

# The Song School

August 8-12, 2010

Lyons, CO

## Schedule and Course Descriptions

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### **Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>**

#### ***TO DO LIST:***

- Sign up for open stage lottery. All schedules will be posted at lunchtime on Monday.
- Check master roster information at registration desk for accuracy.

#### **2:00 Song School Campgrounds Open**

#### **2:30 - 6:00 Student Registration**

Visit us at the Blue Heron Tent and pick up your totebag, wristband, hat, official Song School laminate, reusable cup, biobags for your compostables and other goodies. Sign up for open stage drawing and mentoring sessions. There will be coffee, tea and muffins waiting each morning at 7:30am, along with breakfast burritos through our on-site vendor...

#### **6:30 - 7:30 New Student Meet and Greet - Wildflower Pavilion**

Meet with Song School veterans, ask that burning question, and enjoy a fun movement exercise with Mary Vyn.

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### **Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**

#### ***TO DO LIST:***

- Sign up by 9:15am for open stage lottery. All schedules will be posted at lunchtime.
- Check master roster information at registration desk for accuracy.

#### **8:00 - 9:15 Student Registration**

Visit us at the Blue Heron Tent and pick up your totebag, wristband, hat, official Song School lammie, reusable cup, biobag for your compostables and other goodies. Sign up for open stage drawing and mentoring sessions. There will be coffee, tea and muffins waiting each morning at 7:30am, along with breakfast burritos and other snacks through our on-site vendor...

#### **8:00 Yoga**

Peter Heppner will help celebrate the start of your day with a gentle yoga routine each morning. No prior experience necessary. (Meet in front of silo.)

*“Eighty percent of life is just showing up.” - Woody Allen*

**9:15 Orientation**

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

**9:30 - 10:15 Opening Session: Song School Hootenanny**

*"Walking thru the door is the only audition."* In this opening session, Joe Craven will lead an all group harmonic and rhythmic convergence that will have all of us resonating in time and in tune for the week ahead. (Wildflower Pavilion)

**10:30 - 12:30 Electives**

- 1) **Directed Writing with Paul Reisler** - Twenty years ago, a friend gave me the best advice I've ever heard regarding songwriting. He told me to get up every morning and write a song, complete it, and put it in a file folder and not look at it for 6 months. Not a good song or a long song necessarily, just a song. Two years and several hundred songs later, I realized that I had not only learned a lot about the craft of songwriting, but a great deal about how to generate ideas and images and carry them through, how to dance around writers block and how to fool myself into approaching my writing in a fresh way each day. We'll be writing in a very directed way that will give you the tools to write on a daily basis. This is a multi-day workshop that is progressive. We will not take new people after the 2nd day. (Wildflower Pavilion)
  
- 2) **Song Sessions with Steve Seskin and Pat Pattison** - The focus of these sessions will be an in-depth look at the participants' songs, hopefully turning each song into teachable moments that will benefit the writer as well as the other participants. We'll spend time identifying what's good and what could be even better. This session is open to as many people as wish to attend, but the emphasis will not be on getting to a song written by each person as much as everyone learning something from the songs we do get to. We'll look at 4 or 5 songs each morning. We prefer that people play live so we can more easily try some different things especially when it comes to melody and phrasing. This class is offered on three mornings and it's fine to attend one or all the sessions. (Mountain Lion Tent)

*"Without music, life would be a mistake."*  
- Nietzsche

- 3) **Performance with Amy Speace - Session 1** - A 3 day Comprehensive Performance Workshop. Each day we explore different performance aspects, building one day to the next with plenty of opportunities to play. Come to all or come to one. We'll tackle questions from overcoming stage fright to deepening the performance of your song through exercises inspired by Storytelling, Improvisation and Acting. The heart of this workshop is perhaps a new way of looking at your Song, breaking it apart much like an actor does with his/her character. We will look at the Song as Story, asking essential questions of the Story – the Who, What, Where, When and Why's of the Dramatic Moment (or, maybe equally as important, discovering the problem points in your songwriting when you realize you don't have a Dramatic Moment written into your song). From there, we will look at and practice the practicalities of Performance and Stagecraft from overcoming stagefright and accessing a new level of comfort on stage to the art of a setlist, banter and a more comprehensive way of looking at your 45 minutes (or 30 minutes or 15 or 75) onstage as much more than simply just a collection of songs—how to turn just playing your songs into a Show.
- Session One: What is the story at the heart of your song?** How do you find it? Who are you in the story as the performer/writer? We will look at the choices we can make and help each other to deepen our relationships to our own words, strengthening performance and enhancing our rapport with the audience. (Festival Main Stage)
- 4) **Capo Envy - Obsessive Capo Disorder** - Have you ever seen artists using multiple or partial capos and wondered "What on earth are they doing!?" Chances are you've been stricken by partial capo envy. No need to fret... actually, there is, but worry not! This workshop will introduce the keys to understanding how to use both the Kyser "Drop-D" and "Shortcut" capos in standard tuning. It's easier than it looks! You will learn a simple way to use single or multiple partial capos to enhance your guitar sound and apply it to songs you've already written or songs to come using chords you already know. Handouts will be provided and partial capos are available for use and purchase at the workshop. There will also be time to share your discoveries and get feedback from Justin and the group. Some guitar experience is necessary, but this workshop is open to beginners as well as seasoned players. With Justin Roth. (Hummingbird Tent)
- 5) **Guitar Basics – Novice / Early-Intermediate level** - This workshop with Arthur Lee Land covers guitar basics that will help you deliver your songs with more variety and punch. Topics covered: various picking and right hand strumming/muting techniques, anti-spider finger technique to learn new chords faster making it easier to move between chord changes and basic techniques for using capos for alternate chord forms and inversions. We will also touch on ideas to help embellish your songs by adding tasty guitar fills using basic hammer on/pull off techniques in common guitar keys. (Trout Tent)

- 6) **How to Build Your Music Career without Selling Your Soul** - Learning from the real-life experiences of artist manager Terri Mazurek and independent singer/songwriter Ellis, this workshop starts by helping you to identify your music mission: what your music gives to others. You will also learn the three keys to building your fan base: clear intention, deliberate action, and building community. Finally, we'll teach you a brand new approach to goal-setting that is simple and artist-friendly. (Shorted version offered again on Wednesday afternoon). (Lizard Tent)
- 7) **The Master Voice Class** - Join Ron Browning for a fun and engaging master class and discover your natural voice. Discover your "unique sound" through speech. Your singing voice is the same as your speaking voice. Use simple tricks of casual conversation to make your singing have a more intimate and honest delivery. Learn the dos and don'ts of lyric interpretation. Learn about the projection power of a baby's cry. Add "cry" to your singing voice and walk away from vocal faults and your fear of high notes. Learn how to sing without vocal fatigue. Both vocal and performance techniques will be taken into consideration for the more advanced singers. Come with questions. Guitars and recorded tracks are welcomed. (Bear Tent)
- 8) **Song Listening** – Darrell Scott will lead this listening session. A time and place to play your new or old songs and let the group respond. (Spider Tent)
- 9) **Creativity and Musicianship** with Joe Craven - Creativity involves different and lateral ways of thinking in problem solving your music making. Store the exquisitely crafted camel hair artist's paintbrushes and go big with paint rollers and using (or not) a drop cloth. Learning to not become attached to the outcome enables one to **move** and **flow** with variety. Reframing objects, words, rhythms and pitches (new ideas from existing ones) will remind us of the love affair between tradition and innovation. Everyone have a space and place in music. Come laden...or empty-handed. Joe helps you begin to take greater possession of what you already have. Sometimes it's important to lower your expectations – which then enable you to broaden your horizons! (Coyote Tent)

### **12:30 - 1:30 Lunch Break**

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

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

**1:30 - 4:00 Creative Songwriting Groups: Session 1** - The first of four daily songwriting sessions and much more! See instructor descriptions below and also on last page of the daily schedule. Instructors will meet at the same location (mostly) each day as noted below. See instructor songwriting descriptions on last page of daily schedule.

