



LET'S MAKE HISTORY!

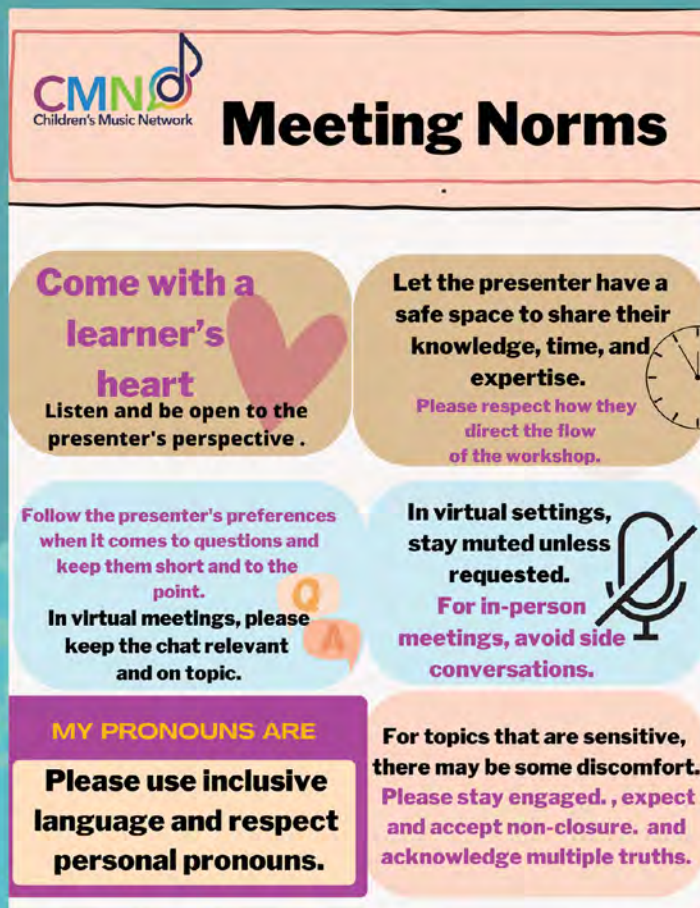
**Children's Music Network
2023 International Conference**

**Virtual October 29 - November 2
Live in Boston November 3 -5**

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CMN
Children's Music Network

Meeting Norms

- Come with a learner's heart**
Listen and be open to the presenter's perspective.
- Let the presenter have a safe space to share their knowledge, time, and expertise.**
Please respect how they direct the flow of the workshop.
- Follow the presenter's preferences when it comes to questions and keep them short and to the point.**
In virtual meetings, please keep the chat relevant and on topic.
- In virtual settings, stay muted unless requested.**
For in-person meetings, avoid side conversations.
- MY PRONOUNS ARE**
Please use inclusive language and respect personal pronouns.
- For topics that are sensitive, there may be some discomfort.**
Please stay engaged, expect and accept non-closure, and acknowledge multiple truths.

CMN Community Agreements:

1. We agree that conflict and disagreement are normal parts of being in community and often required for growth, and therefore agree to enter into dialogue and/or a healing process when being called in to acknowledge harm and make amends.
2. We agree to acknowledge that each person is a composite of many parts. We celebrate difference, and we understand intersectionality to be the full human experience.
3. We agree to seek connections through all parts of our identity without othering a person by any part of their being. We cherish authenticity and the richness of our collective existence.
4. We agree to come to DEI efforts with humility and centering humanity. Hierarchy is counterintuitive to our Community Agreements.
5. We agree to provide equitable spaces for those from marginalized communities to foster inclusion and belonging and do not expect individuals of marginalized communities to speak for their communities or bear the burden of educating about their community.
6. We agree there are multiple truths and will not assume shared intersections or life experiences.
7. We agree to minimize harm with the goal of eliminating it. However, we cannot fully control the environment and acknowledge harm is possible.
8. We agree we each have the right to acknowledge harm, marginalization, and pain.
9. We agree that immediate openness and humility is the most helpful response when someone states that they have been harmed, dismissed or dehumanized. Being defensive can be a barrier to learning and a culture of belonging.
10. We agree to ensure safety and belonging for all. We root ourselves in CMN's history of commitment to social justice.

Welcome to 2023 CMN Conference

Let's Make History!



What does it mean to make history? According to Webster's, it means "to do something important or famous that will be remembered as a part of history." That is what we hope to do with this year's conference. But before we can make history, we need to understand the history that has come before. The Children's Music Network was created more than 30 years ago so we wanted to begin by taking a look back.

In "Building CMN: Preserving the History of the Early Years," an incredible piece detailing the history of the Children's Music Network (*Pass It On!* Spring 2016), founding member Sarah Pirtle describes the landscape of children's music that led to the creation of the Children's Music Network and the early years of the organization. During that time, the original group of 30+ children's music folks, "made deliberate choices to live out shared values and build a caring community through song" that was built upon a "spirit of welcome." They adopted the Frank Hernandez and Ted Warmbrand song, "Open the Circle" as CMN's anthem, and they placed round robins and song swaps at the heart of their gatherings.

Engaging young people in social justice and bringing them visions of citizenship was paramount to the founders. And just as the founders valued time to come together, share and lift-up the youth around them, so do we. During the 2023 conference, we will honor CMN's history while also making history.

Join us to learn more about the musical story of CMN on Wednesday evening with the virtual program, "CMN History Through Songs," presented by Sarah Pirtle and Stuart Stotts. Celebrate the building blocks of CMN with eight round robins and song swaps over the course of the conference. We honor Joan Cooney Ganz, our Magic Penny Award recipient and the impact she has made with the creation of *Sesame Street*. We then look to the future with our Keynote Speakers, Grammy-winners Alphabet Rockers and live performances featuring the talented youth from Bilingual Singers, Boston City Singers and Zumix.

The 2023 conference is a history-making event of firsts for the Children's Music Network. This is the first in-person and first ever blended (virtual AND in-person) conference since the pandemic. It's also the first conference since the creation of our Community Agreements and the first time many of us will meet one another in person. So get ready to have some fun, to share and learn, and to sing and celebrate!



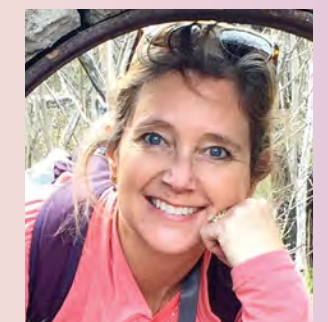
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Tracy Newman & Team RAH Congratulate
 Magic Penny Award Recipient, Joan Ganz Cooney

Celebrate the joys of an Unhurried Childhood!

