



**Celebrating  
50 Years of Music  
and Community**

**August 4 - 6, 2023  
Clarendon, Ontario**

# Welcome to Blue Skies 2023!

Welcome to this year's Blue Skies Music Festival! This is the 50th Blue Skies so it's very special. As always, there will be wonderful music and lots of magic. It all begins with how we treat each other—being neighbourly, showing respect, care, and kindness, and lending a hand to those who might need it.

The Info Booth is a **welcoming place to get answers to your questions**, open day and night. The friendly volunteers at the Info Booth will help connect you with Security, First Aid, or anyone else when you need help. **Need assistance, or need to ask a question? Wander over to the Info Booth** and they will be glad to lend a hand. This is where you can check lost and found, sign up for the mailing list, and sign up to volunteer!

## Safe 'n' Sound

Blue Skies is a special place but sometimes things may go a little off. **If you experience or witness harmful behaviour, you're encouraged to ask for it to stop, to intervene if it is safe to do so, and to communicate the situation to Security as soon as you can.** The Security team will follow up and remain involved until it's resolved. **If there's any situation at all where you want another person to get involved, the Info Booth is the place to go.** Security folks, wearing BRIGHT RED Blue Skies T-shirts, are always available, and are at the Gate and lit-up Info Booth all night.

## First Aid

First Aid is at the top of the hill, beside the Info Booth. We are **not a medical clinic but we can offer first aid support** for minor injuries and ailments, plus help support folks with bigger concerns to get the help they need. **We are open from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.** For after-hours emergencies, locate Security (wearing bright red Blue Skies T-shirts) to contact First Aid support. For emergencies, call 911 and contact Security. The Blue Skies road address is **2439 Clarendon Road.**

Please bring all of your regular medications, including Epi-pens if you have anaphylactic allergies. To charge CPAP machines, the recycling area has a few outlets and folks monitoring them (please respect the outlets for medical needs). A special note — **First Aid volunteers will be wearing masks and anyone coming to First Aid will need to wear a mask** — we have extra masks if needed. Wearing a mask remains an important way to keep everyone safe when physical distancing is not an option.

## Land Acknowledgement

We begin our Blue Skies Music Festival by acknowledging that we are gathering on the unceded homeland of the Algonquin Anishinabeg people.



We acknowledge that the ancestors of Blue Skies' Indigenous neighbours were forced to take refuge in this region almost two centuries ago. They were marginalized as settlers and loggers squatted on, seized and expropriated their traditional hunting and trapping territory throughout the vast Ottawa Valley.

We acknowledge the racism, erasure and cultural genocide in the treatment of the Algonquin Anishinabeg and other Indigenous peoples by Canadian governments and settler society throughout history and into the present day.

We honour the wise Indigenous teachings, as we strive to live in a more ecologically sustainable way. We honour the Algonquin Anishinabeg traditional way of living in and seeing the world, anchoring each person in strong relationships, stretching back through their ancestors, encompassing all living relations, and looking ahead to the unborn generations who will follow us.

The traditional way emphasizes the importance of how we treat each other as the best way to help us learn behaviour and actions that promote harmony and balance within ourselves, our families, our community and the natural world. This is what the Seven Grandfather Teachings seek to do - encourage respectful behaviour, humility, honesty, bravery, love, wisdom, and truth so that every individual has the knowledge and tools needed to act in good ways.

Indigenous wisdom teaches that our responsibility as humans is to give thanks every day, to put our minds together as one and give greetings to all the peoples of the earth. May our time together here at Blue Skies be guided and blessed.

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Blue Skies is proud to be a member of **Folk Music Ontario**, supporting the growth of a thriving and inclusive folk music community.



## Volunteering at Blue Skies

You folks are so lucky. Here you are at Blue Skies, an amazing summertime camping and music weekend and it isn't costing you an arm and a leg. How is that possible? Start asking around and most folks will say that Blue Skies being volunteer-run has a lot to



do with it. But we do things differently at Blue Skies. Volunteering here gives you a chance to (1) meet new folks and (2) lend a hand. Helping out is obviously important because that's how stuff gets done. But meeting new folks and connecting with them is the glue that makes Blue Skies REALLY special. So get off your duff, go up to the Info Booth, and they'll show you places around the festival where you can meet new folks and help us all out. It's a BIG two-for.

Do you know why Blue Skies has no private sales? It's because from the beginning this weekend has always been about music and *not* making money. The goal has always been to do things for as little money as possible, with everyone helping make it happen and with everyone participating. (The very first stage was built by *volunteers* using wood



salvaged from a derelict barn.) Blue Skies is "a space for things to happen", a place where things organize themselves, where you get to be creative, where we trust each other. The unwritten agreement is that you come here, **you give your energy and you help make it happen.**

So, go to the Info Booth and talk with a Volunteer Coordinator. They have a broad view of what's going on, where extra help might be needed and where you could fit in. Best of all, they can find places suitable for any age or ability, so **adults with kids can volunteer together.** How neat is that? Make yourself useful and soon people will be asking you what to do. Be patient and get ready to have some laughs. You'll figure it out and the magic will happen before you know it. **Note - we have a new wrinkle this year.** All volunteers over age 18 need to become familiar with how to assist people with disabilities. (See page 78 for details.)

# Master of Ceremonies

## Magoo

**On the Main Stage Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
and the Sunday Morning Parade: 9:45-10:15 am,  
Kids' Area Performance - Sunday 1 pm**

Blue Skies is happening all around while Magoo is up there on stage as its beating heart. Our beloved Master of Ceremonies has been connecting with the artists and the crowd, being fast on his feet, even faster at improvising, and keeping it real for an incredible 45 years, which has to be some kind of world record, don't you think?



Songs for all ages and an unbounded enthusiasm for Blue Skies have helped guide this fellow's path for over four and a half decades. Yes, Magoo introduces the bands, sends out the house-keeping notes, and reconnects lost parents to found children. But Magoo goes that extra mile, like taking a shower onstage in what can only be described as the best advert ever for saving water while everyone laughs their heads off. Here's how Magoo tells it. "In 1977, I walked over the hill as the stage and all that was happening around it rose before my eyes. It is a memory that I will never forget and a moment that I relive every time I walk onto this land."  
*www.magooman.com*

### Six-word stories

Magical Ageless  
Maestro Magoo  
masterfully emceeing  
*Tim Greenwood*

A whole year  
in a  
weekend  
*John Bond*

Blue Skies is  
like  
nothing else  
*Julie Hayes*

## Let's help each other enjoy the concerts at Blue Skies!



We're pretty sure there are precious few music festivals where you can actually sit on the grass and be at eye level with the musicians on stage. This creates a special intimacy between performers and audience. It really makes the Blue Skies magic possible.

We want everyone to enjoy these fantastic concerts in this gorgeous natural amphitheatre. **Please be mindful of your fellow music lovers** while sharing the good vibes.

**Let's help people behind us see the stage:**—use low chairs and blankets—there's a great view at the back for tall chairs if that's all you have.

Let's **take dancing and conversation to the side of the hill** so people around you can enjoy the concert. **Please take your smoke break away from the crowd**, so sensitive lungs can breathe.

Bring your little ones to the benches at the front so they can see too. Nowhere else can little kids get so close to the music! To keep everyone safe, **please keep the kids from dancing on the small apron stage in front of the main stage.**

And watch out for your sleeping little ones and friends: especially when it's dark, people are moving around, and the dance party is happening.

### Six-word stories

The magic  
the music  
the memories  
*Jodi O'Sullivan*

Friends for life  
memories for eternity  
*John Bond*

Uplift and inspire  
under the stars  
*Jeremy Walker*

# The 50-year celebration



It's *still* happening folks, 49 years after the *first* Blue Skies. Nowadays, most folks probably just *assume* Blue Skies was always like it is today. Far from it. Try to imagine a Blue Skies with no electricity so no speakers on the stage, just acoustic instruments—no ice and no popsicles! Imagine a Blue Skies with no well, so you hauled in all your water, a Blue Skies with no tickets, (so how do you pay the performers?). You get the drift. In the beginning things were *really* basic and primitive.

It all began with Oskar Graf calling together about a dozen folks from the area, people scattered from Lanark to Arden, Ompah to Perth, Brooke Valley to Sharbot Lake. As Oskar recalls, "The thinking was 'let's live simply in the country, grow our own food and figure out what we really need to be comfortable (in a house without water or electricity north of Hwy. 7)'." There were lots of artisans, organic gardeners, vegetarians and builders, fixing up and living in old abandoned farmsteads and cabins without running water and electricity, living in self-imposed poverty and driving beat-up cars—building their own places and redefining the pioneer lifestyle.

Oskar's idea was to put on a community music show, invite the locals, and make it non-commercial. This was going to be a weekend where no one was hustling, it was only about music and enjoying each other. And it was also about pitching in and helping make it happen. Fifty years later, we're still collectively figuring out how to do it, making space and welcoming newcomers, trying to balance keeping tickets affordable, while trying to pay musicians as much as we can.

Part of this year's special celebration is a contest to tell a Blue Skies story in just six words. We began collecting six-word stories last year and have sprinkled them throughout the pages of this program. Why not try and tell your Blue Skies story? Let your creativity shine, and have fun. Stories dropped off at the Info Booth by 4 pm on Saturday just *might* be performed live on stage, on Saturday or Sunday.

# Friday night concerts

## Scott Cook

**Main Stage, Friday Evening, 7:30 pm**

**Workshop: Saturday 12 noon - 1 pm, Hilltop**

**Workshop: Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Hilltop**

Scott Cook is one of the hardest-working DIY troubadours on the road today, averaging around 150 shows, including a dozen festivals, every year since 2007. His latest collection, *Tangle of Souls*, comes packaged in a cloth-bound, 240-page hardcover book of road stories and ruminations, equal parts introspection and insurrection. All the hard miles notwithstanding, he still believes that songs can change your life, and your life can change the world.  
[www.scottcook.net](http://www.scottcook.net)



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## Shannon Linton

**Main Stage, Friday Evening, 8:30 pm**

**Workshop: Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Finger**

**Workshop: Sunday 12 noon - 1 pm, Main Stage**



Shannon Linton is a classically trained vocalist who narrowly avoided a career in opera to become an indie musician, climate activist, and mother. Her debut EP, *In Spite of Everything*, was released in May 2022 and since then, performing with her dream-team band, Shannon has been weaving together songs and stories to explore joy in spite of everything. Her music is both beautiful and powerful, lifting both spirit and soul.

[www.shannonlintonmusic.com](http://www.shannonlintonmusic.com)



## Angelique Francis

Main Stage, Friday Evening, 9:30 pm

Workshop: Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Meadow

JUNO Award winning artist Angelique Francis is a versatile and exceptionally gifted musician. This multi-talented, multi-instrumentalist, multi-genre singer songwriter and composer has wowed audiences around the globe with her electrifying



performances, instrumental abilities, and powerfully textured vocals. She is known for her eclectic mix of various musical genres including Blues, Soul, Folk, Americana, Jazz, Gospel and Rock. Her diversity, passion, and love of music can be heard in all her original compositions.  
[www.angeliquefrancis.net](http://www.angeliquefrancis.net)

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## Accessibility

We do our best to make sure that people of all ages and abilities are able to enjoy our little slice of heaven. Blue Skies Organizers and volunteers have completed accessibility training so they can assist when requested. We continue to address ongoing challenges to make things better. We understand there may be expectations that we can't meet on this precious and rough land we share. We hope you have what you need for a wonderful festival and can manage without the same amenities such as you might find at home. Please remember that we have only a marginal connection to electricity and cell service, that water is only cold and from a limited well, and that the outhouses are primitive (although pretty). You will need your flashlight to get around at night.

If you have accessibility-related requests, questions, or ideas, please come to the Info Booth during the festival or get in touch afterward through: [accessibility@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca](mailto:accessibility@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca).

**Service Animals:** If you are attending with a service animal, we request that you register the service animal upon arrival at the front gate. If you are already onsite and haven't done so yet, please make your way to the Info Booth and they will assist you.

# Saturday and Sunday afternoons

## Open Stage for Performers

**Saturday and Sunday from noon - 2 pm, at the Open Stage**

Musicians of all ages are invited to come and strut your stuff. Bring your instruments for playing, voices for singing, hands for clapping and ears for listening. What better way to get into the Blue Skies spirit? *Hosted by Linda Grenier*

## The Blue Skies Showcase

**Main Stage, Sunday, 3 pm**

Performances by the Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra, led by Cindy McCall, and the Ukulele Orchestra, led by Christine Graves. The ukulele practices are at the Swamp gazebo on Saturday at 10:30 am and Sunday at 1:30 pm. Fiddle Orchestra practices are Saturday and Sunday at noon at the Swamp gazebo.

## The Blue Skies Square Dance

**Saturday and Sunday, 4:15 pm, Main Stage**

Join in the fun in the biggest square dance you will ever see! Enjoy a live dance band of guest artists and Blue Skies musicians.



### Square Dance Caller: Hannah Shira Naiman

Hannah comes from a family of folk musicians and dancers. She has been dancing her entire life. Her specialty is American Oldtime Squares —dances from Appalachia. These include square dances, children's singing games, and clogging. Hannah is known for her accessible and impassioned calling at dances. [www.hannahshiranaiman.com](http://www.hannahshiranaiman.com)

### Square Dance Band Leader: Teilhard Frost

Teilhard Frost (pronounced tay YAR) is a multi-instrumentalist, specializing in non-electric old-time music. He is passionate about finding the links between cultures. This year he's here with his mates Jason Mercer and Brian Sanderson. [www.tfrostmusic.com](http://www.tfrostmusic.com)



## Making it special

Make sure to grab a new friend and head over to the Kids' Area sometime this weekend to sign and decorate the giant Blue Skies birthday card. **Adults and kids are all welcome.** You can also use the markers and pens in the Kids' Area to decorate the special wooden pendants and pins you can buy at the T-shirt Store (two pendants for just \$5!!!)

Display your Blue Skies masterpieces at your site, make a gallery with other artists, or give them to your new best friend! Remember to take a photo and send it to [50years@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca](mailto:50years@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca). There's a good chance we'll include it in the Blue Skies 50th celebration book that we're putting together after the festival. Or just drop your treasures off at the Info Booth and we'll take a picture!

Special to mark this year's 50th festival is a 24 x 16 inch poster of all the Blue Skies festival T-shirts since they began in 1982. Cost is \$15.

Finally, to celebrate the Blue Skies 50 logo (adapted from the now-iconic Blue Skies logo designed in 1985) and to encourage creativity and self expression, this year Blue Skies is selling a basic plain white T-shirt with a small Blue Skies 50th logo.

Consider it this year's DIY T-shirt. Buy one from the T-shirt Store on Saturday morning and then decorate or personalize it during the tie-dye workshop or using the markers at the Kids' Area. Check with the Kids' Area volunteers to see which markers to use.

### T-Shirt Store Hours

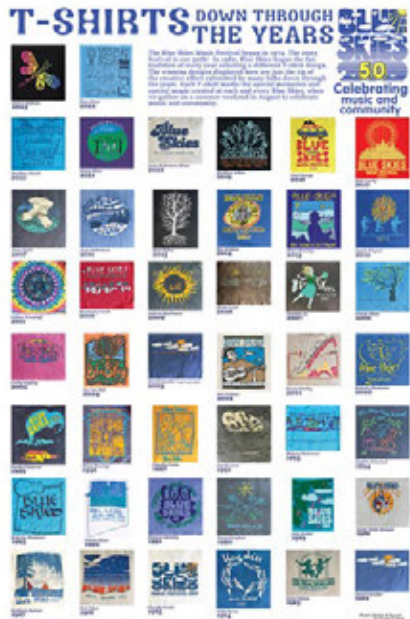
**Friday: closed**

**Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm**

**Sunday: 10 am to 4 pm**

**Monday: 10 am to noon**

There is no electronic payment at the T-shirt store. **Cash is necessary so BRING CASH.**



There's this fabulous T-shirt poster. In addition to this year's 2023 spiffy Blue Skies T-shirts, you can also buy the plain white T-shirts with the Blue Skies 50 logo that you can tie-dye. And don't forget the amazing wooden pendants and pins.

# The Blue Skies Waltz



The Blue Skies Waltz was originally composed in 1995 by Kirk Elliott when he was putting together a book of fiddle tunes for the Square Dance Band. After Carolyn Stewart started the Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra in 2000, she decided to add harmony to the Waltz to make it more accessible for beginning fiddle players. The result is an ol' time waltz with a Texas-swing-like harmony, that has been a staple of Blue Skies festivals ever since, played by both the Fiddle Orchestra and the Square Dance Band.

The folks organizing this year's 50-year celebration decided a contest to write lyrics for the Waltz would be a nifty idea. The Waltz Contest attracted five submissions! Thanks to our judges: Magoo and Adam Weekes. Congratulations to Krow Fisher, Lloyd Greenspoon, Gord McDiarmid, and Michael Rosenthal and to the winning entry, a collaboration by Linda Grenier and Gary Glover.

from the 1983 T-shirt, by Scott Gibson



### Some more six-word stories

Suddenly  
I was surrounded  
by fiddles  
*Dave Tilston*

Rain on the tent  
music  
everywhere *John Bond*

Hippest square  
dancers strutting  
their stuff *Tim Greenwood*

It's teeming rain  
no one cares  
*Deb Chatreau*

from the 1995 poster and T-shirt, by Phileen Dickenson



from the 2012 poster by Deb Chatreau

*The Blue Skies Waltz*

music by Kirk Elliott and Carolyn Stewart  
Lyrics by Linda Grenier and Gary Glover

I will always remember the thrill,  
The first time I came over the hill.  
The field was in bloom with dancing and tunes  
I can feel the warmth of it still.

Workshops and jams everywhere,  
Souls with fine music to share.  
The smiles are so sweet on each person you meet,  
We're all so glad to be there.

*Bridge*

You don't need to know who will play,  
Just look at the program each day,  
Magoo makes the call, and the artists give all,  
Then off to the campfires they stray

As the dust of the square dance subsides,  
In the steam of the hot summer sun.  
There's that beautiful moment in time,  
The Blue Skies Waltz has begun.

*Bridge*

A waltz step we clearly endorse,  
It transports us back to the source,  
Of our old timey scene, in the land in-between  
Bring it home with the Blue Skies Waltz.

On Sunday there's the best parade,  
Saints march in the costumes they've made.  
I cherish the chance that ends the square dance,  
The beautiful Blue Skies Waltz.

*Instrumental*

# Saturday Evening

## Amanda Rheume

**Main Stage, Saturday Evening, 7 pm**

**Workshop: Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Hilltop**

Amanda Rheume's rootsy, guitar-driven ballads introduce crucial dimensions to the world of Heartland Rock. In a genre characterized by anthems of underdogs, assumptions and unfair advantages, Rheume's sound and story crucially and radically expand the boundaries, geographic and cultural, to make space for new perspectives on resistance and resilience. A Citizen of the Métis Nation, and an active and proud member of the 2SLGBTQ+ community, Rheume's music is indeed from the heart, and the land.

