

Connecticut Songsmith

Newsletter of the Connecticut Songwriters Association



CSA is an educational, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the art and craft of original musical and lyrical composition. Serving music's artisans and craftsmen since 1979.



April 2004
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Combining Arts,
Education, and
Community Outreach

1979 - 2004 :25 Years of Combining Arts, Education, and Community Outreach

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CSA -- APRIL 17 CONNECTICUT SONGWRITING and PERFORMANCE CONFERENCE, Three Rivers College, Norwich CT



The Time Has Come. Now All We Need Is You.

After a year of preparation, the time has arrived for the CSA's biggest event ever, the Connecticut Songwriting and Performance Conference, to be held on Saturday, April 17, 9am-10pm at Three Rivers College (Mohegan Campus), on Mahan Drive, Norwich.

Never before has such an amazing array of accomplished artists gathered in one place to share their expertise, music, and experiences about songwriting and performing.

Special guests from New York include: Jen Chapin, who has just been signed to a record deal. Jen, recently back from a national tour and starting another, is a member of one of America's most influential musical families which includes jazz drumming legend Jim Chapin, and the great writer-artist brothers Harry, Tom, and Steve Chapin.

Alex Forbes is the co-writer of a national #2 hit, recorded in the 1980's by Taylor Dayne "Don't Rush Me". Alex (and her co-writer Jeff Franzell) has been a popular CSA guests in the past, with vast knowledge of the music business.

Also joining us will be Sonic Underground artist Marci Geller, who appeared on Live with Regis Philbin and whose music you can hear on Nickelodeon.

In addition we will have workshops from CSA's most accomplished singer-songwriters, song critiquing (multiple songs allowed!) from CSA's top critiquers, exhibitor tables, and a great performance space for showcase and open mike (You need to let us know IN ADVANCE if you want to do a few songs)

This will be a one-of-a-kind event with some surprises thrown in. Get the most out of being part of CSA and come share the celebration with some of the masters of our craft.

Register now for the Conference
Rate goes up again on April 1

You may bring multiple songs to be critiqued by the all-star CSA critique panel. The number of songs actually allowed will be determined by the panel based on the total number of songs submitted.

At the performing venues, a full sound system will be provided.

**FOR COMPLETE CONFERENCE
DETAILS VISIT
www.ctsongs.com and click the
CONFERENCE link**

CSA EVENT CALENDAR

(for complete listing see <http://www.ctsongwriters.com>)

- Apr 16 - Mystic River Folk Concert Series - IndieGrrl Night!
- APRIL 17, **A CSA 25th Anniversary Event:** The all-day Connecticut Songwriting and Performance Conference at Three Rivers College, Norwich. The biggest event of our 25 year history! **PLAN ON BEING THERE! Register early.**
- May 11 - CSA Mtg at Sacred Heart Univ, Bridgeport with West Coast Talent Development Mgr and Music Attorney C. Thomas Wyrth
- May 14 - Mystic River Folk Concert Series - Mad Agnes! This one is a must-see!
- May 22 - **A Day of Celebrating Gospel, Inspirational, and Spiritual Music. Sign up NOW to perform!**
- June 6 - **The 1st CSA Picnic/Showcase, 3-8pm Glastonbury**
- June 8 - **The Indie Scene, with Noel Ramos, East Hartford**
- Aug 10 - Sacred Heart Univ, Bridgeport- **Hearing Workshop**
- Aug 26 - **The 2nd CSA Picnic/Showcase, Glastonbury**
- Sept 18 - **Connecticut History Concert**
- Oct 16 - **Songwriting Workshop with the legendary mentor to the stars, Jack Hardy from NYC**
- Dec 11 - **Mystic - The LUNCH Holiday Show**

Guiding Songs Along the Path from Creation to Realization to Proliferation

COMBINING ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR 25 YEARS

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATIONS

The Songwriting Conference is located at Three Rivers College, Mohegan Campus Norwich, on Mahan Drive. (Do not confuse this with the Thames Valley Campus -- it's a different location). People will be coming from many different directions (and states) but you need to get to Route 169 in Norwich (it intersects I-395 and Rt 2, and 32). Follow Rt 169 to Ox Hill Rd. Turn right onto Ox Hill (if coming from the I-395 direction). After a short way, you'll see Mahan Drive and the college. You'll see the main building and the parking lot on the right. **Please consult a map to find the best route from your specific location.** (NOTE: If coming North on I-395, you'll see signs for the Thames Valley Campus, before you see signs for the Mohegan Campus -- do not turn off at the Thames Valley exit)

Directions to Mystic River Folk and events at Union Baptist Church Coming North on I-95, take Exit 91. Go right off the Exit onto Allyn St. Go about 2 miles and come to a light and the intersection of Rt 1. Turn left onto Rt 1 and go a short way to the 5-way intersection. Church is on the left. Make a hairpin left to get to the parking lot.

How to Get There!

