

26th annual

CENTRAL OHIO FOLK FESTIVAL

ROOTS, ACOUSTIC MUSIC AT ITS BEST!

MAY 6 & 7 2023

3 Performing Stages / Storytelling
30+ Music Workshops / Heart Beat™ Drum Circles
4 ongoing Jam Tents / Young Adult offerings
Kids' programming, crafts & more!

NEFESH MOUNTAIN Sat. Night Headliner
Int'l. touring Progressive Folk/Americana band
"Refreshingly eclectic" *Rolling Stone*

HIGHBANKS METRO PARK

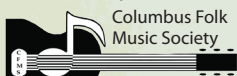
Lewis Center, OH, just north of Columbus

**NO FIXED FEES – YOUR GENEROUS \$\$ SUPPORT
MAKES ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE!** On site or pre-
donate @ [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) / Central Ohio Folk Festival

WWW.COLUMBUSFOLKMUSICSOCIETY.ORG



Produced by



Co-sponsor



SATURDAY EVENING HEADLINER

Internationally touring Progressive
Folk / Americana band

NEFESH MOUNTAIN

Since their arrival on the scene in 2015, the New York based band Nefesh Mountain has been hailed as one of today's formative boundary-pushing groups in American roots music.

Their latest album "Songs For the Sparrows" is a true testament to the unbridled imagination and extraordinary grace of their musicianship and creativity, featuring friends and heroes Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas and Bryan Sutton among others. The band embodies the wild nature and unbridled free spirits of its members, bridging compositional prowess and prolific songwriting with deft and exciting instrumentals and jams.

They have recorded and shared the stage with Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, Bryan Sutton, John Doyle, Noam Pikelný (Punch Brothers), Mark Schatz (Nickel Creek), Mike Gordon (Phish) and Tony Trischka among others.

Their music continues to forge new paths in a world all their own, combining elements of everything from Americana and Appalachian bluegrass to Celtic folk and Eastern European melodies with messages of inclusivity, diversity, and hope for our ever changing world today.



"A masterclass in string music" - Rolling Stone

"The sound is crisp, clear, magical, an instant favorite, the type of record [Songs For the Sparrows] that cleanses the dirt underneath, in between, and unforeseen, the album is perfection" - No Depression

LISTEN: nefeshmountain.com/songs-for-the-sparrows

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FESTIVAL DONATIONS ON SITE OR AT: centralohiofolkfestival2023donate.eventbrite.com

HOURS: 10:30am - 9:30pm Saturday / 10:30am - 5:30pm Sunday

Festival Store: 10:30am - 6pm Sat. / 10:30am - 4:30pm Sun. / **Food Trucks on site**

Concerts / Workshops / Jams: 11am - 6:30pm Saturday / 11am - 5:30pm Sunday

Beer Garden Concessions: Noon - 7:30pm Saturday / Noon - 3:30pm Sunday

Saturday Night Headliner: 7pm

YouthFolk Tent (includes Box Frame Drum Making): 11am - 4pm Sat. / 1 - 4pm Sun.

Kids' Activities & Programming: 11am - 4pm Saturday / 1 - 4pm Sunday

Heart Beat™ Drum Circle with Baba Harris: 5 - 6pm Saturday / 4 - 5pm Sunday

WELCOME FEST GOERS / IMPORTANT STUFF!

Are you itching to catch some live roots music in a great outdoor setting or even dig out of your closet an old instrument you've always been wanting to learn to play? You'll find it all here and in a family-friendly setting that includes kids' and youth activities. NEW this year, a YouthFolk Tent and 4 ongoing jam tents - open to all (old-time, folk/folk-mix, bluegrass, and a "Worthington Squares Jam Group" tent dedicated to serving the very beginner). This year Nocterra Brewing craft beer will be available in the Beer Garden. Please note, you are **not permitted to bring your own alcohol** onto Metro Park grounds.