[www.amandarheume.com](http://www.amandarheume.com)



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## Medusa

**Main Stage, Saturday Evening, 8 pm**

**Workshop: Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Meadow**

Wielding a sound that can turn music scholars to stone, these four folk musicians reimagine the Western string quartet. By inviting voices previously regarded as too ugly for "polite society", Medusa tempts us to redefine what is beautiful. Their dynamic arrangements cross-pollinate the sounds of Middle Eastern, Scandinavian, Celtic, Appalachian, and



Eastern European music, as well as original tunes, to create something previously unheard. The band aims to connect audiences across dividing lines of culture and identity to reveal the common threads beneath.

[sisterhoodofmedusa.com](http://sisterhoodofmedusa.com)

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## Lennie Gallant

**Main Stage, Saturday Evening, 9 pm**

**Workshop: Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Hilltop**

**Workshop: Sunday 1 - 2 pm, Main Stage**

Recognized as one of Canada's best performing songwriters, PEI's Lennie Gallant has released 13 albums of original songs which have won him a host of awards and nominations from the JUNOs, les Prix Eloizes, and the East Coast Music Awards. A recipient of the Order of Canada, Lennie tours internationally and has performed all over the continent, in Europe, for the troops in Afghanistan, and at the XXI Winter Olympics in Vancouver.  
[www.lenniegallant.com](http://www.lenniegallant.com)



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## Polky

**Main Stage, Saturday Evening, 10 pm**

**Workshop: Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Main Stage**



Toronto's Polky was created by three courageous Polish ladies - singer Ewelina Ferenc, dancer Ala Stasiuk, and multi-instrumentalist Marta Solek. Polky, meaning "Polish women", came together through a shared passion for Eastern European music's enigmatic and upbeat style. Joined by Canadian musicians, Polky adds a uniquely Canadian and multicultural flavour to Eastern European traditional music. They take you on a musical journey to Poland, the melting pot of Eastern and Central Europe, with Ukrainian, Jewish, and Slovak musical influences!

[www.polkyband.com](http://www.polkyband.com)

## Abundance

Main Stage, Saturday Evening, 11 pm

Workshop: Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Finger



Abundance wants to mix the sounds of *the islands* with the sounds of *the city*. They add electronic music sounds to Caribbean music and also come from the other direction, adding the rhythms and colours of the Caribbean to electronic music. Abundance's music oscillates between traditional Caribbean music, Zouk, Gwo Ka, and Carnival, mixed with House, Pop, Dance/Electronic and even Funk. Like the islands of the Caribbean and Canada, Abundance is about merging cultures and embracing diversity.

*Instagram: abundance music*

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## Clear Paths for Safety

**Please keep pathways clear through your campsite area.**

Encourage your neighbours to do the same. There must be clear access to every camping area for emergency vehicles.

## Rules at Blue Skies

We have precious few rules at Blue Skies but we do have 'em:

**Dogs are prohibited** (except for registered service animals, see page 9) and **private sales are not allowed**. Please respect both rules. Thanks everyone.

### Some more six-word stories

Beautiful friendships  
make for epic nights

*Erica Brown*

Familiar faces  
in the joyous crowd

*Christi Loughrey*

People that care  
and keep trying

*Beth Schilling*



# Sunday Evening Concerts

## The Blue Skies Choir

Main Stage, Sunday Evening, 7 pm

The Blue Skies Choir, led by **Brad Mills**, is a chance for any festival goer to sing! To jump into an accessible music-making activity that is challenging and fun, and that always produces spectacular results. See page 24 for more info.

## The Blue Skies Drums

Main Stage, Sunday Evening, 7:30 pm

**Oisín Hannigan** hosts drum workshops on Saturday and Sunday at 5 pm in the Drum Circle to prepare for this performance. **All percussionists welcome.** See pages 51 and 57 for more info.

## Basset

Main Stage, Sunday Evening, 7:45 pm

Workshop: Sunday 12 noon - 1 pm, Meadow



Toronto-based indie-folk duo, Basset, are full of timeless heart. Acoustic songwriters Sam Clark and Yasmine Shelton will take you through city streets in the hours before the world has woken, or to a corrugated steel home north of the treeline. Basset shows a deep love of the natural world in their gorgeously meditative and critically acclaimed debut album, *In The Clay*. Their inventiveness shines on fiddle and with intricate harmonies, with Shelton and Clark's voices wrapping around each other like twin flames in a warm fire. [www.bassettheband.com](http://www.bassettheband.com)

## The Lifers

**Main Stage, Sunday Evening, 8:45 pm**

**Workshop: Saturday, 12 noon - 1 pm, Main Stage**

The Lifers, led by sisters Liv and Anita Cazzola, are an art-folk/rock collective. Their collaboration is based on their connection as sisters, and their relationship to land, ancestry, and radical care. They juxtapose tenderness and explosive energy. The Lifers explore home, family and community, highlighting the beauty, vulnerability and power of nature. Their thunderous six-piece



band challenges the boundaries of folk music, infusing elements of orchestral, ambient, prog, and metal.

[www.thelifersmusic.com](http://www.thelifersmusic.com)

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## Maria Dunn

**Main Stage, Sunday Evening, 9:45 pm**

**Workshop: Saturday, 2 - 3 pm, Hilltop**

**Workshop: Sunday, 2 - 3 pm, Meadow**

2022 Juno-winner Maria Dunn writes and sings thought-provoking, hope-mongering folk songs that honour the resilience and grace of “ordinary” people. Her seventh album *Joyful Banner Blazing* (2021) celebrates gratitude, solidarity, joy and the love that makes the world a better place. Going beyond our immediate time and space, Maria finds power in the long view, examining the history and deeper meanings in everyday situations. [www.mariadunn.com](http://www.mariadunn.com)



## Janice Jo Lee

**Main Stage, Sunday Evening, 10:45 pm**

**Workshop: Sunday, 1 - 2 pm, Finger**

Janice Jo Lee (she/they) is a queer folk musician based in Toronto who asks urgent questions about our times. She is a second generation Canadian settler and twenty-seventh generation Korean. She is a contemporary folk-roots-jazz singer songwriter, composer-sound designer, spoken word poet, theatre maker, and arts/anti-oppression facilitator. Janice Jo Lee performs with her six-piece band of all women and nonbinary musicians. They command the stage with dazzling harmony, charming candour and poetically-rich lyrics. The band conjures warm energy, leaving audiences aglow.  
[www.janicejolee.ca](http://www.janicejolee.ca)



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## Ketsmy

**Main Stage, Sunday Evening, 11:45 pm**

**Workshop: Sunday, 12 noon - 1 pm, Finger**

Ketsmy is an up-and-coming singer/songwriter from Montreal with Haitian roots. He mixes styles and languages from French, Creole and English. His songs are delivered with heartfelt lyrics with a purpose to denounce and speak about the social injustice suffered by the BIPOC community. In his performances, Ketsmy delivers his texts with a unique soulfulness, on powerful percussive rhythms. Ketsmy brings the listeners on a journey flowing between Afro-Blues, R&B and hip-hop.  
[www.ketsmy.bandcamp.com](http://www.ketsmy.bandcamp.com)



## Our Famous Blue Skies Loos

Blue Skies' outhouses are known throughout the civilized world as the sweetest and most hygienic loos ever! Please help us maintain these high standards.

- Use the “**one poop, one scoop** method” (one scoop of sawdust).

- **Close the lid once you are done.** It helps the loo vent properly and makes tomorrow's visit so much more pleasant-ish.

- Don't put anything down the hole with a half-life longer than a week, such as beer cans, sanitary products, baby wipes, or underwear (yes, you read *that* correctly).

- Volunteer for a sanitation shift; it's a quick and easy way to contribute to the festival! **Give your loo cleaning volunteers your love and gratitude** when you see them at work.

- While there are hand-washing stations around the festival, and hand sanitizer available, **it's a smart thing to set up a hand-washing station at your own campsite** or bring your own preferred cleaning products: such as hand sanitizer, wipes or wet cloths. Just remember—that **all garbage must be taken home with you.**

- We try, to the best of our ability, to provide a safe, clean environment for all attendees and in that effort **we do suggest using all precautions** to make yourself feel comfortable, like wearing a mask and providing enough personal space while waiting in line.



## Fire Safety

We sometimes have a **fire ban** in effect during the festival weekend. We won't know until the festival, but it can and does happen so be prepared. If so, that means **no open flames**, nada, no candles and no campfires. Cookstoves are permitted but **must be carefully monitored**.

We sure hope there isn't a fire ban because we have several communal fire pits scattered around the site. They're great for cooking on, jamming around and generally getting together and meeting your neighbours.

**VERY IMPORTANT - Never start a fire at a communal fire pit and walk away.** Someone always HAS to be looking after any fire. The same goes for cook stoves and other flame sources.

**Fire safety is really important.** Never leave any flame unattended or drop a cigarette butt on the ground. **A fire will ruin everyone's Blue Skies experience.**

## Peaceful Happy Festival

### Shhh ... Quiet Areas

The communal fire pit nearest the stage will accommodate late-night revellers. Away from there, it's less noisy. Sleepy Hollow is the quiet camping area between the stage and gate house. **Here we request no noise or boisterous singing**, but—quiet conversation and soft music are welcome.

But quiet area or not, please remember, **your neighbour will be a happier camper after some sleep.** If your neighbour is more boisterous than you would wish, try asking them to tone it down. **A gentle request goes a long way.**



# Curtain Performers

Up on the Main Stage, at Blue Skies we call them **tweeners**. These are performers entertaining us with three-or-so-song performances in front of the curtain while the Main Stage acts are getting set up behind the curtain. The following musicians are the 2023 tweeners.

## The Vaudevillian

**Workshop: Sunday, 1 - 2 pm, Meadow**

Thank goodness PROHIBITION IS OVER! The Vaudevillian's 1930's jugband ragtime blues will make you get off your doggone caboose and do the lindy hop! The old fashioned gentleman, Jitterbug James, and sweet Norah Spades bring you dancing numbers from the prohibition period. Get ready to do the skoodle um skoo! [www.thevaudevillian.ca](http://www.thevaudevillian.ca)

## Greg Forbes

Greg Forbes hit the stage in the 1960's first as a folk singer, then as a rocker. In the Fall of 1973 he moved into the cabin at Oskar Graf's in Clarendon, using it as base for gigging around Southern Ontario and helping create Blue Skies. Greg was the first performer on stage at the very first Blue Skies in 1974. His other claim to fame? Blake Songs on vinyl, 1980.

## Mike McNerney

Mike McNerney began performing and recording his original music as a teenager in 1962. Although he gave up his professional music career in 1966, he has never stopped making music. Mike performed as a tweener at the very first Blue Skies and has dug outhouses and volunteered for garbage duty!

## Rebecca Campbell

A dear friend to Blue Skies, Rebecca Campbell is a freelance singer, musician, arranger, and sometimes songwriter. She plays Stella guitar, percussion, harmonica, and melodica but mostly she sings, moving deftly from up front to backup. A joyful, intentional, visceral, political, poetical singer, with a deep groove and a keen harmonic ear. [www.rebeccacampbell.com](http://www.rebeccacampbell.com)

## Klaassen

**Workshop: Saturday 12 noon - 1 pm, Finger**

**Workshop: Sunday 2 - 1 pm, Hilltop**

Klaassen is an instrumental folk group from Toronto with compositions that are syntheses of love for Bluegrass and Old-time, Eastern European and Irish music. By reimagining North American traditional music with a contemporary global vocabulary, Klaassen creates a soundscape for their listeners that is both mournful and playful.

## Other special guest artists

As always, we're blessed with **an abundance of musical friends** who grace our workshops and Main Stage this weekend, and **help keep the music happening at campfires long into the night**. To Jason Fowler, Whitney O'Hearn, Linda Grenier, The Gertrudes, Japhy Sullivan, Karen Morand, Saskia Tomkins, and the many other hyper-talented festival-goers who make this festival so special, **a heartfelt thank you!**

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## Christine Graves - Ukulele Orchestra

**Main Stage, Sunday, 3 pm, Blue Skies Showcase**

**Workshop: Saturday, 10:30 am, Swamp – Play in the Ukulele Orchestra**

**Workshop: Sunday, 1:30 pm, Swamp – Play in the Ukulele Orchestra**

Christine's ukulele journey began in 2008 in a music workshop at the CKCU Ottawa Folk Festival. Invigorated and delighted, she explored cover songs to sing, and then songwriting with the remarkable four-stringed friend. A teacher training with James Hill developed the skills to lead others. Christine is thrilled to be orchestra conductor at this year's 50th Blue Skies Music Festival.



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## Music Store

The Music Store sells performer CDs, and other merchandise. Drop by and make a purchase to enjoy Blue Skies all year round! The artists donate 10% of all their proceeds to help **Blue Skies in the Community** programs. Your support is greatly appreciated by all the hard-working musicians and Blue Skies!

VISA, MC and debit can be used for purchases over \$50, if you are not in a hurry while we wrestle with the cell service! **Cash is still the best.** :-)

### Music Store Hours:

**Friday: no sales (sign in for musicians)**

**Saturday: 1 pm to 4 pm, 7 pm to 10 pm**

**Sunday: 10 am to 4 pm, 7 pm to 10 pm**

**Monday: 9 am to 11 am**

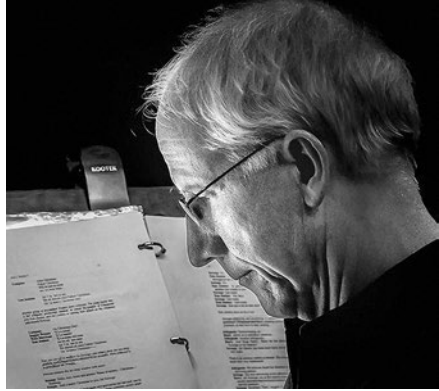
# The Blue Skies Choir

Main Stage, Sunday, 7 pm, Blue Skies Showcase

Every year, members of the Blue Skies Choir sing out, and you're invited to join in! Rehearsals over the weekend lead to a short set on the Main Stage on Sunday evening. The choir welcomes novice, emerging and developed choral musicians alike – that's the mix that makes it work.

## Choir Director

Brad Mills has been part of the music scene in this area since 1979 as a high school music teacher, church choir director and musical theatre person. He has been involved in one way or another with the Blue Skies choir for about the last 20 years as a singer, accompanist and director. He's pleased to be back working with these wonderfully enthusiastic singers.



## Blue Skies Choir Practice Schedule

Choir practice is in the CHOIR LOFT, tucked in behind the Kids' Area. Everyone is welcome and music is provided. No experience is necessary, just the love of singing!

- Friday 5 pm** – Early Bird Choir Meet and Greet
- Saturday 10:30 am** – An important rehearsal, bring your coffee!
- Saturday 5:30 pm** – The important rehearsal
- Sunday 9 am** – The more important rehearsal
- Sunday 1 pm** – The MOST important rehearsal
- Sunday 6:30 pm** – Gather beside the Stage with your music
- Sunday 7 pm** – Performance time! We take to the Main Stage!!





## Cindy McCall and the Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra

Main Stage, Sunday, 3 pm, Blue Skies Showcase

Workshop: Saturday, 12 noon, Swamp – Play in the Fiddle Orchestra

Workshop: Sunday, 12 noon, Swamp – Play in the Fiddle Orchestra

Cindy—a fiddler, teacher, conductor, composer, and arranger—leads the Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra in workshops, concerts, community events and schools year round, in Frontenac and Lanark Counties. The Orchestra is the flagship program of *Blue Skies in the Community*. All musicians are welcome to join the Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra Workshops here at Blue Skies. You can learn some really interesting tunes. Players who can read sheet music and play tunes up to speed in an orchestra can get sheet music and learn the tunes for Sunday's **Blue Skies Showcase**. If you have a music stand, please bring it with you to the workshops.



### A New Beginner Fiddlers Group for this Fall 2023

The Blue Skies Community Fiddle Orchestra will be **starting up a new beginner group**, for students with little or no experience from ages 8 and up. This is a great opportunity for multiple members of a family to learn together. **The all-ages character of the Orchestra is one of its unique features.** Under the direction of Cindy McCall, this beginner group focuses on the basic techniques of the fiddle and mandolin, as well as the fundamentals of reading music and learning to play together while having fun. **The first beginner class runs Sept 9th to Dec 16th at the Maberly Hall.** Practices are held every Saturday. If you do not have a fiddle, our instrument lending library has quality instruments to be rented at \$10 per month. The classes are divided into three semesters, covering different materials and techniques throughout each semester. The cost for membership each semester is \$100. For registration and general inquiries, call Cindy at 613-278-2448, or email: [cindy.fiddlemusic.mccall@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.fiddlemusic.mccall@gmail.com) This beginner group typically practices together for 1 to 2 years before joining the Intermediate level group, and eventually the main Orchestra. The Intermediate group meets Saturdays from 9am to 10am. The Orchestra rehearses every Saturday from 10:15 to 12:30. Thanks to *Blue Skies in the Community* for their support, to keep our group open and affordable to the community.

# Back Through the Years

## The special magic of Blue Skies T-shirts



Congratulations to Jodi O'Sullivan for her winning design for this year's very special Blue Skies T-shirt. It's a stunner. Every year, lots of you creative folks submit designs and the winner gets 2 free passes to the next year's festival. More details at the T-shirt Store or the Info Booth. *Did you know that selecting a T-shirt design is one of the very few things at Blue Skies where we actually take a vote?*

During the pandemic, Blue Skies reprinted some of the past T-shirt designs as a fundraiser to pay musicians to perform at the free virtual festival. Here are what two previous T-shirt designers told us.

*Rebecca Barclay, designer of the 1991 T-shirt:* "The healing, and living earth stewardship workshops at Blue Skies festival made a big impression on me the first time I visited about 40 years ago. This design was first created for the 1991 year of the festival, and an eco-sphere full of mother trees, on a living planet seemed to me a good context for the T-shirt background. Then it's about elements of community. I tried to capture the dancers, always brilliant, including the small kids who storm the front of the main stage. My lettering was inspired by my first ever album I received, and of course, what music festival doesn't have a fiddler?"

*Kathleen Dorner, designer of the 1987 T-shirt:* "The 1987 T-shirt design was inspired by that part of Blue Skies that happens after the blue sky darkens, the campfires are lit, and the sharing of music continues long into the night. My first experience of Blue Skies was in 1982, when each camp had its own little fire. Danny and I arrived after dark, and as we wandered from fire to fire looking for friends who had set up a tent for us, we were welcomed at each campfire by total strangers who offered us hospitality and music... it was a magical experience."