Directions to Songwriters Showcase at the Pine Loft in Berlin, CT. Pine Loft is located at 1474 Berlin Turnpike, 1 mile south of the Rt 9 intersection, at the Rt 5 and 15 junction.

- **COME JOIN US FOR CSA's 25th Birthday. An event of this magnitude does not happen very often in your own back yard. Some Updates:**
- **We have confirmed an appearance by New York based artist Marci Geller, who has appeared on Live With Regis Philbin, and has her music airing on Nickelodeon.**
- **Everyone who has registered or who is presenting will be receiving a detailed update about what will be happening throughout the day. (It's included at the end of the electronic version of the newsletter)**
- **If you'd like to help out, we still need a good weighted 76-88 note keyboard that we can set up at the performing venue. If you would be willing to provide this, please contact Bill Pere immediately.**
- **Also, if you have a CD of your music and are willing to donate 1 copy, we are collecting as many CD's as we can to create one large "CD Basket" of great original music that we will offer as a door prize. Just bring put it in the basket when you arrive .**
- **If you have friends who might want to come just to attend the evening concert and/or the daytime music performances without participating in the rest of the programs, a music-only ticket can be purchased for \$10. Please help spread the word about this event . Encourage your friends to come.**

REMEMBER: Registration rates go up again after March 31, so register now for the best rate. Advance registration will also greatly speed up your check-in process when you arrive.

MEMBER HAPPENINGS >>>> Bobbi Tammaro and West Coast artist Ariyah had 4 songs signed to a publishing deal with Transition Music in L.A. Also, Bobbi was a celebrity judge for the recent Danbury Idol contest sponsored by Y-105FM, awarding prize certificates toward recording at his studio. >>>> Bill Pere, Scott Sivakoff, and Kay Pere joined with the LUNCH Ensemble on March 6, for a show raising \$2,300 for local food lockers.

CSA SONGSHARES and Acoustic Jam

at Song-a-Day Music Center 903 Main St. Coventry, CT 06238

hosted by Ruth O'Neil

Come share a song or two of yours in a supportive setting
Instruments available. Call 860-742-6878 for more info and directions.

Sunday April 4 -- 6:00-9:00pm

Sunday June 13 -- 6:00-9:00pm

CSA IS YOUR ORGANIZATION.

The more you put into it, the more you will get out of it -- hundreds of songwriters have found that to be true over the last 25 years.

**We hope we can count on you to volunteer. the time is NOW !
For the songwriting and performance conference, we need people
willing to help out as needed, and specifically :**

**Our sincere thanks to
those folks who have
stepped forward to help
out -- we can always
use additional help**

- We need a good weighted keyboard that we can use for the day at the performance venue.
- If you're willing to bring a plate of cookies or brownies or snacks to share, it would be greatly appreciated
- If you have an original CD and would be willing to donate 1 copy to a collective CD Basket door prize, we'd appreciate it.
- Post some flyers at your local music stores

If you're willing to help in any capacity call Bill Pere 860-572-9285 or e-mail bill@billpere.com

We need people to:

- Donate items that might be useful for giving away as door prizes, for silent auctions, or other fundraising activities. If you have any used items that you'd like to donate, or if you find any interesting stuff at tag sales or flea markets, think of us. You'll get a tax deduction for the value of the item. We're willing to accept almost any kind of useful musical or office item, or just neat "stuff". Call Bill Pere, 860-572-9285 or e-mail bill@billpere.com Thanks so much to those of you who have called to contribute some useful items.

A constant lesson learned from CSA is that opportunities come to those who get involved and get involved EARLY ! Don't sit on the sidelines . If your music matters to you, don't say you're "too busy "

! An Investment in CSA is an Investment in Yourself!

• **CREATE PERFORMING OPPORTUNITIES** We are always seeking new venues and new people to step forward and coordinate the performing or program activity. Any CSA member who would like to start a regular showcase series in an appropriate venue is encouraged to do so. For information and tips on how to proceed call Don Donegan (Glastonbury area, 860-659-8992), Bill Pere (Southeastern Connecticut, 860-5762-9285), or Paul Chapin (Western Connecticut, 860-945-1272).

• **SPECIAL MONTHLY CONCERT SERIES FOR 2004:** The Mystic River Folk Concert Series. A monthly show, heavily publicized as part of Mystic's Semiseptennial Celebration (that's 350 years). If you might be interested in an opening or feature spot, send a press/promo kit to Sound Krayons Music, PO Box 145, Mystic CT 06355. Kay Pere is coordinating the booking of this high-profile, upscale event. For current schedule, check the CSA calendar at the CSA website (CTsongs.com) or at <http://www.ctsongwriters.com>. This is a significant and heavily promoted Concert Series, which we hope to carry through 2005. -- Get involved !

• **MONTHLY CSA SONGWRITERS SHOWCASE:** CSA presents a monthly showcase at the Pine Loft in Berlin, CT, from 7:30-10:00pm. (full details elsewhere in this issue). The evening will be hosted by Brian Booth. Pine Loft is a smoke-free environment with a dinner menu, and sound system is provided. For booking, contact either Don Donegan (860)-659-8992 or Brian Booth (860)-667-2248.

