



3427 Town Line Road  
Lancaster, NY 14086  
www.bffm.org

### Our Venue

The Village Meeting House is located at 5658 Main Street (at Mill) in the Village of Williamsville, NY. Seating is general admission. Doors open one half hour before all shows. Parking is available behind the venue and on surrounding streets.

## Buffalo Friends of Folk Music Membership Application (please print)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual \$10       Family \$15       Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Buffalo Friends of Folk Music.

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Please mail this form to: BFFM Membership  
c/o Dan D'Arcy  
3427 Town Line Road  
Lancaster, NY 14086



Bringing you fine acoustic music since 1981.

Winter - Spring 2008

Dear Members,

Happy New Year to all and welcome to the winter-spring season of our acoustic concert series. We'll lead off the season with a Local Concert featuring Jim Brucato, Madeleine White & Jeremy Mohr, and Gary Stevens. The Nields, David Wilcox, Christine Lavin, Kate Campbell and our Members Concert will follow for the months of February thru June. Alan Whitney will open for the Nields and Noa Bursie will open for David Wilcox. Opener for Kate Campbell TBA.

As always, your membership and participation are the heartbeat that makes Buffalo Friends of Folk Music a thriving part of Buffalo's music community. The good words that we receive from our audience, performers, and other folk venues confirm that we have something special going here. If you haven't already, please renew for the 2007-08 season.

Our thanks go to David Stanton for bringing the BFFM website back on line with a new provider. David, along with Jack Freer, worked to copy the information from our existing website to the new site. David then redesigned the site with new graphics, menus, links and archive material. If you haven't been to the website lately, take a minute to check it out. The website is available at [www.BFFM.org](http://www.BFFM.org) and is also duplicated at [www.folkmusic.bfn.org](http://www.folkmusic.bfn.org). If you have any trouble connecting, just let us know in an e-mail and we'll help you out. Thank you for your patience while this was resolved.

Our newsletter is now being posted at the BFFM website. Anyone who would prefer to go "paperless" and view the newsletter on line can do so by sending an e-mail to [BFFMconcerts@aol.com](mailto:BFFMconcerts@aol.com) asking to be removed from the newsletter postal mailing list. This would free up your counter top somewhat and would help save BFFM the cost of printing and postage. Still, no problem if you prefer to have a paper newsletter at hand to look through once in a while, the choice is yours. Everyone will still receive our Schedule Postcard at the start of each season.

We're looking forward to seeing all of you throughout the winter-spring season,

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## Local Concert

**Jim Brucato, Madeleine White  
& Jeremy Mohr and Gary Stevens**

**Saturday, January 12, 2008, 8:00 pm**



**Jim Brucato** has been involved with almost every musical situation imaginable in his long career as a blues/folk/jazz musician. A graduate of the Berkley School of Music, Jim began his career as a jazz singer/guitarist with one of Buffalo's best jazz ensembles, Snow Angles, and has gone on to play with a host of musicians too numerous to list.

After several years performing unique blues arrangements with violinist Rick Karneth, Jim hooked up with Joe Head and Charlie O'Neill to form The Thirds. As arranger for The Thirds, Jim is most responsible for developing the band's unique sound, a sound that continues to draw crowds today.

Jim's nearly 40 years as a musician has brought him into the company of performers such as Maureen McGovern and Tony Bennett, and has made him arguably one of the best delta blues aficionados in this region.



**Madeleine White & Jeremy Mohr's**

music covers a varied life perspective. With a naturalist sensibility and intimate lyrics, they reveal personal and universal themes. Their music ranges from traditional

standards to soul-searching originals with lyrics and music by Madeleine and instrumental and vocal accompaniment from Jeremy.

Both of these approachable and laid-back performers were born in Buffalo, though much of their childhoods were spent elsewhere. Part of their appeal may stem from their experiences living in various corners of the country.

In their own words, Madeleine White and Jeremy Mohr simply, "want to be portrayed as the people we are." The core of who they are shines through in not only their stage personas but in the originality of their music.

### Gary Stevens

Gary Stevens is making his mark on Buffalo's music community with an ever growing repertoire of rich and heartfelt original songs. His witty lyrics and unassuming style give listeners a broad view of life's moments - from the humorous to the sublime.

Drawing on strong family ties and life as a father of six, Gary's music speaks of trials, growth, discovery, and change; not to mention the occasional big black tuba, aardvark, and answering man.

