

In the belief that music and the arts are key to connecting cultures and understanding our roots, Scottish Partnership for Arts and Education provides cultural experiences and educational opportunities in Scottish traditional arts and the historic connections between Scotland and the USA by conducting classes, workshops, lectures and public performances

Good fortune, good future through arts and education

Scottish Partnership for Arts and Education

Vol. 4 No. 1 Summer 2013

SPAE President's Message – September 2013

Welcome to our first newsletter in quite a while!

We are working hard to prepare for our 7th season of workshops and concerts. Our local artists have already begun working in local schools. Brian McNeill joined us September 9th to teach traditional Scots fiddling. He will be followed by two newcomers to our workshops: Calum Martin and Amy Lord, who will be teaching Scots and Gaelic songs in many local schools. All of our artists will return to the Focal Point for concerts.

We have a couple of fundraisers that you can read about later in this newsletter: a fundraiser with and at St. Margaret of Scotland (this will be the second year for this event) and our brand new Kilted 5K, set for April 19, 2014.

Since our last newsletter, we have added several new board members. They are: Diane Betts, 1st Vice-President; William Ray, 2nd Vice-President; Tom Donaldson, Director; Carolyn Peters, Director; Mayra Flesner, Director; and Ann Duffy, Director.

Finally, I invite you to visit the calendar page of our website (go to www.stlspae.org and click on calendar) and take a look at the Scottish Cultural Community calendar. This calendar provides a listing of ALL Scottish events in the St. Louis area, not just SPAE events. This calendar is constantly updated with new events,

so check back often.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our September and October events.

Michael Herron
President & Treasurer, SPAE

Scottish Partnership for Arts and Education (SPAE) Presents new Artists in Residence

By Diane McCullough

SPAE is excited to bring Calum Martin and Amy Lord to St. Louis for the first time. Calum Martin is a Gaelic singer/composer/teacher/musician and producer who hails from the Isle of Lewis, Scotland. He has been involved in Gaelic Music for well over 40 years both as a performer and as a teacher - teaching in both primary and secondary schools from 1992 till his early retirement in 2011. He was also involved in producing the highly successful Salm CDs Vol. 1 & 2 which explore the unique sound of Gaelic Psalm Singing in its natural setting as well as the Salm & Soul CD which was recorded live at Celtic Connections in 2005 exploring the connection between American Gospel Music and Gaelic Psalm Singing. In 2011 he set up a course in Contemporary Gaelic Songwriting and Production with the

Scottish Qualifications Authority which is now available to any school in Scotland. Amy Lord is a Scots Singer from Dunblane, Scotland and started singing in her early teens at Dunblane and Stirling Folk Clubs. In 2007 she graduated from the RSAMD with an Honours Degree in Scottish Music where she specialized in Scots song and language and studied under some of Scotland's most respected traditional singers. She has taught singing groups and music projects across Scotland since 2005 when she started working for RSAMD Musicworks. In 2007, she started the successful women's singing group The Liltin' Lassies which in 2010 was nominated as Community Project of the Year in the MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards 2010. As well as running the Liltin' Lassies, is currently working on Scots Song and language projects in local primary schools, and works with young people and adults in various community singing groups around Scotland. In 2008 she was a finalist in the BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year Competition. In addition to serving as Artists in Residence in schools in St. Louis City and County (September 23rd – October 4th), Calum and Amy will perform at The Focal Point on October 4, 2013. Calum will be featured along with Peat Fire Flame (local Scottish band) in a special service of Gaelic Psalm singing and music in the Iona tradition at St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Ferguson, MO on September 29th. Calum and the band can also be heard at the St. Louis Scottish Games on September 28th in Forest Park (please see article about St. Louis Scottish Games).

Local artists teaching in SPAE'S interdisciplinary curriculum, "Community and the Environment" are Shirley LeFlore, poet; Jessi Cerutti, visual artist; and Connie Bellinghausen, dancer.

Teaching for the eighth year in St. Louis, Brian McNeill, the great Scottish trad. Fiddler will be here September 9-20 with his Focal Point concert on September 14, 2013.

