

South Dakota Arts Council Touring

Artist Roster 2022-2024

The following performing artists and groups are listed by genre.

For more information, please contact Touring Arts Program manager, Sarah Carlson at 605-773-3102 or Sarah.Carlson@state.sd.us

Dallas Chief Eagle

Folk/Traditional Dance, Storytelling

Martin, SD

Nurturing the Hoop of Life is a Lakota-style hoop dance. Audiences young and old are invited to experience the heart and soul of my life's work through storytelling and hands on activities with the hoops.

<http://www.artscouncil.sd.gov/ta/dallaschief.aspx>

dchiefe@gwtc.net

(605) 407-0677

Starr Chief Eagle

Folk/Traditional Dance, Storytelling

Rapid City, SD

Starr Chief Eagle is a hoop dance extraordinaire who shares the teachings and culture of the Lakota people through language, dance, and art. She involves her audiences with interational games that involve teaching hoop tricks, quizzing on Lakota language, and other educational exercises that bring the fun into learning. She ends her presentations by sharing her lifetime of experience hoop dancing, which involves herself dancing with 22 hoops.

<http://www.chiefeaglestarr.wixsite.com/hoop>

healingthebrokenhoop@yahoo.com

(605) 787-0210

Jean S. Patrick

Literature - Non-Fiction

Mitchell, SD

As a literary artist (author), I perform the content of one of my books using storytelling techniques. Next, I tell the story of the creation of the book, including the inception of the idea, the rigor of research (the detective work!), and the joys and trials of writing and revising. In addition to the presentation, I offer writing workshops for all ages and encourage people to experiment with new techniques.

<http://www.jeanpatrick.com/speaking.html>

jeanpatrick.jlsp@gmail.com

(605) 770-7345

Chris Vallillo

Music-Multidisciplinary – Solo singer/guitar

Macomb IL

Chris Vallillo weaves original, contemporary, & traditional songs and stories into entertaining portraits of the history and lifestyles of the people and places of “unmetropolitan” America. Shows with subjects like Abraham Lincoln, Songs of the Civil Rights Movement, Stephen Foster, the Poetry of Carl Sandburg, and traditional rural music. Performing on multiple vintage instruments, music is the vehicle that tells the story in performances that are content rich and historically accurate.

<http://www.chrisvallillo.com/>

vallillo@macomb.com

(309) 224-8210

Eliza Blue**Music-Multidisciplinary – Solo singer/guitar, banjo, fiddle**

Bison, SD

I am a folksinger, author, and rancher. I write and sing original pieces about folk and regional agriculture traditions as well as my personal experiences as a modern homesteader. For my performances I share stories and songs from the prairie, accompanying myself on guitar, banjo, and sometimes fiddle.

<http://www.elizablue.net/>

elizabluesings@gmail.com

(605) 244-5990

Miss V the Gypsy Cowbelle**Music-Multidisciplinary – Solo singer/guitar**

Thermopolis, WY

Educational, inspiring themed concerts focus on the American West, homesteading and women's history, illuminating events and characters through song and story. Younger audiences learn about the origins of Homespun Instruments along with the basics of rhythm through an interactive workshop; others enjoy a Chautauqua-style portrayal of Amelia Earhart. Seniors reminisce with old time classics.

<http://www.gypsycowbelle.com/>

gypsycowbelle@gmail.com

(307) 231-9252

Allen & Jill Kirkham**Music – Traditional Western Music Duo**

Custer, SD

We are multiple award winning Traditional Western Music husband and wife Pro-performing artists from Custer. We perform Traditional Western Music Live Concerts throughout South Dakota and across the country for over 43 years. We will perform live music to preserve our Western Music Heritage, primarily at the High Plains Western Heritage Center and other museums, where the tour bus audiences are visiting from cities across the US and are different at each concert. Each audience is new!

<http://www.allenandjill.com/>

KirkhamMusic@icloud.com

(605) 440-7338

Humbletown**Music – American/Folk/Bluegrass duo**

Lead, SD

Dylan and Morgan perform together as a musical duo/band known as Humbletown, with a wide variety of folk-inspired music including bluegrass, old time, jazz, country, and americana. Dylan plays a flatpicking style guitar and mandolin and Morgan plays clawhammer banjo and guitar. They are both singers and composers of original music and perform a variety of cover songs from 1900 to today.