Multi-Award-Winning
 ★ Children's CDs ★
 by
 TRACY NEWMAN



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Alphabet Rockers



Joan Ganz Cooney



Autumn Shaddock

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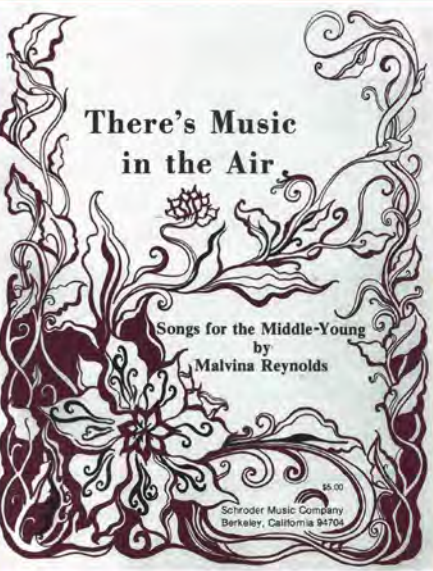
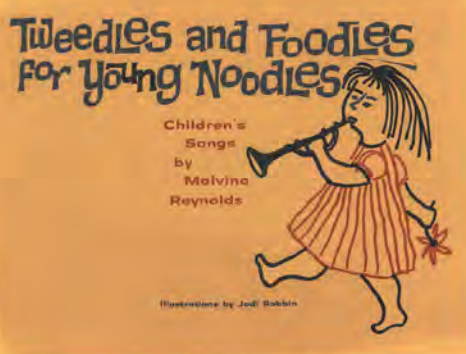


The Children's Music Network

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 FRONT COVER DESIGN: Kim Ziolkowski, *Graphic Alchemy*
 PROGRAM BOOK DESIGNER: Stephen Ozawa, *designEDGE*





FREE DOWNLOADS

Recordings: I Think of a Dragon: Songs for Children of all Ages

by Nancy Schimmel, Candy Forest, Judy Fjell and Malvina Reynolds, recorded by Nancy and Judy. (All the children's songs from Nancy and Judy's MalvinaSpirit album plus three more.)

Free download: www.sisterschoice.com

Songbooks: Tweedles and Foodles for Young Noodles Children's Songs by Malvina Reynolds

There's Music in the Air Songs for the Middle-Young by Malvina Reynolds

Free download: <https://www.malvinareynolds.com/songbks.htm>

Malvina and Nancy songbooks and recordings at www.sisterschoice.com

Malvina Reynolds song lyrics & links: over 400 lyrics and poems at www.malvinareynolds.com

Lead sheets—ask Nancy at nancy@sisterschoice.com

Music Videos

Eating Up the Forest: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eA77yOjs2c4&feature=youtu.be>

Wolf Party: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7xgWjye4108>

All in This Together: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEn7wZwlc5w>

Vegetable Car : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YnKUecTwYo>

Sugar Snap Peas: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VeknHhx5l6E&t=1s>

Thank You

Sometimes you can make history all on your own, but other times it takes a whole community working together. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, talents and energy to make this year's conference one for the history books! ~ Stacey and Veronica

Administrative Director:	Jane Arsham
Workshop Planning Team:	Cindy Haws, Esther Crow
Workshop Presenters:	Our gratitude to each and every workshop/songswap presenter
Keynote Planning Team:	Cindy Haws, John Keenan, Jo-Anne Wilson-Keenan, Alice Burba
Magic Penny Planning Team:	Liz Buchanan, Alice Burba, Fyütch, Kymberly Stewart, Susan Salidor, Tom Knight, Jane Arsham, Cindy Haws Dana Cohenour, Steve Elci, Ann Torralba
Round Robin Coordinators:	Dana Cohenour, Steve Elci, Ann Torralba
Streaming Tech Team:	Jeff Munroe, Katie Chang, <i>Arlington Cable Media</i>
Virtual Round Robin Tech:	James Coffey
Mainstage Sound:	Brian Sargent, <i>Aberrant Sound</i>
Zoom Moderators:	Dana Coenhour, David Heitler-Klevans, Cindy Haws, Noam Brown
Buddy Coordinator:	Susan Picking
Greeters & Newcomer Hosts:	Liz Buchanan, Suhlina Boucher, Tim & Luke Seston, Ann Torralba, Karen Kalafatas
Party DJ:	DJ WillyWow
<i>Pass It On!</i> Scholar Award:	Alice Burba, Katherine Dines
Conference Graphic Design:	Kim Ziolowski, <i>Graphic Alchemy</i>
Website Design:	Carl Foote, <i>Soliv Design</i>
Program Guide Design:	Stephen Ozawa, <i>designEDGE</i>
Conference PR/Social Media:	Nikki Rung
CMN Board of Directors:	<i>Outgoing Members:</i> Alice Burba (President), Stacey Peasley, Susan Picking <i>Returning Members:</i> Patrick Adams, Cindy Haws, Christine Petrini (co-presidents) Dana Cohenour, SaulPaul, Ann Torralba <i>Incoming Members:</i> Esther Crow, Vivian Fang-Liu, Karen Kalafatas, DJ WillyWow

Virtual Conference Schedule

Sunday Oct 29 - Thurs Nov 2, 2023 virtual via Zoom. All times are Eastern Time.
All content will be recorded so that you can access it later.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

5:00-6:30 pm [Conference Open & Virtual Round Robin](#)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30

4:00-5:15 pm [Marketing Music in the Digital Age / Sponsored by Star Forest](#)

5:30-6:45 pm [Song Swap: Climate Change](#)

7:30-8:15 pm [How to Create a Successful YouTube Channel](#)

8:30-9:30 pm [Hip Hop Affinity Group](#)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

4:00-5:15 pm [Song Swap: Halloween Songs](#)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

4:00-5:15 pm [How to Pitch Your Music for TV & Film Placements](#)

5:30-6:45 pm [CMN History Through Songs](#)

8:00-9:00 pm [White Awareness, Accountability, and Antiracism Affinity Group](#)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

4:00-5:15 pm [Integrating Music Therapy Into Your Music Education Practices](#)

7:00-8:15 pm [Hip Hop Music History and Cultural Context](#)

8:30-9:30 pm [Songwriting Critique Circle Affinity Group](#)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

In-Person Conference Schedule

Friday Nov 3 - Sunday Nov 5, 2023 live in Boston and streamed virtually. All times are Eastern Time.
All content will be recorded so that you can access it later.

4:00 pm [Registration / Check In](#)

4:30-5:45 pm [Special Activities](#) | [Check Board at Registration](#)

6:00-7:00 pm [Dinner](#)

7:15-8:30 pm [Live Opening Session](#) | [Mystic Ballroom](#)

8:30-10:00 pm [Dance Party with DJ WillyWow](#) | [Mystic Ballroom](#)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

7:30-8:15 am [Member Activities](#)

8:00-9:00 am [Breakfast](#)

9:00-10:15 am [Teaching Race to Kids](#) | [Suffolk 1](#)

[Concept Albums - What a Concept](#) | [Suffolk 2](#)

[SongSwap: Songs with Props / Sponsored by Bear Paw Creek](#) | [Suffolk 3](#)

10:30-12:00 pm [Keynote: Alphabet Rockers](#) | [Mystic Ballroom](#)

12:00-1:30 pm [Lunch and Annual Meeting](#)

1:45-3:00 pm [Listening is Love / Sponsored by Songs For Teaching](#) | [Mystic Ballroom](#)

[Writing Musicals: From Page to Stage](#) | [Suffolk 2](#)

[SongSwap: Beyond the Binary](#) | [Suffolk 3](#)

3:15-4:30 pm [Fundraising for the Artistpreneur](#) | [Suffolk 1](#)

[Improvised Musical Workshop](#) | [Suffolk 2](#)

[Song Swap: Cultural Diversity](#) | [Suffolk 3](#)

4:30-5:45 pm [Free Time](#)

5:45-6:45 pm [Dinner](#)

7:00-10:30 pm [Round Robin / Hosts: Dana Cohenour, Steve Elci, Ann Torralba](#) | [Mystic Ballroom](#)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 *(don't forget to turn your clocks back at 2 am)*

7:30-8:15 am [Member Activities](#)

8:00-9:00 am [Breakfast](#)