Later this fall look for a new documentary from HEC-TV's Chris Martinez called "Weaving Musical Traditions". This film will feature Brian McNeill and locals Judy Stein and friends, Peat Fire Flame, Bill & Becky Ray, Vesta Johnson, and Ozarks old timers H.K. Silvey and Gordon McCann. The story looks at how Scottish music and its musical descendants have spread across the US and been part of many forms of American music.

SPAЕ is grateful for partial funding from the E. Des Lee Fine Arts Education Collaborative, the Regional

Arts Commission, the Missouri Humanities Council, and the Missouri Arts Council, a State agency as well as from our private donors and private foundations. Please visit our website at www.stlspaе.org for our complete schedule and come to our fundraiser on October 5th at St. Margaret of Scotland Church. 7:00 p.m. on 39th Street 3 blocks north of Tower Grove Park. This is a joint project with the choir of St. Mar-



SCOTTISH MUSIC ACROSS AMERICA

By Diane McCullough

While visiting historic Williamsburg, VA in 1989, I fortuitously picked up “The Tin Whistle Tune Book”, compiled and arranged by William E. White. Nearly 20 years later, it was a joy to find it again and realize that it provided documentation from Colonial America of the presence of Scottish tunes that are still played today, giving “hard-copy” proof of the enormous influence of Scottish culture on our own North American culture. Nearly all of the tunes in the book have Scottish origins.

Some tune names familiar today among old time, bluegrass, and country fiddlers are “Money Musk”, “Soldiers Joy”, “Haste to the Wedding (or Rural Felicity)”, “Louden’s Bonnie Woods and Braes”, “The Banks of Spey” could be found at Old Williamsburg and at Jefferson’s Monticello. Benjamin Franklin said this of Scottish tunes in one of his letters: “Having return’d home my daughter Sally endeavored to collect some of the music of this country’s production, to send to Miss Janet Dick in Scotland, in return for her most acceptable present of Scotch songs, music being a new art with us, Sally sang the songs to her harpsichord, and I played some of the softest tunes on my armonica, with which entertainment our people were quite charmed, and conceived the Scottish tunes to be the finest in the world. And indeed, there is so much simple beauty in many of them that it is my opinion they will never die...” (from THE COMPLETED AUTOBIOGRAPHY by Benjamin Franklin Compiled and edited by Mark Skousen, Ph.D. and Franklin descendent).

The music was played for pleasure, both public and private. Dance music has been the most durable of the genres and was spread through Virginia and the Carolinas into the South and the Ohio River Valley into the Ozarks and beyond by both black and white musicians on fiddle, guitar, banjo, clarinet, horns and any other instruments that could be bought or made. When combined with ragtime rhythms and blues, it has turned into jazz and later into rock and R&B. The tunes have been used by opera and symphonic composers both American and European. A very good collection of tunes can be found in Sara L. Johnson’s “Popular Music of Cincinnati and The Ohio River Frontier from 1788 to 1825”. This book is dominated by Scottish tunes with some Irish and American tunes

included. It is easy to hear the musical connections among these tunes whether they be reels, jigs, marches, Strathspeys, or slow airs. For anyone interested, this subject is wide open for further research. Look into the CDs published by Rounder Records for more documentation and pure listening enjoyment. For Ozarks fiddle music see “Ozarks Fiddle Music” by Drew Beisswenger and Gordon McCann for Mel Bey. This collection gives a thorough provenance for each of the 308 featured tunes and includes a CD of many of the selections.

Look for the upcoming documentary on the subject of Scottish music in America produced by Chris Martinez for HEC-TV and called “Weaving Musical Traditions”. Scottish Partnership for Arts and Education (SPAЕ) has been a major consultant on this project.



Ozarks Old Time Fiddlers Justin David and H.K. Silvey with Gordon McCann guitarist and collector of 67,000 field recordings of Ozarks fiddlers. (picture by Michael Herron)



Students at Parkway West Middle School (left) and Parkway West High School (right) in Scottish Fiddle Workshops with Brian McNeill. (pictures by Jacqueline France).