<http://www.humbletownband.com/>

dylanjamesflatpicking@hotmail.com

(605) 219-7810

Diane Van Den Oever**Music – Chamber Ensembles – duo or trio with piano**

Vermillion, SD

Our group provides 4 performance options for duo and trio with piano: Clarinet and Piano; Horn, Tuba & Piano; Art Song for Soprano & Piano; Opera and Musical Theater for Mezzo, Tenor & Piano. The repertoire for these duos and trios includes classical and contemporary favorites, as well as newly commissioned music. These programs provide both beautiful listening opportunities and interesting stories about the works and their composers.

dvandeno@msn.com

(605) 759-1528

Flower and Flame**Music – Chamber, quartet**

Sioux Falls, SD

Flower & Flame consists of a professional actor and a musical quartet. The show combines costumes, dramatic storytelling, and original arrangements of classical and folk music as the actor and musicians take turns on stage to create a unique and powerful effect. <http://www.flowerandflame.com/>

mmmodze@sio.midco.net (605) 413-6102

OboeBass!**Music – Americana duo**

Apple Valley, MN

In venues from Fermi Lab to the Fitzgerald theater, across 19 states and in Norway, audiences describe OboeBass! concerts as “inventive, cheeky, informative, and delightful.” OboeBass! Is welcomed into South Dakota as they have performed recitals and residencies across the State of Minnesota as Recipients of Arts Tour Minnesota, Artist Initiative, Next Step, and Arts Learning Grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and Metropolitan Regional Arts Council. Carrie Vecchione, oboe/English horn, teaches at the MacPhail Center for Music, subs with the Minnesota Orchestra and appears as Principal Oboe of the Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra. Rolf Erdahl, double bass, teaches bass at Gustavus Adolphus College and freelances in the Twin Cities area, including substitute work for the Minnesota Orchestra, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, and Minnesota Opera. “American Vein” is an OboeBass! celebration of musical Americana. The program features Valerie Coleman's "American Vein", a musical road-trip from Redwoods to the Statue of Liberty celebrating the best things America can mean for everybody. Other pieces include Randall Davidson's comedic "A Most Knowing Woman"; "The Many Faces of Cy Decosse", a pictures-at-an-exhibition piece by six composers; and jazz, immigrant, and other contributions to the American music. Other programs are also available.

<http://www.oboebass.com/>

info@oboebass.com

(651) 319-1413

Rawlins Piano Trio**Music – Chamber**

Vermillion, SD

The USD Rawlins Piano Trio provides chamber music performances of high artistic achievement to a variety of communities, from those with the most basic musical experiences to those of our music profession, tailoring our programs to fit our audiences. As teachers, we seek to share our expertise with students of all ages through school visits, masterclasses, and informational concerts.

<https://www.rawlinstrio.com/>

susan.gray@usd.edu

(605) 658-3480

Sioux Falls Chamber Music Collective

Music – Chamber

Sioux Falls, SD

We are a varied ensemble of performers dedicated to connecting exceptional quality professional musicians and artists to collaborate on projects that are educational, diverse, creative, and inclusive of a variety of cultural and musical influences. Its mission is to make music and art more accessible at all corners of the community, bridge art forms for more creative possibilities, and break the barrier between performers and audiences.

<http://www.sfcmmcollective.com>

sfcmmcollective@gmail.com

(646) 704-3693

Maggie in the Meantime

Folk/Traditional Music band

Sioux Falls, SD

This ensemble band is made up of fiddle, guitar, keyboards, pipes, oboe, voice, and drums, blending original songs and unique arrangements of traditional and modern Celtic and regional folk music along with stories. The storytelling includes humorous and haunting tales of the old world and America. The importance of keeping these effective traditional forms alive is stressed in the performance, and the roots to the past give the ensemble its singular character.