#### MEETING PLACES

- Darrell Scott – Mountain Lion Tent
- Steve Seskin\* – Hummingbird Tent
- Vance Gilbert – Eagle Tent (backstage)
- Paul Reisler\*\* – Coyote Tent
- Pat Pattison\*\*\* – Wildflower Pavilion
- Jonatha Brooke – Spider Tent
- David Wilcox – Lizard Tent
- Girlyman\*\*\*\* – Blue Heron Tent
- Ron Browning, Amy Speace\*\*\*\*\* – Bear Tent

- **\*PLEASE NOTE: Steve Seskin will offer: Point of View** - In this seminar we will explore eight different perspectives to choose from when deciding how your characters can best tell their story. We will look into figuring out how to find the most powerful way to tell any given story. We'll talk about 1st, 2nd, 3rd person and various combinations as well. We will then look into more complex ways to use perspective to bring out the most emotion in all your lyrics. We will examine several songs and see what happens when we switch the point of view without changing the content. I believe this is one of the most important lessons on the road to writing great songs. (Hummingbird Tent)
- **\*\* PLEASE NOTE: Paul Reisler will offer: Creating Memorable Melodies** - Are you a prisoner of your chord changes? When was the last time you left a concert humming the chord changes? The emotional power of the music lies in the melody, yet training in melody writing is a sadly neglected part of the contemporary songwriter scene. This workshop is about melody and its magical interaction with a lyric. There will be lots of techniques for building melodies from short motifs. We'll explore what makes a melody memorable, how to make the music support the emotion of the lyric, how to control the forward movement of your song, discovering the music in the lyric, finding melodic inspiration and much more. This is an active, participatory workshop that will give you lots of tools for developing your melodic ideas into memorable songs. (Coyote Tent)
- **\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Pat Pattison will offer: Prosody** - Learn to increase the power of your songs by crafting your lyric into stable and unstable sections. We'll focus on how the elements of structure, including rhythm, rhyme, rhyme types, line lengths and number of lines, create motion to support the Emotion of your song. (Wildflower Pavilion)

- **\*\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Girlyman will offer: Collaborative Songwriting** - Ty Greenstein, Nate Borofsky, and Doris Muramatsu (and now, JJ Jones!) make up the group known as Girlyman. While each member of the band may initially start the songwriting process on their own, most Girlyman songs are the result of collaborative writing and arranging on the part of the entire band working together, or in stages. In this class, Girlyman will discuss each band member's songwriting process, and how letting go of one's ego attachment can make a song stronger and more interesting. The second half of the class will be a live demonstration of the band's songwriting/arranging process, using a new song by one of the band members. The band and class will listen and go through the refining and arranging process together and create a finished song that they all love. (Blue Heron Tent)
- **\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: Ron Browning & Amy Speace will offer: The Art of Phrasing; A Vocal Performance Master Class** This session will concentrate on breathing new life into your songs, marking lyric sheets for "hot" phrases, adding emotions without being emotional and strengthening the overall performance to a Pro level! Please bring copies of your lyric sheet for this class. (Bear Tent)

#### **4:15 - 5:30 Monday Electives**

- 1) **Embellishing Your Song** – Intermediate/Advanced levels - Bring your songs to this interactive workshop with Arthur Lee Land and learn new ways to embellish your song by adding tasty guitar fills, substitute chord changes, various picking and strumming approaches, alternate chord forms and inversions, varied capoed positions and more. (Eagle Tent)
- 2) **Alan Explains it All** - This workshop will cover a wide range of topics crucial to the success of the performing songwriter, and tailored to the students interests, including why building an internet identity is much more than creating a web page. We'll cover using email, web research, and social networking effectively, as well as making one's music available online. We'll also talk about booking strategies, building community coalitions, getting the most out of a sound check, and/or ways to make a living as a musician in the post-CD economy. There are countless challenges out there. Alan Rowoth is the creator of "folkmusic.org," one of the most comprehensive sources for folk and acoustic music resources on the World Wide Web and will let the students dictate where the conversation goes. (Hummingbird Tent)
- 3) **Rhythm Boot Camp with Joe Craven** - "Left, right, left, right. Drop and give me 120...metronomically speaking." That's right, folks, it's back to basics with getting more deeply and intuitively connected with feeling the time in music. Connecting the dots between the rhythm of everyday life and the rhythm in your music is the focus. It's already there...we just need to stay loose, stay open, focus, look longer, listen deeper, and let go. Adult discipline and child-like wonder peels back the mystery and reveals the magic. (Mountain Lion Tent)

- 4) **The Self of a Songwriter** - The essential ingredient in songwriting is the songwriter as a person. Who you are, how you think about the world, and how you tend to yourself will impact your songwriting. In this discussion, Michael Bowers, who in addition to being a songwriter was trained as a therapist, will work with participants to define strategies for finding their unique voice and perspective. We'll also talk about how to nurture and feed who YOU are as a person and a songwriter--because without nurturing we all become dry. You'll leave the session with a greater appreciation for who you are as an artist, and ways to magnify and extend your creative expressions. (Bear Tent)
- 5) **No Booking Agent Needed!** - A booking agent (Terri Mazurek) and full-time touring singer/songwriter (Ellis) will draw upon ten years of working together to help you understand how to successfully book gigs on your own. Participants will learn booking principles, the difference between getting a gig vs. building an audience, and how to find and train a booking assistant. We also provide our 3-page "Booking In A Nutshell" guide. (Lizard Tent)
- 6) **Grant Writing - Money: That's What I Want!** - Learn the basics of getting grants whether you represent an organization seeking arts funding or are an individual artist. You will learn where to find grant funding and how to create a fundable series, program or performance. You'll learn how to create an artist/org. mission statement, a program description, and a realistic budget. If you're saying "what's that?" to any of this, you need to come to this workshop. The workshop is an introduction to grantwriting but will also be gauged to the attendees' individual needs as much as possible. With Siobhan Quinn (Trout Tent)
- 7) **Sustainable Music** - David Wilcox leads a conversation about how to make a life of music over the long haul. (Spider Tent)
- 8) **Movement For Songwriters** –Authentic Movement is a simple, bare bones structure for accessing the imaginative and practically brilliant, often under-utilized resource: cellular cognition, aka body brains. If you're feeling overloaded with information and in need of a little body/mind balance, you might want to give this class a try. Participants have relived forgotten moments, visited foreign lands, and discovered pools of much needed oomph. Come as you are, in loose clothes if possible. Teachers and students all welcome. Mary Vyn will serve as rule setter, safe keeper, and zen friend. Take a step...and find the freedom of physical pathways. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- 9) **Weird Tunings 201** – In this session with Jonatha Brooke, she'll throw out a few of her favorite tunings, maybe even make up a few new ones, and explore how just changing the sonics of your guitar can bring you out of your go-to progressions and lead you to different ways of approaching a new song. Jonatha will even bring a few half capos for good measure. (Coyote Tent)