9:00-10:15 am [Tapping Into Your Creative Flow](#) | [Suffolk 1](#)

[Engaging and Uplifting Music Makers with Disabilities](#) | [Suffolk 2](#)

[SongSwap: Songs for Circle Time](#) | [Mystic Ballroom A](#)

10:15-10:30 am [Checkout](#)

10:30-11:45 am [Awards Ceremony \(Magic Penny & PIO! Scholar\)](#) | [Mystic Ballroom](#)

11:55-12:15 pm [Cambridge Children's Choir](#) | [Mystic Ballroom](#)

12:15-1:00 pm [Lunch](#)

1:15-2:30 pm [Closing Circle](#) | [Mystic Ballroom](#)

Special Events

All content will be recorded so that you can access it later.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

Virtual Welcome and Round Robin | 5:00 pm EDT

Join Conference Co-Chairs Stacey Peasley and Veronica De Fazio as we kick off Conference 2023. We'll take a look back— then prepare to make history! And, as is tradition, we will open the microphone with our virtual Round Robin, for all who want to share their talents with our community. Hosted by Dana Cohenour, Steve Elci and Ann Torralba.

[Click here](#) for more details.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Newcomer's Circle | 5:00 pm EDT | Suffolk 1

New to CMN? Or perhaps it's your first "live" conference? Join the circle, meet new friends and sing!



Dana Cohenour



Stacey Peasley



Veronica De Fazio



Steve Elci



Ann Torralba

Let's Make History Opening Ceremonies

| 7:00 pm EDT | Mystic Ballroom

- * Zumix
- * Boston Bilingual Singers performing songs by Andrea Green

ZUMIX began as a summer songwriting program with 24 youths, \$200 and the simple idea that giving youth something to be passionate about could transform lives and elevate communities. Co-founders Bob Grove and current Executive Director Madeleine Steczynski founded ZUMIX in 1991 as a response to Boston's worst wave of youth violence.

Zumix believes music is the most powerful means of developing adolescent self-identity. Their award-winning music and creative technology programming is designed to equip youth with the tools necessary to reach their full potential, while creating a safe space to explore who they are and who they want to be. Through community events, ZUMIX provides access to top-quality arts experiences for a low-income, historically underserved neighborhood.

Boston Bilingual Singers is a children's choral studio whose mission is the musical development and vocal education of children from Boston's bilingual communities. Founded in 2014 by Dr. Katya Anoshkin, the studio is based in Needham MA. Students are offered choral, piano and voice lessons as well as music literature and solfeggio which are integrated into the curriculum. There are several choir groups that provide quality choral education to children from 4-15 years old. They will be performing three songs composed by CMNer Andrea Green.

ZUMIX



Special Events

All content will be recorded so that you can access it later.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Dance Party! | 8:30 pm EDT | Mystic Ballroom

Dance party with DJ WillyWow.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Keynote Speaker: Alphabet Rockers | 10:30 am EDT |

Mystic Ballroom

"Creating Anthems of Inclusion"

Annual Meeting | 12:45 pm EDT

Round Robin | 7:30 pm EDT | Mystic Ballroom

[Click here](#) for more details.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 (don't forget to turn your clocks back at 2 am)

PIO! Scholars Award | 10:30 am EST | Mystic Ballroom

Presentation of *Pass It On!* Scholars Award to Autumn Shaddock.

Magic Penny Award Ceremony

Honoring Joan Ganz Cooney. Bill Sherman, Sesame Street Music Director, is accepting the award on behalf of Joan Ganz Cooney. This award ceremony is brought to you by the letters C, M and N and will include the following songs:

- Sesame Street Theme Song*, Joe Raposo, The Joe Raposo Music Group & The Universal Publishing Group, Inc.
- Somebody Come and Play*, Joe Raposo, The Joe Raposo Music Group, Inc./Gree-n Fox Music
- Rubber Duckie*, Jeff Moss, Festival Attractions (ASCAP)
- Who Are the People in your Neighborhood*, Jeff Moss, Festival Attractions (ASCAP)
- Elmo's Song*, Tony Geiss, Ephemeral Music Co. Universal Music Publishing Group, Inc.
- I Love Trash*, Jeff Moss, Festival Attractions (ASCAP)
- I Want to Be Your Friend, Quiero Te Su Amigo*, JP Rende and Kathryn Raio-Rende, with lyrics by Luis Santeiro, Sesame Street Inc, Universal Music Publishing Music Group and Easy Reader

Cambridge Children's Chorus | 11:45 am EST | Mystic Ballroom

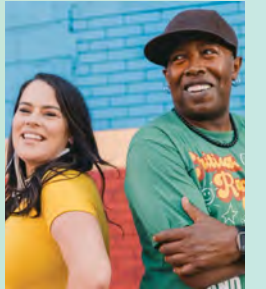
Cambridge Children's Chorus, a division of Boston City Singers, provides music and youth development programming for age 4 through 9th grade. They were founded in 2012 by Wendy Silverberg and Jane Money at the urging of families to replicate Boston City Singers' music and youth development.

Conference Closing | 1:15 pm EST | Mystic Ballroom

Our traditional closing circle with communal sharings and a look ahead to 2024, CHICAGO!



DJ WillyWow



Alphabet Rockers



Autumn Shaddock



Joan Ganz Cooney



Monday, October 30

Virtual Workshops & Presenters

Marketing Music in the Digital Age | Sponsored by Star Forest

4:00 pm EDT

Music Business

Marketing music in the digital age can be a challenge if you don't know where to begin! When creating high quality albums, it can be disheartening when you can't reach the families you know will LOVE your work. As a recent graduate of Modern Musician's Gold Artist program, Jessa will share the top three lessons she learned along the way to growing her email list 500% and counting, finding the true fans that support her as an artist and resonate with her music. Jessa will:

- * Walk through Street Team, the incredible program that she uses to consolidate her efforts.
- * Demonstrate how to set up Facebook ads that will naturally find the people who WANT to hear your music.
- * Share the beauty of using a Facebook group to reach your targeted audience easily with offers they will gladly pay for, helping you sustain your career as a children's musician.

Jessa Campbell is an Oregon-based performer and recording artist. Her background includes performing as a lead singer/dancer on Holland America Line world cruises, singing backup with Wayne Newton, touring nationally with the production of hit television show, "Dragon Tales Live" and headlining many festivals with her bands LDW (Talking Heads tribute) and as "Stevie Nicks" with Taken by the Sky (Fleetwood Mac Tribute). Her children's music project, Jessa Campbell & the Saplings, received a silver Parent's Choice award for her debut album "Can You Feel It." She recently released her sophomore album, "Forest Flow" which quickly landed a spot on Sirius XM's Kids Place Live. Currently, she turns her attention towards music marketing as a recent graduate from Modern Musician's Gold Artist program.



Jessa Campbell

Monday, October 30

Virtual Workshops & Presenters

How to Create a Successful YouTube Channel |

7:00 pm EDT

Music Business

Does this sound like you?....

- * You write amazing songs for kids and families and you know you need to make videos, but where do you start?
- * What camera, lights, microphone do you need and what should you make? You started editing but now you're stuck, do you really need to do it all yourself? Is there a cheaper, faster way?
- * You want to start making money from your YouTube channel, is that actually a thing? And how do you find out how to do this?

