6:00p - Auction Open for dropping off items, bidder number and Silent Auction bidding

Friday - 9:00a-6:00p - Auction Open for dropping off items, bidder number and Silent Auction bidding

Saturday - 9:00a- 5:30p - Auction Room open

11:30a - 1:00p - LIVE AUCTION - Spotlight Stage

Silent Auction bidding continues until 2:00p

2:00 - 3:00p - Auction Room closed for processing

3:00 - 5:30p - Pay for and pick up your winning bids

Sunday - 9:00a - 12:00p - Pay for and pick up your winning bids

Service Dog/Pets Policy

We want the National Women's Music Festival to be a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. 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. When bringing your pet or service animal to the festival, please remember that not everyone is a pet lover. Note: Non-pet owners – please ask permission before approaching or petting a pet or service animal. Festival Policy: If any pet, including a service dog, exhibits behavior that is disruptive to others, the owner is required to bring the animal under control immediately.

WIA's Got Talent Contest (formally know as Emerging Artists)

For the past 47 years, Women in the Arts/NWMF has hosted a contest to encourage and support talented young female artists. Three contestants will be performing throughout the week – Kelly Zullo, Mary Jane Knight, and Abby Posner. And You, our wonderful Festival audience, will have an opportunity to vote for your favorite artist and help us select the winner! The artist with the most votes gets to return in 2026, 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 NWMF Women's Drum Chorus, directed by Rani Biffle-Quimba; NWMF Women's Ukulele Chorus, directed by Jori Costello; and the NWMF Women's Vocal Chorus, directed by Melanie DeMore. See Workshop Schedules for more information.

The Marketplace

Opens Thursday-Sunday at 10:00am and it's HOPPING again this year – vendors, Festiware merch, music, writers, open mics, jams, Grab & Go lunch, and games. See the WIA's Got Talent contestants too! Check out the schedule DAILY.

Meals at the Marriott

The Atrium is reserved for Festival attendees to network, share meals, and enjoy recital performances. If you are wearing a festival wristband, you are eligible for the Marriott breakfast buffet for \$9.50 (includes tax) Thursday-Sunday 6:30-10am (buffet available Monday-Wednesday \$15.95 plus tax). Ala Carte coffee available for \$3.00 during breakfast hours. Lunch buffet is available Thursday-Sunday 11:00am-1:00pm for \$15.00 (tax included). A Grab and Go lunch will be available Friday-Sunday from 11:00am-1:00pm in The Marketplace (CASH or room charge ONLY). Dinner buffet will be available Thursday-Saturday from 5:00-7:00pm for \$24 (tax included). A bar/restaurant menu is available in the Great Room area 3:00-10:00pm Monday-Sunday.

Multicultural Women of Color Reception and Celebration

ALL women are invited to join their sisters of color on Saturday from 4:30 to 6:00pm in Everywoman for our gathering theme of "Color of Voices." We will be celebrating women of color through the collaboration and intersectionality, empowerment, and resilience in our voices experienced in our multicultural lives through our poetry, song, and literature. Bring in food and drinks - and we will be offering cake!

Ruth Rowan Stage in the Marketplace

Join Jori Costello for Open Mics and Jams daily and after the SheRocks concerts. And join us for the Writer's Open Mic hosted by Alex Thompson. Check the daily schedule in The Marketplace— a place to hang out, relax and enjoy.

Singing in the Atrium

Please join Sally Potter as she leads us in raising our voices with 3 songs on Saturday morning at 8:30. You can pick up a copy of the lyrics at the Festival Registration desk.



Save the Date!

50th Annual National Women's Music Festival
July 2-5, 2026

WIA/NWMF Contributors/Supporters

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 May 26, 2024 - May 25, 2025.

Alexis Carreon
Anonymous
Arlene Hoffman
Barbara D. Borden
Barbara McGough
Barbara Shapiro
Barbara Weinstock
Becky Forth
Beth Davis
Calumet Women's Alliance Inc. (IN)
Carla & Anne Manning
Carol Collins
Carol McCollum
Carol Rand
Carol Shultis
Carol Vitelli
Carol Anne Douglas
Carolyn Muska
Catherine Byrd
Christina Lunsford
Connie Webb
Cynthia Fulton
Dar Bevelhymmer
Denise Davis
Denise Dedman
Dr. Missy Howse-Kurtz
Elizabeth Coburn
Elizabeth Owen
Elke Walten
Elsa Swan
J. Stewart
Janice Rickert and Carolyn VandeWiele

Janis Kidder
Jannis Goodnow
Jaqi A Thompson
Jeanne Trifone
Jennifer Weber
Jo-anne McIntyre
Joelle Holt
John Kestner
Jori Costello
Judith Brandt
Judy Wesolowski
Julia Sherwood
Karen Lunde
Karen Rahmeier
Kay Miles and Deb Murphy
Kim Oliver
Linda Bernhard
Linda Wilson and Barbara Lea
Linda Jo Stamper
Lisa Cerny
Lorraine Stoltzfus
Luanne Offenbacher
Lynne Burnett
Margie Adam
Marilyn Krump
Mary Reynolds
Mary Spillane and Judy Carroll
Mary Zadrozny
Maureen Bernard
Melinda I Spitzer
Melvin Keith Ewing, Jr.
Mimi Gonzalez-Barillas

Nan Washburn
Nancy Vaughn
Nancy Worcester
Natasha Westland
Pamela Smith
Pat and Marcia Gallas-Christie
Pat Lambert
Pat Mullan
Patricia Colognesi
Patricia Pedersen
Patti Kardia
Peggy Nagle
Retts Scauzillo
Ruth Clark
Ruth Debra
Ruth Lipschutz
Sandra Appleby
Sandra Zingler
Sarah Nielsen
Sondra Bolte
Stella Shelton
Susan Atlas
Susan Burton
Susan Goldwomon
Susan Higgins
Suzan Nolan
Targeted Services, P.C.
Terri Worman and Paula Basta
Toni Armstrong Jr.
Vicki Eident
Virginia J. Link

3 Ways to Support Women in the Arts, Producers of the National Women's Music Festival

1. 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

2. Support Your Favorite Performer!

Contributions to this fund will go directly towards covering our "Performers' Travel and Hotel Room" cost of \$40,000! Your contribution TODAY keeps the women's music and the performers we love at NWMF 2025.

donorbox.org/performer-travel-hotel-room



3. Become a Member of WIA/NWMF

Thanks to all the Members of WIA/NWMF! We love seeing you in our Zoom Concert & Open Mic Series running January through June preceding every Festival since 2022. Not a member yet? donorbox.org/wia-nwmf-inc-annual-membership



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.

6:30-10a - Breakfast Buffet Atrium	3-4:50p - Opening Drum and Dance Jam Wahru
9a-7:30p - Registration Open Conference Center Lobby	3-5p - The Oral Herstory Project - Bonnie Morris Marty
9a-6p - Silent Auction Room Open Mendota	5-5:50p - NA Meeting Marty
11a-1p - Lunch Buffet Atrium	5-7p - Dinner Buffet Atrium
10a - Marketplace Opens Michigan	6:30p - SheRocks Stage - House Open Superior
1-2:50p - Ukulele Chorus 2025 Melanie	6:55p - Opening Ceremony - Sally Jeaux (<i>Jenny McKittrick</i>)
1-4p - Red Tent Open Bernice/Cris	7p - One Fine Day - A Film by Kay Weaver (<i>Jenny McKittrick</i>)
1-5p - Room of Remembrance Open Holly	7:10p - Christie Lenée (<i>Nakiyah Kilpatrick</i>)
1-5p - Ruth Rowan Stage Marketplace/Michigan	8:10p - Adrienne Torf and Voices of the Revolution (<i>Isis Dixon</i>)
1-2:30p - WIAs Got Talent Contest Abby Posner, Kelly Zullo and Mary Jane Knight	9:00p - I N T E R M I S S I O N
3:30-5p - Dedication of Ruth Rowan Stage Open Mic & Jam with Jori Costello	9:10p - Kelly Zullo (WIA's Got Talent) (<i>Emily Kimmel-Kurtz</i>)
1-5p - Workshops & Film Series (See Workshop Schedule)	9:20p - Amor y Luz (<i>Nakiyah Kilpatrick</i>)
2-2:50p - Beginning Hand Drum Wahru	10:00p - Open Mic/Jam with Jori Costello ... Ruth Rowan Stage (Marketplace) A place for artists and attendees to meet and play together. Storytellers and comedians are welcome to join. A place to hang out and relax.
2-4:40p - Recitals (See Recital Schedule, pg 18) Atrium	
3-4:50p - NWMF Women's Chorus Melanie	

Thursday Workshops

1:00-1:50p Bonnie J. Morris Gwen Preserving Lesbian Herstory in Tough Times Once again, I invite women to gather for good information on archiving our lesbian legacies and passing on personal festival collections. But it's especially urgent as we confront new erasure by our own government! What are lessons from past times?	1:00-2:50p Film Series Everywoman <i>Going to Mars: The Nikki Giovanni Project</i> Directed by Joe Brewster, Michèle Stephenson 2023 102 minutes A look at the life of Afrofuturist-feminist poet Nikki Giovanni and the revolutionary historical periods through which she lived, from the Civil Rights Movement to Black Lives Matter. CC	1:00-4:00p Holin Blackmoon Red Tent Tarot Card Readings in The Red Tent In these chaotic times, the Tarot can help us to see the patterns in our lives and help us learn about the road ahead. Readings are free. Come with a question and an open mind.
1:00-1:50p Lance Link Marty Rest, Reconnect, Recharge Drop in, catch up with your sisters, share what's up in your life, do a little coloring.	1:00-2:50p Jori Costello Melanie NWMF Women's Ukulele Chorus This year's theme is The Changed! We'll be learning a medley of songs from Cris Williamson's <i>Changer and the Changed</i> album, which is celebrating 50 years. More songs of Change by well-loved NWMF performer, Kiya Heartwood; and civil rights activist, triple Grammy winner, Mavis Staples. All skill levels welcome, tuners a must, "and we can sing for a long, long time!"	1:00-4:00p Red Tent Clan Red Tent The Goddess is Listening Do you have something you need to get off your chest? Are you working on a problem and just need to air out your thoughts? Do you have a story you wish to share? Whatever you need to get off your chest, a listening ear awaits you in the Red Tent. No judgments...just listening. Whatever is shared will remain confidential between you and the Goddess. Come to the Red Tent and sign up for an appointment.
1:00-1:50p Jamie Anderson Wahru Round a rama dama ding dong Learn several rounds and sing with your sisters. Simple and fun!	1:00-2:20p Suzanne Gray Deidre Lesbian Co-housing and Retirement Communities: Where Are We Now? Although there is significant interest in living among other lesbians, there have been few new projects developed this century. Let's share information about communities, discuss priorities, and envision what we need in the 21st century.	1:00-4:00p Red Tent Clan RedTent Respite in the Red Tent The Red Tent offers a quiet place for respite and re-energizing your woman spirit. Here you will find the living room of the Goddess, where you will find a quiet place for a short nap, a hand massage, a chair massage or a tarot reading.
	1:00-4:00p Carol McCollum Red Tent Oracle Readings in the Red Tent Oracle readings done by Carol using her original oracle deck. An oracle can help you gain perspective in your current situation and prepare for what may be in your future.	

Thursday Workshops

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

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

1:30-2:00p Harvest Brown Red Tent
Blessing of the Red Tent

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 re-energize.

1:30-2:50p Sally Potter Amoja
Community Campfire Sing

Let's gather around the "campfire" and raise our voices together – singing songs we all know and love...popular songs by women, girl scout songs, universally known songs...with guitar, banjo and a cappella as the mood hits us. Go with the flow and have some fun at our "Community Campfire Sing."

2:00-2:50p Liz Illg & Candy McCullough Gwen

Threshold Choir Songs and Their Stories

Singers of all persuasions (or those in need of soothing music) are invited to experience Threshold Choir music - healing and comforting songs sung a cappella, for people who are seriously ill, dying or grieving. Celebrate 25 years of this compassionate organization with your stories of bedside music and sing a few Threshold songs together.

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

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. Please bring your own drum or percussion instrument.

2:00-3:30p Rain Foster Red Tent
Resistance Doll Pins for Personal Protection

After discussion regarding personal experiences and desires for protection, we will create one or more small doll shaped pin/charms to be charged with protection energy, intended to be worn for personal safety. No experience necessary. All materials provided.

2:30-3:50p Alex Thompson Ferron
Wanna Write a Novel?

Done in 24 chapters. Mystery, romance, supernatural, or thriller. It can all come together whether you're a planner or a pantsier. It doesn't take decades, cash or angst. Only a plan and I will give it to you. Join me!

3:00-3:50p Kristen Ford Gwen
Painless Content Creation for Everyone

Let's talk about making videos and shorts for Youtube, filming and editing reels in Tiktok and Instagram. The plan is for content creation to feel fun, accessible and to open new doors for avenues of your dreams.

3:00-4:50p Mary Jane Knight Amoja
Vocal Meditation Singing Circle

This workshop is an exploration of the unique incredible human voice and its capacity to express emotions and unleash powerful healing vibrations. This is for everyone! We will explore our relationship with our voice and use our voices to meditate together for healing and empowerment.

3:00-4:50p Toni Armstrong Jr. & Nedra Johnson Deidre
The Land: For Women. For Girls. Forever.

Victory lap! The Land is paid off! Come hear the latest! Get your questions answered about the 651 pristine acres of forest-and-fern land 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.

3:00-4:50p Film Series Everywoman
Between Worlds
Directed by Bruce Bierman
2023 | 67 minutes

Based on the poetry of Holocaust survivor, political activist, and lesbian poet Irena Klepfisz, *Between Worlds* traces her transformative journey facing the trauma of war, displacement and identity. CC. Following the film, there will be a Q&A with Naomi Newman & Barbara Borden.

3:00-4:50p Melanie DeMore Melanie
NWMF Women's Vocal Chorus

Sisters: Let's raise our voices together and lift each other up. Bring your whole self and let's celebrate in song! The chorus will perform Sunday morning on the Festival main stage.

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

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

3:00-5:00p Bonnie J. Morris Marty
Oral Herstory Interviews

Come be interviewed by herstorian Dr. Bon and help document the early years of NWMF! Be prepared to offer five to ten minutes of your best memories. Sign up for a reserved slot by festival registration.

4:00-4:50p Lisa Koch Ferron
Wanna Write a Parody Song?

Join the ranks of Weird Al and Randy Rainbow! Lisa will give you the tools to create parody songs in less than an hour. Write about constipation, eating yogurt, GPS, whatever floats your boat - and pair that with the perfect classic song.


4:00-4:50p Marti Nerenstone Gwen
Veteran/Military Networking

Are you a veteran? Active duty military? National Guard? Reserve? This is an opportunity to informally meet and network with others who have served, or are currently serving, in the military. Strict confidentiality will be observed.

5:00-5:50p Wendy R Marty
NA Meeting
NA meeting will be held.

Live Auction

Saturday - 11:30a-1p
Spotlight Stage




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WOMYN TRAVELERS

Enjoy the safety, peace and quiet of this land and cottage.
A restful magic space for independent women travelers. Live Oak Cottage is right in the midst of a lesbian rich area in Oregon, along the "Amazon Trail" of Oregon



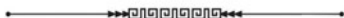
Friday Schedule

(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.

