

PROFESSIONAL
PERFORMING/TEACHING

SDAC 2025 TOURING ARTIST ROSTER & PROGRAM

The solo artists, duos, trios, ensembles,
and performance companies listed within
have received a 2-year Touring Artist Grant.

Their grant funding allows them to expand
their touring reach for single performances and
workshops in communities across South Dakota.



SDAC Touring Artists work with cities, counties, state parks, park districts, libraries, community centers, public schools, tribal governments, and 501c3 nonprofit organizations. These are the organizations eligible to use Touring Artist Grant funds to assist in producing a show or workshop.

If your organization is looking to hire an artist presenting music, singing, traditional dance, songs and storytelling, or acting and narration for a single performance or workshop (or both!) for your audience, please contact an artist from this list directly to discuss your event and ideas and how their creative involvement and Touring Arts funding may support your event.

How does the Touring Arts program work?

1. Inquire & hire

Contact a SDAC Touring Artist directly from this roster to discuss the potential of a performance.

2. Review & sign

The artist fills out a performance contract form at least 30 days ahead of the event via our online digital signature platform, AdobeSign. You'll receive an email requesting you to review the information and sign digitally. Once you sign, you will automatically receive an emailed copy of the signed form for your records.

3. Share & acknowledge

Acknowledge funding assistance from the South Dakota Arts Council, through the State of South Dakota and the National Endowment of the Arts to your public audience before, during, and after the event.

4. Host & pay

On the day of the event, you pay the artist at least half of their negotiated performance rate. We pay the artist half of their fee out of their SDAC Touring Artist Grant fund.

5. Evaluate the show

After the event, you'll complete an online evaluation about your event and the audience who attended. This step is very important, as we are required to report this info to the National Endowment for the Arts.

This program cannot be used to support events that are already part of a SDAC-funded grant, such as organizations receiving operational or project grants for the same series or season. If this is the case, or your budget won't work to hire the artist you'd like, please contact us at the SDAC to see if we have another option for you for assistance in funding.

For further info, or if you're an artist interested in applying for the Touring Artist Grant, please visit <https://artscouncil.sd.gov> or contact SDAC Arts Program Coordinator Sarah Carlson at sarah.carlson@state.sd.us or directly by phone at 605-773-3102.



DALLAS CHIEF EAGLE

Dance: Traditional Lakota

MARTIN, SD

Hoops and live/recorded music, solo artist; Dancer/Narrator; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Dallas Chief Eagle, a Sicangu Lakota and world-champion hoop dancer, presents Nurturing the Hoop of Life, an inspiring program full of stories, games, and dances. His performances celebrate Lakota culture and philosophy, teaching valuable lessons about relationships, mindfulness, and healing. Using his dynamic hoop dance and storytelling, Dallas creates a space for audiences to reflect, connect, and grow. Through collaboration with other performers, he expands the experience, delivering a powerful cultural journey that uplifts and educates people of all ages.

Program requirements:

Dallas needs at least 16' x 20' dance area and the ensemble needs double the space.

Dallas Chief Eagle

<http://www.artscouncil.sd.gov/aisc/trad2.aspx>

dchiefe@gwtc.net

(605) 455-1805



STARR CHIEF EAGLE

Dance: Traditional Lakota

RAPID CITY, SD

Hoops and live/recorded music, solo artist; Dancer/Narrator; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Starr Chief Eagle brings Lakota culture to life through captivating performances and hands-on activities. Using 22 hoops, she creates stunning shapes and designs that tell powerful stories of her heritage. Starr invites audiences to learn about Lakota language, art, and traditions in a fun and engaging way. With her unique blend of creativity and education, she inspires curiosity and connection, making her presentations unforgettable for everyone involved.

Program requirements:

Large flat area to perform on is needed. (10' x 10' minimum). Microphone with a sound system is requested. Small portable sound system will be available just in case.

Starr Chief Eagle

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

healingthebrokenhoop@yahoo.com

(605) 787-0210



MILA BELAKOVA

Music: Classical

RAPID CITY, SD

Piano, solo artist; Musician; Performance; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Mila Belakova brings the magic of classical piano to life! As a skilled pianist she captivates audiences with her interpretations of music by legendary composers, sharing unique insights from her heritage, storytelling about composers and history, encouraging audiences to imagine and ask questions. Her passion for music sparks curiosity and joy, especially among young listeners. Mila delivers spellbinding concerts filled with precision, passion, and unforgettable melodies that inspire everyone to appreciate the beauty of music.

Program requirements:

Grand or baby grand piano is preferred; however, an upright piano is acceptable. The piano should be tuned to standard pitch. There must be sufficient lighting for reading music. A hand-held microphone may be needed depending on the size of the venue.