If you have been looking for a way to grow your audience online you don't want to miss this workshop! We will share:

- * What lights, camera and sound gear you need to start making professional videos at home.
- * Where to learn how to edit and post produce your videos and also how to outsource cost effectively (you don't have to do everything yourself).
- * The secret sauce to what kind of content you need to make now to grow your YouTube channel and monetize the world's biggest video search engine.

Mark and Tina Harris' "The Lah-Lah's Big Live Band" YouTube channel has over 1.5 million views every 48 hrs and over 574k subscribers. The largest video has over 157 million views and is growing. Since COVID, Mark and Tina have pivoted their touring business to now be 90% online focusing on YouTube and digital music. They now help other creatives learn how to make better videos and create passive income streams online.



Mark and Tina Harris

Wednesday, November 1

Virtual Workshops & Presenters

How to Pitch Your Music for TV & Film Placements |

4:00 pm EDT

Music Business

While songwriters increasingly have to look for other means of revenue from their music to survive due to diminishing sales, a streaming marketplace and an over flooded internet, there are more opportunities than ever to benefit financially and gain exposure from getting your songs placed on TV, in film and games.

In this workshop, Family Music Artist and Songwriter Greg Lato goes through the process of pitching your music for TV/Film placements to music supervisors including:

- * How to find out what music supervisors are looking for.
- * What they expect from your submission (preparation, formatting, correspondence protocol, etc.).
- * How to seek out and gain more opportunities.
- * Learn insider secrets of how to move your music in the right direction for scores and placement.

Greg Lato's 2020 debut children's album, *Create My Own World*, with special guest two-time Grammy winner Bill Harley, reached the Top 15 on the iTunes Children's Music chart and won both a Family Choice Award and a Creative Child Award. Greg has recently signed a record deal with 8 Pound Gorilla Records based in Nashville. Since 2021, he is also a voting member of the Recording Academy/Grammys.

Born and raised in Providence, Rhode Island, Greg was surrounded by an encouraging Italian family that included his father, jazz sax player Vinny Lato, who owned an extensive vinyl collection that served as Greg's introduction to the world of music. Identifying as a songwriter, Greg went on to compose for film, TV and other artists, most recently co-writing with *The Voice* runner-up Billy Gilman. Greg received two awards from the Billboard World Song Contest, had one of his music videos air on the FUSE channel, wrote a song for a film that went to #1 on the iTunes movie charts and spent 8 months in the Top 10, has written for network TV shows, has had his songs played in McDonalds, Subway, several department stores and Planet Fitness franchises and co-wrote the Young Survivors theme song for the Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Foundation.



Greg Lato

Wednesday, November 1

Virtual Workshops & Presenters

CMN History Through Songs: How Meaningful Music Shaped Our Network |

5:30 pm EDT

Education & Inclusion

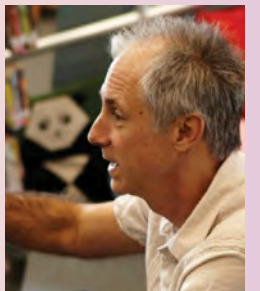
Songwriters and teachers around the country found a common goal in the 1980's to bring music to young people that opened doors to caring, respectful cooperation and justice. Sarah Pirtle and Stuart Stotts were among dozens of people who were there from the beginning. They will provide a narrative of CMN's history by bringing together a collection of songs, stories and guest singers from the early years. Come celebrate how music in our lives continues to shape who we are as individuals and as a group.

Sarah Pirtle, MEd has ten national awards for recordings made with *A Gentle Wind*. She is the author of *Linking Up* and four more peace education books using music and has led trainings in DEI for thirty years. She is one of the central founders of CMN including creating *Pass It On!* Sarah received The 2007 Magic Penny Award. Her songs include "Walls and Bridges" and "My Roots Go Down" among many, many others.

Stuart Stotts is an author, storyteller, educator and songwriter. He's sung with and performed for kids and families in schools, libraries and community settings around the world since 1984. Stuart is a Kennedy Center teaching artist and a frequent presenter at educational events, keynoting conferences as he did for CMN and leading workshops for early childhood and elementary school teachers, librarians and social service professionals around the country. Stuart is the author of six books for children and has released multiple recordings of music for kids and families. When he's not traveling, he lives in LaFarge, Wisconsin.



Sarah Pirtle



Stuart Stotts

Thursday, November 2

Virtual Workshops & Presenters

Integrating Music Therapy Into Your Music Education Practices |

4:00 pm EDT

Education & Inclusion

Popular music serves as a foundation for our everyday lives. As popular music educators, we have seen firsthand the benefits of utilizing music our students enjoy, providing opportunities for them to play, perform and improvise. However, how do we support our students beyond active music-making? In this interactive workshop, Ashley Shabankareh, Professor of Music Therapy at Loyola University New Orleans, will guide participants in ways they can incorporate music therapy interventions into their popular music education practices. Music Therapy intersects with music education in many ways and by incorporating music therapy, educators can support the development of functional, non-musical skills. Educators will be provided with techniques and ideas they can incorporate into their classrooms to support a variety of learners.

Ashley Shabankareh (she/they) currently serves as the Director of Operations and Programs for the Trombone Shorty Foundation. In addition to their work with Trombone Shorty Foundation, Ashley is an Adjunct Professor of Music Education and Music Therapy at Loyola University, New Orleans, an Adjunct Professor of Music Education and Low Brass at Xavier University and an Adjunct Professor of Creative Industries at Tulane University. Ashley serves as the Board President for Folk Alliance International, Vice President for the Jazz Education Network, Chapter Governor for the Recording Academy Memphis Chapter and Board Secretary for Second Line Arts Collective. Ashley is a proud member of the Recording Academy, Jazz Education Network and NAFME.

Ashley is an avid performer and performs as both a trombonist and vocalist. Ashley has performed alongside notable musicians including Aretha Franklin, Allen Toussaint, Theresa Andersson, Big Sam's Funky Nation, the Preservation Hall Jazz Band and in her own projects, Marina Orchestra, Bra's Band Brass Band and the Asylum Chorus.



Ashley Shabankareh

Thursday, November 2

Virtual Workshops & Presenters

Hip Hop Music History and Cultural Context |

7:30 pm EDT

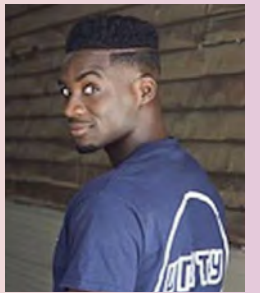
Creating & Performing

One cannot deny the global impact, influence and relevance Hip Hop has had on us all since its emergence in the early 70's to today. This workshop will give us a deeper understanding of its roots, cultural context and the way it happened musically for it all to be made possible, including:

- * The 3 levels of Hip Hop.
- * Its definitions.
- * The way Bronx DeeJays played music that led what we now know as Hip Hop Culture.

Let's relive it and re-create it!

Eugene "GeNie" Baffoe is a freestyle Hip Hop dancer, DJ, educator and filmmaker from Montreal Québec. He has been studying Hip Hop Culture for over a decade, teaching, performing and competing all over the world. GeNie is the co-creator and director of Our Scene the Movie, a documentary film on the history of Winnipeg's Hip Hop Dance community. The film can be viewed for free on YouTube. As the Director of B.O.S.S. Dance Team, he has directed and choreographed 2 Winnipeg Blue Bomber Canadian Football League halftime shows, 3 opening sequences for WeDay with several dance battle wins, judging credentials and instructional seminars under his belt across Canada and the U.S.A. GeNie is a high energy performer, instructor and educator dedicated to authentically delivering the culture to his audiences and students in class.