### Six-word stories

Stealthy magic  
paints smiles  
on faces  
*Deb Chatreau*

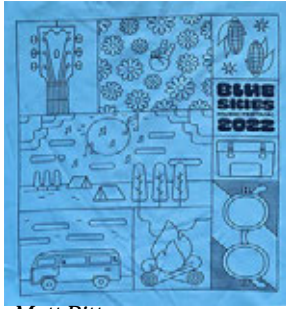
Benches back  
anticipation  
heightens  
boogie explosion  
*Krow Fisher*

You never forget your first time  
*Jodi O'Sullivan*

# Blue Skies T-shirts - looking back through the years



Jodi O'Sullivan  
2023



Matt Ritter  
2022



Mary Alton  
2021



Matthew Darch  
2021



Anna Robertson Ritter  
2020



Matthew Johns  
2019



Paul George  
2018



Kyle Lowry  
2017



Anna Nyiri  
2017



Anna Robertson  
2016



Staci Pelow  
2015



Ben Hodson  
2014

**Blue Skies T-shirts - looking back through the years**



*Bruce Downey*  
2013



*Lynda Wegner*  
2012



*Gillian Woodruff*  
2011



*Rosemary Leach*  
2010



*Isidora Spielmann*  
2009



*Sheila Cook*  
2008



*Heather Lo*  
2007



*Donna Silver*  
2006



*Corky Peppley*  
2005



*Liz VanDijk*  
2004



*David Cavalier*  
2003



*Ben Hodson*  
2002

## Blue Skies T-shirts - looking back through the years



Susan Carsley  
2001



Roberta Huebener  
2000



Randy Cameron  
1999



Bruce Downey  
1998



Claudia Coutu  
1997



Jan Swaren  
1996



Phileen Dickenson  
1995



Daphne Emanuel  
1994



Roberta Huebener  
1993



Donna Silver  
1992



Rebecca Barclay  
1991



Tracy Carefoot  
1990

**Blue Skies T-shirts - looking back through the years**



Jane Keeler  
1989



Jackie Rush Morgan  
1988



Kathleen Dornier  
1987



Rob Uffen  
1986



Claudia Coutu  
1985



Vicki Hanes  
1984



Scott Gibson  
1983



David Cavalier  
1982

**More six-word stories**

People come  
without knowing  
who's playing  
anon

Seeing people  
only here  
every year

Andrew Hall

*from the 2008 program, by Bonnie Ketcheson*





So much music and so many memories. Take time to marvel at all the music that 50 Blue Skies Music Festivals have brought to this here corner of the Universe. Test your memory, amaze your neighbour! Remember that bluegrass group that played Pink Floyd? When did That One Guy show up with his contraption of pipes, gears and bass strings? Exactly how many times has David Woodhead played at Blue Skies?

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**1974** - Greg Forbes; Grit Laskin; Ken Whiteley; Michael McNerney; Eric and Marty Nagler; Stu Cameron; Stan Dueck; Cathy Schmidt; Cathy Reid; Jim Hale; Gord Lowe; Doug McArthur; Frank Barth; Steve Scantlin; Logan Murray

**1975** - Cedar Lake (Stan Rogers, Frank Wheeler, Gord Lowe and Richard Keelan); Eric and Marty Nagler; Cathy Schmidt; Susan Cogan; Ken Whiteley; Debby Webb; Danny Kushner Trio; Greg Forbes; Lizard Thom Case; Stan Dueck; Roop Verma; Tam Kierney; Grit Laskin; Stu Cameron; Kenny Jackson

**1976** - Roger James; Rainbow; Frank Wheeler; Sneezy Waters; Howard Jerome; Sindela Whitney; Humber River Valley Boys; Kenny and Walter Jackson; Roger Gamble; Mark Haines; Lizard Thom Case; Ken Whiteley; Eric Nagler; Mose Scarlett; Chickenfoot; Debby Webb; Roop Verma Ensemble; Barry O'Neil

**1977** - Bob and Anne Burchill; Sneezy Waters; Kuchner Trio; Stan Dueck; Mose Scarett; Eric and Marty Nagler; Bill Usher; Lizard Thom Case; Frank Wheeler; Richard Keelan; Stan Rogers, Garnet Rogers and David Woodhead; Susan Cogan; Chris and Ken Whiteley; Humber River Valley Boys; Dave Dawson; Greg Forbes; Up Against the Wall; Reed Campbell; Debby and Bob Webb; Logan and Steve Murray; Michael Hasek

**1978** - Michael Hasek and Carol Hanson; Lark; Wickentree; Cathy Miller; The Great Sneezy Waters and His Excellent Band; Small Change; Jude Johnson; Dario Domingues; Bob Soucy; Geoff and Monica Somers; Magoo; Dirk Rodenburg; Humber River Valley Boys; Ian Tamblyn; Dave McLachlan; Up Against the Wall; Roger James; Lanark Pro Musica; Champagne Charlie

## **50 years of music and community**

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**1979** - Dirtroad; Up Against the Wall; Morgan Wood; Wassail; The Wahoo Band; Buckwheat and Alfalfa; Andy Rush; Dave Dawson; Michael Hasek and Dave Dawson; Lark; Deep Dish Cavaliers; Magoo; Colin Everett and Friends; Silver; Lauri Conger; Ken Hamm; The Maberly Cosmic Muffin Band; Greg Forbes and Andy Bolarino; Michael Katz and Dave King; Cathy Fink and Duck Donald Band

**1980** - The Unknown Quartet; Wickentree; Reverend Ken and The Lost Followers; Lauri Conger; Bluegrass Bozos; Max Mouse and The Gorillas; Jerry Brodey; Magoo; Norm Hacking; Bill Russell; Roddy Elias; George McFetridge; Java Jive; Cathy Miller; Paul Boudreau; Pat Logier and Blair Heddle; Mike "Cowboy" Miller; Liz Alderton; Mark Rust; Greg Forbes; Michael Meyers



**1981** - Mose Scarlett; Messenger; Bob Stark; Blue Mule; Dario Domingues; Jane Siberry; Cathy Miller; Reverend Ken; Kirk Elliott and Sharon Keates; Steve Rawlins; Linda Morrison; Mark Rust; Jerry Brody; Roger James; Meltdown

**1982** - Magoo; Michael George and Peter Gurney; Kevin Head; Roddy Elias; Kim Erickson; Ian Robb and Terry Rudden; Doug McArthur; Whole Loaf Theatre; Myles/Colin/Elliott; Bill Russell; Bob Stark; Daisy Debolt; Up Against the Wall; Ken Whiteley and The Paradise Revue; Franciska and Juun; Shelly Coppersmith

**1983** - Mose Scarlett; Linda Morrison; Bill Russell, Whack; Ian Tamblyn Band; We Dance/Nous Dansons; Tom Mawhinney; Scott Merritt; Sox; Terry McLeish; Magoo; Peter Gurney; Georg Lavall and William Beauvais; Dave Barton

**1984** - Lakshmi Ranganathan; The Lazyboy Recliners; George Sawa Group; Charanga Masacote; Short Turn; Mooncoin; Nu-Magoos; Roger James; Scott Merritt; Teal Lavender and Co.; Limestone City Big Band

**1985** - Ian Tamblyn; Scott Merritt; David Woodhead; Blue Mule; Film at 11; Soupe du Jour; William Beauvais; Brian Katz Trio; Nu-Magoos; Lizard Thom Case and The Pleasures of the Flesh; Bill Russell; Cathy and Stephen Rollins; Lakshmi Ranganathan; Colin Linden Band; Doug Reansbury; Inie Platenius and Tom Mawhinney; Groupo Taller



**1986** - Kingston Brass; Frank Wheeler; Zucchini Alley; Louise Lambert; Janine Dudding; Soupe du Jour; Celtic Gaels; Sextet; No Mean Feat; Groupo Taller; Cathy Miller; Craig and Jim; Kirk Elliott; Brent Titcomb; Johnny Pearl and Band

**1987** - Black Donnellys; Bob Carpenter; Courage of Lassie; Janine Dudding; Four Women of Verona; Terry Jones; Scott Merritt Band; Linda Morrison; Nu-Magoos; Blair Packham and Jitters; Bill Russell; Ian Tamblyn; Brent Titcomb

**1988** - David Archibald; Tamarack; Peter Chapin; George Sapunidis and George Bernard; The Fabulous Jaguars; Michael Hasek; Kirk Elliott; Magoo and Kirk; Two; Norm Hacking; Lynn Miles; James Gordon; Ad Vielle Que Pourra; Beverly Bratty; David Essig; Cathy Miller; Terry Tufts

**1989** - Mary Anderson and Joanne Meis; Georgette Fry Band; Bobby Bulge and The Love Handles; Rafael Lima; Kevin Head; Magoo; Lynn Miles; Melwood Cutlery and The Fashion Plates; Ad Vielle Que Pourra; Tanglefoot; One Flight Up; Reverend Ken and The Lost Followers; Daisy Debolt; Blue Skies All-Star Band

**1990** - Patrick O'Neil with Geoff Sommers; Fat Man Waving; The Bird Sisters; Rodney Brown; Josephine; Magoo and Kirk; Six Mile Bridge; Toasted Westerns; Trout Fishing in America; Melwood Cutlery; Ken Whiteley Band; Andy Rush's Blue Skies Choir; Margaret Atkinson; One Flight Up (Georgette Fry); Melwood Cutlery; Brent Titcomb; Clergy Street Beat

**1991** - Market Fiddlers; Don Ross; Ottawa All-Stars; Peterborough All-Stars; Washboard Hank and the Honkers; Anderson/Brown; Don Freed; Bob Snyder; Toasted Westerns; Sunforce; Trout Fishing in America; Kids Choir; Blue Skies Choir; Harbord Trio; Blue Skies Guys; Cate Freisen; Jackson Delta; Polka Dogs; Daisy Debolt and The Extended Edge

**1992** - Kevin Head; Georgette Fry Band; Antara; Bob Snider; Harbord Trio; Moxy Frúvous; Ani DiFranco; Mother Tongue; Jackie Washington, Mose Scarlett and Ken Whiteley; Ian Tamblyn Band; Sylvi; Polka Dogs; Alain Lamontagne; Trout Fishing in America

**1993** - Tony Molesworth; Hands On; Open Mind; Ad Vielle Que Pourra; Fred J. Eaglesmith and the Flying Squirrels; Karen Young; Wild Blues Yonder; Garnet Rogers; Nazka; Willie P. Bennett; 20th Year Blue Skies Revue; The Shuffle Demons; Penny Lang



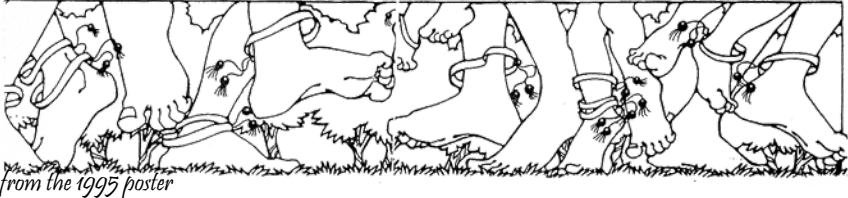
## 50 years of music and community

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**1994** - Kirk and Magoo; Big Band Ensemble; Robert Atyeo with Jeff Bird; Daniel Koulack; Penny Lang; Morgaine Le Fay; Danielle Martineau and Rockabayo; Oliver Schroer and the Stewed Tomatoes; The Rollins Duo; Katherine Wheatley; The Emory Lester Set; The Bird Sisters; DA; Ray Bonneville

**1995** - Don Ross; Building a Band; Doug Reansbury with Kirk Elliot and Laura Thomas; Contretemps/Go Ensemble; Lynn Miles; Les Frères Labri; Cheza; The Purple Dragon Puppet Troupe; Malaika; Eclectricity; Thomas Handy Trio; Lennie Gallant; Mark Haines and Tom Leighton

**1996** - Stephen Fearing; Yessiree Bob; Roger James; Sheela Na Gigh; The Emory Lester Set; Alex Houghton; Les Frères Labri; Fat Man Waving; Theatre Counterclockwise Puppet Pageant; Triptych; Tamarack; Zeke Mazurek; Magoo; The Stephen Barry Band; Georgette Fry



**1997** - Karen Young; Drums; Alec Lunn and Mark Despault; Strada; Erin Benjamin; Contretemps/Go Ensemble; Stephen Barry Band; Counternotes Theatre; Heartbreak Hill; Kirk Elliott and Sharlene Wallace; Alan Marsden; Fred Eaglesmith and The Flying Squirrels; Alpha Yaya Diallo and Bafing; Finale with Magoo

**1998** - Valdy; Oliver Schroer and The Stewed Tomatoes; The Harbord Trio; David Essig; Pico de Gallo; Danielle Martineau with the Stephen Barry Band; Kirk and Magoo; Kevin Head; Rebecca Campbell; Ian Tamblyn; Mark Haines, Tom Leighton and Georgette Fry; The Whiteley Brothers; The 25th Anniversary Finale

**1999** - Moxy Frùvous; Vox Violins; Sneezey Waters and Zeke Mazurek; Caitlin Handford and the Adobe Brothers; Night Sun; Fathead; Rick Fines; The Grievous Angels; Erin Corday; Takadja; Louis the Dreamer; Finale with Magoo; Charlie Logan and Steve Murray; Michael Hasek

**2000** - Connie Kaldor; Cindy Tompson; F'loom; Comadre Florzinha; Willie P. Bennett; Still on the Hill; The Colin Linden Band; Montreal Guitar Trio; David Francey; Martha Wainwright; Matapat; Mighty Popo; Finale with Magoo

**2001** - Nancy White; Don Ross, Oliver Schroer and Guests; Stephen Fearing; Jorane; Juan Jose Carranza; Groove Lily; Alan Gerber Band; La Corde de Bois; Still on the Hill; Darlene; Alpha Yaya Diallo; Georgette Fry Band; Finale with Magoo

**2002** - Anne Lindsay Band; The Bill Hilly Band; Ian Tamblyn; The Wailin' Jennys; Montreal Guitar Trio; Mike Stevens with Raymond McLain; Andy White with His Tall Friends; Son Ache; Alan Gerber; Tasa; The Duhks; Betty and the Bobs; Finale with Magoo

**2003** - Sarah Harmer; Bloom; Ken Whiteley, George Koller and Friends; Serena Ryder; The Undertakin' Daddies; The Suzie Vinnick Band; La Corde De Bois; Keith Glass and the Twisters; Rideau String Quartet; 30th Anniversary Blue Skies Suite (Roddy Elias-Composer); The Brothers Cosmoline; Road Dog Divas; Stephen Barry Band

**2004** - Christine Graves Quartet; Rick Fines; Three Headed Trio; Mark Reeves; Oh Susanna; Septeto Variedades; Kiran Ahluwalia; Twister; Zoe Lewis; Bebop Cowboys; Michael Occhipinti; das macht SHOW!; Fred Eaglesmith

**2005** - Salt; JW-Jones Band; Don Ross; David Francey; Washboard Hank and the Country Squires; Spiral Beach; Ember Swift; Septeto Variedades; The Undesirables; Andy Stochansky; Galitcha; Liam Titcomb; Slim et Donné with Ndidi Onukwulu; Finale with Magoo

**2006** - The Laws; Sweet Water Women; Tell Mama; The Marigolds; Dala; Hootenanny Review Parts I and II; Rick Fines; The Weber Brothers; The D Rangers; Dawn Tyler Watson and Paul Deslauriers; Mark Haines and Tom Leighton; Digging Roots; Kellylee Evans; Finale with Magoo



**2007** - The Andrew Scott Quartet; People Project; Joey Wright; Anne Lindsay with Jason Fowler; Baobab Tree Youth Performers; Old Man Luedecke; Ball and Chain and The Wreckers; Kobo Town; Mr. Something Something; Kim Beggs; Dya Singh; Jim Bryson; Jayme Stone Quartet with Mansa Sissoko; Treasa Levasseur; Finale with Magoo

**2008** - Jacob and Lily; Brock Zeman; Tim Postgate Hornband with Howard Johnson; Ken, Ben, Jenny and Dan Whiteley; Darbazi; Kate Weekes; Sue Foley; Robertson; Taxi Chain; Frida's Brow; Maryem Tollar Group; Hoots and Hellmouth; Porkbelly Futures; Brian MacMillan

**2009** - Goat Note; O'Darling; James Hill; Delhi To Dublin; The Abrams Brothers; Splash N' Boots; evalyn parry; Notre Dame de Grass; De Temps Antan; Jack De Keyzer; Dill Staines; Matt Andersen; Rant Maggie Rant; James Cohen; C.R.Avery

**2010** - Samantha Schultz; Oh My Darling; Spoon River; Toronto All-Star Big Band; James Keelaghan; David Woodhead's Confabulation; Gareth Pearson; Christine Tassan et les Impostures; Celtic Blaze; Jesse Greene

## 50 years of music and community

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**2010 cont'd** - Band; Matthew Zadow; That 1 Guy; The Gertrudes; CaneFire; Toby

**2011** - Tannis Slimmon; Belzebuth; Jaron Freeman-Fox and The Opposite Of Everything; Donn  Roberts Band; Fred Penner; Ferron; Caladh Nua; Danny Michel; New Country Rehab; Saritah; Leela Gilday; Lehera with Sarah; Matt Andersen and Mike Stevens; H'Sao; Kim Churchill

**2012** - Sam Turton and the Homestead Band; Dave Gunning; Boxcar Boys; Kevin Head; Sometimes on Tuesday; The Arrogant Worms; Laura Bird; Ariana Gillis; MAZ; Annabelle Chvostek; Sherman Downey and The Silver Lining; DRUMHAND; Sonic Escape; Cairdeas; Jory Nash; Eccodek

**2013** - The Kate Weekes Trio; David Francey; De Temps Antan; The Rhythm Haints; Friends of Fiddler's Green; Sarah Harmer and friends; Ken Whiteley and the Levy Sisters; David Ross Macdonald; evalyn parry's SPIN; Rick Fines and Suzie Vinnick; Jubilee; QuiQue Escamilla; Trout Fishing in America; Jason Fowler; Jayme Stone and The Other Side of the Air

**2014** - Brenda McMorro; Captain Dirt and the Skirt; The Rhythm Haints; Sheesham and Lotus and 'Son; HEATWAVE; Genticorum; Ashley Condon; Gregory Hoskins; The Dardenelles; Ben Caplan and The Casual Smokers; The Rhythm Haints; Jaron Freeman-Fox and The Opposite of Everything; Teresa Doyle; Ian Sherwood and Coco Love Alcorn; The 24th Street Wailers; Chris McKhool and The Sultans of String