We will have donation tents set up at the entrance. Know that your generous \$\$ support makes all of this possible! When you enter you can attend all events, including the Saturday night headliner concert and any workshop. With a donation of \$20 or more, you'll receive a fun "flexible flyer" (nylon frisbee) and a few other cool items. **Pre-event donation is recommended over on-site if you hope to reserve inside tent seating for the Sat. night concert, otherwise seating may be on the lawn.** A pre-event donation link is at bottom of this page. The tent seats 200. Lawn seating is always available; bring some lawn chairs!

A big shout out to our supporters: The Columbus Foundation, the Ohio Arts Council, our festival sponsors, Metro Parks' volunteers & employees and to the Columbus Folk Music Society's members & friends who **donate heaps** of their time and talent to make all of this possible!

MUSIC GO ROUND 



THE COLUMBUS
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Ohio Arts
COUNCIL



LEAF
HOME WATER
SOLUTIONS



KIRBY MAIN STAGE PERFORMERS - SATURDAY

In order of appearance beginning at 11am



THE FOLK RAMBLERS (Columbus, OH)

OPENING COMMUNITY SING Bill Cohen (guitar & vocals) and Carl Yaffey (banjo & vocals) perform classic folk songs of the 50s & 60s made famous by Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, the Kingston Trio, Peter, Paul and Mary, and many others. Leading the festival's Opening Community Sing, they'll have their audience singing along

in no time (indeed that will be their intent)! Join them at the festival opening for a rousing sing-along. folkramblers.carl-yaffey.com

NA SKYLARK (Rineyville, Central KY) CELTIC TRADITIONAL

na Skylark means "the skylarks" in Irish. This trio is unequivocally birds of a feather: three accomplished musicians highlighting the old tunes, songs and instruments of Ireland (and other Celtic lands), weaving them together to produce a richly inspiring and emotional musical experience. The group's "Old Ceol" recording was named one of the best new recordings of 2017 by the Celtic Connections radio show.



naskylark.com

DONATE AT: centralohiofolkfestival2023donate.eventbrite.com



HOUSE OF HAMILL (Philadelphia, PA) INDIE IRISH FOLK

Whether they're ripping through a set of original jigs and reels, adding lush three-part harmonies into traditional folk ballads, or cracking up an audience with stories from the road, House of Hamill puts on a show that captivates audiences from the very first note. Their version of "Pound a Week Rise" rose to #1 on the US Folk DJ charts, and the video for their all-violin cover of "Sweet Child O' Mine" amassed over 16 million views on Facebook. Their latest release, "Folk Hero," captures perfectly the intense energy and eclecticism of their always engaging live show.

www.houseofhamill.com

MARY MILLER & MIKE HALE (FEATURING BRIAN SZUCH)

(Columbus, OH) **POPULAR FOLK** Expect this duo to delight and entertain as they perform a variety of Americana, folk, country, and classic tunes – with plenty of opportunities to join in the fun and sing along. They are excited to be joined by Brian Szuch who is a multi-instrumentalist, music collaborator and producer. mike@oldshoemusic.com



Ph. courtesy John Locke



THE PAIRS (London, ON, CANADA) PROGRESSIVE FOLK

Family is what ties The Pairs together. With soaring harmonies, they share stories of life's hope, hilarity, and hardship. An honest, quirky stage presence and their unbottled chemistry, quickly connects them with their audience. The line between stage and the crowd becomes blurred as if we've all pulled up a seat around their family's lively kitchen table. "We believe in the importance of finding those things that grab you and pull you into a moment. . . Our hope is that every time we share our joy of making music, we invite those who listen to share in the joy of finding that thing that makes their own heart sing." www.thepairsmusic.com

APPALACHIAN SWING (Newark, OH) BLUEGRASS

Taking their name from The Kentucky Colonels' iconic album, Appalachian Swing, Adam Schlenker (guitar), Hayes Griffin (mandolin), Todd Sams (banjo) and George Welling (bass) are a group that is not a cover or tribute band as much as a band building its sound around The Kentucky Colonels' brand of bluegrass and the influences of Clarence & Roland White. Adam is an educator and known worldwide for his flatpicking skills, Hayes is an educator and has over a decade of experience as a touring musician, Sam is an award winning banjo player and master luthier and George holds the band together with his experienced bass skills.