CALENDAR OF PUBLIC EVENTS

Sept. 14 – Brian McNeill, Scots Fiddle - 8:00 p.m. at The Focal Point – 2720 Sutton Blvd, Maplewood

Sept. 20 - Student Fiddle Concert with Brian McNeill - 7:00 PM at McCluer North High School Library - 705 Waterford Dr., Florissant, MO 63033

Sept. 28 – Calum Martin, Gaelic Song – 1:45 p.m. St. Louis Scottish Games – Forest Park

Sept. 29 – Calum Martin, Gaelic Psalm singing – 4:30 p.m. at St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 33 N. Clay, Ferguson, MO – Free

Sept. 29 – Ed Miller, Scots Song – 7:00 p.m. at The Focal Point

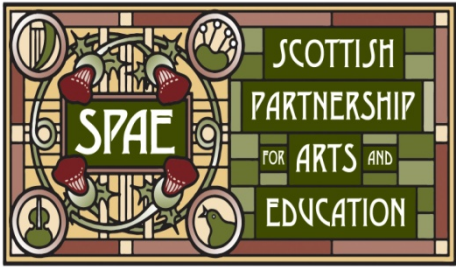
Oct. 4 – Amy Lord, Scots Song and Calum Martin, Gaelic Song – 8:00 p.m. at The Focal Point

Oct. 5 – Ceilidh Fundraiser – St. Margaret of Scotland and SPAE – 7:00 p.m. at St. Margaret of Scotland Church, corner of Flad and 39th Str.

www.stlspae.org

www.thefocalpoint.org





COMMUNITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT: INSPIRATION FOR MUSIC, ART AND POETRY

The exciting INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECT includes Scots song taught by Amy Lord, Gaelic song taught by Calum Martin, poetry taught by Shirley LeFlore, visual art (wool fiber felting and textiles) taught by Jessi Cerutti and background history taught by SPAE artistic director Diane McCullough. This project, entitled COMMUNITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT: INSPIRATION FOR MUSIC, ART AND POETRY, has both an historic theme and an arts theme. Students study the work of John Muir (Scottish immigrant to the USA) and Col. Charles Young (African-American commander of the Buffalo Soldiers) and how these two men, working in the Sierra Nevada Mountains left the heritage of Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks to future generations in the United States. They were both writers and Col. Young was also a composer. Students will learn Scottish songs that relate to nature and daily life, they will write poetry and compose a song based on the material they are studying. Inspired by a teacher development workshop at Laumeier Sculpture Park, the student art work, poetry and song compositions revolves around nature and the contributions of Muir and Young. Historic and artistic themes include: a) childhood and societal obstacles with which both men had to cope; b) artistic qualities found in both Muir and Young and how those talents helped them gain wider acceptance of their ideas and contributions; c) the importance of music, poetry and art in daily life – how they describe daily life, how they enhance work, how they create means for humans to transcend; and d) the importance of nature in the transcendent experience. In addition and new for 2013, study of the work of Yosemite Park Ranger Shelton Johnson as a “modern day John Muir” will bring this curriculum into the 21st Century.

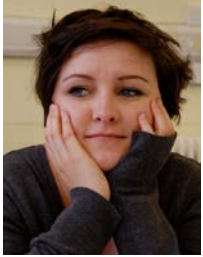
PHOTOS: Top left and right - felting at Steger Sixth Grade Center. Middle – final concert at Highland Elementary in Riverview Gardens. Bottom – Poet Shirley LeFlore with Highland El 4th grade student.



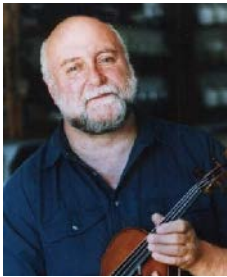
Contact SPAE : www.stlspae.org - Diane McCullough



Calum Martin, Gaelic singer, composer, producer, and teacher from the Isle of Lewis, Scotland, specializes in Gaelic Psalm singing, an ancient congregational form of worship. His congregation from Lewis participated in the 2005 conference at Yale Un. organized by Prof. Willie Ruff (see p. 4) and entitled: "The Line Connecting Gaelic Psalm Singing and American Music". Colin has explored the connections between Gaelic Psalm singing and Gospel music as well.



Amy Lord from Dunfermline, Scotland is a Scots language and song scholar and teacher. She Directs The Liltin' Lassies, a women's vocal group that sings Scots traditional songs. She is a graduate of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow and has toured Scotland as a finalist in the Young Trad Musicians concerts.