<http://www.maggiethemeantime.com/>

eroplain@sio.midco.net

(605) 361-7213

Dominant 7

Music – Jazz Ensemble

Bath, SD

Jazz/funk/blues/classical music with a 7-piece brass group. Occasionally with guest artists and vocalists, and occasionally with smaller combinations, but the music and show are the same: To entertain and inspire K-12 -community concerts with youth and fine brass and rhythm music. The Dominant 7 features the finest trumpet studio in the Midwest. Six trumpets, a trombone, and a hot rhythm section are sure to impress. They play big band swing, straight-ahead bebop jazz, blues, funk, dance standards, Latin jazz, some favorites from the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, and even an all-trumpet rendition of polkas! The Dominant 7 has entertained thousands from Indiana to Montana since they created themselves in 2004. Their sound is original and unique, featuring fine young trumpet artists from Dr. Grant Manhart's trumpet studio at Northern State University and backed by a rhythm section. You won't be able to sit still when the group lays down the groove!

<https://www.northern.edu/academics/school-fine-arts/fine-arts-performing-ensembles>

manhartg@northern.edu

(605) 290-3740

Shaun Johnson Big Band Experience

Music - Jazz

Sioux Falls, SD

Emerging as an original voice in the continuing tradition of the American Songbook, albeit with contemporary influences, the Big Band Experience showcases Midwestern arrangers and post-secondary instrumentalists in a modern, impactful framework. The Shaun Johnson Big Band Experience is a rare, newcomer to traditional pop, seeking to fuse a big band spirit with an inventive edge – and working to reintroduce vocal jazz and swing to a young audience.

<http://www.shaunjohnsonmusic.com/>

gobos2@aol.com

(605) 610-5193

The Jazz Curators**Music – Jazz Ensemble**

Sioux Falls, SD

The Jazz Curators ensemble is dedicated to exploring the life, music, and history of the acclaimed jazz masters and presenting new and original music. The ensemble includes musicians from the widely respected JAS Quintet and other premiere regional musicians, performing authentic takes on the jazz masters' music while sharing stories about the featured artist's life and influences.

<http://www.jasquintet.com/>

jspeirs@mac.com

(605) 376-7764

Katie Dwyer**Music – New, Contemporary**

Pierre, SD

I am capable of both concert performances and songwriting workshops. In a concert, I tell short stories that accompany my original songs. These events will be an enjoyable listening experience for the audience. In a songwriting workshop, the audience is encouraged to participate. I present different ways to begin the songwriting process, and how to continue once an idea is born. I share helpful resources, guide participants through writing exercises, and encourage authentic expression.

<http://www.katiedwyer.com/> kdwyermusic@gmail.com (951) 375-8148

South Dakota Symphony Orchestra/Dakota Wind Quintet/Dakota String Quartet**Music - Orchestral**

Sioux Falls, SD

As the state's preeminent arts organization, the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra is nationally recognized as a driver for how an orchestra engages with its community. Founded in 1922 at Augustana University, the SDSO is now a fully professional 75-member orchestra with a history of performing in towns throughout South Dakota. The SDSO's 10 subscription concerts feature a diverse mix of classical and pops programming. The orchestra's nine full-time musicians make up the Dakota String Quartet and the Dakota Wind Quintet. These two ensembles perform over 100 times annually in schools, hospitals, senior living communities, behavioral health and community centers throughout the region.

<http://www.sdsymphony.org/>

sdsymphony@sdsymphony.org

(605) 335-7933 ext:11

Curtis & Loretta**Music – Popular/Folk/Traditional**

Minneapolis, MN

Folk singer-songwriter duo Curtis & Loretta's extraordinary harmonies and proficiency on a parade of stringed instruments create an alluring frame for their poignant original songs, and traditional pieces. The Minneapolis husband and wife duo's current menagerie includes mandocello, folk harp, guitars, clawhammer banjo, ukulele, and mandolin, plus a bit of kazoo, harmonica, and shakers.

<http://www.curtisandloretta.com>

loretta@curtisandloretta.com

(612) 812-4555

Dennis Warner**Music – Popular/Folk/Traditional**

Clearwater, MN

I'm an entertainer and my goal is simple: To take the audience away from their day-to-day routines, thoughts, frustrations, anxieties and whatever else is on their minds for the length of the concert. My performances reflect my general outlook on life: to stay positive, laugh loudly and find joy. Within this framework, I include meaningful, thought-provoking songs while also taking a humanist spin on feelings and emotions we all relate to. This is true for both my adult and kids' concerts.