Mila Belakova

<https://sites.google.com/site/milasmusicpianostudio/home>

lyudmila_angel@yahoo.com

(605) 391-5156



ROBERT ERHARD

Music: Classical

SIOUX FALLS, SD

Cello, solo artist; Musician; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Robert Erhard is a South Dakota Symphony Orchestra principal cellist who takes audiences on a journey through music's rich history. From Bach's timeless cello suites to dynamic chamber pieces and popular American tunes, each performance is a mix of inspiration and discovery. Whether playing solo or collaborating with talented musicians, this cellist connects the music of the past to today's world. Their goal? To engage and excite audiences of all ages while showcasing the cello's incredible versatility and beauty.

Program requirements:

A playing space at least 10 feet deep and 15 feet wide. Running lights to focus on one to three players, adjusted for solo, duo or trio. No sound requirements unless specified at time of booking. If the performance is to feature piano, the venue will make every effort to ensure the piano is tuned ideally the day before, but at most a week prior to the show. The venue shall provide a secure room backstage for performers to use for cases and to rest prior to and during the show. Venue should be available to the performers at least 4 hours before show time. Musicians must be off stage prior to house opening. House staff will be needed to raise and lower house lights. Someone on staff will be needed to introduce the performers and to inform them of curtain times at the beginning and after intermission. Temperature in the theater **MUST** be held between 68 and 75 degrees for the protection and tuning of fine acoustic instruments.

Robert Erhard

<https://sdsymphony.org/about/musicians-artists/orchestra-members/bios/robert-erhard>

roberterhard@gmail.com

(720) 585-7119



SOUTH DAKOTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, DAKOTA WIND QUINTET, AND DAKOTA STRING QUARTET

Music: Classical

SIOUX FALLS, SD

85 musicians in four optional ensembles; Musicians: Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist, programs, and requirements:

The South Dakota Symphony Orchestra (SDSO) brings world-class music to communities across the state. From full orchestras with 60-85 musicians to intimate chamber groups, their performances suit venues of all sizes. The Dakota String Quartet and Dakota Wind Quintet, composed of SDSO's full-time musicians, offer smaller, engaging concerts that highlight the beauty of classical music. For each of SDSO's ensembles, the performance area should be available two hours prior to performance.



SDSO (Full Orchestra): Large stage (minimum 40' x 50') with adequate number of straight-backed, armless chairs and Manhasset-type music stands, adequate overhead lighting, room temperature between 68 and 80 degrees and ventilation.

SDSO Chamber Orchestra: Small stage (minimum of 20' x 30') and 25-30 straight back, armless chairs, with one Manhasset-type music stand per chair, adequate overhead lighting, room temperature at 68-80 degrees and ventilation.

The Dakota Wind Quintet and the Dakota String Quartet gives live concerts, performances, and lecture demonstrations at concert halls, colleges, community centers and public schools. The diverse backgrounds of these musicians magically meld and create a superior ensemble. Performance space of 10' by 10', five straight-backed, armless chairs and adequate lighting, room temperature between 68-80 degrees, and ventilation.

Dr. Brad Berens

<http://www.sdsymphony.org>

brad.berens@sdsymphony.org

(605) 335-7933



RAWLINS PIANO TRIO OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Music: Classical, Jazz, Pop

VERMILLION, SD

*Cello, violin, piano, artist trio; Musicians; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/
General audience*

About the artist and program:

Featuring violinist Ioana Galu, cellist Sonja Kraus and pianist Eun-Hee Park, this talented group explores everything from classical masterpieces to jazzy, crowd-pleasing tunes. Their energetic and beautiful concerts are designed to connect with audiences, offering a mix of inspiring and entertaining programs. Whether they're playing in South Dakota or across the world, the Rawlins Piano Trio brings artistry and unforgettable music to every stage. The Rawlins Piano Trio, based at the University of South Dakota, is known for its dynamic performances and community outreach.

Program requirements:

The trio needs a stage or open floor area, large enough to accommodate all three seated musicians centered around a piano (grand piano preferred)—about 12 square feet. Piano tuning is required for concerts and a well maintained instrument is preferred. A backstage area suitable for warming up and waiting prior to the concert is appreciated. No sound amplification is needed for the instruments. A microphone is requested for speaking with the audience. The area needs to be well lit, either overhead or with the use of secondary lights provided by the presenter. Two chairs and two music stands suitable for the violinist and cellist are needed. Also, additional adjustable benches are appreciated by the violinist and cellist, when available.

Eun-Hee Park

<http://www.rawlinstrio.com>

eunhee.park@usd.edu

(605) 658-3480



ANDREA ROSS

Music: Vocal soloist; Classical, Broadway

SIOUX FALLS, SD

Vocal solo artist; Vocalist; Performance; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Andrea Ross delivers captivating performances of Broadway classics and the Great American Songbook. With over 20 years of professional singing experience, she brings emotional depth and outstanding quality to every show. Accompanied by master musicians, her programs range from *Broadway's Best* to *A Judy Garland Tribute* and seasonal favorites. Andrea's performances leave audiences inspired, entertained, and connected through the timeless beauty of American music.