**2015** - 2014 Folk Music Ontario Youth and Mentors; James Gordon and Sons; Digging Roots; Shari Ulrich; Washboard Hank and the Wringers with Sweet Muriel; Catherine MacLellan; Tim Chaisson; David Celia; Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar; The Young Novelists; Karen Savoca; The Bombadils, Jaffa Road; SWING

**2016** - Blue Skies IS A Place land celebration; Trent Severn; Turbo Street Funk; The Next Generation Leahy; Greenbank; Scott Cook; Corin Raymond; Swamperella; The Lemon Bucket Orchestra; Irish Mythen; Lori Cullen; Jonathan Byrd and The Pickup Cowboys; Stef Paquette; Akawui with The Red Tail Spirit Dancers

**2017** - Smoke Trail Drum and Dance; Jeremy Fisher; The Beck Sisters; ZUZE; Fireweed; Mark Rust; IVA; The Shuffle Demons; Mehdi Cayenne; Hidden Roots Collective; Allison Lupton; David Ross Macdonald; The Durham County Poets; Murder Murder

**2018** - Sherman Downey, Siqiniup Qilauta - Sundrum; Treasa Levasseur; Rueben deGroot and Rocket Surgery; Bill Bourne; Fruiting Bodies; Miguel de Armas Quartet; Hannah Sanders and Ben Savage;

**2018 cont'd** - Les Rats d'Swompe; Flávia Nascimento; Les Royal Pickles; Turkwaz; Julian Taylor; Kalâscima; The Urban Highlanders

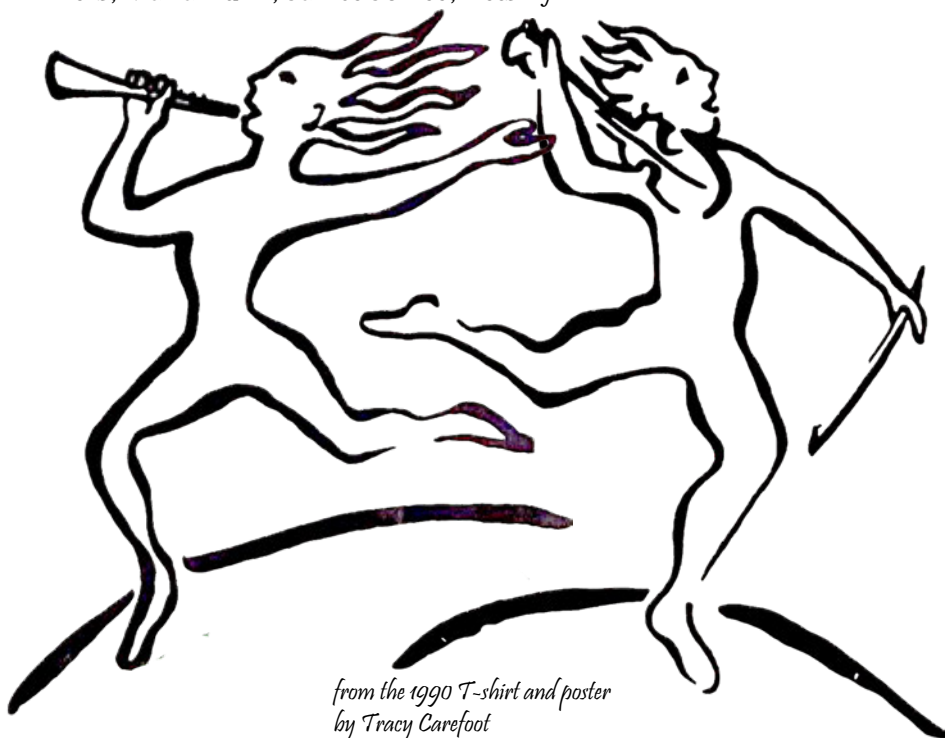
**2019** - The Fugitives; Twin Flames; The Kim Pollard Band; The Slocan Ramblers; Coco Love Alcorn; The Small Glories; Cécile Doo-Kingué; Fast Romantics; A Leverage For Mountains; Raye Zaragoza; OKAN; Urban Science Brass Band

**2020 (virtual)** - Joel Saunders; Long Sault Trio; Atlantic String Machine; Danielle Knibbe; Suzie Vinnick; Kate Weekes, Kennedy Road; Madison Moulard; Rick Fines; Rebecca Campbell; Moskitto Bar; David Francey; Treeline; Nigel Wearne, The Jerry Cans; Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra

**2021 (virtual)** - Kellylee Evans; Orit Shimoni; The Lifers; Jonathan Byrd and The Pickup Cowboys; FRÄNDER; Monique Clare, Richard Inman; Mike Stevens; Amélie and Les Singes Bleus; Drew Gonsalves; Roxanne Potvin; The Bombadils; Julian Taylor; Blue Skies Community Fiddle

**2022** - Karen Morand and The BOSCO Boys; Tragedy Ann; Dawn Redskye; Moskitto Bar; Mattie Leon; The Fretless; Madeleine Rogers, Exco Levi and High Priest Band; The Pep Tides; Lynne Hanson; David Ross Macdonald; Kelly Bado

**2023** - Scott Cook; Shannon Linton; Angelique Francis; Amanda Rheume; Medusa; Lennie Gallant; Polky; Abondance; Basset; The Lifers; Maria Dunn; Janice Jo Lee; Ketsmy



*from the 1990 T-shirt and poster  
by Tracy Carefoot*

# The Fabulous Blue Skies Word Search

## How many can you find?

starlight - accordion - community - stage - celebrate - festival - dance - moonlit - campsite - campfire - cookshack  
 Magoo - shower - choir - workshop - music - guitar - fiddle  
 children - play - frisbee - smile - magic - peace - love - party laughter - playful - tie-dye - crafts - forest - dragonfly  
 drumming - fifty - forever - positive - vibes - swirl - smoke  
 feast - friendship annual - event - glowing - muddy  
 sunshine - luthier - blueskies



L	A	U	G	H	T	E	R	B	D	R	A	G	O	N	F	L	Y	T
L	U	S	M	O	K	E	B	L	U	E	S	K	I	E	S	E	S	M
E	S	W	I	R	L	S	K	G	L	O	W	I	N	G	L	A	I	U
E	S	G	Y	S	C	C	N	D	F	I	F	T	Y	I	E	R	V	D
X	P	A	R	T	Y	H	D	W	L	G	X	S	M	F	I	W	M	D
G	D	D	Y	R	W	I	L	W	O	R	K	S	H	O	P	L	A	Y
N	F	R	E	V	F	L	O	O	Q	Q	P	J	H	E	N	O	G	M
T	R	U	K	I	R	D	A	Y	V	I	S	C	R	O	O	S	I	C
I	H	M	F	B	I	R	H	A	H	E	H	I	I	G	W	O	C	C
E	G	M	O	E	S	E	H	S	M	J	F	D	A	N	C	E	U	R
D	F	I	R	S	B	N	D	L	K	P	R	M	U	S	I	C	R	A
Y	O	N	E	P	E	N	U	C	M	O	O	N	L	I	T	Z	P	F
E	R	G	S	N	E	F	A	A	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E	T
E	E	A	T	I	Y	H	C	C	O	M	M	U	N	I	T	Y	A	S
V	V	E	R	A	S	T	A	R	L	I	G	H	T	A	T	L	C	N
E	E	F	L	K	T	W	Y	V	P	O	S	I	T	I	V	E	E	P
N	R	P	O	C	A	M	P	S	I	T	E	L	U	T	H	I	E	R
T	E	O	E	L	G	U	I	T	A	R	S	U	N	S	H	I	N	E
L	C	F	O	F	E	S	T	I	V	A	L	B	A	N	N	U	A	L

Word Search by Krow Fisher

## Blue Skies Bingo!

Pick up your bingo cards at the Info Booth! Walk around the festival and find people that match the bingo squares. Have them sign your card. When you get a Bingo, shout out **BLUE SKIES BINGO!**

It's more fun when you do it in teams and compete within campsites.  
**Happy Blue Skies 50th everyone!**

# Workshops



Workshops at Blue Skies, back in the day, were usually just a few holistic workshops in the morning, followed by a handful of music workshops in the afternoon (maybe because musicians are known to be late risers?).

The music workshops at Blue Skies are usually led by a host and one or two scheduled participants, plus the hope that other musicians will be able to and want to join in.

## ***A peek at the festival program from back in 1985....***

HOLISTIC WORKSHOPS	HOLISTIC WORKSHOPS
9-10 AM Surf Dancing with Sari & Sarada, field beside stage	9-10 AM Surf Dancing, Sari and Sarada, Field
10-12 Heiki and Mariel with Sky, 'Something like therapeutic touch' West hillside	10-12 Introduction to Massage with Stephen J. Brown, The Finger
10-12 Introduction to Massage with Stephen J. Brown, Area 1. The Finger	2-3 PM Nature Walk with Mr. Rick, for kids of all ages, meet in Kids Area
Persons wishing to offer workshops in their area of expertise, or to discuss specific concerns should see Maureen, either at the cookshack, or the gate.	

The holistic workshops are a whole different world and over the past 40-plus years have covered an astounding range of topics, from the elegant simplicity of flowers to tapping into the eternal echoes of our internal songs. From how to bang the drum of change, to how to play well with one another. This workshop tradition is simple (people apply when they have something they want to share and get camping tickets in exchange). Where it goes, however, is often improvised and surprisingly deep.

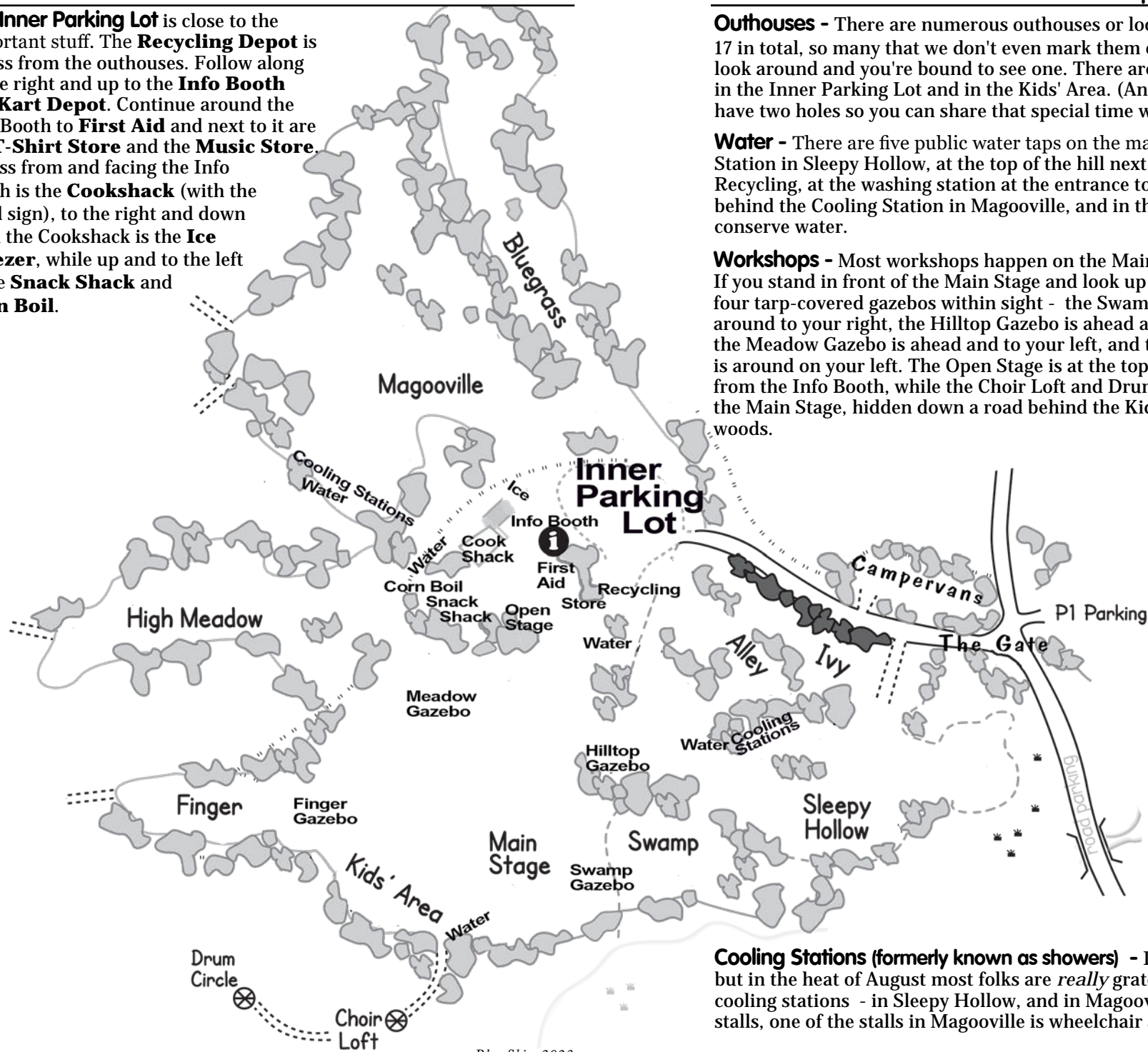
Here are just some of the music and holistic workshops from previous festivals: Accordion - Acting - Acupressure - Afro Cuban - Amulet Bags - Anthropological Medicine - Anthroposophical - Ayurveda - Ballads - Banjo Playing - Basketry - Beading - Being Present - Biogenic Analysis - Birthing Alternatives - Blue Grass - Blues - Blues Harp - Bugs - Cajun - Capella - Celtic - Choir - Clogging - Coffee - Colour Therapy - Comedy - Community Agriculture - Country - Crystals - Dowsing - Dreaming - Dream Time - Ecovillages - Egyptian Folkdance - Emotional Food - Energy Hygiene - Ethnic Fusion - Family Songs - Feldenkrais - Felt Making - Fiddle - First Aid - Flower Remedies - Food Nutrition - Garbage Awareness - Goofy Songs - Gospel - Graf Guitars - Hemp

	Main Stage	Finger	Drum Circle	Meadow	Hilltop	Swamp	Open Stage	Pop Up (Snack Shack)	
<b>9:00</b>	<b>Tai Chi</b> <i>Dale Driver</i>	<b>Digital Future of AI</b> <i>Daniel Airth Nelson</i>		<b>Musical Theatre</b> <i>Laureen Lafayette Brooks</i>	<b>Blue Skies Zine</b> <i>Madeline Mckinnell</i>	<b>Linocut Patch</b> <i>Abby Nowakowski</i>	<b>Macrame Plant Hanger</b> <i>Sue Taylor-Davidson and Mary Davidson</i>		<b>9:00</b>
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Stitch a Connection</b> <i>Bridget O'Flaherty</i>	<b>Blue Skies Button Necklaces</b> <i>Kathy Geden Cole</i>	<b>First Nations Blanket Exercise</b> <i>Mireille LaPointe</i>	<b>Painted Feet Dance on Canvas Part One</b> <i>Bob and Robin Millar</i>	<b>Blue Skies Storytelling</b> <i>John Sedgewick and Ann Sharp</i>		<b>Play in the Ukulele Orchestra</b> <i>Christine Graves</i>	<b>Essential Songwriting</b> <i>Kristen Lindell</i>	
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Sweet Ride (craft)</b> <i>abi lyon wicke and Griffin Wicke</i>	<b>Create a Blue Skies Memory Board</b> <i>Jackie Mcchesney</i>				<b>Retro Macrame</b> <i>Sheila Cook and Sarah Dulmage</i>			<b>Write a Blue Skies Poem</b> <i>Claudia Coutu Radmore</i>
<b>noon</b>	<b>Embodied Resonance</b> <i>The Lifers</i>	<b>Odd is the New Even</b> <i>Klaassen</i>	<b>How to Get Involved in Blue Skies</b> <i>Susan Walker and Haley Rose</i>	<b>Roots Music Connecting to your Culture</b> <i>Saskia Tomkins</i>	<b>Building Bridges</b> <i>Scott Cook</i>	<b>Play in the Fiddle Orchestra</b> <i>Cindy McCall</i>	<b>Open Stage</b> <i>Hosted by Linda Grenier</i>		<b>noon</b>
<b>1:00</b>	<b>Eastern European Tunes</b> <i>Polky</i>	<b>Climate Justice Song Circle</b> <i>Shannon Linton</i>			<b>Putting the Blues in Blue Skies</b> <i>Angelique Francis</i>	<b>Musical Growth through Community</b> <i>Amanda Rheume</i>		<b>Join the Square Dance Band</b> <i>Teilhard Frost</i>	
<b>2:00</b>		<b>Island Vibes</b> <i>Abondance</i>		<b>Forgotten Fiddles</b> <i>Medusa</i>	<b>Songwright</b> <i>Japhy Sullivan interviews Scott Cook, Maria Dunn and Lennie Gallant</i>	<b>Guitar Masterclass</b> <i>Jason Fowler</i>			<b>2:00</b>
<b>3:00</b>		<b>Blue Skies Choir Loft</b> Friday 5 pm Meet and Greet Saturday 10:30 am Choir Practice Saturday 5:30 pm Choir Practice							<b>3:00</b>
<b>4:15</b>	<b>Square Dance</b> <i>Caller: Hannah Shira Naiman Band Leader: Teilhard Frost</i>	<b>5 pm Drumming at the Drum Circle</b> <i>Hosted by Oisin Hammigan</i>							<b>4:15</b>

**SATURDAY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**



The **Inner Parking Lot** is close to the important stuff. The **Recycling Depot** is across from the outhouses. Follow along to the right and up to the **Info Booth** and **Kart Depot**. Continue around the Info Booth to **First Aid** and next to it are the **T-Shirt Store** and the **Music Store**. Across from and facing the Info Booth is the **Cookshack** (with the Food sign), to the right and down from the Cookshack is the **Ice Freezer**, while up and to the left is the **Snack Shack** and **Corn Boil**.



**Outhouses** - There are numerous outhouses or loos at Blue Skies, 17 in total, so many that we don't even mark them on the map. Just look around and you're bound to see one. There are two accessible loos, in the Inner Parking Lot and in the Kids' Area. (And three of the loos have two holes so you can share that special time with a friend!)

**Water** - There are five public water taps on the map - at the Cooling Station in Sleepy Hollow, at the top of the hill next to the Store and Recycling, at the washing station at the entrance to High Meadow, behind the Cooling Station in Magooville, and in the Kids' Area. Please conserve water.

**Workshops** - Most workshops happen on the Main Stage or close by. If you stand in front of the Main Stage and look up the hill, there are four tarp-covered gazebos within sight - the Swamp Gazebo is tucked around to your right, the Hilltop Gazebo is ahead and up to the right, the Meadow Gazebo is ahead and to your left, and the Finger Gazebo is around on your left. The Open Stage is at the top of the hill across from the Info Booth, while the Choir Loft and Drum Circle are behind the Main Stage, hidden down a road behind the Kids' Area, up in the woods.