Eugene "GeNie" Baffoe

Saturday, November 4

In-Person Workshops & Presenters

Teaching Race to Kids |
9:00 am EDT | Suffolk 1

Education & Inclusion

For the past few years, Reggie Harris and Alastair Moock have performed their program "Race and Song: A Musical Conversation" for families and kids of all ages (kindergarten through college). They'll discuss the tools and techniques they use to open up audiences, broach hard subjects and navigate cultural and political barriers.

Reggie Harris (he/him), CMN's 2018 Magic Penny recipient, has traveled the world for over 40 years as a songwriter, storyteller and lecturer using music and the spoken word to make an impact in education, social and racial justice, the environment, faith and in human and civil rights. He is a teaching artist in the John F. Kennedy Center's CETA program, a Woodrow Wilson Scholar and the Director of Music Education for the Living Legacy Project. He is a winner of lifetime achievement awards from Folk Alliance International (Spirit of Folk Award).

Alastair Moock (he/him) is an award-winning singer-songwriter and social justice educator for all ages. He is a Grammy nominee for Best Children's Album (2013), three-time Parents' Choice Gold Medal winner and recipient of the ASCAP Joe Raposo Children's Music Award. He is also a co-founder of two anti-racist music organizations, Family Music Forward and The Opening Doors Project, as well as a charter member of The Folk Collective equity group at historic Club Passim in Harvard Square.



Reggie Harris



Alastair Moock

Saturday, November 4

In-Person Workshops & Presenters

Concept Albums - What a Concept! |
9:00 am EDT | Suffolk 2

Creating & Performing

Out of the 11 children's albums Joanie Leeds has created (as well as an upcoming album), half of them are concept albums. Bringing attention to something topical through song or simply finding a theme that resonates with families in a new innovative way is not only a fantastic way to create, but also an easy way for publications, news outlets and podcasters to tell the story and will be more likely to pick your album over another. Creatively finding a topic you are passionate about and seeing it through to the end is something of a hobby of Joanie's and she's looking forward to sharing more about her successful practices with you!

Joanie Leeds is Grammy winning, NYC based singer-songwriter, National touring artist, early childhood music educator, host of J Kids Radio Show, Holiday Hang and the Advisor to the Board for the NY Chapter of the Recording Academy. For her original children's music, she has won 1st place in the USA Songwriting Competition, Independent Music Awards, The International Songwriting Competition, multiple Gold Parents' Choice Awards, NAPPA Gold Awards, Family Choice Awards and is a John Lennon Songwriting Award Finalist. Joanie has played at Lollapalooza, Austin City Limits, Clearwater Festival, The Kennedy Center & Lincoln Center, Wolf Trap's Filene Center & Levitt Pavilion. Her music has been featured in The New York Times, People Magazine, Parents Magazine, Billboard, Huffington Post, NPR and The Washington Post and her music is played on Sirius/XM and FM stations world-wide. www.joanieleeds.com



Joanie Leeds

Saturday, November 4

In-Person Workshops & Presenters

Listening Is Love | Sponsored by Songs for Teaching

1:45 pm EDT | Mystic Ballroom

Education & Inclusion

Alphabet Rockers is known for writing joyful, authentic songs that address tough topics for all ages. Do you want to know how we create these songs? Our creativity is rooted in listening and asking questions. Since 2015, AR has built an expertise in listening to the needs of diverse communities, creating welcoming spaces, anthems of belonging and joyful sounds. Reflect on the art of listening and how to use it as a superpower for your songwriting and creativity with your audience. This is an interactive workshop - expect fun, creativity, questions and conversation to spark your next big song.

Kaitlin McGaw's (she/her) path in anti-racism and art began as a high school student in Belmont, MA, where community dialogue, activism and poetry framed her purpose and relationship with the world. Kaitlin is a graduate of Harvard University with a BA in Afro-American Studies. She is also a 4-time Grammy nominee, an artist fellow and a deeply committed partner for change, often stepping back for others to shine, and stepping up for truth and our collective humanity. Kaitlin believes radical imagination begins with the way we read, sing and ask questions of the world with our children. She is the mother of two creative children of her own, whom she is raising with her husband Adhi.



Kaitlin McGaw



Tommy Soulati Shepherd

Tommy Soulati Shepherd (he/him/they) is a Grammy-winning artist, internationally renowned actor, playwright, composer, educator, rapper, drummer, beatboxer and music producer. Tommy (aka Emcee Soulati) is a longtime member of the performance group Campo Santo who continue to tell stories of the people and Oakland's own Antique Naked Soul-The Soundtrack for Revolution. Tommy has composed, performed and toured internationally with Marc Bamuthi Joseph, collaborating on Scourge, the break/s, Spoken World, red, black and GREEN: a blues and /peh-LO-tah/. Tommy won a 2018 Isadora Duncan Award for his composition work and is a Grammy winner and 3-time Grammy nominee. Tommy brings love for family, art, activism and community building to all of his work. His inspiration and hope for a more joyful and equitable world is felt through the hearts of families everywhere.

Saturday, November 4

In-Person Workshops & Presenters

Writing Musicals: From Page to Stage |

1:45 pm EDT | Suffolk 2

Creating & Performing

David and Jenny will describe the process that they went through to write musicals and then to get them produced. Topics include:

- * Creative process
- * Writing retreats
- * Table readings
- * Feedback
- * Fundraising
- * Selecting a team
- * Auditions
- * Rehearsals
- * Outreach & Promotion
- * And more...



David & Jenny Heitler-Klevans

TWO OF A KIND, David & Jenny Heitler-Klevans, are long-time CMN members and they perform and record together as Two of a Kind, an award-winning musical duo based in the Philadelphia area. Two of a Kind has released 10 CDs and 1 DVD, garnering over 20 national awards. David & Jenny have written 2 musicals: "The World is Not Your Garbage Can," an environmental musical for kids and "Hidden," based on the true story of a hidden child in France during WWII.

Saturday, November 4

In-Person Workshops & Presenters

Fundraising for the Artistpreneur: How to Raise Funds to Support Your Art and Grow Your Business |

3:15 pm EDT | Suffolk 1

Music Business

In this workshop, Karen Kalafatas and Aaron Nigel Smith explore fundraising opportunities beyond crowdfunding and share resources to help you do it. From events and sponsorships to grants, we'll explore a variety of ways to build sustainable revenue to grow your business as an independent artist.

Key Learning Objectives include:

- * Identify and understand a variety of fundraising opportunities and techniques to grow your business/art.
- * Understand culturally inclusive operative plans, including "how to" for event sponsorships and curation.
- * Be able to link opportunities and techniques to your goals and brand.

Karen Kalafatas (she/her/hers) continues to work as a community advocate for children and families and as a singer and songwriter for audiences of all ages. She has learned and led as a fundraiser at Harvard University, City Year Inc., Arts Together and other top-tier organizations focused on equity, systems change and access to opportunities that promote individual and community well-being. She is currently raising funds for Duke University and as owner of a non-profit management consulting firm, supports mission-based organizations like CMN across the country. Karen begins her term on the CMN Board in September, 2023! A native North Carolinian and graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, Karen and her family now live in Chapel Hill, NC in a little house with too many guitars.