Program requirements:

Min. 10ft X 12ft stage for singer and accompanist, or 15ft X 20ft stage for singer and small ensemble. At least one dressing room with bathroom, chairs, table, and mirror- with access to the stage. In-house piano preferred. If the piano is not in excellent condition or tuned, I will provide a keyboard. For venues with sound systems, I will opt to use in-house sound tech and equipment. If equipment is not available, I will provide my own. One vocal mic, one piano mic. If there is a cello, cellist will provide DPA mic. For lighting, please provide a general stage wash. If there is a light tech, I will request they run lights. House lights come down for performance. **SOUND CHECK:** The venue should be open at least 3 hours before the concert for set up. Sound check will begin no later than 2 hours prior to the concert, and will conclude before the house is opened. The in-house stage manager will run house lights and announce curtain times for the artist, please!

Andrea Ross

<http://www.andreaross.com>

andreachristinross@gmail.com

(508) 254-5280



CURIOUS MUSIC COLLECTIVE

Music/Poetry/Dance; Classical, World

SIOUX FALLS, SD

Violin, viola, cello, piano, clarinet, saxophone, with dancer or poet, artist ensemble; Musicians/ Narrators; Performance; Teaching; Young Adults (age 19 - 24)

About the artist and program:

Curious Music Collective (formerly known as Sioux Falls Chamber Music Collective) Uplifting Voices Project combines music, art, and storytelling to inspire unity and celebrate diversity. With programs highlighting themes like African American composers and cultural traditions from around the world, the project showcases the beauty of collaboration. Each performance weaves music, choreography, and visual art into an educational and fun experience. By sharing stories from different backgrounds, the project helps audiences see how everyone contributes to the vibrant, colorful tapestry of humanity. It's a celebration of creativity and connection for all ages.

Program requirements:

If it's an outdoor venue, we would need electricity, amplification, and a tent or something to put our performers under the shade during the warm season. For the cold weather during the winter months, we would prefer an indoor venue. Depending on the program of choice, the stage dimension can vary. We usually prefer a smooth flooring surface with ample lighting around the stage area. The venue would need to provide at least one stage manager, the front of house support, the water for each performer, and reserve a soundcheck for the performers prior to the performance. As for the other activities, the request would be similar but could be simpler, but our basic lighting, temperature control, and amplification need would still need to be fulfilled.

Dr. Yi-Chun Lin

<http://www.sfcmcollective.com>

sfcmcollective@gmail.com

(646) 704-3693



NINA MCINTIRE

Music: Visual Component; Classical, Jazz, Pop, R&B, Country

HILL CITY, SD

Piano/keyboard, video projection, solo artist; Songwriter/Musician; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Nina McIntire's program Ivory Fantasy re-imagines classical piano by blending it with jazz, rock, and pop for a bold, modern experience. Pianist Nina's innovative compositions paired with Gary's stunning visuals create a multisensory show that captivates audiences of all ages. This creative program bridges classical and contemporary music, making it relatable and exciting for everyone. Ivory Fantasy isn't just a concert—it's an uplifting journey that connects the past, present, and future of music.

Program requirements:

Concerts - grand piano (tuning is required), spot light preferably, PA system, on-stage screen for the Multimedia Presentation, (projector will be provided). Venue should be open and available at least 4 hours before show time. Sound/light check with the House-in-staff not less than 2 hours before show time. Festivals/outdoor performance - preferably grand piano - can be digital or acoustic (tuned), (if not, the digital keyboard piano will be provided), screen for the multimedia presentation, PA system (for smaller venues PA system will be provided). Smaller venues - screen for the multimedia presentation, (the digital keyboard piano, PA system, projector will be provided)

Nina McIntire

<http://www.ivoryfantasy.com>

ninamcintire@gmail.com

(512) 921-0554



FLOWER AND FLAME

Music/Theatre; Classical, Folk

SIoux FALLS, SD

Violin, viola, cello, oboe, bassoon, drum, actor, artist ensemble; Musician/Actors; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Flower & Flame combines music and drama for a one-of-a-kind show. Featuring a professional actor and a musical ensemble, their performances include costumes, storytelling, and original arrangements of classical and folk music. Together, they recreate the "melody drama," blending acting and music into an unforgettable experience. Whether it's a string quartet or a full ensemble with oboe and drums, Flower & Flame captivates audiences with its powerful and unique performances.

Program requirements:

A performance space ideally would be 10 feet deep and 20 feet wide. Running lights to focus on a group of four to five players, situated in a slight crescent. We bring our own soundboard and PA. Venue should be open and available to the group at least 4 hours before show time. A sound check with the house's in-staff light & sound people should take place not less than 2 hours before show time and may last an estimated one hour. Sound check must be done before house is opened, please. House staff will be needed to raise and lower house lights at opening, intermission and conclusion. Someone on house staff will be needed to introduce the group and to come inform them of curtain times at the beginning and after intermission. Important: Temperature in the theater should be held between 68 and 75 degrees for the protection and tuning of fine acoustic instruments.