### **6:00 - 7:30 Song School Barbecue**

The barbecues are open to Song School students and their registered guests. Your wristband is your meal ticket. Menu: Grilled all natural Redbird BBQ Chicken, veggie burgers, vegetarian pasole, corn on the cob, creamy coleslaw, garlic lovers pasta salad, mixed field greens salad, fruit salad, apple pie. Chef: Markus Chesla. **Please compost everything: utensils, plates, cups, and all food. Thanks!** (Backstage)

### **7:30 Open Stage**

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

*“Creative force, like a musical composer, goes on  
unweariedly repeating a simple air or theme, now high,  
now low, in solo, in chorus, ten thousand times  
reverberated, till it fills earth and heaven with the chant.”*  
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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## **Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>**

### ***TIP OF THE DAY***

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

### ***TO DO LIST***

- Mentoring session sign ups. Sign up sheets for Tuesday will be put out at 9am in the Blue Heron Tent.
- Your night to play the open stage? Confirm your time at Blue Heron Tent.
- Musical supplies will be available for sale after class today! Call H B Woodsongs for special requests at 303-449-0516.

### **8:00 Yoga**

Peter Heppner will help celebrate the start of your day with gentle yoga. No prior experience necessary. (Meet in front of silo.)

### **9:30 - 12:00 Electives**

- 1) **Directed Writing with Paul Reisler** - Twenty years ago, a friend gave me the best advice I've ever heard regarding songwriting. He told me to get up every morning and write a song, complete it, and put it in a file folder and not look at it for 6 months. Not a good song or a long song necessarily, just a song. Two years and several hundred songs later, I realized that I had not only learned a lot about the craft of songwriting, but a great deal about how to generate ideas and images and carry them through, how to dance around writers block and how to fool myself into approaching my writing in a fresh way each day. We'll be writing in a very directed way that will give you the tools to write on a daily basis. This is a multi-day workshop that is progressive. We will not take new people today. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- 2) **Song Sessions with Steve Seskin and Pat Pattison** - The focus of these sessions will be an in-depth look at the participants' songs, hopefully turning each song into teachable moments that will benefit the writer as well as the other participants. We'll spend time identifying what's good and what could be even better. This session is open to as many people as wish to attend, but the emphasis will not be on getting to a song written by each person as much as everyone learning something from the songs we do get to. We'll look at 4 or 5 songs each morning. We prefer that people play live so we can more easily try some different things especially when it comes to melody and phrasing. This class is offered on three mornings and it's fine to attend one or all the sessions. (Mountain Lion Tent)

- 3) **Performance with Amy Speace - Session 2** - A 3 day Performance Workshop. Each day we tackle different issues of performance, building one day to the next with plenty of opportunities to play. Come to all or come to one. **Session Two: Sing What You Mean, Mean What You Sing.** Now that we know the story, how do we get it across? How do we sing the same song every night and still tap into our Story? Are we just singing the words or are we offering the story to our audience? We'll look at how the performance of the instrument and the voice can be strengthened and honed. (Festival Main Stage)
- 4) **Vocal Harmony and Arrangement** - How does Girlyman create their signature 3-part harmonies? How do they decide which vocal parts to use during each section of the song in order to create something fresh and new? How can you use these techniques on your own songs in order to write vocal arrangements that really “jump off the page” and make you feel something? In this class the band will discuss the tricks and techniques they use to make a song resonate emotionally using various kinds of vocal layering. They will then take you step-by-step through several Girlyman songs to demonstrate how to creatively use the different elements of this “toolbox” to build the energy of a piece. The second half of the class will be devoted to helping students add harmonies to their own songs. Using a student’s song, the band will give a live demonstration of their process, showing you how they might layer and arrange different parts to most effectively enhance the song as a whole. (If you have a song you'd like Girlyman to arrange, please bring four sets of lyric sheets with you to class!) (Spider Tent)
- 5) **Plan Your Music Business - So You Can Get Back to Making Music**  
Geared towards performing musicians who are interested in making a living making music and who also need help with the business end of things. Receiving guidance from artist manager Terri Mazurek and singer/songwriter Ellis, participants will learn how to prioritize the tasks related to starting and running their music business. Participants will also learn the steps needed to develop a professional image and a brand new way to set career goals that is easy and artist-friendly. (Lizard Tent)
- 6) **The Master Voice Class** - Join Ron Browning for a fun and engaging master class and discover your natural voice. Your singing voice is the same as your speaking voice. Discover your “unique sound” through speech. Use simple tricks of casual conversation to make your singing have a more intimate and honest delivery. Learn the dos and don'ts of lyric interpretation. Learn about the projection power of a baby's cry. Add “cry” to your singing voice and walk away from vocal faults and your fear of high notes. Learn how to sing for long hours without vocal fatigue. You will sing a song and get “on the spot” vocal coaching. Both vocal and performance techniques will be taken into consideration for the more advanced singers. Come with questions. Guitars and recorded tracks are welcomed. (Bear Tent)

- 7) **Performance 201 with Vance Gilbert** - A class designed for students who have had at least one session with Vance in his Performance workshop or his Songwriting Through the Eyes of Performance workshop. Here's a place to dig even deeper into those stage and songwriting skills. Set list, pacing, patter, large room versus small room, off versus on mike singing, indoor versus outdoor venue, where to place a cover tune and other fine points will be practiced and examined. (Eagle Tent-backstage)
- 8) **Take a Lead Break On Your Own Song: Novice and Early Intermediate levels**  
We will use chord changes from participant's songs and Arthur Lee's "Live Looping" technology to provide a framework for exploring soloing ideas using two simple three-octave pentatonic scale patterns. Also covered in this workshop will be the concepts of improvisational melody-based solos, hearing and singing what you play and bending notes. (Hummingbird Tent)
- 9) **Experimenting With Altered Tunings and Multiple Capoes** - This workshop is about expanding musical possibilities on the guitar – have you ever felt limited by having to play in standard tuning all the time (i.e. hard chord fingerings, etc), or confused by other people using altered tunings and multiple capos and making it sounds so good. Well this workshop will introduce you to the magical world of multiple three string capos with altered tunings! The focus of the workshop is to begin to open up your musical thought processes to the experimentation Bill has developed through necessity. He will show you his process for using altered tunings and capo schemes to produce very colorful guitar sounds that used to be only possible with three and four fingerchords, but now with just one and two fingers! With Bill Nash. (Blue Heron Tent)
- 10) **Mentoring Sessions** Justin Roth (Raven Tent), others TBA

### 12:30 - 1:30 Lunch Break

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

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

Your daily dose of songwriting and additional special workshops. Instructors will meet at the same location (mostly) each day as noted below. Classes end at 4:30pm today.