Aaron Nigel Smith (he/him), CMN's 2022 Magic Penny Award recipient, is a Grammy nominated producer and Billboard #1 recording artist who has been a serious musician since age 11, when he began performing in venues like Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center and Westminster Abbey with The American Boychoir. Aaron is an educator with 20 years of experience creating music curricula. In 2002, he founded FUNDamentals of Music & Movement, a fun approach to music education for preschool children. He scaled FUNDamentals to a national program and sold to RockStarts in 2012. Young Audiences, The Right Brain Initiative and Arts for Learning added Smith to their teaching artist roster in 2011 and in 2013 he was named the Sunburst Teaching Artist of the Year.

Aaron and his wife Diedre, formed the non-profit 1 World Chorus with the mission of promoting peace and empowering youth internationally through the arts. More than 10,000 youth in Portland, Los Angeles, New York, Kenya and Jamaica have participated in 1 World Chorus programs. 1 World Chorus released their debut album, *Welcome to the Village*, to critical acclaim.



Karen Kalafatas



Aaron Nigel Smith

Saturday, November 4

In-Person Workshops & Presenters

Improvised Musical Workshop |

3:15 pm EDT | Suffolk 2

Creating & Performing

As performers for live audiences, we never know what will happen during a show. Learn to love the spontaneous, the unplanned and the surprising as we create a full musical, on the spot, improvised together without any planning. More than just very fun, improv is a study in teamwork, flexibility within structure, mutual support and can be modified for various ages.

Objectives:

- * Learn improv warm-ups to help you get loose and playful before a show.
- * Experience in-the-moment unplanned collaboration.
- * Learn the format of an improvised musical.

Julie Be (they/them) is a Philadelphia-based multi-instrumentalist, music therapist and activist. Their band *Ants on a Log* plays socially conscious music for children and other childlike people. In 2020, Julie created the "Trans & Nonbinary Kids Mix," gaining national acclaim as a landmark album in the world of intersectional media for children. The *Ants'* 2023 album "Make it Myself" marked Julie's production debut. Julie also produces music videos, including "Practice Your Pronouns," a sing-along video series promoting pronoun fluency and nonbinary visibility. Part of the founding team at Harbor Camps for transgender and nonbinary youth, Julie worked as Assistant Director for 12 years and now serves on the Board. Julie is proud to be a Leeway Foundation Transformation Award recipient, recognizing artists who demonstrate a long-term commitment to social change work. [@antsonalogmusic](https://www.instagram.com/antsonalogmusic)



Julie Be

Sunday, November 5

In-Person Workshops & Presenters

Tapping Into Your Creative Flow |

9:00 am EST | Suffolk 1

Creating & Performing

In this workshop you will work together in teams and individually to access more creative flow in our everyday lives exploring how to:

- * Stretch your Creative Muscle
- * Tap into your Creative Flow
- * Expand your Creative Palette

Grammy nominated recording artist **Wendy Morgan's** (Wendy and DB) first and foremost love has always been singing and writing music. Dedicated to making the world a better place through community work with not-for-profits, teaching and using her music, art and creativity to enrich lives and help others. Wendy has been writing, recording, performing and touring with Wendy and DB, the award winning Kindie Duo. With Darryl Boggs and SaulPaul, Wendy initiated CMN's Be The Change Affinity Group that continues its work today.



Wendy Morgan

Sunday, November 5

In-Person Workshops & Presenters

Engaging and Uplifting Music Makers with Disabilities: Universal Design for Accessibility |

9:00 am EST | Suffolk 2

Education & Inclusion

Whether you are an early childhood music teacher or a performing artist, your student and audience populations will contain individuals with visible and invisible disabilities. In this workshop participants will learn how to engage and uplift the music makers of all abilities they interact with in various settings. You are invited to bring an instrument with you, this workshop will contain audience participation.

Learning Targets:

- * The principles of Universal Design to make my music accessible to all.
- * The ability to explain common accommodations that can make in all of my music making.
- * The ability to identify next steps in learning to how make my teaching more accessible.

Miles Douglas Wilcox is a multi-instrumentalist and music teacher with a focus on students with disabilities. He is in his eighth year at Berklee Institute for Accessible Arts Education, where he co-teaches music classes for young children and rock band ensemble, as well as leading the 'ukulele ensemble and teaching private lessons. Mr. Miles teaches K-5 general and instrumental music at Ward Elementary in Newton, MA. He is currently principal violist in the Me2/Orchestra Boston, the world's only classical music organization created for individuals with mental illnesses and the people who support them, conducted by Ronald Braunstein.



Miles Douglas Wilcox

Using Music to Promote Learning

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Shout out to all the CMN and SFT artists!

-Alice & David Burba



Songs for Teaching

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SongSwaps

All content will be recorded so that you can access it later.
All times listed are Eastern Daylight Time.

SongSwaps are the essence of CMN – members and friends attend to share a song or learn new songs to use in their work. We invite you to attend as many as you can!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30

Climate Change |
5:30 pm EDT
Esther Crow



Esther Crow



Vanessa Trien

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

Halloween Songs |
4:00 pm EDT
Vanessa Trien

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Songs with Props |
9:00 am EDT | Suffolk 3
Marsha Goodman-Wood
Sponsored by Bear Paw Creek



Marsha Goodman-Wood



Maron Sapon-Shevin

Beyond the Binary |
1:45 pm EDT | Suffolk 3
Mara Sapon-Shevin

Cultural Diversity |
3:15 pm EDT | Suffolk 3
Flor Bromley

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Songs for Circle Time |
9:00 am EST | Mystic Ballroom A
Lavender Blues



Flor Bromley



Lavender Blues

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By Katherine Dines



Photo by Katy Tartakoff

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Parents' Express:
"...Hunk-Ta-Bunk-Ta burnin' fun!"

David Howse, UK Educator:
"...her songs are brilliant!"

Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration:
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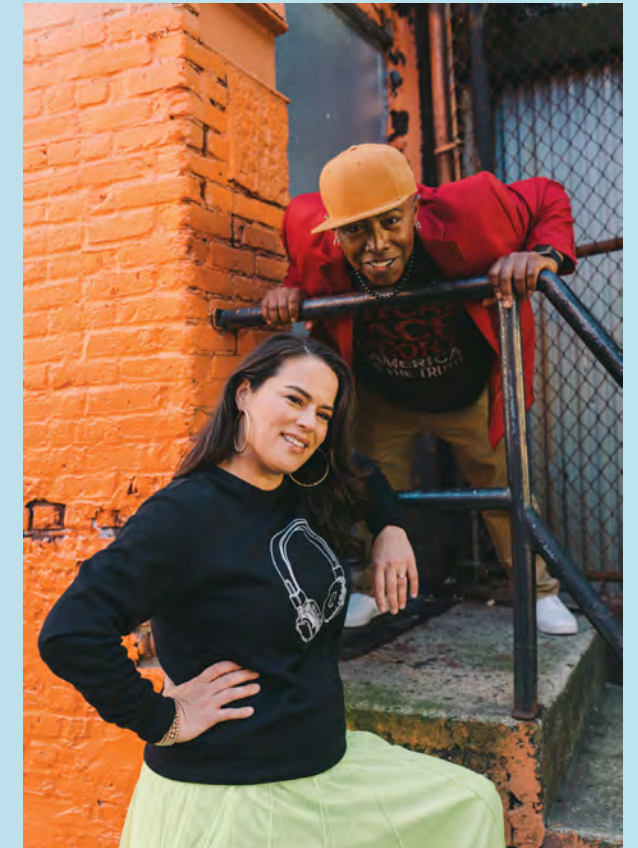
Gratefully Yours CMN, www.hunktabunkta.com

Alphabet Rockers

Keynote Speakers

As musical artists and parents, Alphabet Rockers share their journey in creating inclusive soundtracks for children and families that challenge systems of oppression and foster a sense of belonging. Dive into how our anthems address tough topics, inviting you to broaden your perspectives, embrace inclusion and inspire lasting change with yourself and your community.