<http://www.flowerandflame.com>

mmmodze@sio.midco.net

(605) 413-6102



PHIL BAKER

Music: Rock, Brazilian Samba, World Folk, Jazz

SIOUX FALLS, SD

Guitar, vocals, solo artist; Singer/Songwriter; Performance; Teaching; Children/Youth (age 0 -18)

About the artist and program:

Phil Baker rocks the stage with his red guitar, catchy tunes, and heartfelt lyrics, crafting music that helps kids explore the world around them. His songs mix vibrant rhythms, singable melodies, and genres like samba, jazz, and classic rock. With interactive shows full of fun actions, Phil invites everyone to join in, fostering creativity and teamwork. Whether inspiring the next generation of musicians or simply making kids laugh and smile, Phil's performances are all about creating joy and connection through music. "Using your imagination to make something new is the best adventure ever!" he says.

Program requirements:

In most cases, Phil Baker brings his own professional sound system. Baker will need a power supply for his sound system. In an auditorium or live stage, Baker will use the house sound system and has the following sound requirements: three XLR cords, a wireless handheld mic, a mic stand with a boom, a stage monitor, and house lighting as needed. It's good to have an area for children to dance and move around, as well as seating for the parents. Children may be invited on stage if it is accessible with a staircase and ramp. In a school, a gym floor works best with kids sitting on the floor and teachers and parents in chairs, rather than bleachers. House lighting is preferred. In a park, a grassy area with shade provides comfort for the audience.

Phil Baker

<http://www.philbakermusic.com>

philbaker3@sio.midco.net

(605) 321-9546



HANK HARRIS

Music: Blues, Folk, Country, Reggae, Gospel, World, Jazz

RAPID CITY, SD

Guitar and vocals, solo artist; Singer/songwriter; Musician; Performance' Adults (age 25 - 64):

Older Adults (age 65 and over)

About the artist and program:

Hank Harris is a master storyteller and musician, weaving folk, blues, country, and more into engaging solo performances. With over four decades of experience, he shares the stories behind the music, offering humor, history, and heartfelt emotion. Hank's shows are all about connection—bringing people together through laughter, memories, and the power of song. Whether he's making you laugh or reflect, Hank's performances are unforgettable journeys into the heart of music.

Program requirements:

Hank is able to supply his own sound system; however, any venue with superior sound/lighting systems capabilities will be welcome in getting the best sound. Minimum 8' x12' flat stage, with 110-volt electrical power.

Hank Harris

<http://www.hankharrismusic.com>

hankharris2001@yahoo.com

(605) 786-7111



HUMBLETOWN

Music: Traditional Americana/Folk, Storytelling

LEAD, SD

Guitar, banjo, vocal duo/ensemble with bass, fiddle; Singer/songwriters, Musicians; Performance; Teaching; Adults (age 25 - 64)

About the artist and program:

Humbletown, led by Morgan Carnes and Dylan Lewis, is a unique blend of bluegrass, folk, and South Dakota storytelling. Whether performing as a duo or with a full band featuring upright bass and fiddle, their music captures the beauty of the South Dakota landscape. They transport listeners to places like the Missouri River and Lead's Open Cut through heartfelt stories and original songs. Expect intricate instrumentals, rich vocal harmonies, and personal tales that bring South Dakota's history to life. Humbletown creates an intimate, immersive experience that leaves audiences inspired and connected.

Program requirements:

We prefer that organizations provide sound equipment, including speakers, monitors, a PA, microphone stands, microphones, and XLR cables. We provide DIs for our instruments. If an organization cannot provide sound equipment, we do have our own equipment that we can bring and use. We usually add an extra charge for the use of our own equipment, since it requires a larger vehicle and additional time for setup and teardown. In terms of stages and lighting, we leave that up to the venue. We do not travel with these items, so the venue will need to provide them if they feel that they are necessary. We enjoy performing on stages but do not require a designated stage. We will need an area of at least 10 x 5 feet for performance as well as an outlet and extension cord. Ideal performance length is 90-120 minutes.

Dylan Lewis

<http://www.humbletownband.com>

dylanjamesflatpicking@hotmail.com

(605) 219-7810



CURTIS & LORETTA

Music: Traditional Folk, Storytelling

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Harp, guitars, mandocello, clawhammer banjo, ukulele, harmonica, spoons, shakers, kazoo, vocal artist duo; Performance; Older Adults (age 65 and over)

About the artist and program:

Curtis & Loretta charm audiences with their tight harmonies and a parade of stringed instruments, including folk harp, guitars, banjo, and ukulele. Their shows combine original songs with traditional music from America and the British Isles, proving how timeless stories still resonate today. With humor, heartfelt melodies, and engaging stage banter, they take audiences on an emotional journey—from laughter to tears and back again. Curtis & Loretta also offer historical-themed programs and interactive children's shows, ensuring a fun and meaningful experience for everyone.