#### MEETING PLACES

- Darrell Scott – Mountain Lion Tent
- Steve Seskin\* – Hummingbird Tent
- Vance Gilbert – Eagle Tent (backstage)
- Paul Reisler\*\* – Coyote Tent
- Pat Pattison\*\*\* – Wildflower Pavilion
- Jonatha Brooke – Spider Tent
- David Wilcox – Lizard Tent
- Dala – Trout Tent
- Joe Craven\*\*\*\* – Bear Tent

- \* **PLEASE NOTE: Steve Seskin will offer: Rewriting and Creativity** - This class will focus on rewriting - how it differs from writing. We will explore songs that I've rewritten and why and then apply those techniques to a song from each student. We will examine all types of rewriting. Are you rewriting because the content is not serving the moment in the song, or is the problem the tone of how you put forth your idea? We'll also look at how to know when a song is done and the wisdom of sticking to the task versus putting a song away for a while and giving it a rest. Many times I write more than I need to just to give myself choices. (Hummingbird Tent)
- \*\* **PLEASE NOTE: Paul Reisler will offer: Harmony and Chord Substitution** - This workshop starts where Creating Memorable Melodies leaves off. We'll learn how to set chords to your melody, how to shade the emotion of the moment with a proper choice of chords, chord types and substitutions, using harmony to control forward motion, creating contrast in your song structure, and much more. In addition, we'll take one song and harmonize it in 8 different ways using different types of chord substitutions. Again, this is a participatory workshop that will give you specific techniques and inspiration to use in your music. Previous participation in one of Paul Reisler's melody workshops is strongly recommended. (Coyote Tent)
- \*\*\***PLEASE NOTE: Pat Pattison will offer: Phrasing and Placement - The Body Language of Your Song** - This seminar will give you important keys to phrasing your lyrics for the most impact and support of meaning. We'll work with rhythms and placements, making sure that your ideas and lines, like body language, help to really deliver the emotion you intend. This is a "can't miss" seminar -- it's bound to take your writing to the next level. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- \*\*\*\***PLEASE NOTE: Joe Craven will offer: Creativity and Musicianship** Creativity involves different and lateral ways of thinking in problem solving your music making. Store the exquisitely crafted camel hair artist's paintbrushes and go big with paint rollers and using (or not) a drop cloth. Learning to not become attached to the outcome enables one to **move** and **flow** with variety. Reframing objects, words, rhythms and pitches (new ideas from existing ones) will remind us of the love affair between tradition and innovation. Everyone have a space and place in music. Come laden...or empty-handed. Joe helps you begin to take greater possession of what you already have. Sometimes it's important to lower your expectations – which then enable you to broaden your horizons! (Bear Tent)

“When you do things from  
your soul, a river runs thru  
you.” – Rumi

**4:30 Creative Gap: Woodshed/Relax/Float/Enjoy...**

**4:30 - 5:30 Mentoring Sessions**

Bill Nash (Turtle Tent), Siobhan Quinn (Dragonfly Tent), Michael Bowers (Elk Tent), Alan Rowoth, (Bear Tent), Justin Roth (Raven Tent), Jennifer JJ Jones (Wildflower Pavilion)

**4:30 - 5:30 HB Woodsongs Traveling Music Store**

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

**5:00 - 8:00 Dinner and snacks served on site** (thanks to Bloomberries!)

**8:00 Open Stage**

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

*“If a man does not keep pace with his companions,  
perhaps it is because he hears a different  
drummer. Let him step to the music which he  
hears, however measured or far away.”*  
- Henry Thoreau

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## **Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>**

### ***TIP OF THE DAY***

Pace yourself and enjoy!

### ***TO DO LIST***

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

### **8:00 Yoga**

Peter Heppner will help celebrate the start of your day with gentle yoga. No prior experience necessary. (Meet in front of silo.)

### **9:30 - 12:00 Electives**

- 1) **Directed Writing with Paul Reisler** - We'll be writing in a very directed way that will give you the tools to write on a daily basis. This is a multi-day workshop that is progressive. Sorry, no new people after Tuesday. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- 2) **Song Sessions with Steve Seskin and Pat Pattison** - The focus of these sessions will be an in-depth look at the participants' songs, hopefully turning each song into teachable moments that will benefit the writer as well as the other participants. We'll spend time identifying what's good and what could be even better. This session is open to as many people as wish to attend, but the emphasis will not be on getting to a song written by each person as much as everyone learning something from the songs we do get to. We'll look at 4 or 5 songs each morning. We prefer that people play live so we can more easily try some different things especially when it comes to melody and phrasing. This class is offered on three mornings and it's fine to attend one or all the sessions. (Mountain Lion Tent)
- 3) **Performance with Amy Speace; Session 3: Putting It Together.** The arc of the longer story: the set. We'll look at the practicalities of honing a full performance, choosing your material, putting the setlist together, including banter and other simple stagecraft techniques. This is the workshop designed for you if you are wondering how to get yourself out of the rut of just performing your songs, or how to take the show you've already been doing and bring it to the next level. How to go from being just another songwriter with an acoustic guitar to an exciting performer to watch. (Spider Tent)

- 4) **Vocal Harmony and Arrangement** - How does Girlyman create their signature 3-part harmonies? How do they decide which vocal parts to use during each section of the song in order to create something fresh and new? How can you use these techniques on your own songs in order to write vocal arrangements that really “jump off the page” and make you feel something? In this class the band will discuss the tricks and techniques they use to make a song resonate emotionally using various kinds of vocal layering. They will then take you step-by-step through several Girlyman songs to demonstrate how to creatively use the different elements of this “toolbox” to build the energy of a piece. The second half of the class will be devoted to helping students add harmonies to their own songs. Using a student’s song, the band will give a live demonstration of their process, showing you how they might layer and arrange different parts to most effectively enhance the song as a whole. (If you have a song you'd like Girlyman to arrange, please bring four sets of lyric sheets with you to class!) (Coyote Tent)
- 5) **Creativity and Musicianship** - Creativity involves different and lateral ways of thinking in problem solving your music making. Store the exquisitely crafted camel hair artist’s paintbrushes and go big with paint rollers and using (or not) a drop cloth. Learning to not become attached to the outcome enables one to **move** and **flow** with variety. Reframing objects, words, rhythms and pitches (new ideas from existing ones) will remind us of the love affair between tradition and innovation. Everyone have a space and place in music. Come laden...or empty-handed. Joe Craven helps you begin to take greater possession of what you already have. Sometimes it’s important to lower your expectations – which then enable you to broaden your horizons! (Lizard Tent)
- 6) **The Master Voice Class** - Join Ron Browning for a fun and engaging master class and discover your natural voice. Discover your “unique sound” through speech. Your singing voice is the same as your speaking voice. Use simple tricks of casual conversation to make your singing have a more intimate and honest delivery. Learn the dos and don’ts of lyric interpretation. Learn about the projection power of a baby’s cry. Add “cry” to your singing voice and walk away from vocal faults and your fear of high notes. Learn how to sing without vocal fatigue. Both vocal and performance techniques will be taken into consideration for the more advanced singers. Come with questions. Guitars and recorded tracks are welcomed. (Bear Tent)
- 7) **Getting Started with Altered Tunings** - Want to explore altered tunings but don't know where to start? This workshop with Justin Roth will explore ways to understand, compose in, convert songs to, and switch between altered tunings. No need to be intimidated by too much music theory, we will learn a simple way to relate altered tunings to songs you've already written or songs to come. Handouts will be provided to get you started with chord positions in different tunings. In addition, other techniques will be introduced to help enhance your solo guitar sound. (Trout Tent)

- 8) **Take a Lead Break On Your Own Song - Intermediate/Advanced levels** - We will use chord changes from participant's songs and Arthur Lee's "Live Looping" technology to provide a framework for exploring intermediate and advanced soloing ideas. Building on pentatonic pattern ideas, we will be covering techniques to help you develop clarity in your phrasing such as Major and Minor Pentatonic Scale Substitution, Motif Playing, Question & Answer, Melodic & Rhythmic Repetition, Target Notes and Color Tones. (Hummingbird Tent)
- 9) **Performance 202** - Are you a working musician? Have you had a few sessions with Vance's "bootcamp" over the last few years? Well, here's a chance to dig in a little deeper. We'll look at the shape of a "set", the set list itself, patter, and prepping for a performance. Also the song will be scrutinized (bring one that is somewhat "tattered" and just not working for you for whatever reason). Think of the previously mentioned Vance classes with a substantially more intensive examination of what you write and how you present it on the stage. There'll be a little clawing and bleeding – antiseptic will be provided (just kidding – don't be such a chicken!) (Eagle Tent)
- 10) **Mentoring Sessions** Alan Rowoth (Dragonfly Tent), others TBA

### 12:00 - 1:30 Lunch Break

Confirm open stage performance times posted in Blue Heron Tent.

