

NJ FRIENDS OF CLEARWATER 40th ANNUAL FESTIVAL - IT'S FREE

NO MONTHLY SONG CIRCLE in SEPTEMBER
TRIBUTE TO PETE SEEGER

Saturday, September 12, 2015, from 11AM - 7PM

We're moving to Brookdale College (outside – Larrison Hall Commons), 765 Newman Springs Road (Route 520 - Exit 109 West, from the Parkway), Lincroft, NJ.

On our Circle of Song Stage, we encourage songs about the environment and "sing-alongs," but you can do others. At the Festival site, we will be at the Bankier Library, closest to Pkg. Lot 5.

There will be opportunities for audience members to take a turn to play – or to sing along – please bring your instrument. But if you wish, just come and listen.



Please check out our Vendors, our Environmental Booths, our other two Stages and our Children's Area.

The Circle of Song Leader-Performers at the Festival will be (alphabetically – subject to change): Tommy and Abby Anton, Madhumita Chakrabarti, Jan Christensen, Circle 'Round the Sun, Jim Crawford, Lydia Adams Davis, James Durst, Cosby Gibson, Ingrid Heldt with special guest Judith Bernz, Dale Lakata, Sharleen Leahey, Dennis MC Do No Ugh!, Bob Mecklenburger, Sally Neal, Isis Ra with Linda Phillips, Rosemary Wright and others (some of these performers may be moved to another of our three stages).

We will be joined during our Finale by the founder of our NJ Friends of Clearwater Festival, Bob Killian.



Photo by Mike Berry

Bob Killian Forty years ago, Bob Killian founded NJ Friends of Clearwater's Annual Festival. He plays guitar, banjo, harmonica, penny whistle and Indian flute and he sings folk, country, American standards and original songs. Besides his numerous appearances on national television and radio, he recorded and performed with Peter, Paul & Mary, Pete Seeger, and Tom Chapin. He has also shared the stage with Bruce Springsteen, Bill Monroe, Doc Watson, Earl Scruggs and many others. He recorded his song, "There'll Come A Day" on Pete Seeger's Grammy-winning album, Tomorrow's Children. He also released a live recording, "Killian: Songs For Kids" on the Windsong label. The sound recording from his video "I Like the Jersey Shore" was chosen by the NJ State Dept. of Travel & Tourism to promote the Jersey Shore, and he won the Garden State Music Award for Best Revival Folk Artist. He now resides in Florida, and we are delighted that he decided to join us to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of our – his – NJ Friends of Clearwater Annual Festival. He will join the Circle of Song during our Finale (and maybe before), besides performing a set on our Main Stage.



Photo by Bob Yahn

Tommy and Abby Anton Feedbag recording artists Tommy & Abby Anton enchant audiences with their distinctive style of mystical folk-pop. While Tommy's full-production solo CD has enjoyed rave reviews and nation-wide airplay. The husband and wife duo's intimate live performances featuring acoustic guitar, keyboards and tight harmonies are truly mesmerizing. Favorites on the local scene, as well as coast-to-coast touring artists, the Antons, well known for their vegan, raw food lifestyle, are often seen in the area with their bicycle trailer rigs, musical instruments in tow. Go to www.TommyAnton.com for more info.



Jan Christensen is a long-time member of Clearwater and a special friend of NJ Friends of Clearwater. As one of The Hudson River Sloop Singers who were brought together by Pete Seeger, Jan contributes his rich, deep voice to festivals, gatherings and the Sloop Singer CD, Broad Old River. Jan is a songwriter. One of his songs, "The Ghost of Ellis Island," has become a teaching tool on American immigration in schools. Jan is also a member of The New York Packet, South Street Seaport's official maritime music group, helping to share the history and legacy of the tall ships, and the songs that moved them.

Circle Round the Sun is the folk/acoustic group of Marie Trontell and Jay Wilensky. Jay's warm baritone and Marie's rich alto let the group perform an eclectic mix of great acoustic songs with a special emphasis on duets and sensuous harmonies. They do both original tunes and covers. Their influences include great singer-songwriters like Dave Carter, Michael Smith, Cheryl Wheeler, and Tom Rush. They can be contacted at www.sonicbids.com/Circleroundthesun.



Jim Crawford, born in Glasgow, Scotland, is a singer-songwriter whose muse awoke, after a long hibernation, in 2007, with the song "Team of My Father" and the CD of the same name. This led to playing at many venues and to a nomination for best CD and Song at the 2011 JAM awards. Some of Jim's songs are about quirky characters he has known, but much of his recent work leans to commentary reflecting on his concerns about the social and economic well-being of our country. He can be reached at jascrwfrd@gmail.com.

Lydia Adams Davis is one of the early Sloop Singers. She has performed with NJF Clearwater since the 1980s. She entertains all ages and has sung harmony with Pete Seeger, Tom Paxton, Bev Grant, Kristen Graves, Ray Korona and Dar Williams. Lydia leads peace, union, historical and original ballads with a country flair. Lydia is passionate about singing and connecting with folks through improvisational songs, sign language, wry puppets and filling the air with good musical fun. Her CDs "One Earth So Green and Round" and "We All Have Lunch with Lydia" won 2012 Parents' Choice awards. Ben Seibert will sing backup vocals.