Program requirements:

Minimum 8' by 12' flat area stage, accessible 2 hours before performance if possible. Need 3 vocal microphones on boom stands and 2 instrument microphones on boom stands, plus an XLR mic cord for the mic mounted inside Loretta's harp. Curtis & Loretta can bring their own sound system if necessary. If the presenter is providing sound, Curtis supplies a stage plot to the sound person ahead of time, including stage set-up and technical requirements.

Loretta Simonet

<http://www.curtisandloretta.com>

loretta@curtisandloretta.com

(612) 812-4555



ELIZA BLUE

Music: Traditional Americana/Folk, Storytelling

BISON, SD

Banjo, guitar, fiddle, vocalist, narrator, solo artist; Singer/Songwriter, Musician/Narrator; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Eliza Blue captures the spirit of rural life through original songs and stories that celebrate the landscapes and culture of the Northern Plains. Accompanying herself on banjo, guitar, and fiddle, she explores the relationship between humans and the grasslands, asking how we can better care for the land we cultivate. Through heartfelt lyrics and vivid storytelling, Eliza inspires audiences to reflect on their place in the world while enjoying the beauty of the grasslands' unique charm.

Program requirements:

As a solo performer, my basic space and equipment needs are small. I can provide my own PA for small to medium-sized venues, and can also bring mics, stands, cords, etc. Otherwise I need one vocal mic and a direct box to plug in a guitar.

Eliza Blue

<http://www.elizablue.net>

elizabluesings@gmail.com

(605) 244-5990



KERRY GROMBACHER

Music: Traditional Western, Americana/Folk, Storytelling

NEW ORLEANS, LA

Guitar and vocals, solo and duo artists; Musician/Narrator; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Kerry Grombacher and his music partner Aspen Black will take you on a musical journey through the American West, blending cowboy songs with fascinating stories of history and folklore. Their performances bring to life the hardships and joys of life west of the Mississippi River, introducing audiences to unique perspectives and often-overlooked tales. With humor, heart, and incredible talent, they create shows that are as educational as they are entertaining, leaving audiences with a deeper appreciation for the landscape and culture of the West.

Program requirements:

One standard electrical outlet, and a space approximately 10' x 10' to set up in. We carry our own PA system, and do not require any lighting or other front-of-house support.

Kerry Grombacher

<http://www.kgrombacher.com>

kgrombacher@yahoo.com

(512) 296-7833



ALLEN & JILL KIRKHAM

Music: Traditional Western, Americana/Folk, Storytelling

CUSTER, SD

Guitar, bass, vocal, artist duo; Singer/songwriters, Musicians; Performance; Adults (age 25 - 64)

About the artist and program:

Allen and Jill Kirkham celebrate the rich heritage of Western music with heartfelt performances full of humor and history. Allen's guitar and mandolin blend beautifully with Jill's harmonica and bass as they share cowboy songs and stories from the 1860s to today. Whether performing at museums, rodeo centers, or local festivals, their goal is to keep America's Western traditions alive, inspiring audiences to appreciate the unique culture of the West.

Space Requirements: We are a two-piece performance acoustic Duo. We require a minimum 10ft

wide by 8ft deep stage space to allow for a 2 microphone set up and our Bose sound system of two speaker columns and a mixer/amp on a mic stand. Sound and Lighting: We provide our own state of the art Bose F1-812 sound system, and concert lighting if required in an indoor setting. We execute our own equipment set up and tear down. However, if a venue provides a concert quality sound system, as a duo, we can perform our concerts through a host system.

Allen Kirkham
<http://www.allenandjill.com>
KirkhamMusic@icloud.com
(605) 440-7338



PAUL LARSON

Music: Traditional Western, Americana/Folk, Storytelling
HILL CITY, SD

Guitar, vocal solo artist and artist ensemble; Singer/Songwriter, Musician; Performance; Adults (age 25 - 64); Older Adults (age 65 and over)

About the artist and program:

Paul Larson has spent decades sharing the authentic sounds of cowboy music. Armed with his guitar, a warm voice, and a touch of storytelling, Paul captivates audiences with heartfelt performances. Whether it's a campfire gathering or a large concert, his shows are about connecting people to the cowboy way of life. With a bit of yodeling and plenty of charm, Paul brings the traditions of the West to life in a way that's both fun and memorable.

Program requirements:

Equipment/space required: 10' x 12' open floor space, or stage with power at the space or stage; dressing room. In a case of large venue, some additional sound/music equip.may be required.

Paul Larson
<https://www.paullarsoncowboymusic.com>
p_l_cowboy@yahoo.com
(605) 574-3938



MISS V THE GYPSY COWBELLE

Music: Traditional Western, Americana/Folk, Storytelling
THERMOPOLIS, WY

Banjo, guitar and vocals, solo artist; Singer/Songwriter, Musician; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Miss V, also known as the Gypsy Cowbelle, brings American culture and history to life with her unique "Cowbilly" sound. Her performances mix original songs with classic cowboy, country, and Americana tunes, all played on guitar and her homemade banjo. With a rich knowledge of rural life and a knack for storytelling, Miss V connects audiences of all ages to the land, its people, and its traditions. Whether at festivals, schools, libraries, or museums, her shows are as entertaining as they are thought-provoking, inspiring everyone to appreciate the heart and soul of America.