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

Your daily dose of songwriting and much more. Instructors will meet at the same location (mostly) each day as noted below. Classes end at 4:00pm.

#### MEETING PLACES

- Darrell Scott – Mountain Lion Tent
- Steve Seskin\* – Hummingbird Tent
- Vance Gilbert – Eagle Tent (backstage)
- Paul Reisler & Joe Craven\*\* – Coyote Tent
- Pat Pattison\*\*\* – Wildflower Pavilion
- Jonatha Brooke – Spider Tent
- David Wilcox – Lizard Tent
- Dala – Trout Tent
- Ron Browning & Amy Speace\*\*\*\* – Bear Tent

- **\*PLEASE NOTE: Steve Seskin** will offer a new **Melody Class** from years past. Are you tired of your songs all sounding similar? This class will open up your world to all kinds of possibilities. We will discuss the concept of repetition in songs. When is enough, enough? We will also talk about ways to get out of our ruts. We will be writing some melodies during this class using elements of chord substitutions, random note selection and rhythmic choices that can really shake up your melody writing. We'll also look at choosing notes outside of the chord to start your melodies on. It's all about tension and release. (Hummingbird Tent)

- **\*\* PLEASE NOTE: Paul Reisler and Joe Craven will offer: Rhythm and Groove** - Rhythm and groove are perhaps the most important elements in your music for defining the musical style. If you feel you have been writing the same songs over and over again, or that you want to be able to write in a wider variety of styles, this is the place to start. This is a highly participatory, fun workshop where we will quickly create melodies to different beats and use groove as an inspiration for both melody and lyric. We'll work on understanding the basic components of the rhythmic web that work together to create groove, how the groove changes the emotional experience of the song, the western and Indian systems of rhythm, and much more. (Coyote Tent)
- **\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Pat Pattison will offer: Verse Development: Solving "Second Verse Hell"** - Learn how to develop the flow of ideas BEFORE you waste time writing a lyric that dead-ends in some dark alley. Arrange your ideas so the song gains rather than loses interest as it moves forward, creating a chorus or refrain that can be repeated effectively without having to change the words each time. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- **\*\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Ron Browning & Amy Speace will offer: The Art of Phrasing; A Vocal Performance Master Class** - This session will concentrate on breathing new life into your songs, marking lyric sheets for "hot" phrases, adding emotions without being emotional and strengthening the overall performance to a Pro level! Please bring copies of your lyric sheet for this class. (Bear Tent)
- **Mentoring** – Justin Roth (Raven Tent), Judith Wade (backstage campground along river), David Slater (backstage campground along river),

#### 4:15 – 5:30 Electives

- 1) **Facing the Recording Process** – With a new double album just out, and more recording options than ever before, Darrell Scott shares his insights into the recording process from start to finish. (Mountain Lion Tent)
- 2) **"Slow down, you move too fast..."** - you got to make the afternoon last! Please join us if you are looking for a chance to; slow down, expand your awareness, be quiet, deepen your listening skills and get to a place where the music can come through you. In this workshop we will be exploring the powerful connection between music and the natural world and how to slow down in order to become more in-tune. *"Bob Hemenger has helped open my eyes to a greater sense of awareness in creativity - and in one session! I so look forward to learning more from him! Find out what he can offer you; it could change your life!"* Joe Craven. We will start with an interactive dialogue about this music/nature connection and then move outside for an experiential exercise designed to really slow you down and dial you in. Blindfolds will be provided. With Bob Hemenger (Frog Tent)

- 3) **How to Build Your Music Career: Shortened Version** - This abbreviated session covers the main points with less detail, for folks who couldn't make the longer workshop on Monday. Learning from the real-life experiences of artist manager Terri Mazurek and independent singer/songwriter Ellis, this workshop will give you an overview of how to identify your music mission. We will also review the three keys to building your fan base and we'll show you a brand new approach to goal-setting that is simple and artist-friendly. (Lizard Tent)
- 4) **Enhance Your Solo Performance With ... The Art of Live Looping** - Through dynamic performance, demonstration and audience participation, multi-instrumentalist Arthur Lee Land teaches the fundamentals in The Art of Live-Looping. The elements of musicianship, technology, sound engineer, arranger and entertainer all come together in this 21<sup>st</sup> century art-form. Learn how Arthur combines traditional instruments and emerging technologies to create an entire one-man band and how you can use live-looping to enhance your live performances. Live-looping is also a great tool for writing songs and practicing your instrument. Students will participate in improvised song creation and build their own loops. (Hummingbird Tent)
- 5) **Stand Up Comedy** - So you've got a fine batch of originals, a great cover or two, your voice is in shape and your guitar skills are pretty killer. But there's that deadpan flat funny patter your favorite performer has between songs. Or you wonder where your comedy song should be in your set. Heck, you wonder what *\*is\** funny in the first place. Comedy can be the aspect of acoustic performance that lifts an already good set to great status. Hey, it's more than just heartfelt songs, right? Vance Gilbert's concerts are famous for being a fine balance between songs and comedy -enough so that he has opened numerous times for Jay Leno and toured for a year and a half with the late George Carlin (done while the latter was still living). Come for a frank discussion and examination of comedy in acoustic music. Are you already funny? Hope not, cause then I'm out of work... (Eagle Tent)
- 6) **Song Listening** – Jonatha Brooke will lead this listening session. A time and place to play your new, old or unfinished songs and let the group respond. (Spider Tent)

*“The last of the human freedoms - to choose one’s attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one’s way.” - Victor Frankl*

- 7) **Working the Groove - Finding Your Rhythm and Using It!** - Great for songwriters, guitarists, teachers and percussionist wannabe's! Drummer/Percussionist/Accompanists Jagoda and JJ lead this fun and informative workshop for anyone who'd like to learn more about the art of groove and percussion. Feel like you're stuck in a rhythm "rut", always using the same strumming patterns in your songwriting and guitar playing? Headed into the studio and worried about playing to a click track? Wanna join that song circle with your shaker and hand-drum and know you won't cause a train wreck? JJ and Jagoda cover all the bases... from bringing better "groove" to your songs, to techniques for improving your groove coordination (simple rhythm exercises), to writing/starting from a rhythm, simple percussion techniques, percussive accompaniment (how to back up your friend's song or your recording without mashing all over it?), to internalizing and embodying groove by using a metronome and drum machine. Come and get your groove on! (Wildflower Pavilion)
- 8) **Passport Required: International Touring Without a Record Label, Agent or Manager** - Touring outside the USA presents some daunting logistical challenges. But it can also prove immensely rewarding, artistically, professionally and personally. This workshop with Mike Beck examines the nuts-and-bolts of touring internationally, including getting gigs, making contacts, transportation, P.A. and backline, financial realities of touring overseas, as well as strategies for maximizing your impact before, during and after your tour. Handouts include contact info for European and Asian venues, booking agencies and radio stations as well as a planning sheet and actual tour budget. (Bear Tent)
- 9) **Movement For Songwriters** –Authentic Movement is a simple, bare bones structure for accessing the imaginative and practically brilliant, often under-utilized resource: cellular cognition, aka body brains. If you're feeling overloaded with information and in need of a little body/mind balance, you might want to give this class a try. Participants have relived forgotten moments, visited foreign lands, and discovered pools of much needed oomph. Come as you are, in loose clothes if possible. Teachers and students all welcome. Mary Vyn will serve as rule setter, safe keeper, and zen friend. Take a step...and find the freedom of physical pathways. (Trout Tent)
- 10) **Mentoring Sessions** TBA