6:30-10a - Breakfast Buffet	Atrium	1-2:50p - NWMF Women's Ukulele Chorus	Melanie
9a-7:30p - Registration Open	Conference Center Lobby	3-4:50p - NWMF Women's Vocal Chorus	Melanie
9a-6p - Silent Auction Room Open	Mendota	4-5p - Oral Herstory Project - Bonnie Morris	Marty
9a-5p - Workshops & Film Series	See Workshop Schedule	4-6p - Open Mic/Jam with Jori	Ruth R Stage-Michigan
9a-4:30p - Room of Remembrance Open	Holly	4-6p - Recitals (See Recital Schedule, pg 18)	Atrium
10a-9p - Marketplace Open	Michigan	5-6:20p-ShabbatService.....	Holly
10a - Keynote: Radical Harmonies	Superior	5-7p - Dinner Buffet	Atrium
Followed by a Panel Discussion		6:30p - SheRocks Stage - House Open	Superior
10a-4p - Red Tent Open	Bernice/Cris	7p - Linda Tillery and the Freedom Band (<i>Laura Kolb</i>)	
11a-1p - Lunch in the Living Room	Michigan	8p - Lisa Koch (<i>Sunny Pfifferling-Irons</i>)	
11a-1p - Lunch Buffet	Atrium	8:50p - I N T E R M I S S I O N	
11:30a-1p - WIA's Got Talent Contest	Ruth R Stage-Michigan	9:00p - 9:10p - Mary Jane Knight (WIA's Got Talent)	
12-12:50p - NA Meeting	Marty	(<i>Emily Kimmel-Kurtz</i>)	
12:30-2:20p - Intermediate/Advanced Hand Drum	Wahru	9:10p - Kristen Ford (<i>Jenny McKittrick</i>)	
12:30p - Spotlight Stage - House Open	Wisconsin	10:30p - DJ Dance - Line Dancing - Spotlight Stage - Wisconsin	
1p - Amelia Ray (<i>Isis Dixon</i>)		10:00p - Open Mic/Jam with Jori Costello ... Ruth Rowan Stage	
2p - e nina jay (<i>Emily Kimmel-Kurtz</i>)		(Marketplace) A place for artists and attendees to meet and play	
3p - Jeannie Tanner Duo (<i>Jenny McKittrick</i>)		together. Storytellers and comedians are welcome to join. A	
		place to hang out and relax.	

Friday Workshops

9:00-9:50a Jamie Anderson	Amoja	9:00-9:50a Toni Armstrong Jr.	Ferron	9:00-9:50a Joelle Holt	Wahru
Five strums for any song		Let's Play LEZBO!		Late in Life Lesbian (Lilly's) Discussion Group	
Guitar, ukulele and mandolin players: learn 5 simple strums good for thousands of songs. From Jamie's popular YouTube video with 2 million views. Beginners on up. Bring your instrument. Music provided.		LEZBO is basically BINGO, except we have created a lesbian herstory version. It includes famous lesbians from pop culture, literature, sports, politics, music, movies, TV, science, history, and more. Come play for prizes and fun!		Late in life lesbian discussion and support group.	
9:00-9:50a Eugenia Fernandez	Deidre	9:00-9:50a Rose Norman	Gwen	9:00a-4:30p Sara Karon	Holly
Line Dance with Eugenia		The Pagoda: An Experiment in Living Feminism		Room of Remembrance	
Get your blood pumping by moving to the music. No previous dancing experience required.		From 1977-99, lesbian feminists ran a women-only beach community and cultural center in St. Augustine, FL. Their 50-seat theatre hosted women musicians from around the world. The author of a book about them tells their story in pictures and video.		The Room of Remembrance is available throughout the Festival. It offers a space for those in mourning to escape the hubbub of the festival and remember our departed loved ones, and for all festival attendees to honor the lives of those we have lost.	
9:00-9:50a Stephanie Ezell, MS MPH RN & Geraldine Gorman, RN Ph.D. FAAN	Everywoman	9:00-9:50a Kristi Hallisy	Melanie	10:00a-4:00p Red Tent Clan	Red Tent
Hospice Care for Sexual and Gender Minority Women: Beyond Consents		Tai Chi for Optimal Aging and Wellness		The Goddess is Listening	
A pain-free and dignified death is the right of all communities. Yet sexual and gender minority women may not receive the support they need at the end of life. We'll discuss what we are missing and how we can advocate for more empathic hospice care and peaceful deaths.		Tai Chi is a mind/body exercise that promotes calm mental focus while building leg strength and endurance, balance and stability. Come be a Tai Chi player and leave with the Fab Four Tai Chi skills that can be done anywhere and anytime!		Do you have something you need to get off your chest? Are you working on a problem and just need to air out your thoughts? Do you have a story you wish to share? Whatever you need to get off your chest, a listening ear awaits you in the Red Tent. No judgments...just listening. Whatever is shared will remain confidential between you and the Goddess. Come to the Red Tent and sign up for an appointment.	



Friday Workshops

10:00a-4:00p Red Tent Clan Red Tent Respite in the Red Tent

The Red Tent offers a quiet place for respite and reenergizing your woman spirit. Here you will find the living room of the Goddess, where you will find a quiet place for a short nap, a hand massage or a chair massage, or a tarot reading.

10:00a-4:00p Carol McCollum Red Tent Oracle Readings in the Red Tent

Oracle readings done by Carol using her original oracle deck. An oracle can help you gain perspective in your current situation and prepare for what may be in your future.

10:00a-4:00p Holin Blackmoon Red Tent Tarot Card Readings in The Red Tent

In these chaotic times, the Tarot can help us to see the patterns in our lives and help us learn about the road ahead. Readings are free. Come with a question and an open mind.

10:30a-12:30p Red Tent Clan Red Tent Hand massage

Pamper yourself a little...sign up in the Red Tent for a relaxing hand massage.

12:00-12:50p Wendy R Marty NA Meeting

NA meeting will be held.

12:00-12:50p Violet Vonder Haar Melanie Sovereign Songs Sing Along

Join Violet Vonder Haar for a song circle workshop designed to empower, uplift, and inspire participants through the joy of music. All voices are welcome - whether you love to sing or just enjoy listening. Come and experience a supportive atmosphere where we can connect, share, and celebrate the transformative power of song together!

12:00-1:20p Meagan O'Nan Everywoman Enough as We Are: How Self-Worth

Transforms Connection and Bridges Divides

Meagan explores how the belief that we are "not enough" unconsciously shapes our interactions, deepens divides, and limits our ability to foster understanding. Through personal storytelling, real-world examples, and actionable insights, attendees will learn how self-acceptance is the foundation for bridging divides and cultivating universal connection.

12:00-1:20p Pat Calchina Ferron An Open, Respectful and Confidential DEATH CAFÉ

Our culture has a profound lack of grief and death literacy. This is an opportunity to learn from and share with each other. There will be suggested discussion topics, but come with your own topics. Bring your lunch if you want.

12:00-1:50p Shelley Graff Amoja Singing In Sacred Circle

Singing In Sacred Circle honors the tradition of the late Kay Gardner where we share short, repetitive women-centered songs/chants in a relaxed, safe circle where all voices create an energy that is both empowering and healing. No experience necessary!

12:30-1:20p Danielle Allen Gwen Say her name Black women and police brutality. Black trauma

Looking at say her name through the lens of police brutality and looking at Black trauma and America's obsession and desensitization on this. Also opening (at the end) for a shift to celebrating Black women and joy in spite of.

12:30-2:20p 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. Please bring your own drum or percussion instrument.

1:00-1:50p Adrienne Torf & Tammy L Hall Gardner-Watkins The Art of Accompanying Vocalists

Drawing on decades of experience accompanying singers including Etta Jones, Laurie Anderson, Mary Wilson, Holly Near, Ferron, and Linda Tillery, Meg Christian and others, Tammy Lynn Hall and Adrienne Torf will share their insights, approaches and tips. Instrumentalists and vocalists welcome.

1:00-1:50p Lance Link Marty Rest, Reconnect, Recharge

Drop in, catch up with your sisters, share what's up in your life, do a little coloring

1:00-2:20p Sara Karon Holly Remembering Those We Have Lost

The Festival is a wonderful time to gather with friends old and new. That joy is

diminished by their losses. This workshop offers a chance to share memories of those who have passed away, share our grief, and celebrate all they brought to this world.

1:00-2:30p Sally Jeaux Red Tent Meditation to bring ourselves present, relaxed and open to the flow of the weekend.

We will set personal and collective intentions for a safe and nurturing weekend which includes the healing and unity that connection and music inspires. Bring anything you might like to place on the altar and an open heart and mind.

1:00-2:50p Toni Armstrong Jr. Deidre Name That Tune: 50+ Years of Women's Music

Have you been paying attention to our beloved women's music for the past 50 years? Let's NAME THAT TUNE (and the artist, and the album it's on)! Songs from every era are included. A trophy will be awarded.

1:00-2:50p Jori Costello Melanie NWMF Women's Ukulele Chorus

This year's theme is The Changed! We'll be learning a medley of songs from Cris Williamson's *Changer and the Changed* album, which is celebrating 50 years. More songs of Change by well-loved NWMF performer, Kiya Heartwood; and civil rights activist, triple Grammy winner, Mavis Staples. All skill levels welcome, tuners a must, "and we can sing for a long, long time"!

1:00-3:30p Red Tent Clan Red Tent Chair Massage

Pamper yourself a little...sign up in the Red Tent for a relaxing chair massage.

1:30-2:50p Suzanne Gray Everywoman Dreaming of the Open Road: Is an RV Right for Me?

Learn the ups and downs of RV life and things to consider before investing in a rig. Ideas and experiences gained from two cross country trips will be shared. Join the conversation and ask questions about RV ownership.

2:00-2:50p Nat Farfan Ferron Reclaiming Indigenous Medicine and Reconnecting with Ancestral Spirituality

Join us for an interactive workshop exploring Indigenous healing practices, spiritual wisdom, and the impacts of colonization. Through dialogue and

Save The Date
50th NWMF
July 2-5, 2026

Friday Workshops

experiential activities, we'll reconnect with ancestral traditions, foster cultural appreciation, and inspire healing, resistance, and collective growth.

2:00-3:50p Ruth King aka Ruth Anne King Amoja

The Love Mending Principle

I survived attempts to radicalize me into hatred of my own race by my White maternal grandparent caregivers who despised me for the color of my skin. The Love Mending Principle was born out of a need to survive this hostility.

3:00-3:50p Alex Thompson Ferron
Stuck in the Muddle with You

You know the Beginning and the End. Now you are wading in the middle of your novel trying to find your way without being repetitive. I'll give you the map through the swamp to arrive victorious with your sanity intact.

3:00-4:50p Cedar Moss & Beth Racett Deidre

Council of All Beings

Council of All Beings is a communal ritual created by Joanna Macy which is colorful, sometimes solemn, sometimes feisty. It allows us to step aside from our human identity and speak on behalf of other life-forms. The council will end with each species offering their qualities and strengths for humans to embody for the healing of the planet.

3:00-4:50p Film Series Everywoman
The World According to Allee Willis
Directed by Alexis Spraic

Multi award-winning songwriter/artist Allee Willis was a boundary-breaking pop pioneer who pursued creative expression at all costs while struggling to fit established gender and sexual norms. CC

3:00-4:50p Melanie DeMore Melanie
NWMF Women's Vocal Chorus

Sisters: Let's raise our voices together and lift each other up. Bring your whole self and let's celebrate in song! The chorus will perform Sunday morning on the Festival main stage.

3:00-4:50p Amor y Luz Wahru
Puerto Rican Bomba: An Introduction to the Music and Dance of Afro-Puerto Rican Resistance

Bomba is a tradition of resistance music and dance of enslaved Africans brought to Puerto Rico during the Spanish colonial period, and today practiced as a modern-

day expression of community and cultural remembrance of African and Indigenous Puerto Ricans. Dancers and singers need no special preparation. Limited availability of the traditional instruments - feel free to bring your own.

3:30-4:50p forrest Mainville Gwen
We need each other. Welcome all.

We will begin our workshop by welcoming each other with words, gestures and song. Vulnerability and deeper sharing will be invited through story, questions and embodying exercises. forrest will share their second coming out story. All will be invited to share about newly discovered or hidden parts of themselves.

4:00-4:50p Lisa Lubin Amoja
Understanding the Five Love Languages (based on the book by Gary Chapman)

This workshop will explore the five languages of love based on the book by Gary Chapman. It is intended to help participants explore how this knowledge could be used to aid in developing stronger love relationships or relationships in general.

4:00-4:50p Rani Biffle-Quimba Pool
Aqua Dance

Aqua Dance brings the fitness experience to the water by adapting all the Latin,

world beat, and popular music moves to an aqua fitness type class. This class will tone your muscles and give you cardiovascular training while having so much fun!

4:00-5:00p Bonnie J. Morris Marty
Oral Herstory Interviews

Come be interviewed by herstorian Dr. Bon and help document the early years of NWMF! Be prepared to offer five to ten minutes of your best memories. Sign up for a reserved slot by festival registration.

4:00-6:00p Christine Powers Ferron
Single Solo Dinner Out

Traveling alone? Looking for a connection? Meet other womyn for dinner out. Sign-up at registration to confirm attendance so we hopefully can make a reservation. Restaurant location will be announced. Meet at 4pm to be sure we can get back for the shows.

5:00-6:20p Sara Karon Holly
Sabbath Service

Friday night marks the start of the Jewish Sabbath. We will begin with some time to schmooze and get to know each other, and then will join in traditional prayer and song to welcome the Sabbath Queen.



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 this year's Festival.

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.



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Saturday 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.

6:30-10a - Breakfast Buffet	Atrium	1-1:50p - NA Meeting	Marty
8:30a - Community Sing led by Sally Potter	Atrium	1:30-3:20p - NWMF Women's Drum Chorus	Wahru
9a-7:30p - Registration Open	Conference Center Lobby	2-3:00p - Writer's Open Mic	Ruth R Stage-Michigan
9a-5p - Workshops & Film Series	See Workshop Schedule	3-5:30p - Pick up Winning Bids- Silent Auction	Mendota
9a-5p - Room of Remembrance Open	Holly	4-6:00p - Open Mic - Jori Costello	Ruth R Stage-Michigan
9a-5:30p - Silent Auction Room Open	Mendota	4-4:30p - Recitals (See Recital Schedule, pg 18)	Atrium
9:30-11:20a - NWMF Women's Vocal Chorus	Melanie	4-5p - Oral Herstory Project - Bonnie Morris	Marty
10a-9p - Marketplace Open	Michigan	4:30-6:00p - MC/WOC: Color of Voices	Everywoman
10a-4p - RedTentOpen.....	Bernice/Cris	5-7p - Dinner Buffet	Atrium
10-11:30a - WIA's Got Talent	Ruth R Stage-Michigan	6:30p - SheRocks Stage - House Open	Superior
11a-1p - Lunch in the Living Room	Michigan	6:50p - 2025 Memoriam	
11a-1p - Lunch Buffet	Atrium	7p - Joy Clark (<i>Isis Dixon</i>)	
11:30a-1p - Live Auction - Spotlight Stage	Wisconsin	8p - Violet and the Undercurrents (<i>Sunny Pfifferling-Irons</i>)	
1:00p - Spotlight Stage - House Open	Wisconsin	9p - I N T E R M I S S I O N	
1:30p - Orchestra (<i>Sunny Pfifferling-Irons</i>)		9:10 - Abby Posner (WIA's Got Talent) - (<i>Laura Kolb</i>)	
2:30p - Nedra Johnson (<i>Laura Kolb</i>)		9:20p - Vickie Shaw (<i>Emily Kimmel-Kurtz</i>)	
3:30p - Hanne Kah (<i>Emily Kimmel-Kurtz</i>)		10:20p - All Festival Jam	
1-2:50p - NWMF Women's Ukulele Chorus	Melanie	11-12p - WIA's Got Talent Contest	Ruth R Stage-Michigan

Saturday Workshops

9:00-9:50a Eugenia Fernandez Deidre Line Dance with Eugenia

Get your blood pumping by moving to the music. No previous dancing experience required.