Program requirements:

A standard conference room is suggested for most indoor concert performances. A raised stage is preferred, though not essential. The Homespun Instruments and Introduction to Leatherwork workshops require the venue to provide at least two large tables and enough room for attendees to move about freely. Volunteers for both of these programs may be requested depending on class size. A small materials fee is required for the leatherwork class. For small to medium sized venues, the Artist provides the PA system. Only a reliable 110V outlet and an appropriate 12-gauge extension cord are required. For some large outdoor venues and/or school assemblies, additional sound requirements may apply. The mixed media programs also require access to a projector and screen or wall. The Amelia Earhart portrayal favors a few volunteers (not mandatory)

to prompt the narrative. The creative writing class requires a white board or chalkboard and appropriate writing stations for participants.

Ruby Belle
<http://www.gypsycowbelle.com>
gypsycowbelle@gmail.com
(307) 231-9252



CHRIS VALILLO

Music: Storytelling; Traditional Americana/Folk

MACOMB, IL

Guitar, slide guitar, historic harpischord; Singer/Songwriter; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Chris Valillo uses music and storytelling to bring history to life. A folk musician and folklorist with over 35 years of touring experience, Chris blends period music with engaging narratives to explore themes like roots music and American history. His shows, performed on vintage instruments, are rich with historical detail and emotion. Whether at museums, schools, or outdoor events, Chris creates a unique experience that connects audiences to the stories of the past through the power of song.

Program requirements:

As a solo artist performing with multiple instruments, I need a minimum performance space of at least 10' X 20'. I always appreciate backstage hospitality and a clean dressing room, but am also have extensive experience performing in non traditional spaces. I send a detailed stage plot with staging set up and technical requirements ahead of the performance and always use that as a guide, not an absolute so that I can work with a wide range of presenters. In addition, I travel with a professional Bose sound system and all the necessary equipment to present a professional level performance. In venues where theatrical lighting and sound are available, I include professional tech riders to outline the tools I need to do the best possible performance. On shows where I use projected images during the performance, an image guide cued to the script is provided so a venue tech can trigger image changes. Images are presented via Q lab, a professional Theater image program.

Chris Valillo
<http://www.chrisvallillo.com>
vallillo@macomb.com
(309) 224-8210



COMFORT THEATRE COMPANY

Music/Theatre, Traditional Americana/Folk

SIOUX FALLS, SD

Guitars, bass, fiddle, vocal artist ensemble; Musicians/Actors; Performance; Older Adults (age 65 and over)

About the artist and program:

The Comfort Theatre transforms stages across South Dakota with unforgettable shows. Their Americana program, East of Westerville, features incredible musicians and has earned a spot in the South Dakota Friends of Traditional Music Hall of Fame. From lively fiddle tunes to jazz and swing performances, they create a mix of exciting productions that capture the heart of music. Always evolving, the group collaborates with top talent and plans unique tours. Whether it's a big band show or a cozy community concert, Comfort Theatre brings people together through story, song, and tradition.

Program requirements:

Our typical technical rider includes the following: A raised stage area of no less than 24 feet in width, no less than 18 feet in depth, with 15 feet vertical clearance. Private dressing room areas with available restrooms. Four separate 20 amp 110-volt electrical circuits within 15 feet of the stage. A program must be provided to each attending patron using our artwork, recognizing SDAC support. Two people to assist with load-in and out of set, sound, and lighting equipment. An iced cooler of at least 12 mixed soft drinks available during the show, set up, and strike. Meals, housing, and travel are to be arranged as needed. We have generated and successfully followed hundreds of production budgets that have included everything from licensing fees, venue rental, ticket generation, and sales, travel, food, printing, insurance, lodging, gratuities, and virtually all other elements of successfully working on the road.

Brian Bonde**<http://www.comforttheatre.com>****bjbonde@gmail.com****(605) 366-4114****MAGGIE IN THE MEANTIME****Music: Traditional Celtic, Folk, Storytelling****SIOUX FALLS, SD***Guitar, fiddle, keyboard, oboe, drum, actors, artist ensemble; Musicians/Actors; Performance; Teaching; Adults (age 25 - 64)***About the artist and program:**

Maggie in the Meantime blends traditional and modern Celtic music with heartfelt stories. Their performances feature everything from lively fiddles and soulful vocals to tales of old-world adventures and American heritage. With shows tailored to seasons or special events, Maggie in the Meantime connects audiences through music and storytelling, uniting people in a time when we all need it most. Their goal is simple: to share the power of art and bring communities closer together.