Brian McNeill, fiddler, multi-instrumentalist, composer, producer, novelist, founded The Battlefield Band in 1969 and has led the revival of Scottish traditional music ever since. He was head of Scottish Music at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama for 8 years where he taught many of today's young Scottish traditional musicians, including Amy Lord and others who have taught in St. Louis for SPAE.



Jessi Cerutti is a fiber artist from St. Louis, MO. She teaches as a freelance artist at Laumeier Sculpture Park, UM St. Louis and various area locations. She has exhibited in St. Louis, Chicago and Cincinnati. For SPAE, she teaches in the "Community and the Environment" project using felt as a medium for art as well as utilitarian purposes. Students make their own felt and then turn it into an object.



Connie Bellinghausen teaches dance in her home studio in St. Peters. She teaches classical as well as folk dance – namely ballet, tap, Irish, and Scottish Country Dance among others. Connie will teach for the first time this year for SPAE as a result of interest from the P.E. teacher at Airport Elementary School where we are doing the "Community and the Environment" curriculum.



Shirley LeFlore is a nationally known poet, psychologist and teacher from St. Louis. She was the first poet to teach in the St. Louis Public Schools as an artist in residence (1970s). Her work has been produced in a musical review entitled "Rivers of Women" at the Missouri History Museum for the second time in May 2013.

SCOTTISH PARTNERSHIP FOR ARTS AND EDUCATION (SPAE) SCOTTISH TRADITIONAL FIDDLE AND SCOTS/GAELIC SONG ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

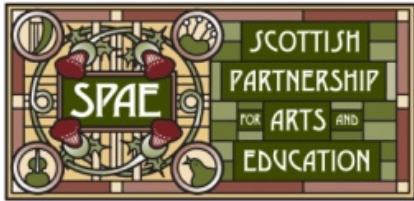
understanding one of America's most influential roots musics

Contact SPAE: www.stlspae.org – Diane McCullough

Scottish traditional (folk) musicians spend 5-10 days working hands-on in orchestra, choir and elementary general music classes. Students perform along with the artists in a culminating concert for their school.

Photos: Top left Brian McNeill at McCluer North High School; Top right student at Parkway West M. S. (both photos by Jacqueline France McNeill); Top right – St. Elizabeth Academy in class singing Gaelic ; Bottom left – St. Margaret of Scotland in class singing Scots (photos by D. McCullough); Bottom right – McCluer North orchestra students in final performance (photo by Michael Herron)





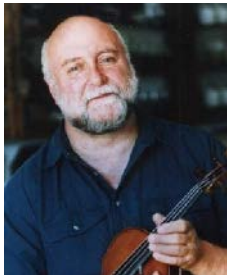
TEACHER DEVELOPMENT AND LECTURES



Gordon McCann (center), a Springfield, MO business man is the premier collector of Ozark fiddle field recordings. Over a 40 year span his collection grew to 66,000 field recordings. This collection was donated to Missouri State University in 2010. Mr. McCann, in collaboration with Drew Beisswenger, edited the "Ozarks Fiddle Music" collection published by Mel Bay. Pictured with McCann are Justin David (left) and H.K. Silvey (right), both native Ozarkians.



Professor Willi Ruff, Yale University music theory professor and jazz musician, discovered links between the a cappella form of congregational church singing still sung by far-flung congregations from the Scottish Hebrides to African-American congregations in the Deep South, to remote churches in Appalachia and the Indian Territory of Oklahoma. He hosted conferences at Yale on this subject in 2005 and 2007 and presented this material in St. Louis in 2009 for SPAE.



Above left to right: Brian McNeill, Dominique Dodge, Anna Murray, Caroline Pugh
 These artists have provided Teacher Development workshops in Scottish traditional fiddle (McNeill), Scots Song (Pugh and Dodge) and Gaelic song (Murray). In September 2012 McNeill, Murray and Pugh presented a workshop on Scottish country dance for fiddle and singing. This workshop was attended by music teachers as well as a physical education teacher who is interested in teaching folk dancing and who will be a cooperating teacher with SPAE in the fall of 2013.