9:00-9:50a Andrea Avery Ferron The Well-Tempered Keyboard: Writing Musically

Author Andrea Avery was a serious and promising pianist and harpsichordist until severe rheumatoid arthritis made playing music painful at best and impossible at worst. In response, she turned to writing. In this workshop, Andrea will guide participants in transferring their musicality to writing. Exercises will feature melodic line, harmony, form, timbre, and instrumentation as ways to find and develop a writing voice, either as a complement to a musical voice or as a way to retain connection to musicality in the face of illness, injury, or disability.

9:00-9:50a Gail Fairfield Gwen Astrology 2025 - what's going on?!

Astrologer Gail Fairfield discusses the planetary patterns of 2025, with special focus on the political situation in the USA. She'll also talk about the ways we

might individually and collectively, use the energy available to take care of ourselves.

9:00a-5:00p Sara Karon Holly Room of Remembrance

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

9:30-10:50a Peggy Patty & Phyllis Lau Wahru Soothing Sound Bath Relaxation in these Tense Times!

Gather together to relax in soothing sound vibrations as we relax and revive ourselves. Listen to calming crystal bowls, rain stick, and Native American flute as the stress fades away. Bring a blanket for the floor or sit in a chair.

9:30-11:20a Adrienne Torf & Voices of the Revolution Amoja Poetry & Music: The Artistry and Power of Collaboration

Hear from Adrienne Torf and Voices of the Revolution about performing June Jordan's work together, then create your own short poem with guidance from the Voices, set it

to music with Adrienne, and perform it for the workshop participants.

9:30-11:20a Film Series Everywoman SALLY!

Directed by Deborah Craig
2024 | 94 minutes

Profile of Sally Gearhart, fierce-hearted San Francisco radical lesbian feminist (and sapphic Casanova) whose trailblazing vision and ebullient personality were the spark for movements with far-reaching impacts. Following the film there will be a Q&A with executive producer Susan Berston. CC

9:30-11:20a Sara Karon Holly Lesbian Widows Workshop

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.

9:30-11:20a Melanie DeMore Melanie NWMF Women's Vocal Chorus

Sisters: Let's raise our voices together and lift each other up. Bring your whole self and let's celebrate in song! The chorus will

Saturday Workshops

perform Sunday morning on the Festival SheRocks Stage.

10:00a-4:00p Carol McCollum Red Tent Oracle Readings in the Red Tent

Oracle readings done by Carol using her original oracle deck. An oracle can help you gain perspective in your current situation and prepare for what may be in your future.

10:00a-4:00p Holin Blackmoon Red Tent Tarot Card Readings in The Red Tent

In these chaotic times, the Tarot can help us to see the patterns in our lives and help us learn about the road ahead. Readings are free. Come with a question and an open mind.

10:00a-4:00p Red Tent Clan Red Tent The Goddess is Listening

Do you have something you need to get off your chest? Are you working on a problem and just need to air out your thoughts? Do you have a story you wish to share? Whatever you need to get off your chest, a listening ear awaits you in the Red Tent. No judgments...just listening. Whatever is shared will remain confidential between you and the Goddess. Come to the Red Tent and sign up for an appointment.

10:00a-4:00p The Red Tent Clan Red Tent Respite in the Red Tent

The Red Tent offers a quiet place for respite and reenergizing your woman spirit. Here you will find the living room of the Goddess, where you will find a quiet place for a short nap, a hand massage or a chair massage or a tarot reading.

10:00-11:20a Jamie Anderson Deidre Lesbian Author Panel

Lesbian authors of different genres (romance, non-fiction, memoir and more) will read from their work and answer questions. Moderator and writer Jamie Anderson. Other participants: Bonnie Morris, Ruth King, Nancy Manahan, Alex K. Thompson, Cathy Pegau.

10:00-11:20a Patti Kardia & gypsy Tucker Ferron

Old Lesbians, Ageism, and OLOC

The Old Lesbians, Ageism, and OLOC Workshop will share information on ageism, in general and specific to lesbians, as well as explore strategies for addressing the prejudice, discrimination, and stereotypes related to aging.

10:00-11:20a Hanne Kah Gwen Empowering Sound: A Hands-On Intro to Music Production

In our hands-on workshop, we provide access to music production. Participants will gain practical insights into recording techniques and beat programming while collaboratively working on a sample song. The workshop will focus on two key areas: vocal recording and beat programming.

10:00a-12:30p Red Tent Clan Red Tent Hand Massage

Pamper yourself a little...sign up in the Red Tent for a relaxing hand massage.

1:00-1:50p Jeannie Tanner Gwen Creating Music for TV & Film

This workshop will give insight into writing music for TV & film and how to get songs placed. It will also give information on how royalties work and how to get paid.

1:00-1:50p Wendy R Marty NA Meeting

NA meeting will be held.

1:00-2:30p Nan Brooks Red Tent Croning Ritual

This gentle ritual is one way to claim the honor and recognition elder women deserve. Celebrate your wisdom and experience as we honor each woman who has moved into her 50s or beyond. Bring your memories and friends, dress any way you like, and prepare to be impressed by the women in the circle.

1:00-2:50p Mary Jane Knight Amoja Vocal Empowerment Workshop

Reclaim voice. Reclaim self. Do you have fears about public speaking/singing or feel like you can't or shouldn't sing? In this workshop, we will explore together how our voices work and learn how to begin to unlock the power of our voices.

1:00-2:50p Jori Costello Melanie NWMF Women's Ukulele Chorus

This year's theme is The Changed! We'll be learning a medley of songs from Cris Williamson's *Changer and the Changed* album, which is celebrating 50 years. More songs of Change by well-loved NWMF performer, Kiya Heartwood; and civil rights activist, triple Grammy winner, Mavis Staples. All skill levels welcome, tuners a must, "and we can sing for a long, long time!"

1:00-3:30p Red Tent Clan Red Tent Chair Massage

Pamper yourself a little...sign up in the Red Tent for a relaxing chair massage.

1:30-2:50p Boden Sandstrom, Dee Mosbacher, Toni Armstrong Jr. Deidre Radical Harmonies: Preserving and Growing the Movement

Women's Music Network - Where have we been? Where are we now? Where are we going? How can we be sure our herstory is well preserved and our movement not erased? What can the old timers give to the newcomers? Come with your questions, comments and ideas to this spirited intergenerational discussion!

1:30-2:50p Trish Bangert Ferron Laws, Courts and Democracy - An interactive discussion

Let's have an interactive discussion of current changes in the law and the response of the courts, as well as some pesky threats to democracy, and how those may affect you now and in the future.

1:30-3:20p Film Series Everywoman Esther Newton Made Me Gay Directed by Jean Carlomusto

A feature documentary about the groundbreaking cultural anthropologist, dog agility enthusiast, and iconic butch lesbian, Esther Newton. CC

1:30-3:20p Rani Biffle-Quimba Wahru NWMF Women's Drum Chorus Practice

Festival goers who participate can expect a few workshops, practices, and community. Additionally, those who join have the opportunity to perform in the Festival's Drum Chorus if they are available on the day of performance. There is no skill level requirement. It's all about drumming, dancing and having fun. Please bring your own drum or percussion instrument.

2:00-2:50p Sally Potter Gwen Community Campfire Sing

Let's gather around the "campfire" and raise our voices together - singing songs we all know and love...popular songs by women, Girl Scout songs, universally known songs...with guitar, banjo and a cappella as the mood hits us. Go with the flow and have some fun at our "Community Campfire Sing."



Saturday Workshops

2:00-2:50p Lance Link Marty Rest, Reconnect, Recharge

Drop in, catch up with your sisters, share what's up in your life, do a little coloring.

2:30-3:20p Sally Jeux Red Tent Good Grief in a Death Phobic Culture

In a culture that shies away from death and grief, this workshop invites you to grieve out loud, honor loss, and mine its depths for wisdom and meaning. Explore good grief—fully feeling, expressing, and transforming loss into a deeper connection with life.

3:00-3:50p Gail Fairfield Amoja Conversation about Juried Art Exhibit for NWMF 2026

We are planning to incorporate a juried art exhibit at NWMF 2026. Join us for a discussion about the possibilities, details, and your questions. It's been years (decades!) since we had an art exhibit at NWMF, so we're excited. Come and join the conversation.

3:00-3:50p Dr. Valorie E. Nybo & Susan Atlas Gwen 12 Steps to Happiness in Hard Times

OMG the world is falling apart! How do I talk to my family? They won't listen. Air, water, mineral. Laugh your head off. Don't hit that toe again. Duck! #12 you must promise to give away.

3:00-4:20p Amelia Ray & Rebecca Friedberg Ferron Sacred Worth: Embody Your Value, Ask with Confidence

Discover your inherent sacred worth in this empowering workshop. Through guided exercises and group support, you'll embody self-value, release limiting beliefs, and learn to ask with clarity and confidence—personally, professionally, and spiritually. Step into your authentic power.

3:00-4:50p Diane Silver Melanie Poetry Open Mic

Join us in celebrating the life of the heart. We will meet for an open mic to share our own work and the work of favorite poets. All you need to do to participate is show up and sign in.

3:30-4:20p Shelley Graff Amoja Singing In Sacred Circle

Singing In Sacred Circle honors the tradition of the late Kay Gardner where we share short, repetitive women-centered songs/chants in a relaxed, safe circle where all voices create an energy that is both empowering and healing. No experience necessary!

4:00-5:00p Bonnie J. Morris Marty Oral Herstory Interviews

Come be interviewed by herstorian Dr. Bon and help document the early years of NWMF! Be prepared to offer five to ten minutes of your best memories. Sign up for a reserved slot by festival registration.

4:30-6:00p MC/WOC Deidre/Everywoman Color of Voices

ALL women are invited to join their sisters of color on Saturday from 4:30 to 6:30 PM in Everywoman for our gathering theme of "Color of Voices." We will be celebrating women of color through the collaboration and intersectionality, empowerment, and resilience in our voices and experiences in our multicultural lives through poetry, singing, and literature. Bring in food and drinks - and we will be offering cake!

Join us! Celebrating Lesbian Filmmakers for 10 Years!

Save the Date!
May 21-24, 2026
Memorial Day Weekend
Paducah, Kentucky USA

Support this "MichFest Acorn"

Cinema Systers
Film Festival

CinemaSysters.com

MYSTERS ART

LESBIAN LABOR DAY WEEKEND
FRI, AUGUST 29TH - MON, SEPT. 1ST

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Sunday 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.

6:30-10a - Breakfast Buffet	Atrium	11a-1p - Lunch Buffet	Atrium
9a-1p - Registration	Open Conference Center Lobby	12:30p - SheRocks Stage - House Opens	Superior
9a-12p - Pay for and pick up your winning bids	Mendota	1p - SONiA disappear fear (<i>Emily Kimmel-Kurtz</i>)	
10a-1p - Room of Remembrance Open	Holly	2p - Melanie DeMore (<i>Jenny McKitrick</i>)	
10:30a-12:30p - Red Tent Open	Cris	3p - Closing Ceremony Sally Jeaux	
10:30a - SheRocks Stage - House Opens	Superior		
11:00a - Women's Ukulele Chorus			
Jori Costello, Director (<i>Laura Kolb</i>)			
11:20a - Women's Drum Chorus,			
Rani Biffle-Quimba, Director (<i>Jenny McKitrick</i>)			
11:40a - Women's Vocal Chorus, Melanie DeMore, Director			
(<i>Sunny Pfifferling-Irons</i>)			
10a-2p - Marketplace Open	Michigan		
10-10:50a - Universal Worship Service	Cris		
11a-1p - Lunch.....	Marketplace, Michigan		



Sunday Workshops

10:00a-12:30p Red Tent Clan Red Tent The Goddess is Listening

Do you have something you need to get off your chest? Are you working on a problem and just need to air out your thoughts? Do you have a story you wish to share? Whatever you need to get off your chest, a listening ear awaits you in the Red Tent. No judgments...just listening. Whatever is shared will remain confidential between you and the Goddess. Come to the Red Tent and sign up for an appointment.

10:00a-12:30p The Red Tent Clan Red Tent Respite in the Red Tent

The Red Tent offers a quiet place for respite and reenergizing your woman

spirit. Here you will find the living room of the Goddess, where you will find a quiet place for a short nap, a hand massage or a chair massage, or a tarot reading.

10:00a-1:00p Sara Karon Holly Room of Remembrance

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

11:00-11:50a Sally Jeaux & Harvest Brown Red Tent

Universal Worship Service and Closing of the Red Tent

In this interactive worship service, you will be guided to share your values and practices about living a Spirit led life and explore sacredness in a container of respect and safety. All spiritual beliefs welcome and nurtured.

Visit the Marketplace • Michigan Room
Opens at 10am Thursday-Sunday
Unique Gifts



Gardner & Watkins Atrium

Recitals Schedule ♦ Host - Emmy Rozanski

Thursday, July 3

2-2:15p - Nancy Norman

2:25-3p - Sarah Gillespie, Susan Gaeddert, Emmy Rozanski

4-4:40p - Kaia Skaggs, Emily Hancock, Carol Rosing

Friday, July 4

4-4:40p - Adrienne Torf

4:50-5:30p - Aurora and Antheia

Saturday, July 5

4:10-4:30p - Amor y Luz

A prelude to the **Multicultural Women of Color Celebration**

Let's all join in as participants in the launch of our 2025 "Color of Voices" Reception and Celebration in rhythmic song and celebration!

We will be celebrating women of color through the collaboration and intersectionality, empowerment, and resilience in our voices experienced in our multicultural lives through our poetry, song, and literature. At 4:30pm **The Percussion Procession** begins. Amor y Luz will lead the gathered group in parade across the hotel lobby and into the Deidre Room. All will enter the event in succession, some dancing, some singing along with Amor y Luz, some playing percussion instruments in hand.

Marketplace Shopping List



New Item
Festival Journal
in gray or purple



- ♦ Festival T-Shirt
- ♦ Long-Sleeve Shirt for fall walks
- ♦ Buy something fun For myself
- ♦ Buy Women's Music & videos at Goldenrod
- ♦ Buy gifts in Marketplace for
 - Dog sitter
 - House sitter
 - Sister/daughter
 - Wife/Girlfriend



An International
Community of
Lesbian Elders



Una Comunidad
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Lesbianas Mayores

<https://oloc.org>

Old Lesbians Organizing for Change

Una Comunidad Internacional de Lesbianas Mayores

2025 OLOC NATIONAL GATHERING

Encuentro Nacional De OLOC

AUGUST 20-24, 2025 in Columbus, Ohio*

PREVAILING:
Old Lesbians United For Our Future



**G. Helen
Whitener**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Washington State Supreme Court Justice
G. HELEN WHITENER

The first Black woman to serve on the Washington State Supreme Court, the fourth immigrant-born Justice, AND the first Black LGBT Supreme Court Justice in the nation.