Program requirements:

Performance space at least 8 feet deep by 15 feet wide, sheltered from direct sun and wind, with a secure green room. The group tours with its own PA system and up-lighting but can use the venue's house system if that is preferred. Running lights are suggested to encompass a group of five players with a light tech to take them up and down for beginnings, endings, and intermission. The group uses seven sound channels: Two vocal mics, one drum mic, one wireless violin mic (provided), one condensor mic for the pipes, and one guitar direct box (six XLR inputs in all), and one 1/4 inch (TRS) keyboard hookup. The group requests two and a half hours before show time for sound and light setup. The sound check should start at least 45 minutes before curtain and should be finished before the audience is admitted.

Darrel Fickbohm**<http://www.maggieinthemeantime.com>****eroplain@sio.midco.net****(605) 361-7213**



DOMINANT 7

Music: Traditional Jazz

BATH, SD

Brass, drums, interactive artist ensemble

Musician/Narrator

Performance

Teaching

Children/Youth (age 0 -18)

About the artist and program:

Dominant 7 is a vibrant group of student musicians led by Dr. Grant Manhart from Northern State University. Their interactive concerts are packed with energy, inviting K-12 students to join in with percussion, dancing, and fun musical games. With a focus on making music exciting and accessible, they inspire young audiences to see music as both an art and a joy. For community performances, they showcase dynamic, engaging programs that appeal to all ages. Dominant 7 is all about bringing people together through the power of music.

Program requirements:

The group is largely self-contained. We have mics and an amp for the tuba, and if needed for vocals. Otherwise, the venue is contacted to provide a vocal microphone and amplification. The rest of the group is not amplified, like an acoustic jazz ensemble. Host must provide any backstage support, front of house support, and normal concert lighting. In a gymnasium, the gym sound system works for vocals and speaking.

Dr. Grant Manhart

<http://www.northern.edu/dominant7>

grant.manhart@northern.edu

(605) 290-3740



JAS QUINTET

Music: Traditional Jazz, Contemporary Jazz

SIOUX FALLS, SD

Brass, drums, bass, piano, flute, artist ensemble; Songwriters/Musicians; Performance; Teaching; Adults (age 25 - 64)

About the artist and program:

The JAS Quintet celebrates jazz by exploring the lives and music of legendary jazz masters alongside their own original compositions. Known for their fresh takes on classic jazz and dynamic performances, the Quintet captivates audiences across South Dakota and beyond. Their offshoot program, the Jazz Curators concert ensemble, tailors each performance to its setting, making jazz accessible and exciting for all. Whether honoring jazz icons or presenting their own creations, the JAS Quintet's passion and talent shine through in every note.

Program requirements:

The JAS Quintet will travel with all instruments needed to perform — what is typically considered the “backline.” We can also provide our own sound reinforcement at an additional cost if the venue is unable to. Beyond a safe, flat environment with access to electricity, the band remains flexible and willing to work with the promoter on other details, such as lighting. Space needs are minimal, typically no less than a 12x12’ footprint. The contract provided to the promoter will clearly indicate any unique needs agreed upon for the concert.

Jim Speirs

<http://www.jazzsd.com>

jspeirs@mac.com

(605) 376-7764



SHAUN JOHNSON BIG BAND EXPERIENCE

Music: Traditional Pop, Jazz, Big Band

SIOUX FALLS, SD

Brass and vocal, artist ensemble; Musicians; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Shaun Johnson blends the classic big band sound with modern flair, creating high-energy performances that captivate audiences. As an Emmy-winning crooner and frontman, Shaun's passion for music shines in every show. His band brings new life to traditional pop, introducing communities to the timeless magic of brass and smooth vocals. With nearly 20 years of experience and a top Billboard spot under their belt, Shaun Johnson's Big Band Experience is both a throwback and a fresh take on a classic style.

Program requirements:

The Big Band Experience provides their own sound system and audio technician unless otherwise contracted, and typically requires a white front wash as well as a 4k/4 color upstage wash.

Additional requirements:

- Clean and clear performance area approximately 36' wide and 18' deep (negotiable).
- Exclusive use of stage and space four hours prior to performance.
- One grand piano (tuned) if possible. An electronic piano is carried by the Big Band Experience if the grand piano is not feasible
- Six chairs
- Two people to assist with load in/load out
- One person to assist with merchandise
- Five hotel rooms – double occupancy - and pre-show meals for nine people.

Michelle Massman

<http://www.shaunjohnsonmusic.com>

mjmassman@aol.com

(605) 610-5193



OBOEBASS!

Music: Classical, Folk, Jazz

APPLE VALLEY, MN

Oboe and bass, vocal artist duo; Musicians; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

OboeBass! is the creative duo of oboist Carrie Vecchione and bassist Rolf Erdahl, the world's only professional oboe and bass team. Their interactive, fun, and educational shows explore American stories through lively folk tunes and jazz and classical tunes uniquely arranged for them. OboeBass! makes music exciting and accessible for everyone, proving that classical and modern styles can blend into something truly special.

