

2009-2010 GLAMA Workshop Schedule

October 3, 2009

OPEN JAM

Come on down and enjoy and explore the new venue at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

November 7, 2009

BLUEGRASS RHYTHM GUITAR WORKSHOP

Instructor: Kevin Gaugier

Join us for a workshop by one of the premier musicians in Michigan. A multi-instrumentalist, Kevin currently plays banjo with Detour Bluegrass Band. You can hear his lead guitar playing every weekend by listening to the Grassroots theme tune, Kevin's rhythm guitar workshop will focus primarily on the use of alternative chord positions to play "cleaner" rhythm. He will discuss the advantages of either removing or replacing one particular part of the chord to provide the lead instrument with more flexibility in improvisation. Chord diagrams will be provided along with chord charts demonstrating the use of these alternative positions in the context of a couple of common tunes.

December 5, 2009

DRUMMING FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

Instructor: Carolyn Koebel

Join local percussionist/music therapist Carolyn Koebel for a tour de force of percussion instruments from across the globe. No experience necessary, but expect to learn something about the common elements and techniques for djembe/doumbek/congas and frame drums in an interactive, come-and-play drum jam for all ages and abilities. We'll start with basic techniques and end with a big groove train.

January 2, 2010

Happy New Year! See you all at the Cooper's Glen Music Festival

February 6, 2010

PLAYING LEAD BREAKS WITH DOBRO & BANJO

Instructor: Al Bates

Do you need a "break" but don't know where or how to start? Join Kalamazoo's own Al Bates in a workshop that will show you the fine art of developing a solo or lead break to tunes often heard in jams. You can hear Al's terrific resonator guitar style each week on the Grassroots theme. He is an accomplished player and instructor of several other instruments including banjo and mandolin. Al will start with simple tunes and use his banjo and dobro to demonstrate some ideas. These principles will translate to other instruments so guitars, fiddles, mandolins are welcome too!

March 6, 2010

MANDOLIN

Instructor: Josh Rilko

Mandolin pickers, you can't afford to miss this one!!

A member of Michigan's new generation of young bluegrass players, Josh's workshop will focus on fiddle tunes, improvisation, Bill Monroe style, and rhythm. He will show how fiddle tunes relate to different major scale positions, and demonstrate different improvisation "tricks" once the tune is learned. Josh will also explain the distinction between fiddle tunes and bluegrass by demonstrating how to solo out of the Bill Monroe bluegrass "chop chord" position. Using closed position chords, he will reveal how a solo can be built around it for a bluegrass song. Other aspects of this workshop will include using double stops in fiddle tunes and bluegrass solos, Bill Monroe "downstroke style" and its importance in playing bluegrass, various ways to play rhythm, and different chord shapes for use in different situations.

April 3, 2010

BACK-UP GUITAR

Instructor: Joel Mabus

It takes two hands to play a chord on the guitar. This workshop will concentrate on the right hand (or left hand if your guitar points the other way). The right hand controls the rhythm and pace of a song. We'll look at the deceptively simple "boom-chuck" of a fast bluegrass song, as well as the "chunk-chunk-chunk" of swing music. Also the on-beat strums of Irish music and the off-beat strums of a variety of other styles. What to do with a waltz, a jig, a reel, a hornpipe and other dance music. Bring your guitar - "advanced beginner" through intermediate level.