Nedra Johnson

ENTERTAINMENT

**NEDRA
JOHNSON**

LESBIANS OF COLOR EVENT

Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2025
9am-4pm

FACILITATED BY
KAREN WILLIAMS



Karen Williams

**Embassy Suites Hotel*

2700 Corporate Exchange Drive. Columbus, Ohio, 43231, USA



National Women's Music Festival Orchestra Chamber Ensemble

July 5, 2025

Program

Starburst (2012/2020)	Jessie Montgomery (b. 1981)
Concert Overture in D (1873)	Elfrida Andrée (1841-1929)
Piano Quintet in C-minor Op. 40 (1840) I. Andante Sostenuto – Allegro grazioso Susan Gaeddert, piano	Louise Farrenc (1804-1875)
Adoration (1951)	Florence Price (1887-1953) (arr. R. Jones)
Afro-Cuban Concerto for woodwind quintet (2001) I. Afro	Valerie Coleman (b. 1970)
Bridges (2006) I. Trestle Bridge IV. Brooklyn Bridge	Victoria Bond (b. 1945)
Moonscape (2025) World Premiere	Alyssa Morris (b. 1970)

Kaia Skaggs, flute
Laura Medisky, oboe
Emily Hancock, clarinet
Carol Rosing, bassoon
Sarah Gillespie, horn

Paran Amirinazari, violin
Olga Draguieva, violin
Alexis Carreon, viola
Laurie Jarski, cello
Susanne DiVincenzo, double bass

Susan Gaeddert, piano

Nan Washburn, music director

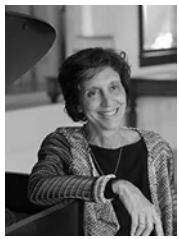
2025 Women in the Arts Awards

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

Jane Schliessman, a native of Racine, WI, made Bloomington, IN, 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). Jane was 35 when she died in 1986 of colon cancer.

The 2025 Jane Schliessman Award is presented to Adrienne Torf.



Adrienne Torf's musical life includes solo recording and performing, accompanying theater and dance companies, touring and recording with singers and, significantly, a nineteen-year creative collaboration with African-American poet June Jordan.

Adrienne has released four solo albums of original compositions: *Brooklyn From the Roof* (1986), *Find A Way* (1990), *Two Hands Open* (2003), and *Here I Am* (2025), plus *The June Jordan and Adrienne Torf Collaboration: Selected Works, 1983-2000* (2003). She has contributed piano and synthesizer artistry to over twenty other commercially released albums, including some by Holly Near, Ferron, Meg Christian, Cris Williamson, and Kay Gardner. She toured with Holly Near (1980-82), and Linda Tillery (1983), and was in the band for the Olivia Records 10th Anniversary shows at Carnegie Hall. Starting in 1980, she has performed numerous times at NWMF with Holly Near, Linda Tillery, Ronnie Gilbert, June Jordan and solo.

Poetry for the People: The June Jordan Experience, which Adrienne co-devised with Raymond O. Caldwell, ran at Theater Alliance in Washington, D.C. in 2022 and 2024, and is scheduled to run at the Fountain Theater in Los Angeles in the fall of 2025. The show received the 2023 Helen Hayes Theater Washington Award for Outstanding New Play or Musical Adaptation. Adrienne's community-participation performance piece "The Awesome Difficult Work of Love" was

performed in Madison, WI (2008), San Francisco (2012) and Sedona, AZ (2022), and is planned for a 2026 production in Flint, MI. She is also currently composing a piece for the IN Series opera company.

In May 2025, Adrienne, Mary Watkins, Barbara Higbie, and Tammy Lynn Hall performed their "Four Pianists" show in the Bay Area to sold out houses.

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, IL to Bloomington, IN. Her spirit continues to nurture the soul of this festival.

The 2025 Jeanine C. Rae Award is presented to Dee Mosbacher and Boden Sandstrom.



Dee Mosbacher, M.D., Ph.D. is a psychiatrist and an Academy Award-nominated documentary filmmaker. She was a producer/director of the documentaries *Straight from the Heart*, 1994; *Out for a Change: Addressing Homophobia in Women's Sports*, 1995; and *All God's Children*, 1996. Mosbacher executive produced *De Colores*. Mosbacher's other co-production credits include *No Secret Any More: The Times of Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon*; *Closets Are Health Hazards: Gay and Lesbian Physicians Come Out*; and *Lesbian Physicians on Practice, Patients, and Power*. Mosbacher's films have received numerous awards from LGBTQ+, Black, Latina, Latin

American, and Aging Media film festivals, including best of show award, grand jury awards, and audience awards, in the U.S., U.K., Australia, Cuba, Mexico, and Italy. Mosbacher was the founder and president of Woman Vision, a nonprofit organization whose mission was to promote social justice through the production of educational films and video.

As a psychiatrist Dee Mosbacher worked with agencies that served people with severe mental health problems, both as a clinician and administrator, including Medical Director for Mental Health in San Mateo County. Mosbacher and her spouse of 50 years, Nanette Gartrell, M.D., are contributors to the best-selling book *The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump*. Mosbacher's papers are archived at the Sophia Smith Collection at Smith College and also at Drexel College of Medicine. Her other oral histories are archived at the Library of Congress, Veteran Feminists of America, and OUTWORDS.

Boden Sandstrom, MS, MLS, and Ph.D.

is a retired librarian, teacher, and sound engineer. As co-producer of *Radical Harmonies* she was awarded the American Musicological Society Philip Brett Award for exceptional musicological research in the field of LGBTQ+ studies. Boden began her activist career in Boston in the early 1970s where she was a founding member of Boston Female Liberation. After moving to Washington, D.C., Boden learned how to be a sound engineer, and founded Woman Sound in 1975 with singer Casse Culver. Boden toured with many performers, including Cris Williamson and Lily Tomlin, and did sound for many of the major women's music festivals including the NWMF. She was the technical producer for many rallies and festivals in the D.C. area including the March for Women's Lives in 2004 and the March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation in 1993. When Boden ended Woman Sound, she pursued a Ph. D. in Ethnomusicology and taught at the University of Maryland.

Boden's major research and publications have been on Women's Music including "Performance, Ritual, and Negotiation of Identity in the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival" and "Women's Music: Passing the Legacy." Since retiring she has continued her archival work of the Women's Music Network. Boden's archives are housed at Smith College and the Mitchell Smith

2025 Women in the Arts Awards

Performing Arts Library with oral interviews at the Library of Congress, Rainbow History Project and the Veteran Feminists of America.

The 2025 Jeanine C. Rae Award is presented to Terry Irons.



Terry Irons has been the manager of SONiA Disappear Fear for 28 years and has produced events and festivals for over 40 years. She helped produce the

March on Washington, Stonewall 25 and the Gay Games; and worked on crew at Rhythm Fest and Michigan. Terry practiced law with a focus on disability rights, working with ADAPT and other groups to pass the ADA.

During the late '80s and early '90s she spent time with Disappear Fear. She had first met the band when she read that Sonia wrote songs as well as John Lennon. In 1997 Terry produced prides across the country with access, interpreters, and diverse lineups. Disappear Fear performed at 10 prides for Terry that summer, and the friendship turned to love and eventually marriage! Both Terry and Sonia support young talent, especially women. Terry invited Elena Higgins from Indigie Femme to perform at the Susquehanna Music and Arts Festival after Sonia heard her sing at Woodford Folk Festival in Australia, and likewise helped Hanne Kah tour the U.S.

According to SONiA, "Terry is the real rock star—my wife of 16 years and my manager for 28. Through her expertise, which I call "Terry Travel Magic," we have toured over 30 countries, performing in places like bomb shelters in Israel and in Gaza at a Girls Day Camp.

Terry is a force of nature, a beacon of resilience and love who has dedicated her life to making the world a better place for everyone."

The Sarah Dwyer WIA Board of Directors' Special Appreciation Award

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.

The Sarah Dwyer WIA Board of Directors Special Appreciation Award is presented to Tess Imholt.



Tess Imholt has been the Festival's Auction Coordinator for 4 years and a former NWMF board member. Both the silent and the live auctions have grown and prospered under her tutelage. Tess is still working full-time as a librarian at the Lee County Library System in Ft. Myers, FL and is looking forward to retiring December 10 of this year...just in time to begin planning the 2026 Auctions for the 50th Festival (and not have to work full-time).

Tess shares her home with her wife, Lois McGuinness, Auction Procurer, and their two pets Milo, the dog, and Smudge, the cat. They live in a lesbian community at the Resort on Carefree Blvd in North Fort Myers, Florida.

Tess has been an out lesbian since 1975. She discovered herself at Girl Scout National Center West and still feels like she is a Girl Scout at heart.

The Kristin Lems Social Change Award

is presented to a women's music artist who has worked to achieve a positive change in society and whose continued actions have profoundly impacted a social movement through the use of music or comedy. Kristin Lems started the National Women's Music Festival at the University of Illinois out of her determination to make women's voices heard. She is still working for women's rights, safe energy, peace, racial equality, and other pressing causes.



The 2025 Kristin Lems Social Change Award is presented to Nedra Johnson.

Nedra Johnson is a singer songwriter as well as a somewhat reluctant activist, community wrangler and event producer. Her lyrics are personal and political. Her blog writing has tended to be in support of women setting boundaries and creating healing spaces as we want and need towards our own healing. She, along with co-event organizer Susan Frazier, have been producing Big Mouth Girl - Gathering on The Land since 2019. She is hoping to

start producing a Big Mouth Girl podcast in the coming year to highlight the herstory of women's music as well as to bring new younger artists into the fold of understanding their work as whatever genre they may be and also women's music.

The Sharon and Phyllis Roark Philanthropy Award is presented to Kay Miles for her generosity.



Kay Miles attended the first National Women's Music Festival in Champaign/Urbana in 1974. The magic of women's music has filled her soul and been the soundtrack of her life.

These days Kay and her wife live between The Resort on Carefree Boulevard, in SW FL, and their condominium in Evanston, IL. In Florida, they are surrounded by other Lesbians.

Kay stated, "I am incredibly grateful to the many brilliant and talented women who have organized and performed at the National Women's Music Festival for 50 years, keeping this legacy alive. I am also extremely grateful that I am able to help support this wonderful monument to women's music. May it continue for many years."

The Ruth Ann Rowan Believer Award

Ruth Rowan was a shero of National Women's Music Festival. She is remembered for her generous heart and enthusiasm. 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, Ruth's partner of 30 years, remembers Ruth at the festival, saying "I am so tired I cannot move." 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!

The 2025 Ruth Ann Rowan Believer Award is presented to Linda Wilson.



Linda has been involved with the National Women's Music Festival since the festival was in Bloomington IN. There, Retts Scauzillo hired her to be the "go-fer" on the

2025 Women in the Arts Awards

festival positions, such as stage manager, production manager, producer and WIA Board President. Her devotion to this festival can only be matched by her dear friend and festival cohort, Ruth Rowan. For a short period of time they were the only two WIA board members! Ruth and Linda worked tirelessly to keep the festival alive. Many hands have worked to create the festival of today.

In Kansas City, MO, Linda's hometown, she was the host of WomanSong radio show at community station, KKFI, for 32 years. She was part owner of Phoenix Books, a woman's bookstore. She was a publisher/editor of *LIP* (Lesbians In Print) magazine. She revived Willow Productions in 1984 and produced Women's Music concerts until she moved to Carefree in Florida in 2020, where she produced 3 Women's Music Festivals for the women there.

The 2025 Women in the Arts Volunteer Award is presented to Sara Karon.



Sara Karon began attending NWMF in 1993 with her partner, Catherine Odette, which became easier after they moved to Madison, WI, and the festival settled there.

Catherine passed away in 2012 after almost 30 years of loving partnership. "What am I going to do?" Sara asked her good friend, Cris Soluna. "I can't imagine being at a place full of such joy when I am in such deep grief." Cris worked with the festival planners, and thus was born the Room of Remembrance, a space to sit and remember; to share memories with others through writing, talking, or doing artwork; and to share strategies for grieving and growing after loss. Guided by Catherine's belief that if you have five people with a common interest or need, you have a group, Sara has coordinated the Room of Remembrance every year. She maintains and updates a slide show of women we have lost and facilitates workshops to remember those we have lost and to support lesbian widows.

In addition, Sara facilitates NWMF's Friday night Shabbat (Jewish Sabbath) service. Sara recently retired from her work in health policy. Anyone with questions about the Room of Remembrance or a wish to add someone's picture to the slide show can reach Sara at NWMFRemembrance@gmail.com.

Since this is the 49th National Women's Music Festival, we thought that it is about time to honor the life work of our artists, workers, and volunteers. Our First Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to Linda Tillery.



Linda Tillery is a San Francisco native whose career spans more than 55 years. An "out" lesbian, she is recognized as a pioneer in women's music and is considered a national treasure. She is a Grammy-nominated Vocalist, Percussionist, Producer, and Cultural Historian.

Linda has brought her talent to vocal styling, arranging, music production, and ethnomusicology. Within the women's music genre, she has collaborated with June Millington, Deidre McCalla, Barbara Higbie, Holly Near, Margie Adam, and others.

In 1975, Linda began working with the lesbian feminist collective Olivia Records, producing, writing, and performing music that brought a soul and R&B sound to the label. Songs like her rendition of "Don't Pray for Me" and "Freedom Time," both collaborations with

Mary Watkins, challenged homophobia head on and addressed feminism, racism, peace, and justice.

In 1978, Olivia Records partnered with Roadwork—a multiracial coalition founded by Bernice Johnson Reagon and Amy Horowitz—to present Varied Voices of Black Women. This national tour, which included Linda Tillery, Mary Watkins, Gwen Avery, Vicki Randle, and poet Pat Parker, was a ground-breaking celebration of African-American lesbian feminist identity and culture.

In 1992, she formed the Cultural Heritage Choir with the mission of sharing the vitality of black American roots music, drawing inspiration not only from the deep South, but also from West Africa and the Caribbean. The Grammy-nominated group toured all over the world inviting vocal collaborations with a capella singing groups. Once again, Linda provided a bridge between nations, cultures, and diverse communities.

Support Women in the Arts 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

Contributions to this fund will go directly towards covering our "Performers' Travel and Hotel Room" cost of \$40,000! Your contribution TODAY keeps the women's music and the performers we love at NWMF 2025.

donorbox.org/performer-travel-hotel-room

Support Your Favorite Performer!



Live Auction

Saturday 11:30am-1pm
Spotlight Stage



- ♦ Springwood Cabins - Hocking Hills, OH, for 4 people
- ♦ Old Lesbians Organizing For Change - 2 tickets to National Gathering, August 2025
- ♦ Live Oak Cottage, Grants Pass, Oregon, 2-night stay for two
- ♦ Women Playing Instruments on the Land 1 pass good July 29 to August 3, 2025
- ♦ Alison Bechdel Original Cartoon Art-Dykes to Watch Out For, from 1992

- ♦ Handmade Shakere
- ♦ Melanie DeMore's pounding stick
- ♦ Design of Feathers quilt-handmade by Vicki Eident
- ♦ Jellyroll Run Quilt-handmade by Barbara Lea



Artist Profiles



Adrienne Torf is returning to NWMF for the first time in many years, where she will perform original piano compositions, and Voices of the Revolution will join her to perform the *Freedom Now Suite*, a sixteen-minute piece for spoken word, gospel singing, and piano by Torf and her longtime collaborator: the late poet, essayist, teacher, and activist June Jordan.

Adrienne's recordings include solo albums of original compositions for piano and synthesizers, *Brooklyn From the Roof* (1986) and *Two Hands Open* (2003), and the June Jordan and Adrienne Torf Collaboration: *Selected Works, 1983-2000* (2003), and over twenty other commercially released recordings. She has toured and recorded with Holly Near, Linda Tillery, Ferron, Cris Williamson, and Meg Christian among others. In 2022, Adrienne co-developed the theater piece *Poetry for the People: The June Jordan Experience* with Raymond O. Caldwell at Theater Alliance / IN Series in Washington, D.C. The show was awarded the 2023 Helen Hayes Theater Washington Award for Outstanding New Play or Musical Adaptation and was reprised for a four-week run in 2024. Her community-collaboration performance piece, *The Awesome Difficult Work of Love*, has been produced in Madison, Wisconsin (2008), San Francisco, California (2012) and Sedona, Arizona (2022).