Program requirements:

We need a well-lit 6' X 8' spot on the stage. Our instruments do not need to be amplified. We do need two voice mics for verbal descriptions of the pieces. One of the pieces we plan to perform requires spoken dialogue during performance, so either a wireless lavalier mic or a good directional mic on a boom would be needed. Lighting is as desired by the venue, ideally with half lighting. Some of our programs can include pieces that go well with projected images. We do have a large screen and projector we could provide if the venue did not have that capability.

Rolf Erdahl

<http://www.oboebass.com>

info@oboebass.com

(651) 319-1413



DRAGONS ARE TOO SELDOM - PUPPET THEATRE

Theatre: Contemporary

SPEARFISH, SD

Narration, puppetry solo artist; Actor; Performance; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Markie Scholz, the creative force behind Dragons Are Too Seldom, has been enchanting audiences with live puppet shows for over 55 years. Traveling the country with her handmade puppets and sets, Markie delivers family-friendly performances that entertain and teach. Her shows tackle important topics like bullying prevention and offer fun stories where good always wins. Affordable and perfect for any venue, her workshops and performances bring joy and valuable lessons to audiences of all ages.

Program requirements:

Markie needs a 10'x10' performing area with access to an outlet for PA. She provides stage and sound system. For workshops, please have several long tables to put supplies on as well as one or two tables near outlets for glue guns. She will bring all the supplies for the workshop.

Markie Scholz

<http://www.DragonsAreTooSeldom.com>

markie@dragonsaretooseldom.com

(605) 642-4805



TERMESPHERES

Visual Exhibit/Lecture; Contemporary

SPEARFISH, SD

Arts, science, math, solo artist; Narrator; Lecture/Exhibit; Teaching; No specific primary audience/General audience

About the artist and program:

Dick Termes invites audiences into his fascinating world of Termespheres—rotating, spherical artworks that depict entire environments. Using a six-point perspective, his art explores limitless possibilities, from landscapes to abstract designs. Dick's exhibitions, often displayed in libraries and museums, showcase up to 50 mesmerizing spheres. He also offers workshops on perspective drawing, model building, and math-inspired art, sparking creativity and curiosity in participants of all ages. With his work, Dick connects art, science, and imagination.

Program requirements:

For video lecture, digital projector (if possible), large screens and a lecture room capable of being darkened. Some workshops need copy paper, pencils, erasers, with printouts/copies of visual grids, and large tables.

Dick Termes

<http://www.termespheres.com>

termes41@gmail.com

(605) 642-4805



XAVIER PASTRANO

Visual; Contemporary, Storytelling

SIOUX FALLS, SD

Drawing, writing, poetry; Poet/Narrator; Lecture/Workshop; Teaching; Children/Youth (age 0 -18); Young Adults (age 19 - 24); Adults (age 25 - 64)

About the artist and program:

Xavier Pastrano is a Sioux Falls educator and artist who combines poetry, storytelling, and Zentangle art to explore the healing power of creativity. Zentangle, a meditative drawing style, uses patterns to create intricate designs while encouraging relaxation and focus. Workshops and performances teach participants how to use art and poetry to express themselves and find

balance. With 15 years of teaching experience, this artist shares how art can connect, heal, and inspire.

Program requirements:

- **Requirements for performance:** 6x6' stage (solo), 24x32' stage (full band), microphone, PA system, in house sound board, stage/theater lighting (not a necessity).
- **Requirements for workshops:** a classroom or regular room that could comfortably seat at least 30 people and, if available, a projection screen/smart board for presentations (however, this is not a necessity and my workshops can work without one).

Xavier Pastrano

<https://www.instagram.com/hxggxrdxrt>, <http://www.facebook.com/xppoeetry>

xpastrano@gmail.com

(605) 413-3310



JEAN PATRICK
Literature, Contemporary
MITCHELL, SD

Writing, poetry; Writer/Narrator; Lecture/Workshop; Teaching; Children/Youth (age 0 -18)

About the artist and program:

Jean Patrick is an award-winning author and storyteller who brings history to life for audiences of all ages. Her interactive presentations feature hands-on artifacts like a 1930s baseball glove and a Mt. Rushmore drill bit, making history tangible and exciting. Jean shares true stories about her writing process and even lets audiences explore her drafts and notebooks. With engaging workshops and presentations, she inspires kids and adults alike to dive into the literary arts and discover the joy of storytelling. Some ideas include author visits to your school or library, conference presentations, writing workshops for writing, summer reading programs, historical society or community centers, memoir writing workshops, or book discussions.

Program requirements:

At the front of the room or on a stage, I request a minimum area of approximately 12'x16' for speaking/performing and two long tables for visual aids. If possible, I also need a center aisle so I can directly interact with the audience in the middle and back of the room.

Other requirements: portable microphone, a laptop and screen, and a tech assistant to help me get started. (I bring slides on a flash drive.) Audio and internet connection are not needed. For classroom writing workshops: I request a smart board OR a wipe-off board with bright markers. Students will need space at desks or tables for writing and interacting with each other.

Jean Patrick

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artscouncil.sd.gov