<http://www.WarnerSongs.com>

Dennis@WarnerSongs.com

(800) 870-1770

Link West - Grant Wentzel**Music – Popular/Folk/Traditional**

Sioux Falls, SD

Captivating one man show (voice, guitar, harmonica) featuring classic Americana and popular music.

<http://www.linkwest.rocks/>

gw1creative@gmail.com

(614) 323-3169

Phil Baker**Music – Popular/Children's Show**

Sioux Falls, SD

Phil Baker writes and performs music for a children's audience. Known for his signature style red guitar, catchy tunes, and heartfelt lyrics, Baker uses music to help children learn something about the world around them. When composing, Baker incorporates rich chords, vibrant rhythms, and singable melodies. Baker involves children throughout his show, and many of the songs he uses include actions for the listener to follow. He creates a welcoming environment for audience members.

<http://www.philbakermusic.com/>

philbaker3@sio.midco.net

(605) 361-8501

Andrea Ross**Music – Solo vocalist**

Sioux Falls, SD

I am a professional singer committed to the preservation of classic American music: Broadway, American Songbook, Jazz, and Folk. On tour, I perform a curated set of songs from this canon of music, accompanied by piano or small ensemble. My performances are defined by my commitment to artistic excellence, and the timeless melodies that helped shape the American experience. My programs aim to inspire, inform, and connect South Dakota audiences to our shared American history and musical tradition.

<http://www.andreaross.com/>

andreachristinross@gmail.com

(508) 254-5280

Lang Termes**Music - Solo/Recital – Vocal/Guitar**

Spearfish SD

The goal of my live performance with vocals and guitar is not only to entertain the audience but also to excite and inspire, and to bring more creativity and wonder into the lives of the audience and community around us. I have been touring and entertaining for most of my adolescence and adulthood and am always looking forward to the next opportunity. I'm also available to produce Zoom performances and workshops.

<http://www.langtermes.com/>

langtermes@gmail.com

(406) 580-3152

Mila Belakova**Music - Solo/Recital - Piano**

Rapid City, SD

Mila Belakova is a classically trained pianist from Russia who has an extensive musical range encompassing many of the great composers. Her recitals always contain interesting themes and selections. Her interpretation of Russian composers, including contemporary composers, reflects the insight that only a native of that country can bring. Mila's strong technique and joy in playing brings listeners long lasting memories. She has witnessed how music can unite people and break down barriers.

lyudmila_angel@yahoo.com

(605) 391-5156

Paul Larson Cowboy Music**Folk/Traditional, Cowboy Music, Solo/Recital**

Hill City, SD

Paul Larson is a has produced and performed cowboy music and poetry for over 50 years. His goal is to continue singing and performing on guitar and sharing cowboy culture in as many shows as possible, collaborating with other performing artists across the state. Paul performs in large and small communities across South Dakota, at campfires to large concert venues.

<http://www.plcowboymusic.com/>

tmissamy@gmail.com

(605) 574-3938

Pierce Emata**Music - Solo/Recital - Piano**

Las Vegas, NV

Across the United States and abroad, in addition to traditional solo concert and orchestral appearances, Mr. Emata is well known for his innovative and entertaining commentary-concerts, trademarked and titled Concerts & Conversation. These presentations bring audiences closer to the artist, his personal experiences, the music, and the personal lives of various composers by including commentaries at various levels with a solo concert. These performances have also been broadcast on National Public Radio affiliates in various states. Concerts & Conversation, a series of performances that combine an informal commentary with a first-rate solo concert covering an eclectic blend of composers, themes, and styles. Concerts & Conversation® bookings always include at no extra cost, school or community outreach activities wherever possible. From the sonatas of Beethoven to the fascinating rhythms of George Gershwin to the Chopinesque overtones of Bill Evans, there's a Concerts & Conversation® program to fit your audience profile. Let us complement your performing arts series with this outstanding entertainment experience after this, the solo concert will never be the same again!