Amelia Ray is The Interpreter—a writer, composer, and performer whose performances bring to life intricate, rhythmic, and emotional musical stories full of characters as raw, confused, and contradictory as we all are. The San Francisco native has performed across the States and Europe, was selected to appear at the 2024 National Women's Music Festival, and was an Art Omi: Music 2024 Musician-in-Residence.

Ray's 31-year career has spanned the fields of music, literature, performance art, film, and humanitarianism. As a polyglot, Ray has spent decades contemplating how similar concepts are expressed differently linguistically across cultures. This research has permeated her versatile artistic work, which aims to improve understanding and communication between people from different backgrounds. Her catalogue includes cross-genre and multilingual compositions like "Ana no potable," a song in Spanish dedicated to a former mayor of Madrid; "Dream," a tribute to musicals that sounds like it came straight from a Broadway production; and *Hambone Says*, a performance piece that uses contemporary past aesthetic to explore U.S. racial and music history, and which won the Global Film Exhibition 2024 Best Music Video award.



Amor y Luz is a Latin American classical crossover duo providing a transformational experience for audiences through powerful lyrics, sing-alongs, and dance. The duo explores soaring vocal harmonies and a vintage Latin American repertoire informed by their Irish-Afro-Puerto Rican and Czech-

Italian-Spanish-American heritages. **Kutasha Silva** is the ethereal singing siren and professional cellist, and **Amy Vitro** is the playful "band in a box" piquing listeners' curiosity about what instrument she will play next. Together they are on a mission to share the musical contributions of Latin American women, spreading well-being, joy, and inspiration to all who listen. They have performed at

a variety of venues, including the Takoma Park Folk Festival 2024 in Maryland, SisterSpace of the Delaware Valley in 2023, and Michigan Framily Reunion in 2022 and 2023.



Boden Sandstrom, Ph.D. Winner of the American Musicological Society Philip Brett Award for exceptional musicological research in the field of LGBTQ+ studies for her work on *Radical Harmonies* and a Community Pioneers Honoree, Rainbow History Project, Washington, D.C., Dr. Sandstrom was a leading sound engineer on the Women's Music circuit. In 1975, she founded Woman Sound, a woman-owned sound company with singer Casse Culver. She toured with many performers, including Cris Williamson and Lily Tomlin, did sound for many Women's Music festivals, along with technical production for the major LGBTQ+ and NOW rallies on the Washington Mall. She has a PhD in Ethnomusicology, MS in Audio Technology, and MLS in Library Science. Before retiring, Dr. Sandstrom was a Lecturer and Technical Coordinator in the School of Music at the University of Maryland. Boden's major research and publications have been on Women's Music including "Performance, Ritual, and Negotiation of Identity in the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival," and "Women's Music: Passing the Legacy." Since retiring she has continued her archival work of Women's Music including the herstory of Woman Sound and singer/songwriter Casse Culver, which are now housed at the Sophia Smith Collection of Women's History at Smith College.



Bonnie Morris, Ph.D. 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 nineteen books, she has devoted more than forty years to documenting the women's music movement, first publishing *Eden Built By Eves*, a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award, and later, *The Disappearing L* and *The Feminist Revolution* (which made Oprah's list). Her research on women's music, Olivia Records, and American lesbian culture will one day be housed at the Radcliffe Institute's Schlesinger Library. Dr. Morris organized the first-ever exhibit on the women's music movement at the Library of Congress; arranged for women's music materials to be part of the Smithsonian; received the Ruth Rowan Believer Award from the National Women's Music Festival; and continues her work as Olivia Records' historian and archivist. Dr. Morris has been a featured speaker at conferences and museums throughout the country and is a scholarly adviser to the National Women's History Museum. Her latest book, *What's The Score?*, a history of women's sports, was released in 2022. Find her at bonniejmorris.com



Christie Lenée - "Acoustic Guitarist of the Year" and celebrated singer/songwriter Christie Lenée is more than a musician – she's an experience. Symphonic compositions flow from her fingertips effortlessly, with sound ranging from transcendental folk-pop to virtuosic instrumentals. Christie has been described as "Dave Matthews meets Joni Mitchell and Michael Hedges," integrating melodic pop lyricism with catchy hooks and percussive, harmonic textures. Since achieving first place at the International Fingerstyle Guitar Championship in 2017, her captivating performances have been

Artist Profiles

Emmanuel, Tim Reynolds (Dave Matthews Band), Andy McKee, Amy Ray (Indigo Girls), Melissa Etheridge, Antigone Rising, Kaki King, Jake Shimabukuro and Christopher Cross to name a few.

Featured on the Grammy Museum's virtual program streaming from Los Angeles, a two-time finalist in the USA Songwriting Competition, plus a variety of articles in *Guitar Player Magazine*, *Acoustic Guitar Magazine*, and the recent notability of "Best Acoustic Guitarists in the World Right Now" (*Guitar World Magazine*), Christie continues to awe crowds with the unique essence of her music.

Christie was recently featured in *Go Magazine*, *Americana Highways*, *Bluegrass Situation*, *Country Queer* and *Acoustic Guitar Magazine*. With a new album in hand, *she's Coming Alive* – right on time.

Performing with Christie is producer, multi-instrumentalist and songwriter, Katie Marie.



Dee Mosbacher, M.D., Ph.D. is a psychiatrist and an Academy Award™ nominated documentary filmmaker. She was a producer/director of the documentaries *Straight from the Heart*, 1994 (Academy Award™ nomination); *Out for a Change: Addressing Homophobia in Women's Sports*, 1995 (Apple Award, National Educational Media Network); and *All God's Children*, 1996

(Best Documentary, National Black Arts Film Festival). Dr. Mosbacher executive produced *De Colores*, winner of the 2001 Audience Award at OUTFEST. Dr. Mosbacher's other co-production credits include: *No Secret Any More: The Times of Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon*; *Closets Are Health Hazards: Gay and Lesbian Physicians Come Out*; and *Lesbian Physicians on Practice, Patients, and Power*. Dr. Mosbacher is the founder and president of Woman Vision, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote social justice through the production of educational films and video.



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.



e nina jay

poetry is my first language
my favorite portal through which to walk
as eye observe my world, nurture what eye am
& reach for my people. eye swim the emoceans
of poetry to disrupt the chaos that saturates this
culture with the intention to chart different paths
toward and to create an artistic liberated &
beautiful life of feeling & power & thought &

truth...to unapologetically & with my whole being **live that!!!**

Live Auction ♦ Saturday 11:30a-1p ♦ Spotlight Stage

Olivia Alaska Cruise for 2

Indiana Fever Tickets (August Home Game)

Provincetown Package for 2

Michfest 40th Anniversary Quilt

50th Anniversary NWMF Package



Hanne Kah is a bold, queer, and boundary-breaking voice in German folk music, renowned for her evocative storytelling and commitment to artistic freedom. Her music is a unique fusion of folk tradition and modern, queer perspective—drawing on themes of love, identity, society, and freedom. Raised in a culturally rich, supportive

family, Hanne's background fuels her open worldview and deep appreciation for diversity.

Hanne first found success as the frontwoman of the band *Hanne KAH*, captivating audiences with her raw vocal power and genuine lyrics. She has evolved into an independent singer-songwriter and producer. Drawing comparisons to the greats like Joni Mitchell and Dolly Parton, Hanne's voice carries the timeless, soulful quality of folk legends while bringing a fresh and distinctly German perspective to the genre.

With performances at folk festivals and collaborations with artists such as Bodo Wartke or The Hooters, Hanne has cemented her place in the international folk scene. A pivotal moment in her career came when she toured the U.S. with singer-songwriter Sonia Rutstein, which reinforced her connection to American folk roots. Her songs like "Goodbye My Love" and "Tell Me Who I Am" are powerful examples of her craft, showcasing her ability to communicate raw emotion with simplicity and depth.

Hanne creates music that invites listeners to explore their own stories in her songs. In her own words: "*Tell me who I am—always stay true to yourself and live what you feel.*"

Performing with Hanne is Lea Jung on bass.



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 to 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.



Jamie Anderson - Singer-songwriter-parking lot attendant Jamie Anderson hails from Ottawa, Ontario, except for the few months of the winter when she hides out in Arizona. She has played her unique original songs in hundreds of venues in four countries including forty-seven US states. Proficient on guitar, ukulele, and

mandolin, this musician with an expressive soprano is folk without the Birkenstocks, country without the big hair, and jazz without the weird chords. Her twelve recordings offer a variety of topics from body image ("Beautiful") to wanting to marry Rachel Maddow because really, who wouldn't? Jamie loves being a musician, so she doesn't really park cars, but her mama said she should have something to fall back on.

Her most recent recording is *Songs from Home*, written and recorded during the pandemic. She initially went into James Stephen's Quebec studio (Ian Tamblyn, Lynn Miles) to record one song, "Six Feet Away," and ended up recording six. Because it wasn't safe for a whole band

Artist Profiles

in the studio, James and Jamie played all of the instruments. Jamie's expressive voice and personable stage manner are an asset to any stage. She's legally blind in one eye so you really don't want to hand over the keys to your Volvo ... although, with enough chocolate, she'll consider it. Make sure your insurance is up-to-date.



Jeannie Tanner is an award-winning composer with seven Grammy-considered albums and five ASCAP composer awards. She is a singer-songwriter, vocalist, piano player, trumpeter, percussionist and producer who performs and records her original music: a mix of pop, jazz, R&B and Latin rhythms. Jeannie's music has been used for many television shows including *Single Ladies*, *Dolly Parton's Heartstrings*, *Culinary Travels with Dave Eckert*, *Revenge*, *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*, *Fox NFL Kickoff*, and *Days of Our Lives*.

Her music has been featured in movies, including *A Christmas Duet*; *Christmas Cookies*; *Signed, Sealed, Delivered for Christmas*; *Doomsday Mom*; and *Christmas in the Air*—as well as the independent films *Blame It On Toby* and *Scrooge and Marley*.

Ms. Tanner has headlined at top Chicago area venues/festivals with her groups 3 Martini Jeannie (3MJ) and the Jeannie Tanner Quartet. *"Chicago does not lack for engaging jazz trumpeters, vocalists, pianists, bandleaders, songwriters and arrangers — but how many can do it all? Jeannie Tanner happens to be one ... If you've ever been fortunate enough to hear her pick up a horn, or sing a ballad or unveil an original song, you know that she practically exudes music."*—Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune

Performing with Jeannie on bass is Stacy McMichael.



Jenny McKittrick is a native Madisionian. 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



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. 2025 marks the 7th annual NWMF Ukulele Chorus directed by Jori. This year's theme is "The Changed" and will feature songs by Cris Williamson, Kiya Heartwood, and Mavis Staples."

Listen to Jori's radio show, *Go Sistah Go*, every Friday at 3pm CST. KPSQ.org



Joy Clark is a Louisiana born-and-raised singer-songwriter and guitarist who is charting her own path with her debut album *Tell it to the Wind*. As the youngest of five children in a tight-knit, deeply religious family, her release is both a declaration of her independence and a love letter to the traditions that shaped her.

The album marks Joy's arrival on the national stage as a proud, queer, Black woman blending the social consciousness of folk, the rhythms of Southeast Louisiana, and the soul-centered music she grew up with.

While studying at the University of New Orleans, Joy ventured into the legendary music scene, soaking up the city's traditions—most notably its "do whatcha wanna" attitude. Eventually Joy earned herself a regular spot touring with living legend and Grammy winner Cyril Neville.

Joy's songcraft paired with sophisticated progressions, and themes of freedom, love and self-acceptance, gained her notice on the national folk and Americana scenes with appearances at Americanafest. She caught the attention of Grammy-winner Allison Russell and was offered a regular spot in her backing band The Rainbow Coalition, earning her the chance to jam with superstars Brandi Carlile and the Indigo Girls. Talking to The Tennessean, Russell described Joy as a "a brilliant artist, writer and singer."



Kristen Ford is a singer songwriter and multi-instrumentalist influenced by greats such as Alanis Morissette, Radiohead, and Ani DiFranco. She navigates life as a biracial queer girl and tours globally in pursuit of the perfect show. Her live performance morphs

from unplugged solo acoustic to screaming, electric guitar soloing in front of a rock band to her dynamic one-woman band using loops, beatboxing, and a healthy case of ADHD to her advantage.

Ford's Righteous Babe Records debut, *Pinto*, produced by Ani DiFranco and mixed by John Driskill Hopkins (Zac Brown Band), is set to release in 2025. Performing with Kristen are Phylshawn Johnson and Susanne DiVincenzo.



Laura Cerulli is a singer-songwriter and half of the nationally touring duo Mama's Black Sheep from Baltimore, MD. Laura is pleased to return to the festival this year as part of the NWMF crew and will be DJ'ing the Friday night dance, and organizing the Saturday Night All-Star Jam. Additionally, Laura will be backing up SONiA disappear fear (on drums and vocals)

on Sunday. Learn more about Laura and Mama's Black Sheep at mamasblacksheep.com.

Artist Profiles



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. Laura had a heart attack as a woman with women's symptoms. No pain with 100% blockage, mostly "extreme fatigue."

All 3 of her cardiologists were unaware of women's presentations. Check out women's cardiac symptoms at Cleveland Clinic, Women's Cardiovascular Center.

DeafThinkPositive.com and Think Positive Facebook page.



Linda Tillery is a Grammy-nominated vocalist, producer, percussionist, arranger, and cultural historian. Since the tender age of 19, she has been considered one of the Bay Area's most soulful and dynamic singers.

She is recognized as a pioneer in women's music. Her second solo album, *Linda Tillery* (Olivia Records, 1977), won a Bay Area

Music Award for "Best Independently Produced Album." Linda was also twice named "Outstanding Female Vocalist" at the Bay Area Jazz Awards. She produced three of Olivia's first eight albums and has collaborated with June Millington, Deidre McCalla, Barbara Higbie, Holly Near, Margie Adam, and others.

During the 1980s, Linda recorded three albums under her own name while becoming a central figure in Oakland's R&B and funk scene. In the '90s, Linda became a founding member of, and toured with, Bobby McFerrin's *Voicestra*.

Linda has appeared on over 70 recordings by such artists as Carlos Santana, Boz Scaggs, Pete and Sheila Escovedo, Taj Mahal, Vicki Randle, Eric Bibb, Mickey Hart, Bobby McFerrin, Linda Ronstadt, Huey Lewis & The News, The Whispers, Turtle Island String Quartet and Keith Terry's percussion ensemble, Crosspulse.

In 1992, Linda formed the six-member Cultural Heritage Choir, a percussion-driven vocal ensemble.

She has metamorphosed into an authority on the African Diaspora in song. Her current mission is to help preserve and share the rich musical traditions of African American roots music.

Linda Tillery's Freedom Band

Kristen Strom - Acclaimed for her lithe and lustrous tone, saxophonist Kristen Strom has graced stages across the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Asia. Having recorded on over 50 albums and performed with icons like Gladys Knight, Natalie Cole, Taj Mahal and Roberta Flack, she embodies a mastery that promises an unforgettable live experience.

Ruth Davies - Ruth, a Bay Area native, has performed with jazz and blues greats Taj Mahal, Charles Brown, Clark Terry, John Lee Hooker, Bonnie Raitt, Van Morrison, Maria Muldaur, Linda Tillery, Barbara Dane, Barbara Morrison, Etta Jones, Elvis Costello, Sammy Hagar and Keb' Mo'.