**5:00 - 8:00 Dinner and snacks served on site (thanks to Bloomberries!)**

**6:00 Come to Cheeses** - A couple of years ago, Michael and Siobhan instituted a wine and cheese happy hour that has turned into a full-fledged event for all of Song School. All are welcome in the front vehicle campground. Please bring something to share as we celebrate a beautiful Wednesday evening on Planet Bluegrass.

**8:00 Open Stage**

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

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## Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

### *TIP OF THE DAY*

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

### *TO DO LIST*

- Your night to play the open stage? Confirm your time at Blue Heron Tent.
- Mentoring session sign ups out at 9am in Blue heron Tent.
- Song School Vehicle Transition 12-1:30pm. Shuttle provided. All vehicles without on site festival vehicle passes must be off property by 1:30pm. (*you know who you are...*)

### **8:00 Yoga**

Peter Heppner will help celebrate the start of your day with gentle yoga. No prior experience necessary. (Meet in front of silo.)

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

Final songwriting session and additional offerings. Instructors will meet at the same location (mostly) each day as noted below. Classes end at noon.

#### **MEETING PLACES**

- Darrell Scott – Mountain Lion Tent
- Steve Seskin\* – Hummingbird Tent
- Vance Gilbert – Eagle Tent (backstage)
- Paul Reisler\*\* – Coyote Tent
- Pat Pattison\*\*\* – Wildflower Pavilion
- Jonatha Brooke – Spider Tent
- David Wilcox – Lizard Tent
- Dala – Trout Tent
- Girlyman\*\*\*\* – Bear Tent

- \* **Steve Seskin** will offer: **Song Forms and Writing Emotional Songs** that move people without being manipulative. We will talk about all the different song forms and delve into the job that each section has in a song. What is the role of the chorus, the verse, the bridge and the pre chorus? We'll look at great songs that don't have choruses (the AABA form) and ones that start with the chorus. This class will also deal with elements of arranging as well. Part two of this class will take a look at writing songs that move people. We'll explore writing in a way that is honest, true to life yet not so personal that the listener can't plug in their own set of specifics. My friend Allen Shamblin says, "A great writer never lets the facts get in the way of the truth." I agree. One of my breakthrough moments as a songwriter was when I figured out I could base things on real life but that it was okay to be a fiction writer in a song. (Hummingbird Tent)

- **\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Paul Reisler will offer: Songwriting with Kids in the Parallel Universe** - You don't have to grab the brass ring and hit the jackpot to have a successful career with your music. We'll look at ways to use your songwriting in service in ways that help inspire, heal, and educate your community. Paul is the founder and artistic director of Kid Pan Alley. They've now written over 1,800 songs with close to 30,000 children using a group songwriting process he developed. Their albums feature artists including Amy Grant, Delbert McClinton, Suzy Bogguss, Cracker, Cory Harris, Sissy Spacek and many others singing the songs written with the children. Songwriting with kids is fun. It's part of how we give back some of what has been given to us and it sows the seeds for a new generation of songwriters. It's also great for our own songwriting chops because we have to work quickly using our intuition and wits. There's no time for the dreaded editor. Their minds work in the way we wish ours would when we write songs--non-linearly. And it may be the most likely way to make money with your songwriting. (Coyote Tent)
- **\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Pat Pattison will offer: Writing from a Title** - Starting with a powerful and effective song title, this seminar teaches you to build it into a completed lyric, including finding an effective title, developing your idea to make your title or chorus grow, setting it to appropriate rhythm and tempo, using stressed vowel sounds to brainstorm ideas, finding title placement, and developing contrasting sections. These tools will make your writing process more efficient, and your lyrics more effective. This is how Nashville writers write a song every day--sometimes two! (Wildflower Pavilion)
- **\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: Girlyman will offer: Vocal Harmony and Arrangement** How does Girlyman create their signature 3-part harmonies? How do they decide which vocal parts to use during each section of the song in order to create something fresh and new? How can you use these techniques on your own songs in order to write vocal arrangements that really "jump off the page" and make you feel something? In this class the band will discuss the tricks and techniques they use to make a song resonate emotionally using various kinds of vocal layering. They will then take you step-by-step through several Girlyman songs to demonstrate how to creatively use the different elements of this "toolbox" to build the energy of a piece. The second half of the class will be devoted to helping students add harmonies to their own songs. Using a student's song, the band will give a live demonstration of their process, showing you how they might layer and arrange different parts to most effectively enhance the song as a whole. (If you have a song you'd like Girlyman to arrange, please bring four sets of lyric sheets with you to class!) (Bear Tent)

### **9:30 - 12:00 Mentoring Sessions**

Justin Roth (Raven Tent), Judith Wade (backstage campground along river), David Slater (backstage campground along river), others (TBA)

## 12:00 - 1:30 Lunch Break

Any and all Song Schoolers without on-site festival vehicle passes must move vehicles out of the campground to designated Song School parking area in festival grounds or off site festival parking area at Olson Field so we can prepare grounds for Festival. Shuttle is provided during lunch break- tent campers must leave by 9am on Friday. Thanks!

## 1:30 - 3:00 Electives

- 1) **Directed Writing Songsharing with Paul Reisler** - In this final session, participants will perform material gleaned from the morning songwriting sessions. This session goes until 4:30pm if necessary. (Mountain Lion Tent)
- 2) **Putting A New Dress On the Pig** – Take a storyline “shopping” for new clothes. Play “dress up” with existing songs. Mix and match musical styles and explore the value of stripping down stories and give them a variety of looks to see how packaging changes the way we connect to the content of a song – yours or other people’s. With Joe Craven (Spider Tent)
- 3) **Vocal Improv with Vance Gilbert** - From slightly modifying a melody and it's delivery to scat singing, moaning, beatbox, and yodeling... yes you can take your own solo on your own tune, or embellish a melody and make it your own. Bring your guitar, your song, and your "sing anything" vocal sensibility. (Eagle Tent)
- 4) **“Slow down, you move too fast...”**you got to make the afternoon last. Please join us if you are looking for a chance to; slow down, expand your awareness, be quiet, deepen your listening skills and get to a place where the music can come through you. In this workshop we will be exploring the powerful connection between music and the natural world and how to slow down in order to become more in-tune. *"Bob Hemenger has helped open my eyes to a greater sense of awareness in creativity - and in one session! I so look forward to learning more from him! Find out what he can offer you; it could change your life!" Joe Craven.* We will start with an interactive dialogue about this music/nature connection and then move outside for an experiential exercise designed to really slow you down and dial you in. Blindfolds will be provided. With Bob Hemenger (Frog Tent)
- 5) **Drive-By Co-Write** - Steve Seskin and David Wilcox will talk about collaborative songwriting for a bit and then spend about an hour actually writing a song together in front of anyone who wants to watch. This will be the first time they've written with each other. Two brave souls.... (Bear Tent)