Alphabet Rockers make music that makes change. Led by *Kaitlin McGaw* (she/her) and *Tommy Soulati Shepherd* (he/him/they), they create brave spaces to shape a more equitable world through hip hop, as Grammy winners, 3-time Grammy nominees, Othering & Belonging Institute Fellows and industry leaders for change. They work in partnership with communities to create media that reflects the culture of belonging needed in the world. Reaching over 5 million families since 2007, Alphabet Rockers inspire American kids and families to stand up to hate and be their brave and beautiful selves. [LEARN MORE](#) about Alphabet Rockers.



Kaitlin's path in anti-racism and art began as a high school student in Belmont, MA, where community dialogue, activism and poetry framed her purpose and relationship with the world. Kaitlin is a graduate of Harvard University with a BA in Afro-American Studies. She is also a 4-time Grammy nominee, an artist fellow and a deeply committed partner for change, often stepping back for others to shine and stepping up for truth and our collective humanity. Kaitlin believes radical imagination begins with the way we read, sing and ask questions of the world with our children. She is the mother of two creative children of her own, whom she is raising with her husband Adhi.

Tommy is a Grammy winning artist, internationally renowned actor, playwright, composer, educator, rapper, drummer, beatboxer and music producer. Tommy (aka Emcee Soulati) is a longtime member of the performance group Campo Santo who continue to tell stories of the people and Oakland's own Antique Naked Soul-The Soundtrack for Revolution. Tommy has composed, performed and toured internationally with Marc Bamuthi Joseph, collaborating on Scourge, the break/s, Spoken World, red, black and GREEN: a blues and /peh-LO-tah/. Tommy won a 2018 Isadora Duncan Award for his composition work and is a Grammy winner and 3-time Grammy nominee. Tommy brings love for family, art, activism and community building to all of his work. His inspiration and hope for a more joyful and equitable world is felt through the hearts of families everywhere.

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Magic Penny Award

Joan Ganz Cooney

We are pleased to announce The Children's Music Network's 2022 Magic Penny Award recipient, Mrs. Joan Ganz Cooney.

Joan Ganz Cooney, originator of the preschool educational series *Sesame Street*, was co-founder in 1968 of Children's Television Workshop (renamed Sesame Workshop June 2000) and served as President and Chief Executive Officer until 1990.

Sesame Street, the first preschool program to integrate education and entertainment and feature a multi-cultural cast, is the longest running children's program in U.S. television history. It has been watched by millions of children in more than 150 countries and is currently seen on both HBO Max and PBS, where it has aired daily on stations across the U.S. since 1969. International co-productions of *Sesame Street* reflecting local languages, customs and educational needs have been produced for audiences all over the world.

Following the successful launch of *Sesame Street*, Mrs. Cooney and her colleagues created other award-winning children's series on network and public television, including *The Electric Company*, *3-2-1 Contact*, *Square One TV*, *Ghostwriter*, *CRO*, *Big Bag*, *Dragon Tales*, *Sagwa the Chinese Cat* and *Pinky Dinky Doo*, all bringing science, mathematics, reading and new experiences to life.

Sesame Street has won a record-breaking 205 Emmy Awards and has received scores of other honors, such as ten Grammy Awards and five George Foster Peabody Awards, including an Institutional Peabody. In 2019, *Sesame Street* celebrated its historic 50th anniversary with a yearlong celebration featuring a cross-country road trip and a New York City street-naming, culminating in becoming the first-ever television program to be selected as a Kennedy Center Honoree. Sesame Workshop, among many other honors, received the inaugural Global Impact Clio Award and a Smithsonian American Ingenuity Award and is widely known for powerful social impact work helping vulnerable children across the U.S. and internationally.

[LEARN MORE](#) about Joan Ganz Cooney and join us for our award ceremony streamed live for our conference attendees on Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 10:30am EST.



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PIO! Scholars Award

Autumn Shaddock

The *Pass It On!* Scholars Award is given each fall to a high school senior, university or college student, selected by CMN's *Pass It On!* Project Reviewers as the candidate most likely throughout their lifetime to continue celebrating the positive power of music in the lives of children and to recognize the importance of networking and sharing knowledge, music, ideas and songs.



Autumn Shaddock, UT Austin

My name is Autumn Shaddock and I'm incredibly grateful to be this year's PIO recipient. My journey has been shaped by my hometown Austin, Texas, the vibrant city of music, where I was fortunate to discover my deep passion for the arts. Music is deeply ingrained in my family and it has gifted me with joy and purpose. My mother, Cindy Haws, instilled in me the profound influence of music. She cultivated an environment that immersed me in the arts, nurturing my creativity and equipping me with the means to express myself through song. Woody Hill, my trusted friend and bandmate, has become like family, always impressing me with their various musical skills. My bandmates are some of my true musical inspirations and have played a pivotal role in my journey.

I became a part of Strawbitty Yops, a family-oriented children's music project, a few years ago while I was starting my college journey at UT Austin, where I study interior design. As I'm on the cusp of graduating, my goal is to channel my skills into crafting sustainable designs that can make a positive impact on the world. Likewise, I hold a strong commitment to crafting music that cultivates positivity and inspires positive transformation within the younger generation. I aim to teach them how they, too, can contribute to building a more compassionate and empathetic community.

I am elated to be part of the community of children's performers who create lasting memories and ignite a passion for music in young hearts. I firmly believe in the transformative power of music to drive change, and I'm excited to continue my mission in this endeavor.

SILLY GOOSE & VAL



Round Robin

Virtual Sunday, October 29, 5:00-6:30 pm
In-Person Saturday, November 4, 7:00-10:30 pm



One of the highlights of the conference is the "not-to-be missed" ROUND ROBIN! It's an opportunity for attendees to share songs in an informal, supportive environment. Both virtual and live events will leave you impressed with the wide-range of talent within the CMN community. Two nights of musical magic hosted by Dana Cohenour, Steve Elci and Ann Torralba.

PARTICIPATION

Please plan on staying for the entire session as a courtesy to those performing before or after you.

ENERGIZERS

Energizers are movement songs that get our energy up after we've been sitting and listening. Please consider sharing one if you do that kind of thing.

PRE-PERFORMANCE

- * Please have your instruments tuned 10-minutes PRIOR to your scheduled time (MUTE mic!)
- * For virtual Round Robin remember to "UNMUTE" as the performer ahead of you completes their song (not earlier or you will be heard!)

WHEN YOU ARE LIVE

- * Please do not give a lengthy introduction to your song – just the title and author

SONG SELECTION

Selecting the right song will add to the spirit of the Round Robin in a positive way. Please take these considerations into account:

- * Songs MUST be shorter than 3-minutes and require no introduction or explanation
- * Songs can be humorous, just for fun, educational, or demonstrate ways to deal with weighty topics with children: All types of children's songs are highly valued!
- * Even though our audience is mostly adults, at the CMN Round Robin we are showcasing songs that we sing for children

ACCOMPANIMENT

Many performers will simply accompany themselves on guitar, or sing a cappella. For Zoom, if you plan to have a soundtrack behind you, please make sure you practice ahead to make sure the technology works.