One of Gary's most memorable songs, "Eastern End of Erie," could be an anthem for life in Western New York. Many a bitter day can be weathered by remembering, as the song says, "winter blows away the small heart and celebrates the strong."



## Member Gigs - Winter/Spring 2008

<b>Brian &amp; Peg</b> 479-7902	<b>Jean &amp; Keith</b> 838-1918
email: oherron2@verizon.net	January 12 8:00 pm
January 19, February 16,	Café Allegro
March 1, April 5, May 17, June 7	1374 Hertel Ave.
Orchard Perk	Buffalo, NY
6183 Quaker Road,(Route 20A)	
Orchard Park, NY	January 25 9:00 pm
	PeopleArt Coffeehouse
January 26, March 29, May 24	Unity Church
Clarence Center Coffee Co.	1243 Delaware Avenue
Clarence Ctr. & Goodrich Rds.,	Buffalo, NY
Clarence Center, NY	
	February 9 8:00 pm
February 23, April 19	Café Allegro
Korner Kaffe	1374 Hertel Ave.
231 Aurora Street	Buffalo, NY
Corner of Aurora & Como Park	
Lancaster, NY	
	<b>Marie Lyons</b>
	April 4 9:00 pm
	PeopleArt Coffeehouse
<b>Nan Hoffman</b> 773-5315	Unity Church
February 3 3:00 pm	1243 Delaware Avenue
A concert to benefit the homeless	Buffalo, NY
with Joe Tumino.	
St. John the Baptist Church	
1085 Englewood Ave. at Highland	
Tonawanda, NY 716-873-1122	
Free will offering.	
	<b>Jim Vozga</b> 870-0003
April 6 2:00 pm	January 19, March 15,
A concert for the whole family.	May 12, July 19 8:00 pm
Canastota Public Library	Clarence Center Coffee Co.
102 West Center St.	Clarence Ctr. & Goodrich Rds.,
Canastota, NY 315-697-7030	Clarence Center, NY
	January 12, February 9,
	April 12, June 12 7:30 pm
	Orchard Perk
	6183 Quaker Road,(Route 20A)
	Orchard Park, NY
	January 26, February 29,
	April 19, 8:00 pm
	Café Allegro
	1374 Hertel Ave.
	Buffalo, NY

## Who Should I Contact?

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### Concert Refreshments

Peg Maloy soptwo@verizon.net



**David Wilcox**  
**Saturday, March 8, 2008, 8:00 pm**  
**Noa Bursie opening.**

For David Wilcox, all roads have led him to where he wanted to be. All the songs; all the shows; all the miles; all the struggles and triumphs and breakthroughs; have brought him here, to this particular spot, to his recent release, *Vista*. The result is a joyous, musically diverse album that fully combines his deeply observant lyrical touch with music that moves the feet as well as the soul. Co-produced with Ben Wisch, *Vista* was recorded at home and mixed in Manhattan. It has the heart of an acoustic singer-songwriter record and the soul of a band of friends that have been playing together for years. "It's the groove these songs

have that sets them apart from my other recordings," Wilcox says, "this is the soundtrack of how my life feels lately."

"There's a reason so many of these songs are about joy and what it means to be really alive," David says. "There's been a change in perspective, how I see the world. These songs are fun and they offer a way of seeing this life as a heartfelt adventure. My favorite songs are the ones that have been to the depths of the darkness and shine a light on the way through." The music is a reflection of a life well-lived.

David and his wife, Nance, are on a two year journey, traveling with their 13 year old son, Nathan, in a 28 foot Airstream trailer pulled by their bio-diesel truck. "The idea was to show Nathan the country, but we've kept going longer than we expected because it's been such a wonderful experience," David says. "Nate's home-schooling lessons are drawn from where we go and who we meet. We don't know what each day will bring or where the path will lead, and the part we love best is following where we are led."

There has been a similar awakening in David's performances. "The gigs feel so much better because my reasons for doing what I do have become clearer," he explains. "I tune in to what's unique about each night, each room of people in front of me. It feels like I'm getting out of the way and letting the music through."

"Music is sacred ground," David says. "It's a place where you have to tell the truth about what you've been through, who you are, and where you're going. I love how a good song can show you the world through someone else's eyes in three minutes."

*My favorite songs are the ones that have been to the depths of the darkness and shine a light on the way through.*

**Noa Bursie** - Singer/Songwriter Noa Bursie is proud to say she was born and raised in Buffalo, New York. Though her experiences have taken her across the country and half-way around the world, her roots are here and they are undeniable. Subtle undertones of spice and rhythm tell the tale of a well-traveled soul fluent in the universal language of passion and youthful angst while the small town, parochial school girl peeks from around the corner with a wry grin.