**Cooling Stations (formerly known as showers)** - It's only cold water but in the heat of August most folks are *really* grateful. There are two cooling stations - in Sleepy Hollow, and in Magooville. Both have three stalls, one of the stalls in Magooville is wheelchair accessible.

	Main Stage	Finger	Drum Circle	Meadow	Hilltop	Swamp	Open Stage	
<b>9:00</b>	<b>Crafting in Clay</b> <i>Catherine Reeves and Emillie Meredith</i>	<b>Braided Hair Wraps</b> <i>Annie McLaughlin and Morijah Oslund</i>		<b>Healing from your Roots</b> <i>Hannah Lafayette Brooks</i>	<b>Blue Skies Storytelling</b> <i>John Sedgewick and Ann Sharp</i>	<b>Handmade Greeting Cards</b> <i>Sue Lyon</i>	<b>Eco-Art Storytelling</b> <i>Laura Andrew and Heidi Viets</i>	<b>9:00</b>
<b>10:00</b>		<b>Breath and Body Work</b> <i>Jackie Mcchesney</i>	<b>Reading and Writing Poetry</b> <i>Jonah Saks</i>	<b>Acroyoga - Learn to Fly</b> <i>Amelia Johnson and Francisca Lanthier</i>	<b>Write a Blue Skies Poem</b> <i>Claudia Coutu Radmore</i>	<b>Sustainable Building</b> <i>Bridget O'Flaherty</i>	<b>Making Lanterns</b> <i>Margo Pineau and Annie McLaughlin</i>	<b>10:00</b>
	<b>Songs of Praise and Joy</b> <i>Karen Morand</i>	<b>We Thought It Was Funny</b> <i>Reverend Ken and Washboard Hank</i>	<b>History of Ardoch Algonquin First Nation</b> <i>Mireille LaPointe and Paula Sherman</i>	<b>Painted Feet Dance Part Two</b> <i>Bob and Robin Millar</i>	<b>Over My Dead Body</b> <i>David Lyon</i>	<b>Tai Chi</b> <i>Dale Driver</i>	<b>Unique Circle Song</b> <i>Chris MacLean and Jennifer Noxon</i>	
<b>11:00</b>				<b>Baking It! Meadow Fire Pit</b> <i>Scott and Kaia Stewart</i>	<b>Songs of Hope</b> <i>Christine Graves</i>	<b>Play in the Fiddle Orchestra</b> <i>Cindy McCall</i>	<b>Open Stage</b> <i>Hosted by Linda Grenier</i>	<b>noon</b>
<b>noon</b>	<b>Vocal Harmony Jam</b> <i>Shannon Linton and Whitney O'Hearn</i>	<b>Creative Process and Mental Health</b> <i>Ketsmy</i>	<b>Blues Jam</b> <i>Jesse Greene and Andy Byrne</i>	<b>Don't Blow Your Cover</b> <small>(noon - 1 pm)</small> <i>Basset</i>				
<b>1:00</b>	<b>Local to Global</b> <i>Lennie Gallant</i>	<b>Play Play</b> <i>Janice Jo Lee</i>		<b>Scrubbing Up Well</b> <i>The Vaudevillian</i>	<b>Traditional Singing Circle</b> <i>Japhy Sullivan</i>	<b>Play in the Ukulele Orchestra</b> <i>Christine Graves</i>		<b>1:00</b>
<b>2:00</b>		<b>Fiddlin' with The Gertrudes</b> <i>The Gertrudes</i>		<b>Sing-along-able Songs</b> <i>Maria Dunn</i>	<b>Plays Well with Others</b> <i>Oisin Hannigan and Peter Klaassen</i>			<b>2:00</b>
<b>3:00</b>	<b>Blue Skies Showcase</b>				<b>Blue Skies Choir Loft</b> Sunday 9 am Practice 1 pm Practice 6:30 pm Meet beside the Main Stage 7 pm Main Stage Performance			<b>3:00</b>
<b>4:15</b>	<b>Square Dance</b> <i>Caller: Hannah Shira Naiman Band Leader: Teilhard Frost</i>	<b>5 pm Drumming at the Drum Circle</b> <i>Hosted by Oisin Hannigan</i>						<b>4:15</b>

**SUNDAY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

## **Workshops from Blue Skies past (cont'd from page 39)**

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Hyperventilation - Interpretive Dance - Inuit Dance - Jazz - Juggling - Kayagum - Latin American - Masks - Massage- Medicine Wheel - Medieval Sounds - Meditation - Midwifery - Nature Games - Nature Walks - Naturopathy - Obstacle Races - Old Roots - Optimism - Painting - Paper Flowers - Percussion - Pipe Ceremony - Playing Around - Poetry - Polarity Therapy - Quebecois - Radionics - Reflexology - Reggae - Reiki Energy - Rituals - Self Portraits - Shiatsu - Short Stories - Simplicity - Singing - Sister Moon - Sock Puppets - Song Writing - Soups - Star Gazing - String Quartets - Stupid Songs - Sufi Dance - Sundials - Sunrise Ceremony - Sweat Lodge - Sympathetic Resonance - Tall Tales - Tango - Tarot - Theatre - Tai Chi - Tree Hugging - Uranium - Violin - Wacko Songs - Weeds - Wildflower Walk - Women Healing - Woodwind - Wreath Making - Yoga.

May this workshop tradition continue for the next 50 years!

Now, a bit of housekeeping. There have been some concerns about the Tipi location not being accessible, so **the Tipi is not being set up this year and no workshops are being scheduled at that location**. The workshops are either happening at the Drum Circle (in behind the Kids' Area) or at a new location, a Pop-Up beside the Popsicle/Snack Shack. Check the Schedule Grid. Plus all the details are included in the following workshop descriptions.

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## **Saturday Workshops**

### **Tai Chi**

**Saturday 9 - 10 am, Main Stage**

Learn and practice elements of the 108-move Tai Chi form.

*Host: Dale Driver*

### **Digital Future of AI**

**Saturday 9 - 10 am, Finger**

The uncertain digital future with AI, “Smart Devices” and “Smart Cities”. How can we maintain a healthy connection to nature, ourselves, and our community? Explore the issues and possible solutions.

*Host: Daniel Airth Nelson*

### **Musical Theatre**

**Saturday 9 - 10 am, Meadow**

Love the spotlight? Want to be on stage? Welcome to MUSICAL THEATRE FOR TEENS! Learn performance skills, dance moves and a song, then put it all together in front of an audience.

*Host: Laureen Lafayette-Brooks*

### **Blue Skies Zine**

**Saturday 9 - 10 am, Hilltop**

Gather and share memories of Blue Skies as we create our own zine archive! Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come contribute - all supplies are gifted/recycled materials. *Host: Madeline Mckinnell*

### **Linocut Patch**

**Saturday 9 - 10:30 am, Swamp**

Make prints on fabric. Each participant will make their own prints and patches to decorate bags, jackets, etc. Together we create a BLUE SKIES 50th patchwork quilt/banner which includes one of YOUR prints to display in the Sunday morning parade! *Host: Abby Nowakowski*

### **Make a 70s Style Macrame Plant Hanger**

**Saturday 9 - 10 am, Open Stage**

This is both like and different from your Grandma's macrame. Today's macrame cord is soft recycled cotton and environmentally friendly. Have fun and learn how to create a simple 3-knot macrame hanger! All materials provided! *Hosts: Sue Taylor-Davidson and Mary Davidson*

### **Stitch a Connection**

**Saturday 10 - 11 am, Main Stage**

Experience the art of slow stitching by hand, using eco-friendly materials to create sustainable quilt blocks. Learn the basics of quilting and why sustainability in textiles matters. All materials are provided; or bring your own projects and supplies. *Host: Bridget O'Flaherty*

### **Blue Skies Button Necklaces**

**Saturday 10 - 11 am, Finger**

Do you remember playing with buttons as a child, sifting through them, sorting by color and size, each a tiny treasure? Learn how to create a light-weighted necklace that will show off the blue, white and yellow Blue Skies festival colours! *Host: Kathy Geden Cole*

### **First Nations Blanket Exercise**

**Saturday 10 - 12 Noon, Drum Circle**

Come prepared to engage your hearts and minds in a participatory event that lets you experience the impact of the historic loss of Indigenous lands through colonization. A discussion will follow on the current relationship between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people and the path toward Truth and Reconciliation.

*Host: Mireille LaPointe*

## **Saturday Workshops at Blue Skies**

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### **Painted Feet Dance on Canvas - Part One**

**Saturday 10 - 11:30 am, Meadow**

Be prepared to get your feet wet and messy for this one. Participants will develop a choreographed dance to a drum/fiddle beat while dancing on a 5ft by 40ft canvas. Once the dance is perfected, dancers will remove their socks and shoes, then dip their feet/toes into paints and dance along the canvas, creating a design. Your feet become brushes and the design emerges through the dance. This workshop is in two parts - Part Two is on Sunday. The end result will be a gift to Blue Skies as a mural. *Hosts: Bob Millar and Robin Millar*

### **50 Years of Blue Skies Storytelling**

**Saturday 10 - 11 am, Hilltop**

Fifty years of Blue Skies moments and yours are amongst them. Come, tell us why you are here. *Hosts: John Sedgewick and Ann Sharp*

### **Essential Songwriting**

**Saturday 10 - 11 am, Open Stage**

Have you ever wondered how to write a song? Join songwriter and teacher Kristin Lindell for a fun play-shop on the art of songwriting. Learn three simple ways to write a song and craft your own. We will work solo and in groups, finding fun ways to write lyrics, tunes and play along. Bring your own guitar or ukulele. Some percussion instruments available. *Host: Kristin Lindell*

### **Play in the Ukulele Orchestra**

**Saturday 10:30 - 12 Noon, Swamp**

Play in the Ukulele Orchestra. Practice for the Blue Skies Showcase on Sunday at 3 pm. See page 23. *Host: Christine Graves*

### **Sweet Ride (Craft)**

**Saturday 11 - 12 Noon, Main Stage**

Come one and all - Dream up your customized 70's camper van. Decorate your dream van with paint, markers, crayons, as well as mixed media collage; magazines, fabric scraps, buttons, sequins, and more. Share the story of your dream van and afterwards proudly display it at your campsite. *Hosts: abi lyon wicke and Griffin Wicke*

### **Create a Blue Skies Memory Board**

**Saturday 11 - 12 Noon, Finger**

Come share your stories and experiences of Blue Skies. Then use craft and collage to create a memory board. Let your art express your love and what Blue Skies means to you while creating a group memory board or create your very own memory board to take home. Listen to others while glueing and pasting and laughing and playing. You will leave filled with happiness. *Host: Jackie Mcchesney*

### **Retro Macrame**

#### **Saturday 11 - 12 Noon, Hilltop**

Are you baffled about where to keep your toothbrush when camping? It's easy to make your own funky retro hippy macrame toothbrush-and-paste holder. Can also be used for plants!  
*Hosts: Sheila Cook and Sarah Dulmage*

### **Write a Blue Skies Poem - Blue Skies is With Us Always and Anywhere**

#### **Saturday 11 - 12 Noon, Open Stage**

Share times when you have thought about Blue Skies - when in another country or in the kitchen. You will end up with a draft of an interesting poem that shows how Blue Skies is with us always and anywhere. Bring paper and pencil or pen. *Host: Claudia Coutu Radmore*

### **Knit It!**

#### **Saturday 11 am - 12 Noon, Pop-Up-by-the-Popsicles (Snack Shack)**

Have you ever wanted to learn how to knit but never had the opportunity? This is your chance! Absolute beginners are welcome. Join us in getting down with yarn and make fun creations to take home with you. *Hosts: Emma McLaughlin and Tanya Glowacki*

### **Embodied Resonance**

#### **Saturday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Main Stage**

The beauty of singing in harmony is the unity that happens when you bounce sound around each others' bodies. In this embodied resonance workshop, we will connect on a heart-level, through frequency interactions and playful melodic layering. *Hosts: The Lifers*

### **Odd is the New Even**

#### **Saturday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Finger**

Odd time doesn't have to feel odd! In Balkan and Mediterranean music traditions, a 9/8 is as common as a 4/4. Klaassen will be teaching their own approach to writing and playing in odd metres. Together we will find ease, fluidity and musical grooves in 7/8, 9/8, and 11/8. *Hosts: Klaassen*

### **How to Get Involved at Blue Skies**

#### **Saturday 12 Noon - 1:30 pm, Drum Circle**

Blue Skies can seem like a complicated puzzle but it's also a community, and a touchstone for many. Join us for a discussion on the how-to's of Blue Skies organizing. We'll explain "why do you do that!?" and where to start when you don't know anybody. Ask any question - we'll answer it. *Hosts: Susan Walker and Haley Rose*

## **Saturday Workshops at Blue Skies**

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### **Roots Music: Connecting to your culture through music**

#### **Saturday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Meadow**

Whether you already feel connected to your culture or are looking to reconnect, musical exploration can be an extremely meaningful way to share your heritage. The power of expressing where we come from through language, music styles and rhythms runs deep. *Host: Saskia Tomkins*

### **Building Bridges**

#### **Saturday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Hilltop**

In an increasingly divided world, music remains a powerful way to connect with folks of different stripes. Let's explore songs that connect us despite and because of our differences and celebrate how music has the power to bring us together. *Host: Scott Cook*

### **Play in the Fiddle Orchestra**

#### **Saturday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Swamp**

Play in the Fiddle Orchestra (see page 25) *Host: Cindy McCall*

### **Open Stage**

#### **Saturday 12 Noon - 2 pm, Open Stage**

At the top of the Hill, across from the Info Booth and First Aid, a potluck porridge of performers! *Host: Linda Grenier*

### **Eastern European Tunes**

#### **Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Main Stage**

Bring your instruments, bodies and voices and get ready to join the band! Polky will take us on a musical journey through Eastern Europe. teaching rhythms, dances and songs unique to those traditions. Many of the tunes are straightforward so everyone can join! *Hosts: Polky*

### **Climate Justice Song Circle**

#### **Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Finger**

The climate crisis the world is facing can feel overwhelming. Let's lift our voices and sing songs that help us make sense of this urgent situation. Come and share a song to inspire and empower us to demand and implement the urgent changes needed to protect our planet.

*Host: Shannon Linton*

### **Putting the Blues in Blue Skies**

#### **Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Meadow**

Explore a variety of blues traditions from the deep south to gospel and R&B. Join Angelique Francis for a lesson in how to honour time-worn traditions while letting your own unique brand of blues shine through. *Host: Angelique Francis*

**Musical Growth Through Community Building**

**Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Hilltop**

How does a welcoming community act as a catalyst for music growth? Discussion led by Amanda Rheame, co-founder of Ishkode Records and a songwriter from a long line of tireless, transformational activists. *Host: Amanda Rheame*

**Join the Square Dance Band**

**Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Swamp**

One hour of rehearsal and then you go on the main Stage at 4:15 pm for the Big Event. Instant Blue Skies stardom! *Host: Teilhard Frost*

**Island Vibes**

**Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Finger**

Discover the diverse rhythms that make up the music of the West Indies. Abondance will share their methods of composition and the use of technology to electrify traditional music. Abondance equates West Indies + city life = sheer pleasure of the senses *Hosts: Abondance*

**Forgotten Fiddles**

**Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Meadow**

Have you heard of the Suka? the Płosk fidel? the Nyckelharpa? Medusa will introduce you to these near-forgotten traditional folk fiddles with disreputable reputations that were rejected for centuries in their home countries of Poland and Sweden. *Host: Medusa*

**Songwright**

**Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Hilltop**

Songwright is an opportunity for three terrific songwriters at this year's festival to share their individual approaches to the craft through interviews and performance. *Host Japhy Sullivan interviews Scott Cook, Maria Dunn & Lennie Gallant*

**Guitar Masterclass**

**Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Swamp**

Learn the secrets of masterful guitar playing from a professional with over 40 years of experience: tuning by ear, left and right hand technical exercises, how to practise, timing & tone, barre chords, fingernails & flatpicks, partial capo'ing and more! *Host: Jason Fowler*

**Drumming at the Drum Circle**

**Saturday 5 pm, The Drum Circle**

All percussionists welcome! Come and join the Blue Skies Drums in the Drum Circle behind the Kids' Area. Oisín Hannigan will lead workshops on Saturday and Sunday, preparing a performance piece for the Sunday night concert. *Host: Oisín Hannigan*



## Sunday Workshops

### **Crafting in Clay**

**Sunday 9 - 10 am, Main Stage**

Enjoy the experience of getting your hands in clay while being guided by a professional ceramic artist.

*Hosts: Catherine Reeves and Emillie Meredith*

### **Braided Hair Wraps**

**Sunday 9 - 10 am, Finger**

Come and join in the fun as we help bring even more colour to Blue Skies with hair wraps! We are inviting those who feel like it to share some future intentions that will be braided into their wrap.

*Hosts: Annie McLaughlin and Morijah Oslund*

### **Healing From Your Roots**

**Sunday 9 - 10 am, Meadow**

A plant cannot survive without healthy roots and neither can we. Meet Hannah, a Naturopathic Doctor and dive into the ways we can heal on a deeper level to address the health of our body, mind and spirit.

Get ready for the next 50 years, living at a new level of health, peace, freedom and joy! *Host: Hannah Lafayette Brooks*

### **50 Years of Blue Skies Storytelling**

**Sunday 9 - 10 am, Hilltop**

Ann's first time at Blue Skies was in 1975, John's was in 1982. We've been inviting friends to come share some stories with you. Come share the sharing *Hosts: John Sedgewick and Ann Sharp*

### **Handmade Greeting Cards**

**Sunday 9 - 10 am, Swamp**

Discover how to make a beautiful handmade greeting card that will stun your recipient. Using straight lines and coloured embroidery threads, your chosen design will appear. Explore the endless possibilities using a very simple sewing technique. *Host: Sue Lyon*

### **Eco-art Storytelling**

**Sunday 9 - 10 am, Open Stage**

Deepening our connections with the natural world and with one another through making art with natural materials, exploring personal and planetary wellness. *Hosts: Laura Andrew and Heidi Viets*

### **Breath and Body Work**

**Sunday 10 - 11 am, Finger**

Relaxing bodywork done with deep release exhalations. Learn a seated sequence of massage techniques done with a partner. Techniques include Thai massage, shiatsu and acupressure and will focus on the upper body, head, shoulders, arms and hands. Bring a partner or meet one here. Please bring a mat or blanket. *Host: Jackie Mcchesney*

### **Reading and Writing Poetry**

#### **Sunday 10 - 11 am, Drum Circle**

Come join us as we journey through poetry: we'll read some selected poems together and then we'll write our own poems (about whatever we want!) and take turns presenting them. *Host: Jonah Saks*

### **Acroyoga - Learn to Fly**

#### **Sunday 10 - 11 am, Meadow**

Prepare to be swept off your feet with your flying partner Acroyoga. Come learn to fly and to lift your friends up! Think airplane on feet for all ages. No experience or partner required. Please bring a sense of humour, a blanket, water, and clothes you can move in (Leggings are ideal but not required) *Hosts: Amelia Johnson and Francisca Lanthier*

### **Write a Blue Skies Poem. Where Were You in the Last 50 years?**

#### **Sunday 10 - 11 am, Hilltop**

Follow up and New Beginnings. You may have a draft poem to complete or a new one to begin. Come share moments of Blue Skies nostalgia and create a poem that shows how Blue Skies is with us always and anywhere. Bring paper and pencil or pen.