Ruth has toured the world for more than 30 years performing at major jazz and blues festivals, clubs and concerts with artists such as Charles Brown, Elvin Bishop, Maria Muldaur, Amina Figarova, Barbara Dane and Linda Tillery.

Ruth Price, at age eight, was out cruising through local Bay Area jam sessions and playing jazz alongside her instructor. She has been playing and performing all over the world ever since. Ruth resides in the Bay Area where she freelances on the Oakland church scene and performs with other local Bay Area artists. Ruth is a hot and rare commodity.

Tammy Hall - Grammy-winning pianist, composer, arranger, lecturer, and musical director began playing the piano at age four and is still devoted to that instrument, music, and its calling. Tammy's career has spanned more than four decades, with no end in sight.



Lisa Koch - Twisted songs, social satire, and singing vulvas—Lisa brings the funny, with velvet pipes and razor-sharp parody. With five solo recordings, she is an alumnus of Seattle's loony sketch comedy duo, Dos Fallopia (*My Breasts are Out of Control*, *Ham for the Holidays*), and cult quartet Venus Envy (*I'll Be A Homo for Xmas*).

She has shared the stage with Steve Martin, Janis

Ian, Lily Tomlin, Karla Bonoff, Kate Clinton, and more. Lisa has co-written such warped shows as *The Carpenters: Uncomfortably Close To You*; *Two's Company*, *I'm a Crowd*; and *The Hamchurian Candidate*.

Koch has been featured on Olivia and LOGO, is the composer of the Off-Broadway musical *27, Rue de Fleurus*, and is proud to report that one of her songs has actually been sampled by Jay-Z.

Lisa brings to the stage her wacky songs, her alter ego Sister Mary Agnes, and her musings on being a woman...from middle age to mammograms to mirth.



Melanie DeMore was born in the Bronx, raised in Anchorage, moved to San Antonio, finished school, left Texas, was the only Black folk singer in Taos, NM, then moved to Oakland where she's been for the past 21 years. (Actually, Mel and Tracy C. had a good laugh when they finally met and realized folks had them mixed up all the time.

They still do!) Every town Melanie traveled became her teacher and an opportunity to hone her craft as a songwriter, troubadour, and emissary of tolerance, kindness, and harmony through the sound of her golden voice.

She was a founding member of the Grammy-nominated vocal ensemble Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir, and is constantly amazed by her life. But nothing is closer to her heart than bringing people together to experience the healing power of music. Whether she's performing solo, leading stick pounding workshops, doing residencies with choirs all over the country or teaching Sound Awareness to sixth graders, baby boomers, or senior citizens, her mission is to make sure you unlock the key to experiencing yourself in all your Glory and return home with the same excitement and passion for living that she herself has. When she comes your way, her energy will charge the very air you breathe like a meteor shower, so get ready to rise up!



Nakiyah Kilpatrick is a graduate of Goshen College with a BA degree in Sign Language Interpreting and Spanish. She has studied abroad in Spain, Guatemala, and Ecuador, where she had the opportunity to work with the deaf community internationally, utilizing both sign language and

Spanish. With 11 months of professional experience, Nakiyah has interpreted for notable clients including Fantasia, Joe, Tedashii, Evan Kraft, Disney Dreamers, and SeaWorld. Nakiyah enjoys singing and songwriting. She loves traveling the world, cherishing time with friends and family, and considers food her love language.

Artist Profiles



Nedra Johnson is a singer/songwriter multi-instrumentalist born in NYC and living in Ohio. Her unique style of guitar playing is informed by her many years as a bassist and keeps her live solo acoustic performances more on an R&B tip than one might expect of a "girl with a guitar."

Nedra has performed at jazz, blues, pride & women's music festivals as a solo artist and as a tuba player/vocalist with her father Howard Johnson and his group, Gravity. She impressed jazz audiences in Paris, Nimes, Berlin, Vienna, Kassel, Macedonia, Muchen, Leverkusen, Los Angeles, New York and New Orleans when she sang original songs.

"Nedra Johnson, blues and soul singer out of the Bronx has a red wine-stained red velvet pillow for a voice. She's set deep, with rough cuts sung well."—Hanifah Walidah

"She is unapologetically queer and graciously thankful to the women's music scene. Nedra Johnson is my hero. Witty and earnest, the songs on Nedra range from blues, jazz, and gospel to that hard-to-describe genre that is basically music to get it on to mixed like a perfect martini, crisp and a little naughty."—Kris Scott Marti, AfterEllen.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 Wiminifest. Rani is the NWMF Drum Chorus director.



SONiA disappear fear is a world-class composer and artist. SONiA's writing in a variety of genres and languages has garnered her a vast following worldwide. Her double CD *LiVe at MAXiMAL* was in the running for a Grammy for Folk Album of the Year. Her touring schedule past and future reveals

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 worldwide. Her 2020 compilation *Love Out Loud* encourages people to embrace their identity and highlights the ongoing push for LGBT equality. From the Sydney Opera House to the Kerrville Folk Festival and a bomb shelter in the Negev, SONiA 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. *"The honesty of her songs touches the hearts and minds of people from a wide spectrum of social and ethnic backgrounds who share a positive world vision."*—Rounder Records.

She has been awarded six GLAMAs, including Female Artist of the Year; a GLAAD Award for Best Album; Coin Of Honor from a joint coalition of the United States Military for her humanitarian efforts;

and the Spirit of Folk Music Award from Folk Alliance International. Performing with SONiA is **Laura Cerulli** of Mama's Black Sheep.



Sunny Pffifferling-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, IN, with her wife and daughter. When not interpreting, she enjoys

gardening, hiking, riding her horse, and making maple syrup from her own trees.



Vickie Shaw was a late bloomer. When the Southern Baptist stay-at-home mom decided she would hit the stage and give comedy a try, she had no idea it would change her life in many new and exciting ways. Shaw said, "I didn't want to be a comedian so much as I just wanted to be able to

look back at my life and say I did it. I was always telling my kids to follow their dreams, and I hadn't followed my own."

Her life took an unusual turn on her path for laughs. She said, "I began to study the art of comedy and realized I had to get in touch with my feelings, many of which I had never addressed. I was very suppressed." She added, "When I began to get in touch with them, it became a Pandora's box. You can't pick and choose what you feel and ... I realized ... son of a gun! I'm a lesbian!"

She has performed in almost every state over the last five years and has headlined in various venues including Michigan Womyn's Festival, National Women's Music Festival, Monterrey Beach Women's Festival, and the Dinah & Lina Shore Golf Tournament in Southern California.

Special Festival Events

Thursday - 3:30p - Dedication of the Ruth Rowan Stage in the Marketplace. Ruth was the coordinator of the Marketplace for many years. It seems only fitting to keep her memory alive here.

Friday - 9:30a - Keynote Address - Screening of *Radical Harmonies* Followed by panel discussion with Dee Mosbacher, Boden Sandstrom, Linda Tillery and Margie Adam. Moderator Bonnie Morris.

Friday - 10:30p - Spotlight Stage - DJ Dance - Right after the end of the SheRocks Stage, DJ Lil Black Sheep will be spinning some music for your dancing pleasure. There will be Line Dancing.

Saturday - 11:30a - Spotlight Stage - Live Auction - Diana Cook Did you see all of the Fabulous Vacation Trips on page 23? Olivia Cruise, Indiana Fever Tickets, Provincetown package and more. Plus, 6 seats at **Margie Adam's Breakfast table** - Sunday 8am.

Saturday - 7p - SheRocks Stage - In Memoriam - A tribute to all the women we lost this past year.

Saturday - 10:30p - The Artist Festival Jam, Laura Cerulli will lead the jam in a fast-paced fun set of music with artists joining together to create some musical magic.

Artist Profiles



Violet and the Undercurrents a Columbia, Missouri-based quartet is anchored by the songwriting of **Violet Vonder Haar** and enriched by her musical counterparts. Violet started honing her craft as

a songwriter, performer and vocalist at an early age. Raised in a small town at the edge of the Missouri River, she was nurtured by a thriving folk music-centered community.

An enduring partnership laid the groundwork for her namesake band. In 2010, she began working with **Phylshaw Johnson**—jazz drummer, composer, multi-instrumentalist and producer. A year later, they formed Violet and the Undercurrents, their interlocking melodies and rhythmic patterns becoming a touchstone of the group's sound.

Bassist **Linda Bott** and guitarist **Lizzy Weiland** contributed an inimitable style. The band released the *Nashville Sessions EP* in 2016 and subsequently joined David Wax Museum on a national tour. The group has also appeared at an official SXSW showcase, the National Women's Music Festival, and the Folk Alliance International Conference. They've shared the stage with Shook Twins, BONES, Wild Child, The Rainmakers, K's Choice and The Urge.

Their influences include Local Natives, Ani DiFranco, Land of Talk, Brandi Carlile, and St. Vincent. Violet and the Undercurrents tell seasoned stories. Their freshness and familiarity beckon audiences to join them at the river—the source of their creative, replenishing energy.



Voices of the Revolution is an eclectic collective of feminist voices telling truth through spoken word. Based in Lansing, Michigan, they perform in libraries,

community centers, art galleries, or wherever they're invited. Their work features their own poetry as well as poets such as Pat Parker and June Jordan. Created in 2018, their collaboration is based on love and respect that goes back decades. L-R: **Shelia Burks, Ruelaine Stokes, Tari Muñiz, Kim Griffin, Laurie Hollinger, Lisa Sarno, Rose Jangmi Cooper and Susan Harris.**

Auction Donors

We are blessed to have so many to thank for their donations to Women in the Arts/National Women's Music Festival

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Karen Lurde	Sandy Appleby
Laurie Fuchs	Sharon Rodgers
Linda Wilson	Vicki Eident
	Virginia Bundy

WIA's Got Talent Contest

Women in the Arts/NWMAF has hosted a contest to encourage and support talented young female artists. Three contestants will be performing throughout the week – Kelly Zullo, Mary Jane Knight, and Abby Posner. The winner of the contest will be decided by festival judges and you, our audience. Please vote early and often. The winning artist will open our 2026 Festival on Thursday night.



Abby Posner is a multi-instrumentalist originally from the mountains of Colorado. Posner's energy is comparable to Chris Thile of Nickel Creek and The Lumineers. Her songs range from intimate haunting folk songs, to upbeat festival/"dance your pants off" anthems. She has music placed on Hulu, Netflix, The CW, Freeform + commercials and TV shows all over the US and UK. Her music video *Quiet on Sunset* was featured on CMT, and she scored the music for award-winning Lady Buds.

She signed to Blackbird Record Label in the fall of 2022, and continues to tour all over the US with her newest album *Second Chances*.



Kelly Zullo first found attention from her unique and aggressive "funk finger style guitar" approach. *Guitar World Magazine* called it "some speedy finger work and hard hitting right hand technique while she sings at the same time." She was named the "Best Female Solo Musician" at the 2011 International Acoustic Music Awards. Since then she has enjoyed bringing that approach into the Americana and bluegrass style combined with her roots-driven songwriting. She has been intent on honing her new sound from her North Carolina home where she also enjoys way too many carpentry projects. She is a studied and passionate advocate of women's health issues and the bio-mechanical anomalies that come with being a lifelong musician as well.



Mary Jane Knight is a vocal artist, composer, and sacred space holder dedicated to using the voice as a tool for healing and empowerment. With roots in opera, church music, and education, she bridges music therapy, sound healing, and spirituality in both her performances and teaching. Her newly released debut album,

Rising Free: a journey of healing, has been praised for its emotional depth and raw beauty, "providing listeners with a space to confront and heal their inner struggles" (*Rival Magazine*). Mary Jane dreams of traveling the world, sharing the message that everyone has a voice.

Diana Cook

NWMAF Auctioneer

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National Women's Music Festival Orchestra Chamber Ensemble



Nan Washburn (music director) just celebrated her 26th season as Music Director of the Michigan Philharmonic. 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 American Orchestras.

She first came to national attention as a co-founder, the 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 and 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 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.



Alexis Carreon (viola) has performed as a soloist, principal, and ensemble player for numerous chamber and symphony orchestras in the Los Angeles, Madison, and Chicago areas for more than 3 decades. 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 studied with David Carroll and Frank Morelli, respectively.

Carol is currently 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 of the Beloit Janesville Symphony for 15 years. She 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, LaCrosse Symphony, Orchestra Iowa, and Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra. She has performed internationally with groups in England, Scotland, Austria, and Italy. Carol has vast chamber music experience, having performed with numerous woodwind quintets, trios, and chamber ensembles over the years. Carol currently serves as the Bassoon Professor at Northern Illinois University, the Lecturer of Bassoon at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, the Lecturer of Bassoon at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and the Bassoon Instructor at Beloit College. She also maintains a private teaching studio.



Emily Hancock (clarinet) is a clarinetist currently residing in Chicago, Illinois. She recently completed her Master's degree in clarinet performance at DePaul University where she studied with Stephen Williamson, the principal clarinetist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Emily is an avid orchestral performer. She is the principal clarinetist of the Dubuque Symphony

Orchestra and she also plays frequently in the sections of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, and the Akron Symphony Orchestra as a substitute. Emily received her Bachelor's degree at Oberlin Conservatory where she studied with Richard Hawkins. When she's not playing the clarinet, you can find Emily enjoying opera, Dungeons and Dragons, or her daily bagel.



Kaia Skaggs (flute) 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 also known for her work as a sound engineer at the nationally renowned folk/acoustic venue The Ark in Ann Arbor and as the Main Stage front-of-house engineer for the National Women's Music Festival.



National Women's Music Festival Orchestra Chamber Ensemble



Dr. Laura Medisky (oboe) is an oboist and Alexander Technique teacher based in Madison, WI, and is the Instructor of Oboe at Northern Illinois University. She regularly performs with the Madison Symphony as well as Con Vivo! chamber ensemble, Fresco Opera, Capital City Theatre, and Bach Dancing and Dynamite Society. She served as Acting Principal Oboe in the

Rockford Symphony for three seasons and the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra for six seasons. Medisky has performed concertos with orchestras in Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, and Idaho. Her solo album *Personalities: 21st-century American Music for Oboe* was released in 2012 on the Centaur Records label. 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 she was recognized for her creativity and innovation in studio teaching as a featured guest on the "Mavericks" series of the podcast Double Reed Dish.



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

Women's Music Festival Orchestra. Laurie coaches a "String Quartet Plus" program in Northville and Kalamazoo for youth and adult string players and has recently coached at Sturgis' Chamber String Music Retreat in 2023. Laurie is co-producing an original album *The Blues Aside Project*, scheduled to be released in 2025. Laurie, with Aurora & Antheia, completed a collaborative project with the Wellspring Dance Company which premiered in 2025 with a reprisal slated for 2026. An album for this ensemble, *Sonic Intimacy*, was released in April 2025. She has received composition commissions in collaboration with the Kalamazoo Valley Museum and Connecting Chords. Recent commissions include *The Nine Trees of KL Ave*, 2021, the *Egyptian Blue Jazz Bowl for Solo Guitar* and *Untitled Brazilian Mirage* for the Kalamazoo Institute of Art's Unveiling American Genius Resonance Music Project, 2020.



Dr. Olga Draguieva (violin) 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.



Paran Amirnazari (violin) is an avid chamber musician, artistic leader, and is the founder and artistic director of the acclaimed Willy Street Chamber Players. A native of Boston, Massachusetts, she holds a Bachelor of Music Degree from the New England Conservatory of Music where she studied with Mr. James Buswell IV and a Masters of Music degree from the University of Nevada, Reno. At

the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Paran was a member of the Hunt String Quartet and winner of the 2016 concerto competition. At the University of Nevada, Reno she was the recipient of the Nightingale String Quartet fellowship. Paran is a member of the Madison Symphony Orchestra's first violin section, regularly performs with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, and is a former member of the Reno Philharmonic and Reno Chamber Orchestra. Outside of classical music, Paran received a doctoral minor in jazz improvisation, has collaborated with various alternative ensembles, and has nationally toured with Ian Anderson (of Jethro Tull), Larkin Grimm, and Beat Circus.