A self-taught guitarist, Noa plays with unabashed authority and a natural ease, "...like she was born with the instrument in her hand..." Her music is a rich and

refreshingly unconventional composite of jazz, acoustic new soul, folk, blues, and roots genres. Infused with supple wit and astute, poetic lyricism, the material flows deftly from history and social commentary, politics and the media, to relationships and even extraterrestrials, often evoking comparisons with artists like Rickie Lee Jones, Joan Armatrading, or John Mayer.



**FRIDAY PERFORMANCE!**

**Christine Lavin**  
**Friday, April 4, 2008, 8:00 pm**  
**Knitting Circle, 7:00 pm**  
**No opener**

Christine Lavin is a New York City-based singer, songwriter, and promoter of contemporary folk music. She has recorded numerous solo albums, and has also recorded with other female folk artists under the name "Four Bitchin' Babes." She is known for her sense of humor, which is expressed in both her music and her onstage performances. Many of her songs alternate between emotional reflections on romance and outright comedy.

In her youth, Lavin was a cheerleader in Geneva, New York and she still has impressive baton-twirling skills; she often ends a concert by twirling a glow-in-the-dark baton with the house lights turned off as she leaves the stage.

Lavin worked at Caffe Lena in Saratoga, New York until Dave Van Ronk convinced her to move to New York City and make a career as a singer-songwriter. She followed his advice and accepted his offer of guitar lessons. She has lived in the City ever since, emerging out of the crowded New York City songwriter scene of the '80s with a style that distinguished her from her peers. First, her songs were overwhelmingly concerned with contemporary romantic mores (that scary, uncertain world of "relationships," "com-

mitments," and "biological clocks.") Second, while her takes on this subject could sometimes be sentimental or even maudlin, more often they were humorous.

Christine Lavin's new, topical, political, 13-song collection, *Happydance of the Xenophobe*, will thrill the National Weather Service ("Here Comes Hurricane Season"), delight Julia Child devotees ("Whipped Cream"), enrapture caffeine addicts ("Chocolate Covered Espresso Beans"), but also irk Priscilla Presley, the NRA, cigarette smokers, Faux News, and best of all, Dick Cheney.

Christine's concert career continues to take her all over the U.S., Canada, and points beyond. She now performs wireless, enabling her, as she says, "to turn any size concert hall into a living room." When not performing or recording, Christine writes freelance (The Washington Post, Delta "SKY" Magazine, The Performing Songwriter Magazine, The St. Petersburg Times,) is the occasional guest host for the popular "Sunday Breakfast" radio program on WFUV, 90.7 FM in New York City, and is now also on XM Satellite Radio (channel 15) "The Village" (go to xmradio.com for program schedules). In between all this, she knits.

Christine has won one NAIRD award, two New York Music Awards, five ASCAP composer awards, the Kate Wolf Memorial Award, and her songs have been performed by such diverse artists as Tony Award-winning actress Sutton Foster, the Dartmouth College Decibelles, The Accidentals, and the Washington D.C. Gay Men's Chorus. In 2001, Backstage Magazine named her "Outstanding New York Singer/Songwriter of the Year." Her song, "Sensitive New Age Guys" is part of Joan Micklin Silver's Off-Broadway production of "A. . . My Name Will Always Be Alice." Her song, "Good Thing He Can't Read My Mind" is in the touring show "Sex: The Musical."

Christine is currently assembling a compilation album called "Crappy Little Christmas," a collection of holiday songs you will never hear in an elevator.

**In keeping with tradition, Christine will begin the evening with a knitting circle one hour before the show. This event is open to all audience members.**



**Kate Campbell**  
**Sunday June 1, 2008, 7:00 pm**  
**Opener to be announced.**

When choosing the songs for her current album, "For the Living of These Days," Kate Campbell returned to her favorite source materials: her parents' small but vital record collection, the Baptist hymnal, classic folk, soul and country music, and the pens of Alabama's finest songwriters. As a child, Kate was raised on the gospel records of Mahalia Jackson, Pearl Bailey and Elvis Presley, where she first heard, "There is a Balm in Gilead" and Mylon LeFevre's tune, "Without Him." These songs, along with "God of Grace and God of Glory" and "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" appeared in the Baptist hymnal Kate

would read through in church when she got bored with the sermon. Hymns became an essential part of her musical DNA, and Kate returned to the hymnbook for inspiration while in college and, later, as she embarked on her music career.