5thfretproductions.com/appalachianswingbluegrass.html



KIRBY MAIN STAGE PERFORMERS - SUNDAY

In order of appearance beginning at 11am



Ph. courtesy Tim Shellmer

HEATHER PIERSON DUO (Conway, NH) SONGS FOR THE SPIRIT

Heather's two performance slots at the festival will incorporate songs from her *Heart Songs & Circle Songs* project, a repertoire inspired by the power of song to nurture harmony, community, connection, joy, and peace as well as her regular repertoire. Heather is a pianist, singer/songwriter, and performer whose inspiring live performances with her bassist/partner Shawn Nadeau delve into

Americana, New Orleans jazz, blues, and folk. Best known for her ease at the piano and her bell-tone vocals, Heather's songs embody honesty, playfulness, and a desire to share from the heart. heatherpierson.com

SHANNON CLARK & THE SUGAR (Greenville, OH)

AMERICANA-SOUL Hailing from rustic Darke Co., OH, Shannon Clark & the Sugar weave together heartfelt emotions with a distinctive flair to create a sound that can only be described as Midwest Americana Soul. This family band fronted by husband and wife Shannon & Brittany Clark, writes and performs their original music about personal loss, struggles, and the human condition. Apple News raves, "The raw emotion of Shannon's vocal delivery exposes the bittersweet beauty of his lyrics." After a personal family tragedy with the loss of their 2nd daughter, Shannon & Brittany's creative songwriting would become the healing tool. When their oldest daughter joined in 2019 as a vocalist/instrumentalist, they began experimenting with a new sound and Shannon Clark & the Sugar was born. "Gorgeously haunting, gracefully walks a line between Americana and soul" – The Tinnitist shannonclarksugar.com



JOHN HARROD & TONA BARKLEY (Owenton, KY) OLD-TIME

John (guitar, fiddle, vocals) and his wife Tona (guitar, vocals) have a passion for old-time music. Over the years John has played with multiple string bands. He worked for three years as an artist in residence in KY schools and has also produced a series of field recordings of KY fiddle and banjo players (available on Rounder Records). In 2004, he received the Folk Heritage Award of the Governor's Awards in the Arts for his work in traditional music. Tona is an artist (painter) and a quilter. Her gallery of paintings feature portraits of Kentucky musicians doing what they do best in local settings. www.johnharrodmusic.com tonabarkley.com

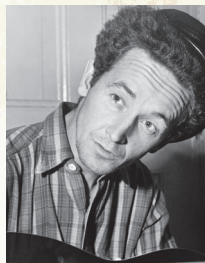
SATURDAY SHOWCASE STAGE PERFORMERS in order of appearance beginning at Noon:

Katie Dahl (singer-songwriter), Lyn Ford (Storyteller), na Skylark (traditional Celtic), Heather Pierson Duo (Americana/folk/blues), The Redbuds (acoustic folk), House of Hamill (Indie Irish Folk).

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HARD TRAVELIN' (Columbus, OH) **MUSIC BY & INSPIRED BY WOODY**

GUTHRIE Four veteran musicians (Jeff Putnam, Bill Cohen, Phil Hart and Teresa Schleifer) explore the songs and musical/cultural legacy of the father of American folk music. They will perform individually and together music of Woody, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, and Phil Ochs, provide background on Woody's life and times, and spotlight his continuing influence from the '60s folk revival to today. putnamjeff@hotmail.com



KATIE DAHL (Bailey's Harbor, WI) **FOLK/SINGER-SONGWRITER**

A small-town celebrity on the Wisconsin peninsula (where her family has lived for 175 years), Katie Dahl is a nationally touring, radio-charting songwriter as well as playwright.