*“All the arts we practice are apprenticeship.  
The big art is our life.” M.C. Richards*

- 6) **Interior Decorating for Guitar -- Fingerpicking and other Right-hand Techniques** - This interactive workshop with Justin Roth will teach some "interior decorating" tips to add color and character to your guitar parts to better serve your songs. We'll focus on various ways to elaborate your fingerpicking and basic strumming patterns, as well as other right-hand techniques, to add melodic lines to your chord changes, percussive effects and tone/timbre variations to make your songs come alive. You can simply hang a poster on the wall, but think instead of the difference it makes putting that same poster in one frame or another. By listening to and using what's already there, you can find what's missing to better "frame" and complement your songs. Don't tell anyone I said this, but you can even do it *without partial capos or altered tunings!!* Your guitar accompaniment can be more than just a harmonic backdrop for your songs, it can have a voice of its own. Singer/songwriters like James Taylor, David Wilcox and Peter Mayer all have "a sound" that defines their music; a weaving of not just of the voice and words, but the music in between that draws you through. We'll use your songs to demonstrate how some of these *interior decorating* approaches can elevate your songs as well. All levels are welcome in the class because using these techniques effectively starts with learning how to listen for what's missing whether you know how to play it yet or not. (Lizard Tent)
- 7) **Writing Lyrics to Melody** - There's no use writing a great lyric and a great melody if they don't work together. An unfortunate setting of a word or phrase can sink the emotion of the song, calling your listener's attention away from WHAT you are saying to HOW you are saying it. This seminar shows you how to get the most out of your lyrics by combining them accurately and effectively with melody. Another "can't miss" seminar--it's bound to take your writing to the next level. With Pat Pattison. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- 8) **Your Songs, Your Money And The Music Business: What You Don't Know CAN Hurt You!** – You've spent years honing your craft as a songwriter, and you're ready to let the world hear from you. And yet, you feel like you're at the bottom of huge mountain. Are you in shape to climb it? How do you make money as a songwriter? Did you know that you're also wearing a music publisher hat when you write a song? Do you know anything about mechanical income, performance income and synchronization rights? How can you make your songs a viable source of income for yourself via film and TV usages? In a casual discussion with industry professionals, you'll learn some of the basics on music publishing plus how to take those steps to get inside, build relationships and make contact. Get your questions ready for our speakers to answer, as much of this 90 - minute elective will address your specific needs. ASCAP's Brendan Okrent and Jonatha Brooke will lead the discussion, with special guests representing the other side of the desk. (Trout Tent)
- 9) **Mentoring Sessions** Judith Wade (backstage campground), David Slater (backstage campground), others TBA

**3:15 – 4:30 Electives**

- 1) **Directed Writing Songsharing with Paul Reisler (continued)** - In this final session, participants will perform material gleaned from the morning songwriting sessions. This session goes until 4:30pm as necessary. (Mountain Lion Tent)
- 2) **Music, Movies, Money: How To Make The Movie Business Work For Your Music** - Most independent recording artists are seeking opportunities to expose their music to a wider audience and are eager to earn money with their music. Having your music included in a popular film, television series, videogame or new media outlet can serve both these goals, and it's not as far out of reach as you might expect. This workshop "Music, Movies & Money" will show you how to make the movie, television and videogame industries work for you and your music. Benefits include increased revenue, new promotion and exposure opportunities, connections with new audiences, prestige and more. This workshop will unveil the process behind the scenes, and show you several paths to bring your music to the big screen. Presented by "Chicago" Mike Beck (Bear Tent)
- 3) **Fearless Songwriting: How to Toss Out Your Inhibitions, Forget About Your Blocks and Just Write** - Between finishing his first album in June of 2004 and April of 2007 Tim Riordan wrote a grand total of about 3 songs and he was tired of it. Tired of not writing and tired of being a songwriter scared of writing bad songs. So he committed to a week of writing a song every day and got one of his best songs ever. This workshop will discuss the tools and techniques Timmy uses to eradicate songwriting blocks and fears on a daily basis and how committing to a seemingly impossible task can create the ambition and enthusiasm to make it happen. This workshop will offer you the confidence that you can always write a song whether you want to write a song everyday of the week or simply any day you choose to. There will be an opportunity to join Timmy for a "Fearless Songwriting Week" in the weeks after song school as well. (Coyote Tent)
- 4) **Being An Indie Artist** – Having had both major label and indie representation, Dala consults about their experiences, the pros and the cons, working with a big label and currently as an indie artist. (Lizard Tent)
- 5) **Hogging the Covers: Taking Covers and Making Them Your Own** - Every songwriter does covers, at least occasionally. To fill out a set, to honor an influence, to let a fellow songwriters work be heard, we all perform work written by others. The question is, how do you keep from being just a jukebox for those songs? How do you take them and own them - pay homage to the writer, but still give them your unique stamp and interpretation? In this workshop, we'll look at techniques and processes you can use to take a song (maybe even one that you've written), and perform it in a way that is powerful, memorable, and your own. Hog the Covers! Claim the song! With Michael Bowers and Siobhan Quinn (Spider Tent)

- 6) **Build your website for under \$100!** - Do you want a website, but don't know where to start? Are you concerned about the costs and time involved? Designed for folks with minimal web knowledge, this workshop will show you how easy and affordable it can be to set up your own website. You'll learn how to acquire a domain name (and what a domain name IS), the difference between registrars and web hosts, and what the heck all those letters mean - CMS, html, url, wyxz... ☺ We'll go through the steps and set up a working website and you'll leave with a checklist for how to build your own site. With Diana Korpi (Blue Heron Tent)
- 7) **Putting It All together: from Solo to Band and Everything In Between** - How do you take your song you've been playing entirely by yourself and bring other instrumentation to it? How do you put a band together? How DO you talk to a bass player? In this workshop we will deal with the how's and whys (and maybe even the when's) of putting together a band, arranging your songs for other players, the skills it takes to be a leader of a band, how to find other players, and even the financial and practical aspects of life in a band vs. a solo career. With Jagoda, Justin Roth, Jennifer "JJ" Jones and Arthur Lee Land. (Wildflower Pavilion)
- 8) **Movement For Songwriters** –Authentic Movement is a simple, bare bones structure for accessing the imaginative and practically brilliant, often under-utilized resource: cellular cognition, aka body brains. If you're feeling overloaded with information and in need of a little body/mind balance, you might want to give this class a try. Participants have relived forgotten moments, visited foreign lands, and discovered pools of much needed oomph. Come as you are, in loose clothes if possible. Teachers and students all welcome. Mary Vyn will serve as rule setter, safe keeper, and zen friend. Take a step...and find the freedom of physical pathways. (Trout Tent)
- 9) **Mentoring Sessions** Brendan Okrent (Elk Tent), Judith Wade (backstage campground), David Slater (backstage campground), other TBA

#### **4:45 – 5:15 Song School Closing**

Our final session together in the Wildflower Pavilion. Led by Joe Craven.