Dr. Sarah L. Gillespie (horn) is Instructor of Horn and Musician History 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 Pensissimo Woodwind and the Underground Chamber Collective. 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.

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your questions!!

National Women's Music Festival Orchestra Chamber Ensemble



Dr. Susan Gaeddert (piano, keyboard) is a seasoned collaborative pianist who has spent more than two decades as a professional accompanist, coach and teacher. She has toured with Opera For The Young, taught at Edgewood College, and performed with a number of local musicians at festivals and recitals all over the country. She is a founding member of the Wisconsin Gagok Ensemble, an

organization formed in 2023 that is dedicated to the promotion and performance of Korean Art Song ("Gagok") in Wisconsin and beyond. Susan holds Masters degrees in Piano Performance, Pedagogy, and Collaborative Piano from UW-Madison, where she earned a Doctorate in 2007 and was a winner of the Shain Competition for piano and woodwind duos. Susan recently obtained a degree in Urban/Regional Planning, and she now works as Community Programs Director for an organization specializing in land use and transportation planning.

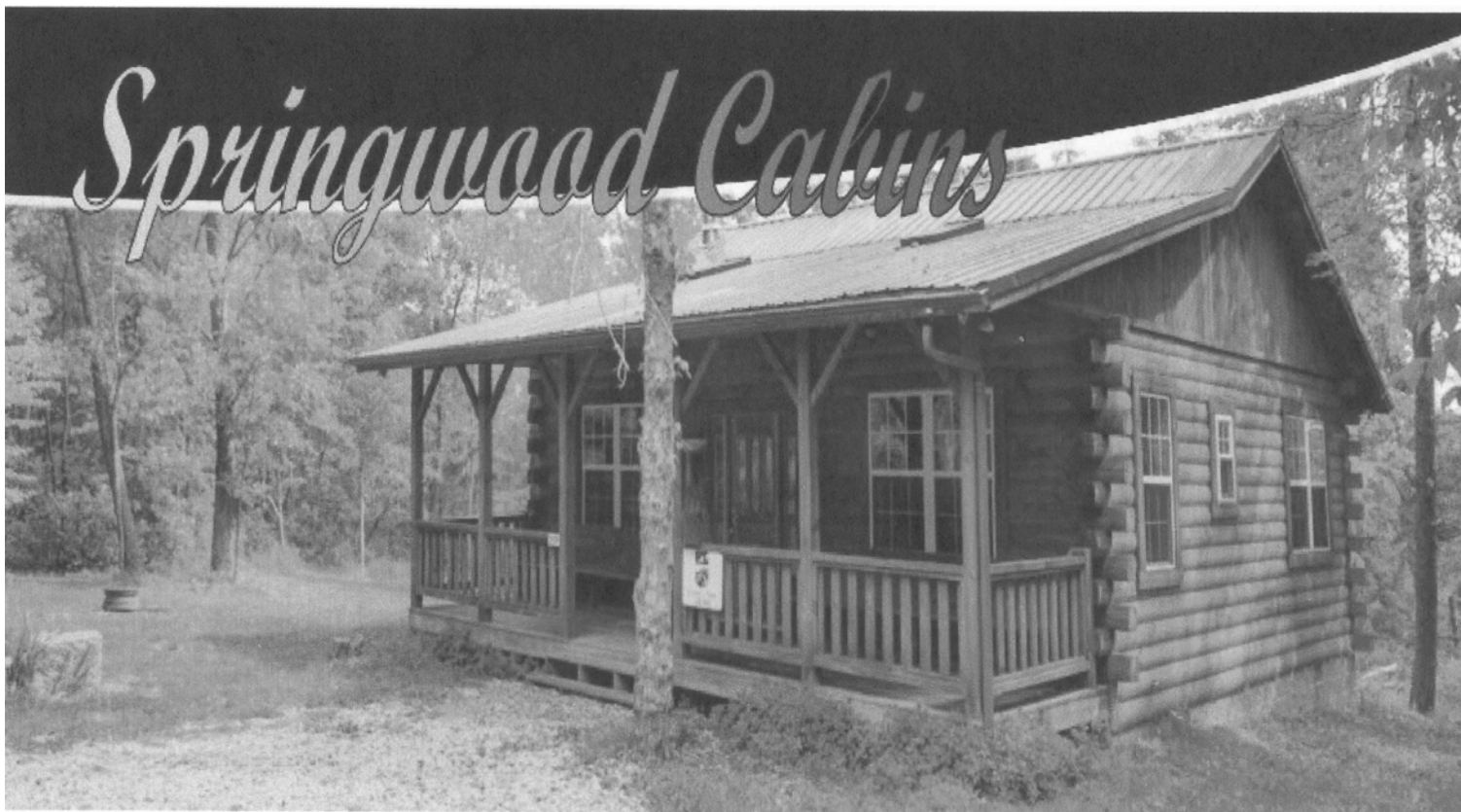


Susanne DiVincenzo (double bass) is a founding member of the all-women jazz quintet, Alive!, who have performed at many National Women's Music Festivals. She played cello with the first NWMF Orchestra conducted by Antonia Brico in 1978 in Champaign Urbana. She has also played bass in recent NWMF Orchestras, 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 trio "Joy Alive!" with Terry Garthwaite and Barbara Borden. Together with Barbara Borden and Naomi Newman, she wrote and performed the music for the new play, *Between Worlds* about the lesbian poet and Warsaw ghetto survivor, Irena Klepfisz, produced by the Yiddish Ensemble Theatre in 2023. Susanne played bass at NWMF 2023 with Melba's Kitchen, the 14-woman big band featuring the compositions and arrangements of Melba Liston and Mary Lou Williams from the 1940s. She is the principal bass for the Mill Valley Philharmonic.



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Workshop Presenter Profiles

Adrienne Torf See Performer Bio

Alex K. Thompson has published *Kal & Julie*, *Redemption*, *Ozark Unleashed: Ozark Mysteries Book 4*, and *Writing Your Book: I Did—You Can!* She is finishing her fifth Ozark mystery and *Dragonheart*, a fantasy novel. She is also published on Inkitt.com.

Amelia Ray See Performer Bio

Amor y Luz See Performer Bio

Andrea Avery's work is marked by lyricism and formal inventiveness that reveal her background as a pianist and aspiring composer. Having had rheumatoid arthritis for 36 years, Andrea loves to help people discover ways to retain their connection to music and musicality, even when illness or disability makes that difficult.

Beth Racette is a visual artist and cultural worker who aims to bring a breadth of wonder, inquiry, and inspiration to her fellow Earthlings. The themes that unite her work are flow and interconnection. She is currently working on a series of paintings about Earth called Gaia Series.

Boden Sandstrom See Performer Bio

Bonnie J. Morris Ph.D. See Performer Bio

Candy McCullough is a retired firefighter who says music and dancing are her DNA. She has been singing socially and in community choirs for over 50 years. Upon discovering the Vashon Threshold Choir about seven years ago, Candy was moved by the mission, members and client connections.

Carol McCollum is a member of the Red Tent Clan.

Cathy Pegau writes paranormal chick lit, among other things. Her stories are character-driven, funny, and poignant. www.cathypegau.com

Cedar Moss is an Acompañera, a word she has coined to mean "One who accompanies on the inner journey." Over the past 40 years, she has accompanied others as an expressive arts therapist, a spiritual life coach, a massage therapist, storyteller, and as an artist.

Christine Powers has hosted dinner out for over a decade at the festival and enjoys helping solo/single travelers get to know one

another and find new friends. She has also hosted singles mingles, journaling, forest bathing, and coloring sessions.

Cynthia Rose is a member of the Red Tent Clan.

Danielle Allen has undergraduate degrees in psychology and philosophy and a masters degree in women and gender studies. Activist. Poet. Lesbian. Deeply entrenched in the struggles of my people and attempting to shift the narrative from the consumption of Black trauma to also focusing on Black joy. Married. Jupiter, FL.

Dee Mosbacher See Performer Bio

Diane Silver is an essayist and Pushcart Prize-nominated poet whose work has been published in *Ms.*, *The Progressive*, *MockingHeart Review*, *The Lavender Review*, and numerous anthologies. She writes the weekly newsletter *Poetry & Life* at dianesilver.substack.com.

Dr. Valorie E. Nybo was born in Mississippi a long, long time ago. She developed a strong need for learning. Spent half her career in Public Health and half in Higher Education. At 79, loves time with her wife, family and dog, Toby.

Eugenia Fernández has been line dancing for over 10 years. She is a longtime festival attendee and volunteer. She is a retired professor who can't seem to stop sharing her knowledge.

forrest Mainville (they/them/mx) is a writer and teacher who works to increase awareness of the hidden parts of ourselves and to create greater understanding and integration of gender identities. They are a retired social worker and child welfare trainer. They live on Dakota and Anishinaabe land, currently known as Minneapolis, MN.

Gail Fairfield is an internationally known astrologer and tarot reader and the author of several books, including *Choice Centered Astrology*. Since 2020, she has provided free quarterly zoominars about current astrological themes, both political and personal. In addition, Gail is a visual artist, working primarily with alcohol inks.

Geraldine Gorman, RN Ph.D. FAAN, practices as a hospice nurse and teaches public health nursing, cultural fluency and ethics, and grief,

loss and dying in the College of Nursing at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is an advocate for the inclusion of the humanities in nursing education and practice.

gypsy Tucker (1952) came out as a lesbian at 25 and has been an activist for many years, including being on the 1993 March on Washington organizing board, as well as Black women's organizations in Oakland, Atlanta, and Houston. gypsy serves on the Steering Committee for Old Lesbians Organizing for Change.

Hanne Kah See Performer Bio

Harvest Brown is an ordained Dianic Priestess of the Red Tent. She and her Red Tent clan have set up and worked within the Red Tent space at NWMF for several years.

Holin Blackmoon is a Dianic High Priestess and Land Witch. She has been reading the cards for over 50 years. She is happiest among plants and animals, especially her beloved hens.

Jamie Anderson See Performer Bio

Jeannie Tanner See Performer Bio

Joelle Holt is a member of the Late in Life Lesbian (Lilly's) discussion group in her lesbian community and wants to include a space for the different experiences of late-in-life lesbians at this wonderful event.

Jori Costello See Performer Bio

Kristen Ford See Performer Bio

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.

Lea Jung is a musician, music educator, producer and musicology researcher with a focus on gender studies.

Workshop Presenter Profiles

Lisa Koch See Performer Bio

Lisa Lubin has a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and approximately 40 years of experience as a psychologist. A significant portion of her practice has been with individuals and couples regarding relationship issues.

Liz Illg is a retired social worker and longtime song leader. She found a forever home with Vashon Threshold Choir a year ago. She hopes other Threshold Singers or folks with bedside singing experience will join in this workshop.

Marti Nerenstone served four years active duty in the U.S. Army in the mid to late 1970s, including two years in West Germany during the Cold War. Now a retired attorney, she serves as the judge advocate for her local American Legion post.

Mary Jane Knight See WIA's Got Talent Bio

Meagan O'Nan is an award-winning author, TEDx speaker, and human connection specialist with over 15 years of experience in leadership development and storytelling. She collaborates with diverse organizations to cultivate cultures of inclusion, empathy, and resilience. For more information and to get her latest books, visit MeaganOnan.com or follow her on Instagram and LinkedIn.

Melanie DeMore See Performer Bio

Mildred Olsen is a member of the Red Tent Clan.

Nan Brooks is a priestess of the Goddess who recognizes the divine in all beings. She has led workshops and rituals for decades at festivals and gatherings of all sorts. Nan has been a performer, emcee, writer and behind-the-scenes worker at this festival. Her teachers have been leaders in the feminist and women's spirituality movements.

Nancy Manahan is a retired community college English teacher whose books include *Lesbian Nuns: Breaking Silence* and *On My Honor: Lesbians Reflect on Their Scouting Experience*. She and her novelist wife, Becky Bohan, live at Carefree, a community of 500 women in N. Fort Myers, FL.

Nat Farfan is the Executive Director of La Brujas Club – a space that centers spiritual wellness, creative expression, and social justice in healing spaces designed to inspire self-care, storytelling, and collective growth,

especially for artists and activists. Rooted in community and empowerment, Nat's work fosters connections that ignite creativity and meaningful social impact.

Pat Calchina is a retired women's history and lesbian herstory instructor and has had an interest in and studied death and dying literacy for the past 20 years. She has facilitated both death and dying workshops and private gatherings.

Patti Kardia (1959) is a life-long activist and facilitator currently enjoying the northern woods of Michigan in her retirement. She currently serves on the Steering Committee for Old Lesbians Organizing for Change.

Peggy Patty is a certified Healing Vibrational Sound practitioner with over 25 years of experience across the Midwest. Recently, she presented a Sound Workshop for 20 psychiatrists in residency at the Southern Illinois School of Medicine. She loves sharing the Healing Power of Vibration!

Phyllis Lau has co-facilitated women's drum circles for 30 years. Her Native American flute playing is always mesmerizing, though she is shy. She's led women drum circles at local Pride festivals.

Rain Foster is an ordained priestess, practicing in the Dianic Tradition for 24 years. She is a member of The Red Tent Clan in Madison, WI, offering sacred, women born women-only spaces.

Rani Biffle-Quimba See Performer Bio

Rebecca Friedberg is an Oakland-based architect creating vibrant, community-centered spaces. With a background in psychology, public health, and education, she designs environments that cultivate connection, well-being, and purpose—spaces people believe in and love returning to. synapsedesignstudio.com

The Red Tent Clan members are ordained clergy in the Dianic/Goddess tradition. They serve Goddess through their service to Her women. Not only do these priestesses set up the Red Tent temple, they also offer a safe place where women can come to talk, rest, relax, learn, and bond with each other.

Rose Norman, Ph.D., spent ten years interviewing Pagoda women for *The Pagoda: A Lesbian Community by the Sea* (2024).

After retiring from college teaching in 2010, she cofounded the Southern Lesbian Feminist Activist Herstory Project, collecting stories of unsung lesbian-feminist activists in the South. slfaherstoryproject.org.

Ruth King aka Ruth Anne King is an American singer/songwriter/author whose passionate voice springs from the concert stage to the pages of her book. For many years, she served as a voting member for the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Ruth now emerges with her upcoming nonprofit charity to help end racism, "The Love Mending Principle."

Sally Jeaux is a Priestess and student of the Sacred Mysteries. A Radical Lesbian Feminist, she is passionate about wimmin's music and community. Sally values connection, playfulness, honesty, and the trust others place in her to nurture beloved community.

Sally Potter is a singer, song leader, banjo player and guitarist, music producer, and the current booking manager for the 50-year-old Ten Pound Fiddle Concert and Dance Series in East Lansing, MI. She has led a monthly, public, "everyone is welcome" Community Sing for 22 years...including many "Campfire Sings" – both indoors and out.

Sara Karon believes in creating community spaces to support those with shared needs and identities. Her work to support the Room of Remembrance for those in mourning, and the Shabbat service to support Jewish women, stem from that commitment.