<http://www.emata.com/>

pkemata@yahoo.com

(702) 443-2327

East of Westville/Comfort Theatre Company
Ensemble of bass, guitars, vocals, fiddle - Musical Theatre

Sioux Falls, SD

East of Westville is a musical concert is based on folk, bluegrass, gospel, country, and roots music of rural America. Comfort Theatre Co is an independent touring company producing and performing in musical theatre and concerts. We are not a venue, nor a single artist or artistic group. Collaboration is our forte & we work with many artists in many different settings. We can produce performing art experiences in almost any situation, and can be very affordable & versatile. We can adjust the structure & technical requirements of a show & produce it in any venue, from concerts to full-blown musical theatre.

<http://www.comforttheatre.com/index.htm>

bjbonde@gmail.com

(605) 366-4114

Kathryn Mientka Farruggia
Musical Theatre – Piano, Vocals, Theatre

Lead, SD

The performance by Charles & Kathryn Farruggia is titled "Home Sweet Home." It is a new type of show, a cross between musical theater and a concert. A heart-rending journey through music and drama that explores the mysteries of the heart during the tragic years of the Civil War. Charles performs roles of Union and Confederate soldiers, depicting the longing for home and the anguish over the "glorious cause." He sings songs of the Civil War, including "Bonnie Blue," "Shenandoah," and "Home Sweet Home."

<http://www.kathrynmientka.com/>

cellopiano23@gmail.com

(970) 234-7408

Markie Scholz - Dragons Are Too Seldom Puppet Productions
Theatre – Puppet

Spearfish, SD

Watching Markie Scholz and her madcap cast of puppet characters is nothing less than awe-inspiring. She is a one-person troupe with a cast of thousands, a globetrotting troubadour and an electrifying entertainer. Founded in 1971, Scholz and her puppets have performed their matchless form of family entertainment in thirty-nine states and six countries. She travels 30,000 to 70,000 miles a year in her life-long pursuit to bring puppets to the masses. Markie is an educator as well as an entertainer. Packed in with her years of front-line puppeteering experience, she also has a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction. This unparalleled combination allows Scholz to deliver unforgettable insight and enjoyment to children of all ages. Markie offers one hour to 4-day workshops on creating puppet shows and in-service training for how teachers can use puppets as an educational tool. All of her shows, workshops and in-service training are available on zoom or in recorded format.

<https://dragonsaretooseldom.com/>

markie@dragonsaretooseldom.com

(605) 642-4805

Joyce Jefferson - Black Hills Sheroes
Theatre – Spoken word/Storytelling

Rapid City, SD

Black Hills Sheroes shares the adventures, joys, and sorrows of former slaves, African American women, who discovered a new life in Dakota Territory! They are Sarah Campbell, who in her words was "the first 'white' woman to see the Black Hills" with the Custer Expedition of 1874; Lucretia Marchbanks, who saw two gold rushes before settling with the Black Hills Gold Rush of 1876; and Mary Kercherval, landowner in Leavenworth, Kansas, to parlay her property for a homestead in Spearfish.

<http://www.JoyceJefferson.net>

8joyce30@hills.net

(605) 393-2680

Dick Termes - Termespheres

Visual Arts – Exhibition

Spearfish SD

Experience this extraordinary exhibit and presentation of Termespheres showing Dick Termes' spherical paintings along with a hands-on display for students called Up Down and All Around. Students learn about the total visual world around us. They also learn many ideas about drawing and perspective, how to build three dimensional polyhedrons. Workshops and lectures are also available. Dick's art is featured in dozens of publications, illustrating concepts in art, math, psychology, optical illusions, and even economics. Dick Termes has been painting spherical paintings since 1968 when he received his master's degree in Art from the University of Wyoming. He continued his pursuit with his thesis on the Termesphere® at the Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles where he received his master's in fine arts. He has presented art and math seminars and lectures not only across the country, but all over the world. In 1992, he opened the Termesphere Gallery just outside of Spearfish that has been visited by thousands of art enthusiasts from around the globe.

<http://www.termespheres.com/>

termes41@gmail.com

(605) 642-4805