*Host: Claudia Coutu Radmore*

### **Sustainable Building**

#### **Sunday 10 - 11 am, Swamp**

Join us to learn about sustainable building basics, terminology, energy-efficient systems, and grants. Upgrade your home for sustainability and save money while benefiting the planet. Share your experiences, connect with like-minded folks, and get inspired to try new ideas.

*Host: Bridget O'Flaherty*

### **Making Lanterns**

#### **Sunday 10 - 11 am, Open Stage**

Create your own Blue Skies lantern using recycled plastic jars, torn tissue paper, pipe cleaners and flameless tea light candles. Make a keepsake lantern to take to the hillside or light up your campsite.

*Hosts: Margo Pineau and Annie McLaughlin*

### **Songs of Praise and Joy**

#### **Sunday 10:30 - 12 Noon, Main Stage**

Join a Blue Skies Sunday morning tradition, right after the best parade ever. Sing songs of praise and joy! Blue Skies musical guests share their songs. Let our host know if you have a song to share!

*Host: Karen Morand*

## Sunday Workshops at Blue Skies

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### **We thought it was funny 50 years ago** **Sunday 11 am - 12 Noon, Finger**

Laugh til ya cry at the funny songs workshop, with Washboard Hank and Reverend Ken, audience welcome to participate *Hosts: Reverend Ken and Washboard Hank*



### **History of Ardoch Algonquin First Nation** **Sunday 11 am - 12 Noon, Drum Circle**

Join this presentation on the responsibilities and the history of Ardoch Algonquin First Nations Community.

*Hosts: Paula Sherman and Mireille Lapointe*

### **Painted Dancing Feet on Canvas continues - Part Two** **Sunday 11 am - 12 Noon, Meadow**

Participants will complete what they began yesterday, a choreographed dance on a 5ft by 40ft canvas on the ground using their feet as paint brushes. The design will emerge through the dance. The end result will be a gift to Blue Skies as a mural. *Hosts: Bob Millar and Robin Millar*

### **Baking It!**

#### **Sunday 11 am - 12 Noon, Meadow Fire Pit**

Learn to make fresh wholesome breads over a campfire or stovetop, fast and easy! Tortillas, naan, roti, Bannock and more! All with fewer than five ingredients! No need to ever buy bread again for camping or home! Bring your own toppings for flatbread if you wish. Butter provided.

*Hosts: Scott Stewart and Kaia Stewart*

### **Over My Dead Body**

#### **Sunday 11 am - 12 Noon, Hilltop**

Green burial is shallow and uses only biodegradables. It also offers more intimate family-and-friends involvement in death-care, including ceremony and burial. Come and learn about alternative burials.

*Host: David Lyon*

### **Tai Chi**

#### **Sunday 11 am - 12 Noon, Swamp**

Learn and practice elements of the 108-move Tai Chi form.

*Host: Dale Driver*

### **Unique Circle Song**

#### **Sunday 11 am - 12 Noon, Open Stage**

Singers of all abilities are invited to come and explore the potential of the human voice as an instrument, creating improvised songs through interlocking vocal parts similar to an orchestra or band. The facilitators improvise the vocal parts and teach them to the participants and...

Voila! A unique circle song is born.

*Hosts: Chris MacLean and Jennifer Noxon*

**Vocal Harmony Jam**

**Sunday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Main Stage**

Join us for a vocal harmony jam session where you can workshop your own tunes! Not sure where to start when it comes to vocal harmony? Here's your chance to take your tune for a test drive with Shannon Linton and Whitney O'Hearn leading any interested singers in a vocal harmony improv and jam

*Hosts: Shannon Linton and Whitney O'Hearn*

**The Creative Process and Mental Health**

**Sunday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Finger**

What kind of impact does the creative process of writing and composition have on your mental health and personal growth? Ketsmy will lead us through an honest and open conversation about the positive impacts of creativity and self-expression on the mind, heart and soul. *Host: Ketsmy*

**Blues Jam!!**

**Sunday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Drum Circle**

Join Bluesman Jesse Greene as she takes you through the basics of getting your blues groove on. All ages welcome, bring any instrument and your friends. *Hosts: Jesse Greene and Andy Byrne*

**Don't Blow Your Cover**

**Sunday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Meadow**

Ever think "Wow, that cover song really captured the essence of the original while still sounding completely unique"? Let's talk about walking the line between honouring what you love about someone else's song while still making sure you are expressing your own voice. Come sing some cover songs but don't forget to bring your own spin!

*Host: Basset*

**Songs of Hope**

**Sunday 12 noon - 1 pm, Hilltop**

Tough times. Social justice has taken a beating lately. We all want to do what is right and fight for essential needs. Let's let music help us! Bring your protest song and share it in a workshop round where we can embrace hope and draw strength from unity. *Host: Christine Graves*

**Play in the Fiddle Orchestra**

**Sunday 12 Noon - 1:30 pm, Swamp**

Rehearsal for Blue Skies Showcase on Main Stage at 3 pm today. Cindy McCall leads the Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra year round. Details on page 25. *Orchestra Director: Cindy McCall*

## Sunday Workshops at Blue Skies



### **Open Stage**

#### **Sunday 12 Noon - 2 pm, Open Stage**

At the top of the Hill, across from the Info Booth and First Aid, a potluck porridge of performers! *hosted by Linda Grenier*

### **Local to Global**

#### **Sunday 1 - 2 pm, Main Stage**

How do you walk the line between supporting and celebrating local and experiencing global perspectives? Lennie Gallant is a master at using regional traditions and styles to provide a unique perspective on universal themes. Join him for a look at how to tell stories that resonate with folks both far and near.

*Host: Lennie Gallant*

### **Play Play: Music, Theatre and Spoken Word**

#### **Sunday 1 - 2 pm, Finger**

Some fun and easy theatre games will lead us into writing short poems. We will close with a cypher, where we jam in a circle, speaking our poems over the rhythm we create together with our voices and bodies.

*Host: Janice Jo Lee*

### **Scrubbing Up Well**

#### **Sunday 1 - 2 pm, Meadow**

Norah Spades the 'Washboard Queen' will teach young and old the history and culture of the musical washboard. Learn the various ways to scrub the old fashioned washing machine and in turn create incredible music! Expect to laugh up a storm while learning how to play the washboard with friends old and new. Washboards and Thimbles will be provided. *Host: The Vaudevillian*

### **Traditional Singing Circle**

#### **Sunday 1 - 2 pm, Hilltop**

Unaccompanied singing of narrative ballads is a prominent feature in many of the world's folk music cultures. Join us and explore the traditional song repertoire of Canada, Britain, Ireland, and beyond. Bring a song to share! *Host: Japhy Sullivan*

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## **Play in the Ukulele Orchestra**

**Sunday 1:30 - 3 pm, Swamp**

Play in the Ukulele Orchestra. Get ready for the Blue Skies Showcase at 3 pm. See page 23. *Host: Christine Graves*

## **Fiddlin' with The Gertrudes**

**Sunday 2 - 3 pm, Finger**

All experience levels welcome, including anyone who's never picked up a fiddle (we will have some fiddles available for you to try out). We'll teach easy versions of the tunes, and ways to make them more advanced by using melodic and rhythmic tricks. We will sing and play together, and feel better about life.

*Hosts: The Gertrudes*

## **Sing-along-able Songs**

**Sunday 2 - 3 pm, Meadow**

What makes a song easy and fun to sing along with? Maria Dunn often encourages people to sing along during her performances. She will demonstrate tips on writing singable choruses, and teach some detailed harmonies into the mix as well.

*Host: Maria Dunn*

## **Plays Well with Others**

**Sunday 2 - 3 pm, Hilltop**

Join an experienced rhythm duo to learn the basics of accompanying instrumentalists and singers, how to create a solid rhythmic foundation for music making, and how to expand on it to create excitement and dynamics. *Hosts: Oisín Hannigan and Peter Klaassen*

## **Drumming at the Drum Circle**

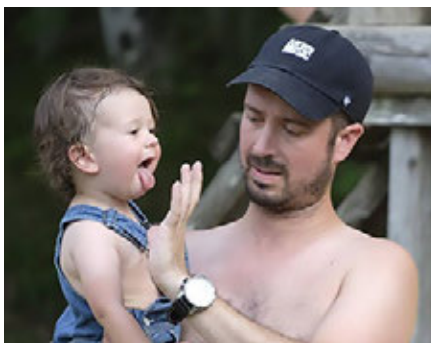
**Sunday 5 pm, Drum Circle**

All percussionists welcome! Come and join the Blue Skies Drums in the Drum Circle behind the Kids' Area. Oisín Hannigan will lead the workshops on Saturday and Sunday, preparing a performance piece for the Sunday night concert. *Host: Oisín Hannigan*

# **Teen Workshops**

Please see the descriptions on page 82

# Kids' Area



Blue Skies aims to be a safe & creative space for the whole family. Adults and kids are all welcome. Everybody loves their smiling faces. *Please note: We are not a baby-sitting service. **Please take responsibility for your children's care.*** So, KIDS, bring your adults!! We want all parents, grandparents, & fairy-friendparents with us!! Come hang out, enjoy the area & workshops!!! Grown-up faces can be painted too!! Let's all be a part of the fun!!!



## Kids' Workshops - Saturday

### 50th Birthday Party Card Decorating Saturday 9 - 10 am, Small Stage

Blue Skies is 50!! Come and help decorate the Blue Skies 50th Birthday Card!! Can't make it Saturday morning? No worries! This awesome creation will be available all day on Saturday and until 4 pm on Sunday. All welcome to have fun!! *Host: Sarah Rosenthal*

### 50th Birthday Prints and Painting Saturday 9 - 10 am, Small Stage

Celebrate 50 years of Blue Skies! Paint your favourite memories. Use tempera paint or acrylics, try dot, free hand painting, mandalas, or stencils. Try a family or friends project! All ages welcome!

*Host: Carol Coutu*

## The Motions of Pool

**Saturday 9 - 10 am, Out Front**

Pool Fun!! See how the lines and angles work as balls bounce against the table and each other. Learn how to set up the balls, and the principles of breaking and shooting balls into the pockets. Try strokes to achieve various shots. *Hosts: Bob Millar and Robin Millar*

## Kids Yoga

**Saturday 9 - 10 am, Field**

Kids, bring your parents and friends, and have fun with yoga poses!! Balance the elements of your body, and smile!! *Host: Justin Byrne*

## Good Morning Performance with Gary Rasberry

**Saturday 10 - 11 am, Large Stage**

Today is a good day to have a good day, friends!! Come join Juno-nominated artist Gary Rasberry for some morning moving and grooving. Bring your favourite joke, song, or story and we'll kick-start another awesome Blue Skies!! [www.garyrasberry.com](http://www.garyrasberry.com)  
*Host: Gary Rasberry*



## Parachute Games

**Saturday 10 - 11 am, Field**

Non-competitive, co-operative parachute games for kids between 5 and 10 years old. *Host: Joe Rizk*

## Shakers and Ribbon Sticks

**Saturday 10 - 11 am, Small Stage**

Create with us in preparation for the Sunday Blue Skies parade!! Together we will make flag sticks and crazy shakers to carry in the parade. Bring a good long stick if you have one. We will supply ribbons, fabric, tape, and shaker-making supplies. *Host: Cedar McLean*

## Kids' Tie-Dye

**Saturday 11 am - 12 Noon, Out Front**

Get your hands messy and leave with a psychedelically-coloured piece of art! Bring anything you have that's made of 100% cotton. Some items will be available for sale, so **BRING CASH**. Remember to bring plastic bags to put your creations in and then let them bake in the sun. Bring extra bags, if you can. Please bring your tie-dye creations back to your campsites. *Hosts: Mitchell Webster and Vel Craig*



**Adult Tie-Dye**

**Saturday 12 Noon - 1pm, Out Front**

All right, big kids: now it's your turn to turn something boring into something wild. Bring along anything you have that's made of 100% cotton. Some items will be available for sale so **BRING CASH**.

Remember to bring your plastic bags to put your creations in and then let them bake in the sun. Bring extra bags, if you can. Please bring your tie-dye creations back to your campsites.

*Hosts: Mitchell Webster and Vel Craig*



**Performance - Washboard Hank with Sweet Muriel**

**Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Large Stage**

Washboard Hank is a Blue Skies' stalwart and the founder of the Sunday morning parade. Hank is a well-travelled entertainer who delights children with his totally wacky combination of great songs and pure creativity. His Blue Skies kids show is almost as much fun as the parade!  
[www.washboardhank.net](http://www.washboardhank.net)

*Hosts: Washboard Hank and Sweet Muriel*

**Face Painting**

**Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Out Front**

Kids Face Painting! Join us to have one of our talented face painters paint your face, or create your own face paint creations on your friends!

*Host: Maggie McLean*

**Up-cycle: Tissue-box Ukuleles and Toilet-paper-roll Kazoos**

**Saturday 1 - 2 pm, Small Stage**

Decorate tissue boxes or toilet paper rolls with wrapping paper, markers, and ribbons. Kazoo makers will discover the vibrational properties of wax paper when it is affixed to the toilet paper roll with an elastic band. Music magic! *Host: Rebecca Worden*

**50th Projects**

**Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Small Stage**

Paint markers for shirts & stuff, decorating wooden pendants & more!!!  
Happy 50th BlueSkies!!! xox

**Cartooning**

**Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Large Stage**

Creativity & imagination are all you need... we have your paper & pencil!! For one hour, we will explore some fundamentals of Cartooning!!!! *Host: Will Jessup*

**Hair Wraps**

**Saturday 2 - 3 pm, Out Front**

Join in the fun as we help bring even more colour to Blue Skies with hair wraps! We are inviting those who feel like it to share some future intentions that will be braided into their wrap. All ages are more than welcome. *Host: Annie McLaughlin*

**Performance - Dress Up and Dance Party with Jesse Greene**  
**Saturday 3 - 4 pm, Large Stage**

Jesse Greene has been a Blue Skies-er since she was a kid. She has performed on the Blue Skies main stage and at Bluesfest, was a Memphis Blues International finalist and so much more!!

Come join this guitar wizard for a Dress up & Dance party & get your groove on. All ages welcome. Bring your costumes, your shakers, your noise makers and your dancing feet.  
[www.thejessegreeneband.com](http://www.thejessegreeneband.com)  
*Host: Jesse Greene*



**Open Crafts**

**Saturday 3 - 4 pm, Small Stage**

Explore the materials. Discover the endless possibilities. Experiment. Design and make your own creation!! Have fun!!

**Six-word stories**

Came as friends  
left as family *Jesse Long*

Safe place  
to set kids free *Amy Simoneau*

Midsummer's songs star showers until dawn *Toby Wells*

## Kids Workshops - Sunday

### Blue Skies Parade with Magoo and Washboard Hank Sunday 9:45 - 10:15 am, Field

The best Blue Skies Tradition ever! Back Again! Come One, Come All! Shake those shakers! Bang those pots and pans! Dress your best! Wear your most colourful, silliest costume! All our little saints (and big ones too) will be waking sleepy campers! Let's make this one the very BEST!!



### 50th Birthday Card Decorating, Wooden Pendants, Prints and Painting Sunday 10:15 am - 4 pm, Pop Up behind the Small Stage

Come and make your mark on the Blue Skies 50th Birthday Card!! Decorate your wooden pendant or your Blue Skies t-shirt. Or paint your favourite Blue Skies memories using real paints. Try dot, free hand painting, mandalas, or stencils. Make it a family or friends project!

### Parachute Games

#### Sunday 10:15 - 11 am, Field

Non-competitive, co-operative parachute games for kids 5-to-10 year olds. Let the games continue. *Host: Joe Rizk*

**Blues Babies**

**Sunday 11 am - 12 Noon, Large Stage**

Kids: Bring your friends, bring your adults, learn a song and sing the Blues!! Move your mind, move your body, and connect with the Blues!!

*Host: Chris DeAngelis*

**Hippie Camper Van Craft**

**Sunday 11 am - 12 Noon, Small Stage**

Sweet Ride: dream up your custom 70's camper van. Proudly display your amazing van and beautify your camp site.

*Hosts: Griffin Wicke and abi lyon wicke*

**Making Lanterns**

**Sunday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Large Stage**

Create your own Blue Skies lantern using recycled plastic jars, torn tissue paper, pipe cleaners and flameless tea light candles. Make a keepsake lantern to take to the hillside or light up your campsite.

*Hosts: Margo Pineau and Annie McLaughlin*

**Sunlit Mobiles**

**Sunday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Small Stage**

Everybody will be given the materials to capture the beauty of the sun within a mobile. We will spend our time stringing up fun beads, pieces of nature, and various trinkets on pre-made grapevine rings that each child will be able to take home! *Host: Annabella Duthie*

**Hands in Clay**

**Sunday 12 Noon - 1 pm, Out Front**

Enjoy the experience of getting your hands in clay while being guided by a professional ceramic artist. *Host: Catherine Reeves*

**Big Bubbles**

**Sunday 1 - 2 pm, Out Front**

Learn how to make gigantic soap bubbles that drift happily over the festival grounds. *Host: Steve Hanna*

**Open Crafts**

**Sunday 1 - 2 pm, Small Stage**

Explore the materials. Discover the endless possibilities. Experiment. Design and make your own creation!! Have Fun!!

## Kids' Area Sunday

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### Performance - Magoo Sunday 1 - 2 pm, Large Stage

Hey Kids! Come spend some time with Magoo. After all, a long time ago, before Magoo started travelling around playing music, Magoo was a summer camp guy. His adventures with kids back then were big fun, and they still are, only with more music. He and his pal Kirk cooked up 5 pretty darn good family recordings and Magoo plans to sing a bunch of those great songs for you and your family, right over there in the Kids' Area. [www.magooman.com](http://www.magooman.com)  
*Host: Magoo*



### Making Forest Eyes (Craft) Sunday 2 - 3 pm, Small Stage

Learn to make forest eyes with sticks and bits of wool. We will have supplies, but you are welcome to bring some small sticks and your fave colours in mind. *Hosts: Lisa and Brigitte*

### Knot Again!! Sunday 2 - 3 pm, Large Stage

The wonderful world of knots!! Come join the knotty tarpers for a beginners guide to handy knots you can use around the campsite. *Hosts: Damon Bond and Pascal Lussier*

### Storytime and Singalong for Kids Sunday 3 - 4 pm, Large Stage

Kids, bring your adults to this fun and interactive presentation involving stories and familiar interactive songs. We're looking forward to meeting you!! *Hosts: Terrance Brooks and Bonnie Anthony*

### Open Crafts and Last Chance to add to the 50th Birthday Card Sunday 3 - 4 pm, Small Stage

Have a laugh. Sing a song. Finish the banner. Finish your creations!! And whistle while you work!! Lalalala!!!