"Katie Dahl is the real deal. She's a 'regional' artist the way Robert Frost is a regional artist, meaning everybody in the world can appreciate the way she captures the spirit of a

place – and the generations of humans who've lived, loved and died there – with such grace, nuance and grit." – JT Nero (Birds of Chicago) Clear-eyed and tough-minded, fresh and funny, Katie delivers what Dar Williams calls "the very best of songwriting." katedahlmusic.com

SUNDAY SHOWCASE STAGE PERFORMERS in order of appearance beginning at Noon:

The Pairs (Progressive Folk), Starlit Ways (Folk Mix), Denison Univ. American Roots Ensemble (The Music of Peter Rowan), Shannon Clark & the Sugar (Americana-Soul)

SATURDAY BAILEY ACOUSTIC STAGE PERFORMERS in order of appearance

beginning at Noon: NIC (folk), Joanie Calem (folk), Bryce Mullins (fingerstyle guitar originals), last year's scholarship winners, followed by annual Kirby Scholarship Awards & *Most Outrageous Song in the World Contest*, Charles Sealy (blues).

SUNDAY BAILEY ACOUSTIC STAGE PERFORMERS in order of appearance beginning

at Noon: The Ravines (folk), Katy Oberle (singer-songwriter), Rick & Ryan (folk mix), Kristin Gramza (singer-songwriter).

4 ONGOING OPEN JAM TENTS Bluegrass / Old-time / Folk-Folk Mix / and

"Worthington Squares" Jam Group Tent (dedicated to welcoming the very beginner)

"Heart Beat" Drum Circles: 5-6pm Sat. & 4-5pm Sun. / Closing Song Circle: 4:30-5:30pm

FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

If you are new to music, curious about songwriting in general or trying out an instrument for the first time there are workshops for all of that. There are workshops for the very beginner on ukulele, guitar, dulcimer and more (with some loaner instruments available). There are other workshops geared towards more advanced levels. Complete listing of workshops and more about each presenter is on our website under [festival/workshops](#). There is not a fee for workshops.

PRESENTER

WORKSHOP TITLE AND LEVEL

KATIE DAHL	Revealing Yourself Through Music (ALL) Social Media for Musicians (ALL)
DAVE GASTEL	Harmonica: Different Styles for Different Songs (Sat workshop) (INT) Harmonica: Different Styles for Different Songs (Sun workshop) (INT)
HAYES GRIFFIN	Foundations of Mandolin Playing (ALL)
HARD TRAVELIN'	Get to Know Woody Guthrie (Sat workshop) (ALL) Get to Know Woody Guthrie (Sun workshop) (ALL)
JOHN HARROD	Fiddle Bowing: The Pattern-less Pattern (ALL) Cross Tuning Fiddle Workshop: AEAE and ADAE (INT-ADV)
HOUSE OF HAMILL	Learn Two Traditional Irish Tunes! (ALL)
JOANNA LI	Introduction to Guzheng (Chinese folk instrument) (ALL)
BRYCE MULLINS	Intro to Fingerstyle Guitar: Thumbpicking Basics (INT)
NA SKYLARK (CATHY WILDE)	Irish Tin Whistle 101 <i>(Some loaners available)</i> (BEG)
NA SKYLARK	Learn an O'Carolan Tune (INT & UP)
KATY OBERLE	Mindfulness for Musicians & Music Lovers (ALL)
THE PAIRS	Creating Harmonies (ALL)
HEATHER PIERSON	Singing for Everybody (ALL) Songwriting and Creativity (ALL)
PAUL D. RACE	Intro to Appalachian Dulcimer <i>(Some loaners available)</i> (BEG) Intro to Autoharp <i>(Some loaners available)</i> (BEG)
MICHAEL G. RONSTADT (FROM SHANNON CLARK & THE SUGAR)	Cello in Folk Music (ALL)
TODD SAMS (FROM APPALACHIAN SWING)	Easy Fixes for Better-Sounding Instruments (ALL) Banjo from Scruggs to Melodic (INT-ADV)
ADAM SCHLENKER	Flatpicking/Bluegrass Guitar (INT-ADV)
SHANNON CLARK & THE SUGAR	Songwriting as a Group (ALL)
BRIAN SZUCH (FEAT. WITH MARY MILLER & MIKE HALE DUO)	Accompanying Other Musicians (INT-ADV)
PAISHA THOMAS	Music & Social Change (ALL)
DEBORAH VAN KLEEF	Getting Started on the Uke <i>(Some loaners available)</i> (BEG) Getting Started on the Guitar <i>(Some loaners available)</i> (BEG)
GEORGE WELLING	Playing in a Bluegrass Jam (ADV BEG)

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PERFORMANCE TIME SLOTS CAN BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE: Check our [website festival page](#) for up to date information and the published schedule as the event draws nearer.