**6:00 – 7:30 Song School BBQ** - The BBQ's are open to all Song School participants and their registered guests only. Menu: Green chile beef burgers with cheddar cheese, veggie burgers, garlic mashed potatoes, spinach penne pasta salad, mixed field greens, fruit salad, vegetable stir fry, chocolate mouse with fresh strawberries. Chef: Markus Chesla. Please compost everything! (Backstage)

- Instructors and students will have books and CDs for sale in tent during the BBQ.

#### **7:30 Open Stage**

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

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## Other things you need to know about...

**Songwriting Instructor Class Descriptions** – a few words from songwriting instructors about their sessions...

**Dala** - Sheila Carabine and Amanda Walther, of the Canadian duo, Dala, will lead songwriting sessions using their collaborative songwriting style as a starting point, delving into the nuts and bolts of Dala songs. They will sing and talk their way through song dynamics, inspiration and their trademark harmonious songwriting.

**Darrell Scott** - Developing a skill set towards song is one thing and telling our truth in song is another. I want to help create a class that is the atmosphere for both to thrive, with emphasis on telling our truth in song. No hit songwriting class here, this is about opening ourselves to the songs already brewing inside us.

**David Wilcox** - Lodestone Songwriting: These sessions cover not only the 'how to', but the 'why-to' of the art and craft of songwriting. David offers tools to help hone skills of discernment to help you get to the heart of what you are writing about. Your songs can be the soundtrack of your story and a guide to living a life worth singing about!

**Vance Gilbert** – “Songwriting through the eyes of Performance.” A great song does not by itself get heard. It needs to be performed so that a producer, publisher, record exec, and most importantly your fans can be part of it’s full impact. It’s a “collision course” Vance offers where performance and songwriting are inextricably intertwined entities. Here’s your chance to pick up and hone some skills that will make your song and it’s presentation shine. Everything from keeping time, arrangement of the song, what key, “getting the guitar out of the way”, the cliché police, posture, vocal stuff, even how to approach the stage and plug in the guitar will be examined on the mic in a safe and supportive “open mic-ish” atmosphere.

**Jonatha Brooke** - Songwriting is about telling a story. But by condensing, crystallizing, getting rid of the extraneous, streamlining. And usually it’s best if you can get it done in under 4 minutes! I think a good song doesn’t necessarily tell you everything. I like to leave something to the imagination - never underestimate my listener. And I prefer a little poetry. Clichés are fine sometimes, but then I think you need to back them up with something very original, a new little gem. Otherwise, why should someone keep listening? What makes you and your song special? Let’s call it: "Please don't bore us, get to the chorus." That's what we used to joke about when in the throes of formulaic pop, but it's true-- with a song you have to deliver SOMETHING, or at least hint at getting there. And you just can't take too long... who really needs to hear, "I woke up this morning..." again?? In this class we’ll look at different ways to find your own gems – to push yourself away from your own clichés. We’ll look at how powerful just a few words can be. How can you find a chorus hiding in an old poem? How do you streamline a story into four lines that rock? Where are the chord changes and melodies that will catch and

keep your listener. What are, perhaps, the limitations that will become your strengths and your signature?

**Songwriting Sessions:** These daily sessions are designed to give you a variety of approaches to the songwriting craft. Some instructors will repeat their lesson plan while others will focus on specific topics each day as noted in the schedule. We encourage students to self-monitor class sizes and keep in mind that if a class you want to take is large one day, it's likely to be smaller the next.

**Electives:** Your journey through the song school schedule is entirely up to you! Each day, elective classes are offered. Please note that some electives are only offered once, and some are offered multiple times during the week. A few electives require that you be in attendance for the initial session in order to participate later in the week and these are noted on the schedule. Refer to your matrix for a quick overview and to the course descriptions for further details.

**Mentoring Sessions:** These sessions are offered as a way for participants to receive more personalized attention and help with specific questions. They can take the form of one-on-one or small group consultations depending on the desires of the instructor. Each day, based on instructor interest, sign ups and meeting locations for that day's participating instructors will be posted in the Blue Heron Tent at 9am (registration area). Most sessions will meet under 10 x 10 tents near the silo and riverfront. We ask that students sign up for one session during the week unless space is available at the last minute.

**Open Stages:** The evening open stages are offered as an opportunity to perform your original material for each other in the Wildflower Pavilion. Due to local sound curfews, we have a limited number of spots available. Students who wish to perform must enter their name by 9:00am on Monday to participate. A random drawing will be made (from the names of those who have entered their name to participate) with the first name drawn going to Monday night, the second name going to Tues. night, etc until all available performance slots are filled. The final list for all four nights will be posted Monday during the lunch break in the Blue Heron Tent.

**Message Board:** The message board is located in the Blue Heron Tent (registration tent). If you have messages for other participants, need festival or camping passes or have tickets to sell, this is the place to post your message for others to see.

**The Song School Roster:** Double check your info on the roster Sunday or Monday to make sure your information is correct. We will email an updated roster to all the week after Song School.

**Evaluation Forms:** Evaluation forms are in the back of your booklet. Please take the time to fill them out and hand in on Thursday during the BBQ or open stage to help us improve The Song School. Thanks in advance for your input! You can also mail in your evaluation at a later date using the address on the form.

**Handouts will be made available online after the Song School:** We will have instructor handout available to all students after the Song School at:

- <http://www.bluegrass.com/songschool/materials/>
- Login: students | Password: songschool

We will remind students of the URL, login and password when we email rosters to you a week after the Song School and Festival are over.

**Instructor materials and recordings available during the Thursday BBQ:** Many instructors have books and recorded products available to purchase during the Song School. You may find the instructor during the week or wait until Thursday evening during the BBQ where instructor materials will be for sale. Students may also sell CDs during the BBQ.

**Composting Recycling and Biobags:** Planet Bluegrass has continued to minimize the landfill waste the schools and festivals produce. You can help us by using a bio bag for all your compostable waste. With your help we are now composting and recycling approximately 70% of all festival waste! Help us by using our color-coded waste stations in the campground and classroom areas. *Remember, all food, utensils, plastic beer and water cups and plates used at the Song School BBQ's are compostable.* Thanks in advance for your help.

**Poison Ivy:** Be on the look out for poison ivy in the trees around the river in the campgrounds. We have sprayed known areas however some other small areas may exist, so be careful walking through any high grass areas. We will mark some of these areas with yellow tape to alert everyone.

**Video Cameras on the grounds:** Some classes might be video taped at various times for our archives. If anyone does not wish to be on camera, please identify yourself to the cameraman if he shows up where you are. He will respect your request.

**Food Onsite:** We are pleased to once again have a food vendor, Bloomberries, on the grounds during the Song School for breakfast and lunch every day and **dinners on Tuesday and Wednesday**. They have great burritos and lunch items (see enclosed menu) as well as ice cream!

**Reiki and Swedish Massage Sessions:** A limited number of Reiki and massage sessions will be available on Wednesday and Thursday with Judith Wade and David Slater. Reiki is a Japanese healing technique that reduces stress and promotes relaxation, thereby enhancing the body's natural ability to heal itself. It is administered by the "laying on of hands" and uses the Universal Life Force Energy (i.e. Chi, Prana) to balance a person on a physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual level. If one's "life force energy" is low, then we are more likely to get sick or feel stress, and if it is high, we are more capable of being happy and healthy. The benefits of Reiki include increases in creativity and awareness, supporting the body's natural ability to heal itself, vitalizing both body & soul, clearing blockages from each of the four bodies: spiritual, physical, mental, & emotional, cleansing the body of toxins, and relieving stress, anxiety, and physical pain.