"For the Living of These Days" finds Kate Campbell returning to the rich, deep wells that have sustained her musical journey since 1995's "Songs from the Levee." That debut album introduced her as an artist tapped into the Southern literary bloodline of Flannery O'Connor and William Faulkner. An abiding fascination with storytelling, race, religion, history and the day-to-day happenings of people's lives continue to fuel Kate's creative pursuits on this collection. Similarly, an ongoing love affair with the musical traditions and folkways of her native South led her to once again record at the hallowed Fame Studios in Muscle Shoals, Alabama and choose the legendary Spooner Oldham as her musical partner for the project.

Kate's relationship with Spooner goes back to the 1960s when she became fascinated with the sounds emanating from Muscle Shoals on tunes such as Percy Sledge's "When A Man Loves a Woman" and Aretha Franklin's, "I Never Loved a Man (The Way That I Loved You)." Kate met Spooner in 1995 during a chance encounter at the office of Fame Publishing in Muscle Shoals. After opening a few shows for Spooner and his longtime writing partner, Dan Penn, Kate invited Spooner to play organ on her 1997 release "Moonpie Dreams." He's appeared on nearly every one of Kate's albums since, providing a direct link to the Southern soul Kate counts as a primary source in her music.



**The Nields**  
**Saturday, February 9, 2008, 8:00 pm**  
**Alan Whitney opening.**

At the heart of any Nields collaboration is the sublime vocal chemistry of two sisters who have been singing together almost from the cradle. Katryna's volcanic, mercurial soprano seems almost to need the tawny, rich tones of Nerissa's tethering harmonies to keep it here on earth. And Nerissa's brainy songwriting surges to life in the expressive, vital, engaging vocals of Katryna.

Nerissa and Katryna Nields have been the darlings of the coffeehouse/festival scene since 1991, with tunes ranging from off-the-hook idiosyncratic, to kicking, to heartbreaking. "Our parents were total folkies," says Nerissa. "Their first date was a Pete Seeger con-

cert and their second was a Harry Belafonte concert. We used to go to a family camp in the Adirondacks every summer where people sat around a fire. That's where I learned how to finger pick. We grew up on simple folk songs."

"The thing about that camp," Katryna recalls, "was that it was just part of the community. One of my top five musical memories in my entire life was one night at camp when it was cold and the fire was blazing and everybody sang 'When the Saints Go Marching In.' Just a couple guitars or maybe a banjo and people swapping songs with everybody singing along. Woody Guthrie and Weavers songs, Odetta. 'Charlie on the MTA,' 'The Frozen Logger,' 'Goodnight Irene,' 'This Land is Your Land,' 'Wabash Cannonball.' Maybe a little Bob Dylan. Bill Staines would have been considered really edgy. I know people think those old songs are quaint, but when everybody is singing them, it becomes such powerful music. ... it becomes part of your vocabulary – I love that."

"Having children has brought us back to our roots in a powerful way. I'm much more drawn to the honesty of folk music, the simplicity of it," says Nerissa. With Katryna adding, "My kids love singing songs from *Sister Holler*. And I love how, when we sing these 'Nerissa' songs in concerts, everybody sings along, even though it's the first time they've heard them. They're songs that really invite the listener into the music making process."

And when the listener is thus invited and engaged, something happens, and for a moment, the coffeehouse, the church basement, the folk festival — is turned into an Adirondack summer camp campfire sing, and we are all reminded of who we've always been. That's no small thing.



**Annual**  
**Member Showcase Concert**  
**Saturday, June 21, 2008, 8:00 pm**

**Performers to be announced.**  
**Check out our website for details:**  
**[www.bffm.org](http://www.bffm.org).**



Alan Whitney's music defies labels and categorization. He blends his own sharp sense of song with Americana roots sounds, from blues to country and rock, while reaching far beyond its borders. Alan's songs tell stories that are tender,

funny, exuberant, sexy, spiritual and sometimes strange. Keeping his sound simple, rhythmic and organic to frame his soulful voice.

A veteran singer-songwriter, Alan's songs have been recorded by major label artists, and featured in films, radio and television. He has toured and performed as a singer songwriter in well known folk and Americana concert series venues, clubs, house concerts, festivals and radio shows across the US and Europe.