Thank you for participating!

RANDY & DAVE

We hope 2023 has been treating you all well.
Please enjoy our song from **The Best In Me**,
celebrating Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and the best in all of us.

ENORMOUSLY INCONVENIENT

She's too tall. He's too white.
She speaks a language we've never spoken.
His beliefs just aren't right.
Can't play with her 'cause her body's broken.
Funny how our minds get filled,
Building all the walls we build.

Chorus: They are...

Enormously inconvenient.
It takes a lot of work to do wrong
Enormously inconvenient.
We could give it up and get along.

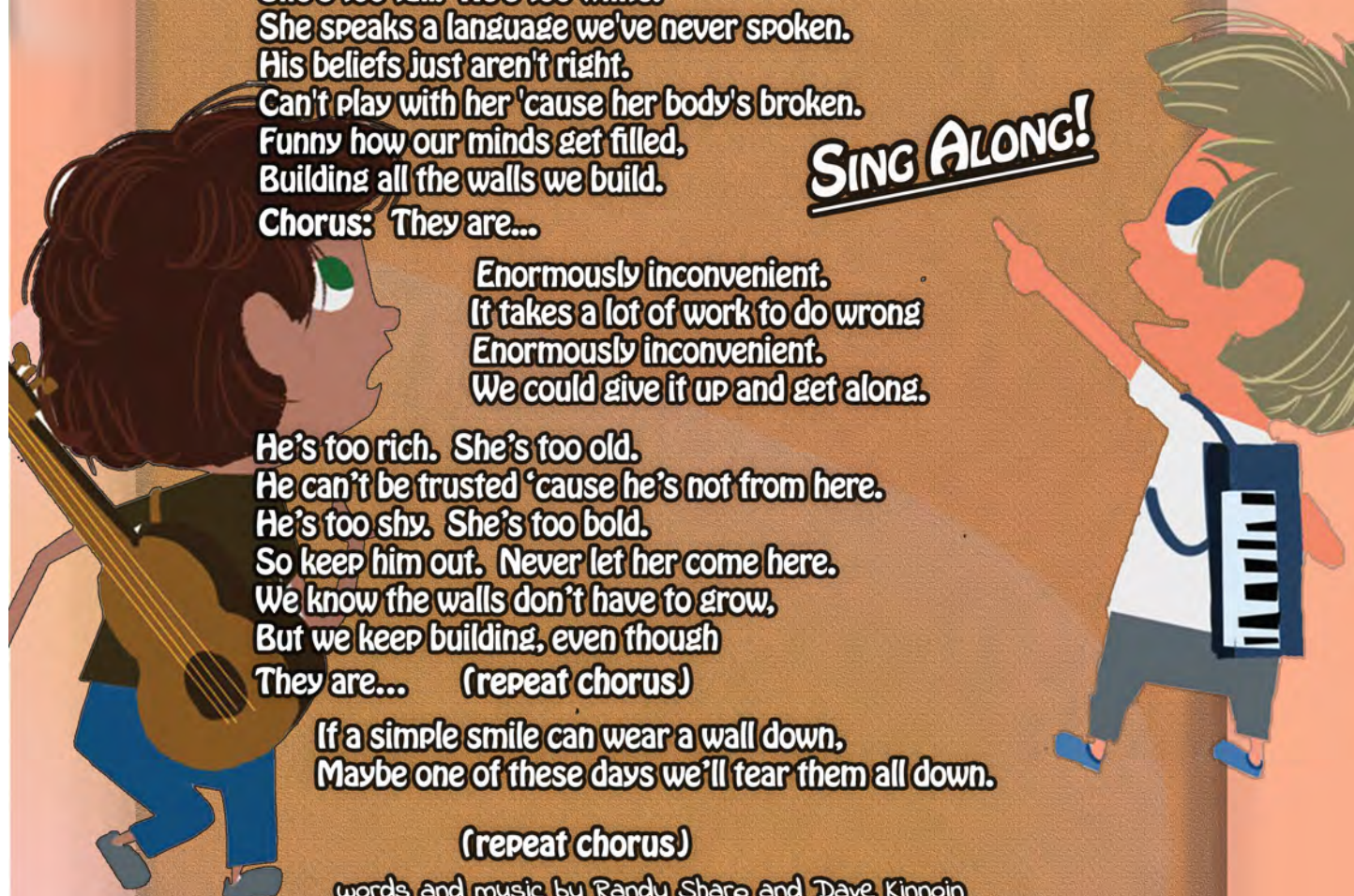
He's too rich. She's too old.
He can't be trusted 'cause he's not from here.
He's too shy. She's too bold.
So keep him out. Never let her come here.
We know the walls don't have to grow,
But we keep building, even though
They are... (repeat chorus)

If a simple smile can wear a wall down,
Maybe one of these days we'll tear them all down.

(repeat chorus)

words and music by Randy Sharp and Dave Kinnoin
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BILL HARLEY

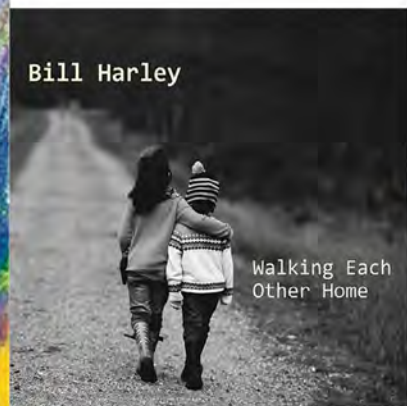
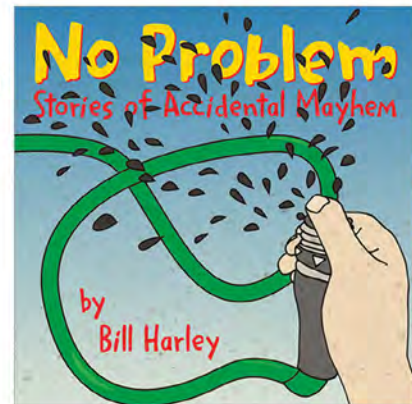


In these (still) confusing and difficult times it's music and a sense of community that will get us to the other side. With thanks for CMN for providing both.

Bill

No Problem: Stories of Accidental Mayhem

A little forethought might prevent the mayhem, but then, we wouldn't have the story, would we? Here are 3 stories about accidents.



Walking Each Other Home

12 Folky kind of songs about big and little things. Good for all ages

To see all of Bill's books and recordings, visit BillHarley.com



Special Thanks

To Our Donors, Sponsors & Partners

As we all know, CMN is a member organization that is funded primarily by membership dues, business sponsorships, monies raised at the conference and the year-round generosity of our members.

The CMN board is proud and grateful to introduce our Sustaining Donors. These are people who have committed to contribute a certain amount annually to CMN for each of the next three years. We thank all our donors and encourage each member to help us better plan our budget by becoming a Sustaining Donor or a Business Sponsor.

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David & Jenny Heitler-Klevans
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Thank you to Stacey & Veronica
 and everyone else who helped make
 the 2023 CMN Conference happen!



Susie Tallman & friends

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Happy CMN Conference 2023
But First Do No Harm - Concerts on Disability Awareness, Inclusion, Compassion & Community Building

Joanie Calem
 joaniecalem@gmail.com
 www.joaniecalem.com
 FB: But First Do No Harm

Joanie Calem

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Performed by Brent Holl

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