Shelley Graff is a longtime singer/songwriter/facilitator who travels the country sharing Singing In Sacred Circles and performances with other women. Stop by the Goldenrod booth or <https://www.goldenrod.com/product-category/womensmusic/shelley-graff/> to purchase or download Shelley's four CDs. Visit shelleyg.com

Stacy McMichael See Performer Bio

Stephanie Ezell, MS, MPH, RN practices as a hospice nurse and is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her research focus is the experience of sexual and gender minority widows whose female partners died while receiving hospice care.



Workshop Presenter Profiles

Susan Atlas was a single mom raising two children as a full-time Nurse. After received healing through Acupuncture, she earned a Master's in Acupuncture. She and Val spent three years learning about healing through Shamanic Journeying.

Suzanne Gray is a Jill of all trades, a Level 1 RV technician, and moderates the Lesbian Co-housing and Retirement Communities Facebook Group.

Tammy L Hall See Performer Bio

Toni Armstrong Jr. is a longtime women's music devotee. She's best known for her photography; magazines (*HOT WIRE* and *Paid My Dues*); concert producing (Mountain Moving Coffeehouse and Empty Closet Productions); performing (*Surrender Dorothy* and *Lavender Jane*); and her tireless devotion to promoting/documenting lesbian feminist women's culture.

Trish Bangert is a civil rights attorney and adjunct professor, specializing in constitutional law and the fight against discrimination. As a former high-level federal and state government attorney, she

has considerable knowledge about how government functions and how it can affect you.

Violet Vonder Haar See Performer Bio

Voices of the Revolution See Performer Bio

Wendy R celebrated 40 years clean this past June 15. She relies on NA 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, reading, editing and writing.



We spent \$40,000.00 to bring all of these wonderful women performer to Middleton WI. Than we had to find them a place to sleep and to eat.

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1 – PM PRESS

PM Press is an independent nonprofit publisher of books to make the world a better place. Books on gender justice, racial justice, and social justice issues and books on independent music.

-Katie Jesse
pmpress.org

2 – Inner Mountain Stones and Woods

Handcrafted toys for transformation. Wand rattles, sticks, wire wrapping, and altar gourds.

Sandie Buttry

Inner mountain stones and woods/facebook
little_willow777@yahoo.com

3 – Lesbian Connection

Lesbian Connection Magazine - The free worldwide forum of news & ideas for, by and about lesbians. Connecting lesbians worldwide. Since 1974.

LCOOnline.org,

LC@LCOOnline.org - 517-371-5257

4 - Goldenrod

Women's music CDs, DVDs, books, and cool merch by the festival artists.

Susan Frazier & MJ Stephenson

goldenrod.com

sales@goldenrod.com

517-484-1712

5 – Twin Star Designs

Hand-dyed long- and short-sleeved tees and Oxford button-down natural fiber shirts; bamboo and cotton sox; silk scarves; silky rayon sarongs; and amazing light jackets. Many pieces are individually hand-painted, reflecting an array of color combinations inspired by nature.

Esyule Gamache

Facebook:Twinstar Designs

esyule@yahoo.com 479-601-4519

6 – Earth Wisdom

Smart, Funny, Cool t-shirts and exquisite jackets and stained glass.

Minda Hart

Earthwisdommusicandclothing.com

earthwisdom80@gmail.com

7 – Peace and Pride

Rainbow Specialties - Jewelry, shirts, flags, miscellaneous rainbow gear shirts and hats. Lots of queer gear! Lesbian and feminist oriented merchandise.

Ruth Debra

eBay stores.com

ruthdebra@icloud.com

8 – Sewing in Circles - Rose Halik

Textile designs for fun and function. All kinds of bags and other neat things you need! Travel tote bags, tablet totes, and assorted purses sewn from discontinued upholstery samples. Emphasis is on color and texture.

sewingincircles.com

Rose Halik Textile Designs (Facebook)

608-444-5638

9 – A Pane in the Glass - Genevieve Johnson
Fabulously unique, mosaics and stained glass. Handmade glass designs to make your place the perfect space.

facebook.com/genevievespaneintheglass

genevievejohnson628@yahoo.com

402-359-0380

10 – Imperial Serenity & Wellness

Energy healing, tarot, and oracle cards. Find deep inner peace through energy healing sessions and oracle card readings.

Lynda Strong

imperialserenityandwellness.com

imperialserenityandwellness@gmail.com

11 – Fair Trade Minneapolis - Karen Lunde

Fair Trade Minneapolis, a 501c3 nonprofit, is one of only 47 Fair Trade Towns in the U.S.

Bracelets, necklaces, and earrings made of ceramic and paper-rolled beads, metal wall art, garden stakes, ceramic mugs, Haiti Friends Dolls, greeting cards, and headbands
fairtradetowns.org

12 – Designs in Wire - Dorie Hodal

Beautifully crafted wire wrapped bracelets, charms, pendants, and earrings in stainless steel, sterling silver and gold.

dorie.hodal@gmail.com

630-479-1341

13 – Broughton Music & Art Center/L & L Creative Studio

We are a woman-started music, product, and lesson business offering musical instruments (ukes, guitars, drums, etc.), sheet music, accessories, and musical instruction at music festivals. L & L creative studio comprises the artistic offerings of Lynn and Laurie in a variety of media.

Laurie A. Jarski

broughtonmusiccenter.com

lajarski@gmail.com

14 – The Land Sustainment Shop

Nonprofit to raise funds 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 preserve The Land for women and girls— forever. We paid off the Land. Next is improving the Land to make it more accessible.

PO Wood – Land HO

thelandsustainmentshop.org

pofinally@msn.com

15 – OUT!wear Pridewear & Accessories

CELEBRATING 30 years of “Quality Custom Pridewear & Accessories”. Embroidered, Screen and Digital Prints. Customized apparel and promotional products, since 1994. We feature “something for everyone”.

Michelle Denley, Maria S Nasca

outwear.com msndesigngroup.com

yomaria@outwear.com

16 – NWMF Merchandise “festiewear”

NWMF shirts, merchandise, souvenirs, jackets, bags, hats and visors, 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!). Stop and visit and see what is new in “festiewear” this year. Festiewear available year-around at wia-nwmf.square.site/ Carol Vitelli nwmf.info

17 – Artful Epoxy by Carol

Discover epoxy resin creations! Handmade epoxy designs, including upcycled trays, clocks, vibrant coasters, and artisanal charcuterie boards. Each piece is crafted with care, blending function with beauty. Lesbian-themed designs and beach-inspired creations to brighten your home or give someone special. Carol Vitelli

carolcreates5@yahoo.com

18 – Rainbow Forest Creations

Small-batch, plant-based bath and body products with candles, soap, body and face oils, body and room sprays, sugar scrub, bath salts, herbal tea blends, hand-dyed silk, wool, and cotton scarves and pillow cases, and a few handmade accessories (earrings, rainbow crystal ornaments, fair solar jar lights).

Cori Beth Somers

Rainbowforestcreations.com

19 – Crow Spirit Connection

Offering Psychic medium readings, teas and tinctures, wellness products, bath salts, sage sticks and energy clearing products

Andrea Humphrey

crowspiritconnection.com

crowspiritconnection@gmail.com

20 – The Petrichor Three - Lindsey Kamen

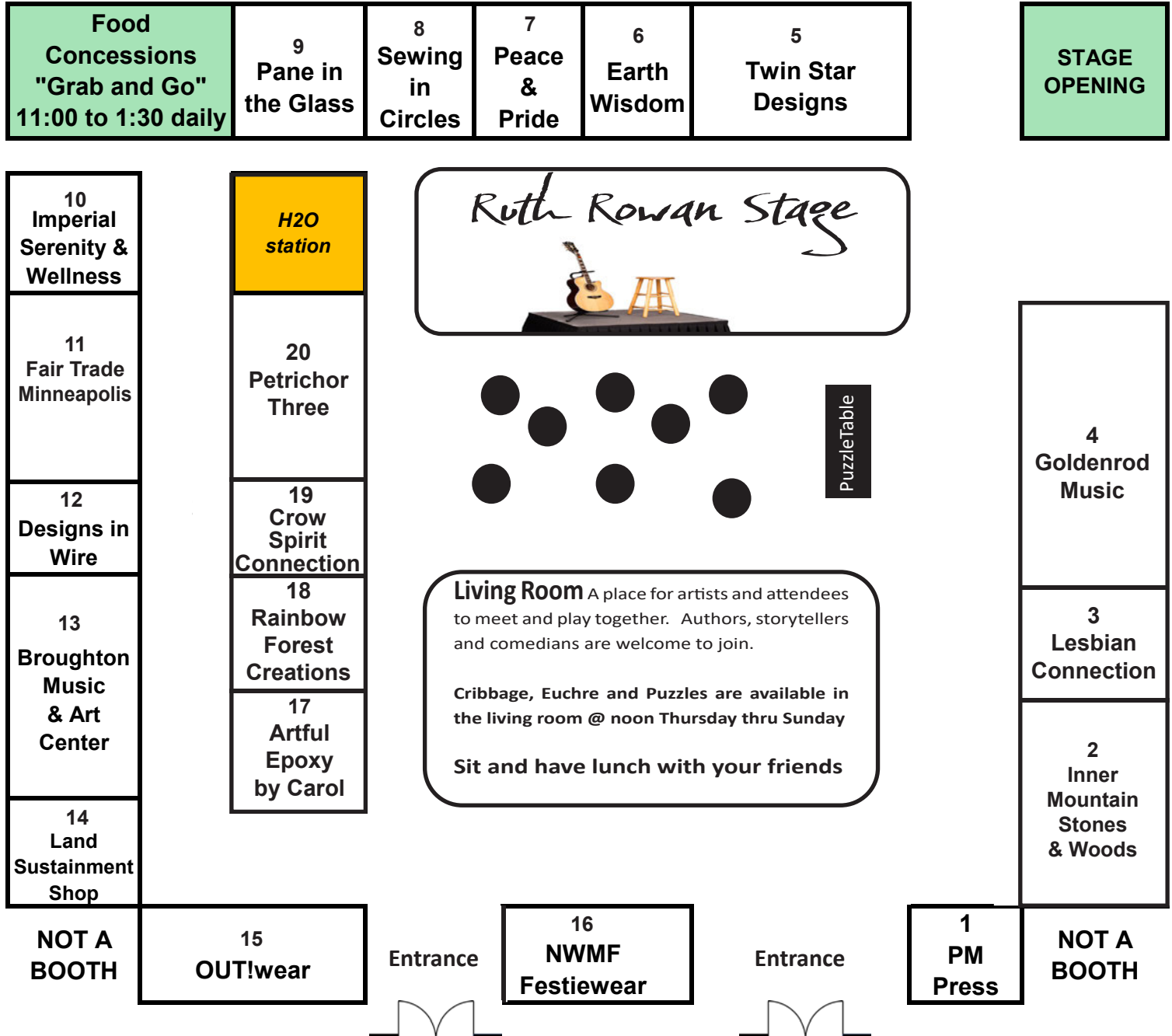
Petrichor Three offers an eclectic mix of rocks, crystals, handmade jewelry, and metaphysical items promoting wellness, growth, and self-expression. Our collection inspires and empowers. We also feature feminist-themed products celebrating equality and women’s strength.
petrichorthree.square.site



Marketplace • Michigan

Opens at 10am • Thursday - Sunday

Lunch 11am -1pm ♦ Friday - Sunday



Ruth Rowan Stage Schedule

Thursday

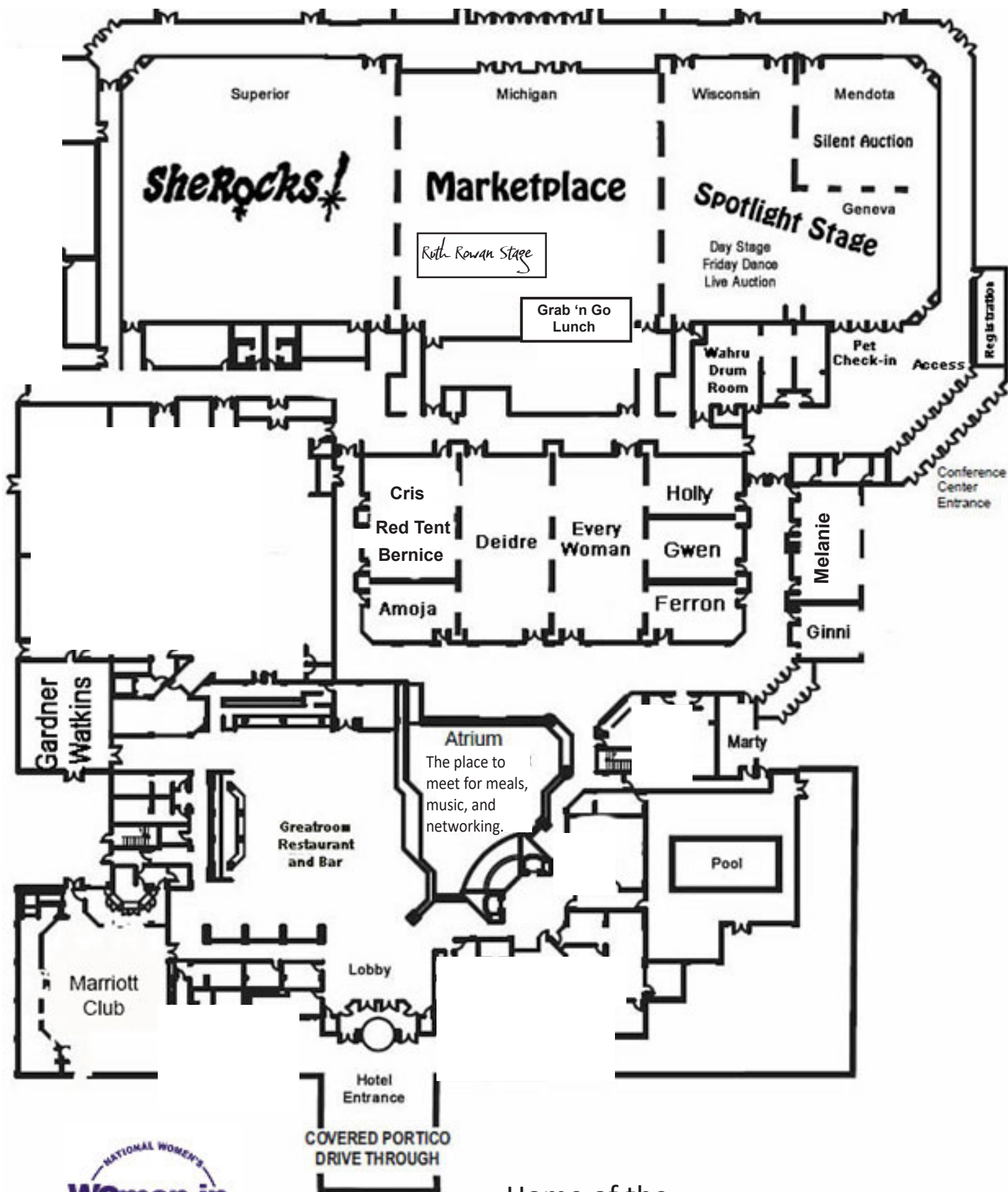
1-2:30p - WIA's Got Talent • Helen Yee
3:30p - Dedication of Ruth Rowan Stage
3:30p - Open Mic/Jam with Jori Costello
10p-Midnight - Open Mic/Jam with Jori

Friday

11:30a-1p - WIA's Got Talent • Helen Yee
4-6p - Open Mic/Jam with Jori Costello
10p-Midnight - Open Mic/Jam with Jori

Saturday

10-11a - WIA's Got Talent • Helen Yee
2-3p - Writer's Open Mic • Alex Thompson
4-6p - Open Mic/Jam with Jori Costello
11p-Mid. - WIA's Got Talent • Helen Yee



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