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## Hey Kids!

KIDS: Bring your adults to the Info Booth. Ask your adults to **remember what camping area** they sleep in. Like Magooville or Sleepy Hollow. Let your adults know that if anyone needs help, all you have to do is **ask someone wearing a bright red Blue Skies T-shirt**. They usually know what's going on and will be glad to help you **meet at the Info Booth**.



adapted from Ben Hodson's design on the cover of the 2018 festival program

## Bigger or Better!

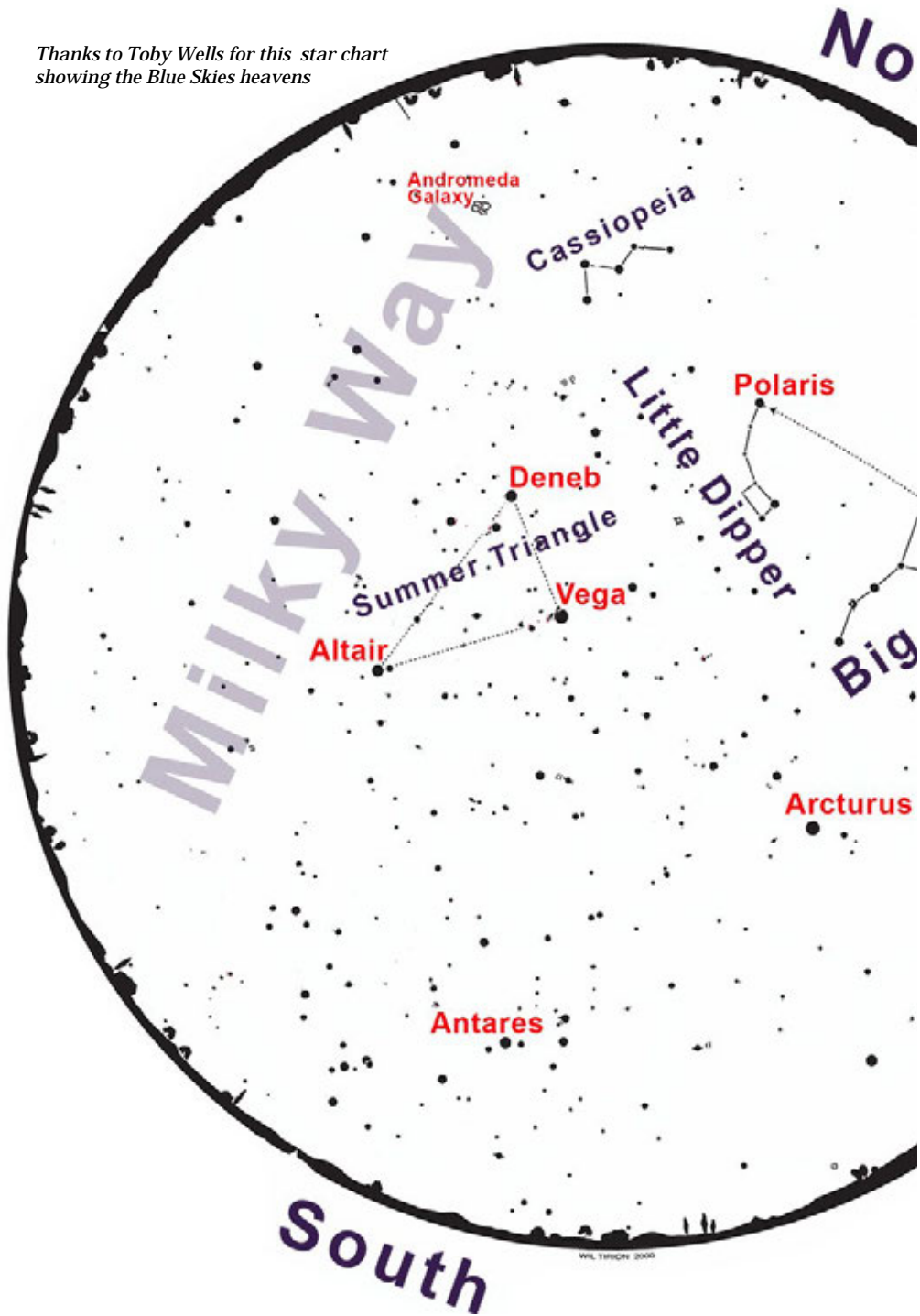
Pick an item from your camp site. It could be a muffin, a frisbee or a fork. It could be anything but start small. Go to the next campsite and ask them if they will trade for something **bigger or better**. Get to know who they are while you're negotiating the trade!

Once you've traded up, go to the next campsite and see if they will trade you for something **bigger or better**. Carry on for as long as you're all having fun and making friends.



# The Blue Skies Star Chart

Thanks to Toby Wells for this star chart showing the Blue Skies heavens



## The Stars Overhead

There are some real advantages to Blue Skies being way out in the bush. Like the dark night sky can give city monkeys the chance to look up and literally see with their own eyes into the vast depths of space and time. How neat is that?

If (a BIG if) there are clear skies during the festival evenings - no cloud cover or rain clouds, no wildfire haze - the sun will be setting in the west around 8:30 pm. The moon rises above the horizon after 10:30 pm so the hours before then will be best for star and planet gazing.

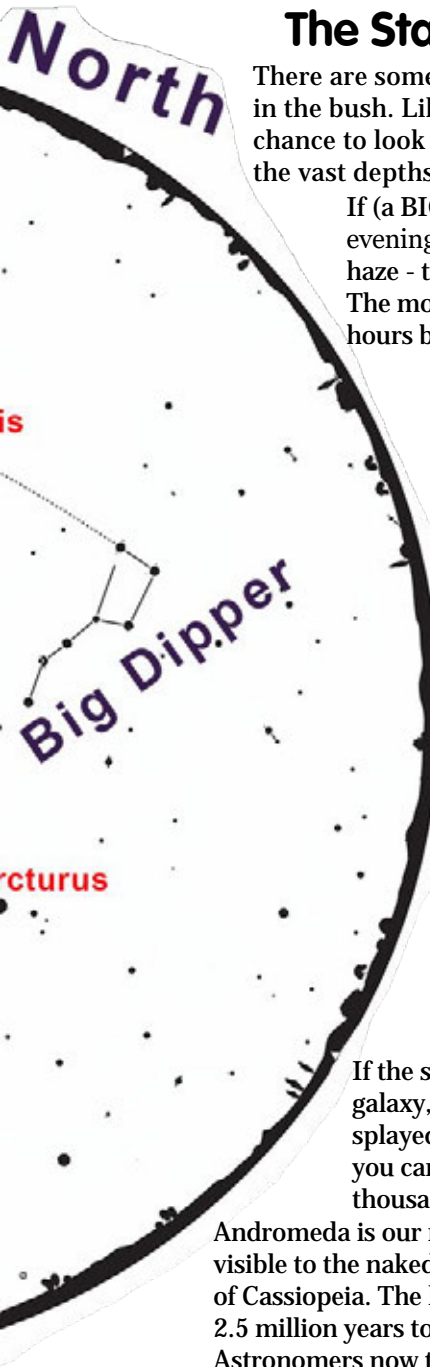
The brightest objects in the sky are the planets and their orbit is along an elliptical arc that hangs close to the southern horizon. The brightest planet, Venus, sets at sunset, but Mars is above the south-west horizon until 9:30 pm when Saturn rises in the east and Saturn should be easily visible by 10 pm.

The single brightest star in the sky is Arcturus, hanging low below the handle of the Big Dipper. In terms of recognizable constellations or star patterns, the three most recognizable are probably the Big Dipper, Cassiopeia and the Summer Triangle. The Summer Triangle should be easily sighted in the centre of the sky with its three bright stars - Deneb, Vega and Altair.

Cassiopeia, an inverted W, hangs high in the sky above it. The Big Dipper, a pot with a handle, dominates the western side of the sky. A line from the "pointer" stars at the end of the Big Dipper pot leads your eye across the sky to Polaris, the North Star.

If the skies are really clear, the enormous arc of our galaxy, the Milky Way and its 400 billion stars, will be splayed across the sky from south to north, and here you can peer into the centre of our galaxy, some 27 thousand light years away.

Andromeda is our nearest neighbouring galaxy and it is sometimes visible to the naked eye as a small blur of light to the north-east of Cassiopeia. The light you see from Andromeda is taking about 2.5 million years to reach our eyes. And this is just what is visible. Astronomers now tell us the amount of what they call "dark matter" in the heavens dwarfs what is visible. Man, oh man.





# THE BLUE SKIES SCAVENGER HUNT

Find someone who loves to sing and sing a song with them.	Find someone wearing socks and sandals.	Does the Ice Freezer sell more ice blocks or ice cubes?	There are two accessible outhouses. Where are they? What does accessible mean?
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Find someone with a tattoo. What is it?	Find someone who works at First Aid.
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	Find someone you don't know and talk with them for 5 minutes.
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What are the three kinds of regular popsicles at the Snack Shack?

<p>What year did the Fiddle Orchestra begin?</p>	<p>What year did the festival T-shirt show a map of Blue Skies?</p>
--	---

<p>What year was the festival T-shirt a tie-dye?</p>	<p>Find this guy. Who is he and who was he dressed up as?</p>	<p>The water at Blue Skies comes from a well. What year was the well dug?</p>	<p>What is the name of the outhouse where you find this on the step?</p>
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<p>What year did Oskar Graf sell the festival land to Blue Skies?</p>
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**Inspired by (and heavily borrowed from) the Scavenger Hunt designed by Allison Elias and John Bond in the 2008 festival program**

## Blue Skies Scavenger Hunt

Form into teams, then find another team to compete with. Find the answers and write them in the box, or find someone who fits the descriptions and have them sign or initial the box. Compare your answers with the other team.

<p>Find someone who was born in another country.</p>	<p>Find people who can teach you how to say Hello in five different languages. Write it down.</p>	<p>What year did the festival T-shirt show rolls of toilet paper?</p>
	<p>How many water taps are there in the Kids' Area?</p>	 <p>This is Gary. Ask Gary how many instruments he plays.</p>
	<p>Find someone who cooks their breakfast at a communal firepit.</p>	
<p>Where can you buy a rocketpop? What are the three flavours in a rocketpop?</p>	<p>Find someone with a lime green toothbrush.</p>	<p>Where do you find this at Blue Skies?</p>
<p>The corn boil buys corn in bags How many ears of corn are in each bag?</p>		<p>What was the first year that David Francey played at Blue Skies?</p>
	<p>Who is this guy and where is he volunteering? Ask him what's in the pot.</p>	<p>Find someone over age 70 and ask them to tell you a Blue Skies story.</p>
	<p>What years did Sarah Harmer play at Blue Skies?</p>	<p>Find someone who has lived in three different cities. What are they?</p>
	<p>Talk to someone under the age of 15 about their favourite book. Write the title and their first name.</p>	<p>What was the first year for the Blue Skies Kids Arts Camp?</p>

Looking for something special to remember this Blue Skies by? These limited-edition hand-stamped wooden pendants and pins (that you can personalize and decorate to your heart's content) might be just the ticket. And they're pretty affordable at two pendants for just \$5. AVAILABLE AT THE T-SHIRT STORE. You can decorate and personalize them using markers and paints in the Kids' Area. Imagine hanging this pendant around your neck, or decorating a wooden pin and putting it on your sunhat. Or using pendants to decorate your campsite or give as a gift. A uniquely-decorated pin like this would make a very personal gift. Please remember, the T-SHIRT STORE ONLY ACCEPTS CASH, as in paper money, no coins, so BRING CASH.



Or maybe you're a sticker person (no judgment, folks), the sort who like to slap a beautiful, gold, blue and white Blue Skies 50 sticker on your guitar case, or your car bumper, or your water bottle, or your bedroom door. These beautiful stickers can go ANYWHERE and they cost \$5 for four stickers. Yes, you read that correctly, four stickers for ONLY \$5. Let the world know you were at Blue Skies this weekend. Remember, ONLY CASH at the T-Shirt Store.

Apologies to all the Blue Skies folks who find selling stuff (a special T-shirt, a T-Shirt poster, wooden pendants and pins, and stickers) not very Blue Skiesy. Honestly, people, the amount of money we make on each sale is minimal, because we want to keep things as affordable as possible.

That's a pretty Blue Skiesy approach, don't you think? And we are using the money we make to rent some decent video equipment because we are videorecording the Main Stage acts this year, a Blue Skies first! We'll be posting these videos online later this fall and they will be free to watch, as often as people want. A pretty sweet thing to do so we can all relive and enjoy this Blue Skies 50th festival through this fall and winter.



Blue Skies is like life, it's all about people, because people are what make our lives worthwhile. The generation that started Blue Skies is passing and moving on. So teaching newcomers and youngsters how we do things and why we do things becomes more important every year. Dave Tilston's song, *Blue Skies All Around* can sure help get the juices flowing.

Blue Skies All Around  
(Bb - Gtr:capo 3 play in G)

- David Tilston. 2017

G  
There is a place we go  
C  
Once a year or so  
Em7  
Somewhere in the hills of  
D  
East Ontario  
  
G  
Where we can all be friends  
C  
And we are welcomed in  
Em7  
And sometimes for a moment we can  
C D G  
Feel like children once again

[Chorus]  
[Inst: to When the Saints Come  
Marching In]  
[Chorus]

Each year in that little field  
Every time it is revealed  
A spirit you can see and hear  
And everybody feels

Where we can help our neighbour  
And we are not seeking favour  
Giving is the only gift  
We are really looking for

[Chorus]  
[Chorus] - if with group, first two  
lines a capella

Chorus:  
C G  
Blue Skies, all around  
C D  
Blue Skies, coming down like a  
G  
Sunday morning, when the  
C  
Sun is warming, and the  
Em7  
Horns in the parade are blowing  
C D G  
Let The Saints Come Marching In



We don't need no walls or fences  
We do things here by consensus  
You can leave all your pretenses  
Hanging by the Gate

And as you walk on up that laneway  
Drop your worries just the same way  
We've all done collectively  
A thousand times or more



# Blue Skies BioBlitz 2023

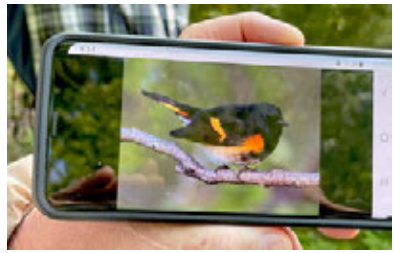
BioBlitzes are short, intensive ecological surveys of biodiversity and species. Call it a form of Citizen Science — in Blue Skies' case, a way for The Land Council to find out about the ecological dimensions of the festival land and gain a broader perspective, seeing the land as more than a camping site for a once-a-year music festival.

Long-time Blue Skies-er Tom Whillans (whom most of us call 'Art' at Blue Skies where he has spent the past nine years handling Magoo's stage announcements) is a Professor at Trent University, where he specializes in ecosystem degradation and rehabilitation, and teaches an experiential course in stuff like BioBlitzes. Art approached The Land Council about using Blue Skies as a project location and recruited five of his students to design the Blue Skies BioBlitz, which took place two months ago, on June 3. Sixteen Blue Skies folks volunteered for the exercise, including Land Council members Linda Rush, Randy Roels and Jean Sharp.



Aerial survey work beforehand identified nine different habitats, both woodland and wetland "communities." Survey routes were mapped out to collect

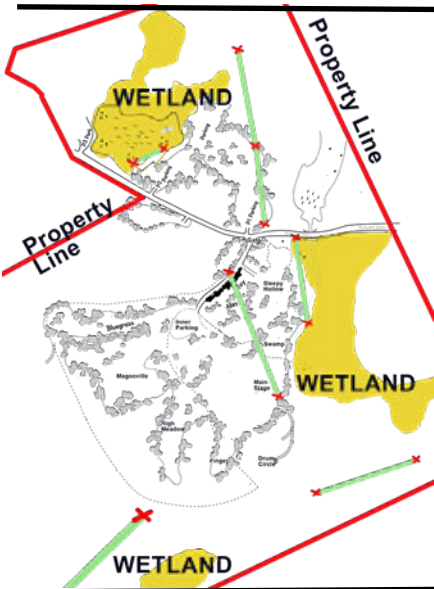
plants and insects along six upland routes, four wetland routes, and two festival site routes. Logs were overturned for salamanders; vegetation was swept with insect/invertebrate nets in the air and in water; pit traps were used to sample ground beetles; plus other animal observations were noted. A visual and auditory survey of birds was part of the survey. The identifications were recorded in iNaturalist, and eBird, and on paper.



*Avid birder Ricki Hirst used the Merlin app on his phone to identify bird calls and then confirmed them with a visual sighting. Pictured is an American Redstart*

This corner of the Canadian Shield that Blue Skies sits on is rugged and hummocky, a region of thin soils and exposed bedrock, marked by numerous small wetlands interspersed by hundreds of streams. Water is key to life, so particular attention in the BioBlitz was paid to wetland environments, ranging from swamps to wet meadows and riparian wetlands, and including seasonal water pools found at the back of the property, as well as the connections to adjacent wetlands outside the property.

In Blue Skies' case, these wetlands drain towards the southeast for a few kilometres to MacPherson Road and then drain northeast, eventually becoming Bolton Creek and emptying into the Mississippi River at Fall River.



*The map shows some of the survey lines where observations and samples were taken. Additional surveys were done at the back of the property to the left of the festival site (outside this map).*

The findings of the BioBlitz are still being processed. An update may be available by festival time. Check at the Info Booth. What happens next is up to Blue Skies and The Land Council. This could include protection of certain valuable or sensitive ecological features, a plan for replacing trees when they are destroyed by storms or disease, ways of enhancing the habitat for preferred species, priorities for carbon sequestration, and collaboration with adjacent landowners. Since the land was stripped of its valuable pine timber 150 years ago, it has been largely neglected. Now may be the time to put effort and thought towards rehabilitation.



# Blue Skies in the Community

## Making Music Happen

Blue Skies in the Community has had a fantastic year. Like the festival itself, **Blue Skies in the Community (BSIC)** is run by a dedicated team of volunteers who work year-round to make music happen. After a long break from regular programming due to the pandemic, there has been renewed interest in live music and Blue Skies in the Community has been very busy supporting music, musicians and the arts in the communities surrounding the festival site.