Photo by Mark Lamhut

James Durst is a folk music legend who has been quietly traversing the planet as a touring artist since 1965, performing for rapt audiences of all ages in 50 states & DC and more than 200 cities in 45 countries throughout the Americas, Europe, Scandinavia, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Russia, Azerbaijan, Japan, Korea and, most recently, India and Israel. He draws from a rich, ever-evolving repertoire of distinctive songs, both original and gathered, in some two dozen languages that reflect a global perspective and underscore the interconnectedness we share with all of life, bringing us closer to our world and to each other. He founded Work o' the Weavers (2003-present) and is a founding Lifetime member of Folk Alliance International. He has written some 250 songs, many of which have appeared on his many recordings, as well as an eco-peace world musical, Hue Manatee's Quest; and a three part epic work, A Whaling Trilogy, that has been orchestrated for symphony, chorus and soloists. More about James and his music can be found at www.JamesDurst.com & www.ReverbNation.com/JamesDurst. He will also be performing with

Madhumita Chakrabarti.

Cosby Gibson's performances include several hundred events, some international, some for television, radio and other publication. They include the upcoming Folk Alliance International Conference in Toronto, Canada. Cosby's non-profit project "The Flying Song Garden" is a traveling show bringing song and festivity to communities in hardship, such as natural disaster, worksite closure, catastrophe and the like. The project has been accepted by The New York Foundation of the Arts' fiscal sponsorship program. Cosby's exploration of American Settlers in the Northeastern United States has resulted in a four-song series on her new full-length album, "American Dreams." Cosby lives near the Adirondack Mountains in NY State. Her listeners stay in contact through shows, email, social websites, telephone, personal visits or her Website www.CosbyGibson.com.



Photo by Carol Sciacca

Ingrid Heldt began performing long before she could read. Her father, a sound engineer, took her along to sporting, political and social events, where she would usually end up in front of the microphone, singing. She wrote her first song in Bob Gibson's first songwriting workshop. Since then, she has written and translated several hundred songs for herself and other singers. She has also written commercials for companies including Volkswagen. Her passions are Peace and the Environment, and her voice has been described as "somewhere between Joan Baez, Judy Collins and Enya." Her Website is www.ingridmusic.com.

Dale Lakata writes and performs original songs that are hypnotizing and also her own versions of songs that you miss most from the 70's to today. She has performed for many local and out-of-state venues, as well as TV stations, including Artertainment and Dick Craig's "It's Not Just Rock." She's also been a regular contributor for publications such as "The Rag," a Jersey Shore entertainment periodical. She can be found on the Web at www.reverbnation.com/dalelakata.



Dennis MC Do No Ugh! (aka) first made the folk music scene as one-third of the Spook Handy Trio. He was the long-haired, good-looking, dressed-to-impress one. No wait, that was Mara Levine! His "Songs From The Far Side Of Folk" are usually performed in the guise of his alter egomaniac Juice Brucesteen! from Raspberry Park, NJ. He hopes not merely to entertain, but also to educate, inform, enlighten, incite and inspire. With McMonikers that include Politicow!, Bovine Diddley, Johnny Cash Cow, Elfish Presley, Dennis McJagger & The Rolling Blarney Stones, InSANiTY CLAUS and Gym Doorison, to name seven, Dennis MC Do No Ugh!, according to Spook, is "A farce to be reckoned with."

Sharleen Leahey is a songwriter, singer and guitarist known for speaking truth to power. Her stirring, heartfelt lyrics reflect her early musical influences which include Buffy Sainte-Marie, Phil Ochs and Pete Seeger whose "Where Have All The Flowers Gone?" first inspired her to pick up a guitar. Sharleen's most recent collection of original songs, "Rumors of Peace," includes "What Would Woody Write?", her tribute song for Woody Guthrie and "New World", an anthem for activists everywhere. Sharleen brings audiences together "like a gathering storm", urging us to lift our voices with joyful passion for peace, justice and planetary healing. Contact: <http://www.rumorsofpeace.net>.



Bob Mecklenburger has been singing and performing with his acoustic 6- and 12-string guitars for about 50 years. Comfortable with both flatpicking and finger picking, he sings his own music and that of numerous other folk singers and singer-songwriters. Bob is an active member and past president of the Princeton Folk Music Society, and an active participant and performer in the Philadelphia Area Songwriters Alliance (PASA) and the Bucks County Folk Song Society (BCFSS). Recently Bob has been a featured performer at house concerts and coffee houses in Philadelphia, PA, and Cherry Hill, NJ. He was televised on Café Improv by the Princeton Arts Council, and he is a regular at the West Windsor Farmers Market, where he will be on June 29. He has recorded a CD of his original music called "Do It!" which can be found at www.BobMecklenburger.com.

Sally Neal is a retired educator who is now able to focus on her music. As a singer-songwriter who plays the guitar, she loves to put her own "spin" on her favorite songs. She also drums and has performed with Isis and her Tribe. Recently, Isis and Sally performed for a special African American program presented by a local Senior Center. She has also become a "regular" at our NJ Friends of Clearwater Circle of Song, where she keeps surprising us with her excellent musicianship. She is very excited to be playing for us as our featured performer in August.



Isis Ra spends most of her time teaching drumming to inner-city children and grownups in Asbury Park and Neptune, New Jersey. For more than 40 years, she has performed as a drummer for many family events, benefit and commercial concerts in the Monmouth County area, including Asbury Park Safe Nights, the Jazz Festival in Red Bank and the Oceans of Rhythm Festival in Long Branch. She never misses feeding the homeless on holidays with Locals Feeding Locals, an event that is financed and organized by Giamano's Restaurant in Bradley Beach, New Jersey.

Rosemary Wright is one of the founding members of Storytellers Mosaic, a group of storytellers based in Monmouth County and always open to new members. She belongs to the NJ Storytelling Network, the Garden State Storytellers League, and several environmental organizations. She has told stories at schools, festivals, and nature centers. She is particularly interested in folktales and other stories of how people face difficulties and challenges. Rosemary is learning to play the mountain dulcimer and encourages group participation.



Special Guest: Judith Bernz.



We expect other performers to pay us a visit also. Please sign up if you'd like a chance to do a song.