STUFF TO KNOW

DIRECTIONS Highbanks Metro Park, 9466 Columbus Pike (Rt. 23), Lewis Center, OH 43035. Enter at Highbanks Metro Park entrance off of Rt. 23. Follow signs to the Big Meadows area. The Metro Park is easily accessible from I-270, St. Rt. 315 or Rt. 23.

PARKING The parking lot abutting the festival grounds is reserved for stage performers, vendors, and event staff. Park patron and event attendees parking is provided at any other picnic area parking lot or in the large center field adjacent to the Big Meadows area where the **community festival event** occurs. From any Big Meadows parking lot or center field, it is no more than a ten-minute walk along a designated pathway.

SAT. NIGHT PARKING If you plan on attending the Saturday night concert, we encourage you to move your vehicle around 6:15pm to the lot(s) closest to festival grounds, all of which will be opened up at that time. If parking in designated spots becomes full, overflow parking will still be available in the large center field. There is no fixed lighting in the center field and **we encourage you to carry a flashlight or cell phone with you;** however some lighting provided along the path will be your quickest access to & from the concert venue. Please follow the guidance of park personnel if you are arriving just for the Saturday night concert.

DROP-OFF There will be a roving golf cart to and from the center field parking lot to assist those who have difficulty walking distances and those needing assistance who are carrying musical instruments. There is no longer an Instrument Drop-Off location in the parking area adjacent to the grounds.

FESTIVAL ENTRY We will have donation tents positioned at the entrance. **Your generous \$\$ support will make all of this possible.** Donations can be on site or pre-event at Eventbrite (see link at bottom of pages 3, 5, & 7). Donations of \$20 or more get you some free fun stuff. Since 2022, there is no longer a separate ticket fee for the Saturday night headliner concert or the

workshops. **Children ages 12 & under must be accompanied** by an adult at all times.

FOOD Food Trucks on site. You're also welcome to bring your own food. There are some picnic tables available and lots of room to spread a blanket on the ground or set up your own lawn chairs.

BEER GARDEN We now have a Beer Garden & Concession Tent. If you wish to partake, you must be 21, will be carded at the entrance and receive a specific wristband. Concession Tent hours: Noon - 7:30pm Saturday and Noon - 3:30pm Sunday. All alcohol must be consumed in the Beer Garden area. Don't worry, we have one of our stage tents set up in the vicinity! If the Beer Garden pavilion is full, there is room in the same Garden area to set up your own lawn chairs, so you are encouraged to bring them! **You are not permitted to bring your own alcohol onto Metro Park grounds.**

FESTIVAL STORE We provide a festival store with cool festival merchandise and performers' merchandise. There are also other fun and interesting vendors.

INSTRUMENT STORAGE TENT There is a fully staffed instrument storage tent located next to the Kirby Main Stage Tent. Storage tent hours: Saturday: 10:30am - 4pm and Sunday: 10:30am - 4:30pm. **ALL instruments must be picked up by closing each day.**

FIRST AID For minor problems, first aid kits are available just inside Festival Store Tent, at an Entrance Donation Tent and inside the Kirby Main Stage Tent (Sound table). For more serious problems, park personnel are available to help as well as summon emergency services.

MESSAGE BOARD The board is located just inside the Festival Store Tent.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE Schedules are posted on the grounds; look for the easels. They are also downloadable at: www.columbusfolkmusicsociety.org/schedule-of-events.html.

LODGING There are a number of hotels on Rt. 23 south of the Highbanks entrance and six minutes from the festival site. For camping options, Alum Creek State Park is a 13 minute drive away.