Blue Skies in the Community supports a number of programs. You may be familiar with some of them, like the **Blue Skies Community Fiddle Orchestra (page 25)** which you can see every year on the Main Stage! Some others are lesser known, like the choral sheet music lending library where your choir can borrow multiple copies of sheet music anytime! Some of our programs happen right here where our beloved festival is held. In the weeks before the festival, there are two camps held on site, the **Adult Music Camp (AMC)** and the **Blue Skies Kids Arts Camp**.



Drums, songs, games, laughter and joy filled the Blue Skies air this summer, thanks to the annual Blue Skies Kids Arts Camp. Co-directors Jenn Ayer and Janine DeVries-St.Jacques, along with their exceptional Instructors and Leadership Team, delivered an exciting, creative and caring experience for the campers. The majority of the children were from the local area, including fifteen bursary recipients selected by the schools located close to the Blue Skies Music Festival site.

A huge thank you to the Blue Skies donors who believe in what we are doing. They make the Camp bursary program possible each year. Also a big thank you to the schools for their contributions and steadfast support.



***Taiko Drumming at this summer's Kids Arts Camp***

Blue Skies in the Community is thrilled to announce that over recent months, we have had the pleasure of bringing exciting musical education to over a thousand rural students through our Community Granting program. Children of all ages have had opportunities to explore music and instruments from around the world through hands-on experiences.



***Musician Teilhard Frost at Land O'Lakes Public School in Mountain Grove***

Do you want to bring a live musical event to your school or community? Your project may be eligible for a BSIC Community Grant covering up to 50% of the event costs. For information about BSIC programs and events or how you can participate, please visit

**<http://blueskies-in-the-community.ca>**

*BSIC volunteers are: Shannon Curry, Johanne Henley, Elinor Rush, Lara Guenette, Susan Walker, Kelsea Cooper, Linda Rush, Jerrard Smith, Shane Norris and Aja Dixon*



**Blue Skies Music Festival** and **Blue Skies in the Community** are 100% not-for-profit, and 100% volunteer-run, and have been for 50 years! Something to celebrate, don't you think!

Hats are the people responsible for the different parts of the festival. Together, the Hats depend on the dedicated and enthusiastic help of hundreds of volunteers! You're surrounded by volunteers who make Blue Skies a Happening Place.

### Blue Skies 2023 Hats

**Artistic Director:** Margaret Sullivan; **Blue Skies in the Community (BSIC):** Shannon Curry; **First Aid:** Isaac Guardino; **Gate:** Jason Walker; **General Coordinator:** Jenn Wilson; **Holistic:** Michelle De Grandmont; **Info Booth:** Erica Brown; **Kids' Area:** Denise Blanchett; **Kitchen:** Christian Knudsen, Julie Mercier; **Legal:** Warren Leroy; **Mailing List / Newsletters:** Haley Rose; **MC:** Magoo; **Meeting Minutes:** Christine Peringer; **Monday Cleanup:** Beth Schilling; **Music Store:** Carole Johnson; **Parking:** Lonnie Bergstein, Rob Fletcher; **Performer Accommodation:** Martina Field; **Performer Hospitality:** Clara McGregor, Mally McGregor; **Program:** Andrew Hall; **Purchasing:** Bill Duffenais; **Recycling:** Henning VanDerMeer; **Sanitation:** Jodi O'Sullivan; **Security:** Stephen Peringer; **Site Coordinator:** Bob Davidson; **Snack Shack:** Freja Bond; **Stage:** Jeff Hopkinson; **T-shirt Store:** Rebecca Pollard; **Tickets:** Liza Hamilton; **Treasurer:** Liz Clifflen Gallant; **Volunteer Coordinators:** Shane Norris, Corcoran Peppley, Tracy Scott; **Water:** Pascal Lussier; **Work Weekend:** Liz McDermott; **Lifetimer:** Oskar Graf; **TLC – The Land Council:** Linda Rush, Lloyd Greenspoon, Jean Sharp, Grant Pilkington, Randy Roels; **Hat Support Council:** Kate Thomas, Joel Leblanc, Ann Sharp, Damon Bond and Susan Sentesy.

### Monday Morning Meeting

At 11 am, for one hour in the Kids' Area, we gather to share our ideas and feedback about how Blue Skies 2023 went. What did we really like and what can we improve upon for next year? This is a place where we can express appreciation and make helpful suggestions about how to



do things better. There's no discussion or debate. We just listen to each other. If you want to learn how Blue Skies runs, this meeting is a good place to start. It's the kick-start for planning next year's festival.

# Respect, care and kindness

We all contribute to making Blue Skies the magical festival we look forward to all year long. One of the simplest and best ways to maintain the good vibes is by **respecting people's boundaries and only touching people with their consent**. People aren't always comfortable with being touched, so if you're not sure, just **ask before hugging or touching someone**, and be ready to accept it if they're not interested.

Blue Skies is at its best when everyone feels completely free to be themselves. Behaviours that are ableist, homophobic, racist, sexist, transphobic, otherwise prejudiced, aggressive, disrespectful or unkind can cast a shadow on someone's Blue Skies experience and the hurt can linger long after the festival. **Let's try to be mindful of the effect that our words and actions have on the people around us**. This goes for everyone at the festival: organizers, volunteers, sound crew, and performers included.

**Being aware of what's happening around you is also a great way to be helpful to others**. If you experience or witness harassment, assault, or disrespectful or otherwise harmful behaviour, you're encouraged to ask for it to stop, to intervene if it is safe to do so, and to communicate the situation to Security as soon as you can.

The Info Booth is a friendly place that is staffed day and night, and is ready to welcome you throughout the festival. The volunteers at the Info Booth will help connect you with Security, First Aid, or anyone else you need to help you deal with situations that you aren't comfortable handling on your own.

**The Security team will follow up on every report of harmful behaviour and remain involved until it's resolved**. On rare occasions, when resolving a situation calls for removing someone from the festival, that's what we do.

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## Poison Ivy – "Leaves of three – Let it be"

Tread carefully along the edges of the roads, fields and meadows. Poison ivy likes the margins, so keep your eyes out for those pesky little three-leafed devils. If you think you've come in contact with poison ivy, wash your skin with soap and water as soon as you can. The oil will stay on fabric and spread, so change your clothes and handle them carefully until they can be washed. If you do get a rash, First Aid can help.

## **Volunteering at Blue Skies? Please read this.**

Please note all volunteers (over 18) must take a short training course on how to assist people with disabilities. This training takes a few minutes and is available at the Info Booth and at each Hat Area check-in station. You can also take the training online. Here's the link:

<https://www.accessforward.ca/front/customerService/>

Thanks everyone. Have a great festival!

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## **Want to give a workshop next year at Blue Skies?**

Enjoying the workshops at Blue Skies this year? Can you imagine you or someone you know giving a workshop? What are you passionate about? What do you really want to share with others? This is a safe place to develop your presentation skills and have fun at the same time. And workshop presenters receive a free camping ticket to the festival!

We have holistic, teen and kid workshops. Start thinking of amazing Blue Skies workshops for next year. The link to submit your proposals will be up on the BlueSkies Music Festival website starting on Dec 1 until Feb 15. Check the website for updates..

[www.blueskiesmusicfestival.ca](http://www.blueskiesmusicfestival.ca)

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## **50 years of Blue Skies - the book and the video**

We are asking for stuff about Blue Skies that you want to share—stories, book and film content (pictures, videos, etc.)—anything that you collect, record or create at this Blue Skies or did at previous festivals. You can email it to us at [50years@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca](mailto:50years@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca). If you upload any pictures or videos, please include the hashtag [#blueskies50](https://twitter.com/blueskies50). Plus, you can also put stuff in the drop box at the Info Booth (please include your name and email address with your submission). Thanks, folks.

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## **The people who helped**

As you can tell, this year's Blue Skies festival program is way bigger than normal, mostly because of the 50-year celebration and the work that the 50th Committee volunteers have been doing for more than two years now (and it continues into this fall as they put together the 50 year book and video). The 50th Committee include: Carol Coutu, Michael Rosenthal, John Bond, Mara Young, Andrew Hall, Christian Knudsen Toby Wells, Gord McDiarmid, Jake Morrison, Krow Fischer, Magoo, Sarah Rosenthal, Sue Cowin, and our capable and very patient chair, Erica Brown. A BIG thank-you to all of you. The 50th celebration has also meant calling on help from many others—we especially want to thank Chris McDonell for making the graphic listing Main Stage performers that you see on the back of this year's 2023 Blue Skies T-shirt, just as Chris also did on the backs of the 2013 and 1993 T-shirts. *Un grand merci.*

## Ta Da! The No Garbage Blue Skies! Thanks to you!

There is no garbage pick-up or removal at Blue Skies! **Any garbage you bring in, you'll need to take home with you, after the Festival.** We will still handle your recycling and compost, though. Please take your recycling, bottles and compost to the Recycling Depot at the Inner Parking Lot.

**Compost and recycling hours:**

**Saturday and Sunday:**

**8:30 – 10:30 am, 1 – 3 pm, and 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

**Monday: 8 am to 1 pm**

Compost is left-over food stuff, even bones. Recyclables are: aluminum, tin, glass, corrugated cardboard, boxboard, non-glossy paper, and plastics (recyclable numbers 1 through 7).

Everything else is garbage, and here's the important part: **you must take ALL your garbage home with you.** Keep your garbage in a sealed container so you don't attract critters to your campsite!

**The message truly is: Bring it in - Take it home!**

## Beer, Wine, and Alcohol Bottle and Can Recycling

Each year Blue Skies selects a non-profit charitable organization to collect the bottles and cans and receive the revenue from the returns. The beneficiary for this year is the **Guatemala Stove Project**. The collection happens at the Main Depot, by the Inner Parking Lot. So donate your bottles and cans! Think about where they came from. If they are the type that can be returned to The Beer Store, they will benefit the GSP. Others go to recycling – if you're not sure, the people at recycling can help.

## Critters and Blue Skies

**The Blue Skies site is home to a huge variety of critters** large and small, from dragonflies to raccoons, deer, and even bears.

This means we have to be a little aware. Critters love to eat, so here are some things that can encourage them to dine elsewhere:

- **keep all food in a sealed cooler or container**, especially overnight;
- **keep your garbage in a sealed container** so that it does not attract critters to your campsite;
- **regularly bring your compost and sorted recycling to the recycling depot** and wash your dishes regularly;
- make your tent a food-free zone, and **keep toiletries, including toothpaste and shampoo, in a sealed container outside your tent.**

**Blue Skies Music Festival is not responsible  
for any injury, loss, or damage, however caused.  
All information is subject to change without notice.**

## T-Shirt Store Hours

Friday: closed

Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday: 10 am to 4 pm

Monday: 10 am to 12 noon (if supplies last that long)

## Music Store Hours

Friday: no sales (sign in for musicians)

Saturday: 1 pm to 4 pm, 7:00 pm to 10 pm

Sunday: 10 am to 4 pm, 7:00 pm to 10 pm

Monday: 9 am to 11 am

## Monday Cleanup

All the magic that is Blue Skies has to be put away when Monday arrives, and like all things Blue Skies, it only works if people volunteer.

If you can, **please sign up before Monday morning** with a volunteer coordinator, at the sign-up area or directly with the area you usually volunteer with (if you volunteer at the Fern Bar, Kids' Area, Kitchen, Performer Hospitality, First Aid, Stage, Info Booth, Recycling or Sanitation).

**If you are unsure where to help out, ask Matt Rose who will be at the ice cooler starting at 10 am Monday morning to coordinate cleanup.** The Monday Cleanup Hat will be arriving at 1 pm on Monday with pizza for the volunteers.

To reduce the risk of Covid, **masking is requested and recommended if you will be working closely with others.**

Let's keep ourselves and each other safe.

## Blue Skies Mail List

If you want to get on the Blue Skies Mail List or your contact info is out of date, you need to tell us! Visit the website, **[www.blueskiesmusicfestival.ca](http://www.blueskiesmusicfestival.ca)** where you can make the change OR email **[maillist@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca](mailto:maillist@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca)** OR you can also make the change at the Info Booth this weekend! If you would like to attend the Blue Skies meetings held through the Fall and Spring, please remember to check the "Meeting Notices" Box. **It's that easy!**

If you need to part ways with Blue Skies and wish to be removed from the Mailing List, please email us at the address above and let us know. Although parting is such sweet sorrow, we can certainly do that for you.



## Cookshack

Welcome back campers and day passers! The Blue Skies Cookshack has always offered **great food at decent prices**. We offer a variety of items that suit special dietary needs, but **we can't guarantee absolute freedom from allergens** (including gluten) in any of our food.

**Our hours:**  
Coffee: 7 am(ish)  
Lunch: 11 am to 2 pm  
Dinner: 5 pm to 7 pm  
Late night pizza: 8 pm until sold out

We implore everyone, especially folks coming on day passes, to please **bring your own dishes and cutlery**. We can't and won't serve curry or cheesecake on a Frisbee or your hand! If you need a plate, ask around the site. Blue Skies folks love to help.

## Snack Shack

Frozen treats for your delectation.

Friday: 12 noon to 6 pm  
Saturday and Sunday: 10 am to 6 pm

## Corn Boil

Fresh, hot corn on the cob!  
Across from the Snack Shack, next to the Cookshack.

Saturday and Sunday: 4 pm until it's gone

## Ice

Cubes and blocks at the foot of the hill, to the right of and down from the Cookshack.

Friday: 12 noon to 6 pm  
Saturday and Sunday: 10 am to 6 pm

## Treat Your Water Well

**All the water at Blue Skies comes from a single well.** Our system provides good, clean water for drinking, washing, and cooling, but even in wet years, **it's a limited supply**. Tips for conserving water:

- If you clean your plate carefully before you wash it, lunchtime's rinse water can become dinnertime's wash water.
- When washing or showering, turn off the water while soaping up. As Magoo says, "It will never get any warmer!"

**Please use water sparingly so there's enough for all of us.**

## Workshops for Teens

Too old for the kids' workshops? If you're looking for something to do and people your age, these workshops might be a good bet.

### **Musical Theatre**

**Saturday 9 - 10 am, Meadow**

Want to be on stage? Welcome to MUSICAL THEATRE FOR TEENS! Learn performance skills, dance moves and a song, then put it all together in front of an audience. *Host: Laureen Lafayette-Brooks*

### **Blue Skies Button Necklaces**

**Saturday 10 - 11 am, Finger**

Remember playing with buttons as a child, sorting by colour and size, each a tiny treasure? Learn how to create a light-weighted necklace that will show off the festival colours! *Host: Kathy Geden Cole*

### **Essential Songwriting**

**Saturday 10 - 11 am, Open Stage**

Ever wanted to write a song? Join songwriter/teacher Kristin Lindell for a fun play-shop on the art of songwriting. Learn 3 simple ways to write a song and craft your own 'itty bitty ditty'. *Host: Kristin Lindell*

### **Knit It!**

**Saturday 11 am - 12 Noon, Pop-Up-by-the-Popsicles (Snack Shack)**

Have you ever wanted to learn how to knit? This is your chance! Absolute beginners are welcome. Join us in getting down with yarn and make fun creations. *Hosts: Emma McLaughlin and Tanya Glowacki*

### **Braided Hair Wraps**

**Sunday 9 - 10 am, Finger**

Come and join in the fun as we help bring even more colour to Blue Skies with hair wraps! *Hosts: Annie McLaughlin and Morijah Oslund*

### **Eco-art Storytelling**

**Sunday 9 - 10 am, Open Stage**

Deepening our connections with the natural world and with one another through artmaking with nature materials. *Hosts: Laura Andrew and Heidi Viets*

### **Reading and Writing Poetry**

**Sunday 10 - 11 am, Drum Circle**

Come join us as we begin a journey: we'll start by reading some selected poems and then we will write our own poems (about whatever we want!) and take turns presenting them. *Host: Jonah Saks*

### **Making Lanterns**

**Sunday 10 - 11 am, Open Stage**

Create your own Blue Skies lantern using recycled plastic jars, torn tissue paper, pipe cleaners and flameless tea light candles. *Hosts: Margo Pineau and Annie McLaughlin*

# Kids' Area Schedule

## Saturday

- 9 am 50-year Birthday Card Decorating and Painting  
The Motions of Pool  
Kids' Yoga
- 10 am Performance with Gary Rasberry  
Parachute Games  
Shakers and Ribbon Sticks for the Parade
- 11 am Kids' Tie-Dye
- 12 noon Adult Tie-Dye
- 1 pm Performance with Washboard Hank & Sweet Muriel  
Face Painting  
Tissue-Box Ukuleles and Toilet-Roll Kazoos
- 2 pm 50th projects  
Cartooning  
Hair Wraps
- 3 pm Performance and Dance Party with Jesse Greene  
Open Crafts

## Sunday

- 9:45 - 10:15 am The Best Parade Ever!
- 10:15 50-year Birthday Card Decorating and Painting  
Parachute Games
- 11 am Blues Babies  
Hippie Camper Van Craft
- 12 noon Making Lanterns  
Sunlit Mobiles  
Hands in Clay
- 1 pm Performance with Magoo  
Big Bubbles  
Open Crafts
- 2 pm Making Forest Eyes (Craft)  
Knot Again!!
- 3 pm Storytime and Singalong for Kids  
Last Chance to add to the Blue Skies 50th Card!!





# 2023 CONCERTS

with MC Magoo

## Friday Evening:

- |         |                   |
|---------|-------------------|
| 7:30 pm | Scott Cook        |
| 8:30 pm | Shannon Linton    |
| 9:30 pm | Angelique Francis |

## Saturday Afternoon:

- |         |                              |
|---------|------------------------------|
| 4:15 pm | Square Dance                 |
|         | Caller - Hannah Shira Naiman |
|         | Band led by Teilhard Frost   |

## Saturday Evening:

- |       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| 7 pm  | Amanda Rheaume |
| 8 pm  | Medusa         |
| 9 pm  | Lennie Gallant |
| 10 pm | Polky          |
| 11 pm | Abondance      |

## Sunday Afternoon:

- |         |                              |
|---------|------------------------------|
| 3 pm    | Blue Skies Showcase          |
| 4:15 pm | Square Dance                 |
|         | Caller - Hannah Shira Naiman |
|         | Band led by Teilhard Frost   |

## Sunday Evening:

- |          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| 7 pm     | Blue Skies Choir |
| 7:30 pm  | Blue Skies Drums |
| 7:45 pm  | Basset           |
| 8:45 pm  | The Lifers       |
| 9:45 pm  | Maria Dunn       |
| 10:45 pm | Janice Jo Lee    |
| 11:45 pm | Ketsmy           |

Please note that these times are Blue Skies times – kinda loose.

*Blue Skies 2023*

**Special Collectors Edition**