**NOTE : REGISTRATION RATES FOR THE CSA SONGWRITING
CONFERENCE IN APRIL GO UP AFTER MARCH 31. REGISTER
NOW FOR MAXIMUM DISCOUNT ! REGISTRATION FORM IS IN
THIS ISSUE.**

And Even More CSA RHYTHM AND NEWS



WHO's COMING to The Connecticut Songwriting and Performance Conference ?



Jen Chapin

NYC-based singer-songwriter, educator, Chairperson of WHY, and a third-generation member of one of America's most influential musical families

see www.jenchapin.com

NOTE: Due to Jen's extensive touring schedule, her appearance is subject to her availability that day



Alex Forbes

Hit songwriter (Taylor Dayne's #2 hit, "Don't Rush Me"; recording artist ("Leap"); and well known presenter of songwriting workshops

see www.alexforbes.com

There will be many more featured presenters, critiquers, vendors, and performers as well.

For all details, schedule, and presenters, go to <http://www.ctsongwriters.com> and click the Conference link

SPECIAL: Some of the Artists from IndieGrrl ("Audacity on a Shoestring") will be there, and there will be a special IndieGrrl concert the evening before the conference as part of the Mystic River Folk series.

Other topics in the works: Guitar Clinic, Voice Clinic, Lyric Clinic, Creativity Workshop, Technology, Critique Panel and more. An exceptional networking and learning opportunity

Register NOW for Maximum Discount ! (see below for exhibitor table registration)



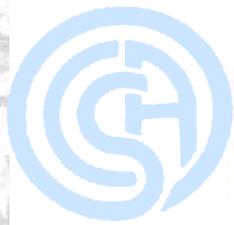
The Connecticut Songwriting And Performance Conference Offers You A Great Opportunity To Present Your Goods And Services To Writers, Artists, And Educators From Across The State.

If you have a product, service, or information that you would like to share with other musically oriented people, consider getting a vendor /exhibitor table at the Conference. This will allow you to display or demonstrate any product, service, CD, and literature all day, while interacting with the Conference attendees., which should include many potential buyers.

The cost of a table (6-8 ft) is only \$65 for CSA members, and that will **include** your full conference registration fee as well, allowing you to attend any other concert workshop or performance (Meals not included). You may also bring an assistant to help staff your table.

If you know what it usually costs for something like this, you know what an incredible bargain this is for an opportunity of this kind. CSA members will have first choice for vendor tables -- the tables are limited and we expect them to go quickly, so we will accept your reservation **now**, for a vendor table -- Remember, this includes your full registration to all other conference events. (Meals are separate -- please add \$12 per person, which covers lunch and supper) To reserve your vendor table now, contact Bill Pere (860-572-9285) or send your Vendor registration fee to CSA Song Conference, 40 Bruggeman Place, Mystic CT 06355.

VENDOR TABLES ARE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE, AND WHEN THEY'RE GONE, THEY'RE GONE!



THE TIME IS NOW!

Connecticut Songwriting And Performance Conference

In partnership with LUNCH and
Three Rivers Community College

A CSA 25th Anniversary Event



(For Latest news, visit <http://www.ctsongwriters.com> - click the Conference link)

CSA brings you our biggest event ever, in celebration of 25 years of serving the songwriting community. A full day of workshops, performances, and vendors, with an evening concert..

- Guest presenters from New York and Connecticut, including Jen Chapin, Alex Forbes, and Marci Geller
- Vendor/Exhibitor tables to display and demonstrate products and services
- All day open mic and showcase venues (advance sign-up required - Contact Bill Pere Now!)
- Evening concert in the auditorium
- Critique panel with CSA's best critiquers
- Opportunity to interact with presenters, educators, and artists from a wide geographic area
- Exceptional opportunities to learn from and network with successful writers and performers!
- Marketing and Promotion ideas and resources for independent artists

In order for this event to be successful we need many volunteers. If you are willing to help out in any way, please contact Bill Pere (bill@billpere.com) or 860-572-9285 now.

We extend our thanks to the volunteers who have stepped up to provide the necessary sound systems and services to support the event. Other volunteers are still needed for additional support.

Registration is underway and early registration is recommended as the space is limited -- discounts for early registration. Showcase and open mic slots will be allocated on an **advance** sign-up basis at the discretion of the event producers. If you want to have a spot, you need to contact Bill Pere now. There are also a limited number of vendor tables. The event will be heavily promoted outside of CSA, but preference will be given to CSA members whenever possible. CEU Credits have been approved for professional teachers.

Details for event registration are presented in this newsletter, at the CSA website (www.ctsongs.com), and at www.ctsongwriters.com. If you are interested in participating or if you have questions, or would like to help out, contact event coordinator Bill Pere at bill@billpere.com.

Success comes from opportunity, and opportunity comes from involvement -- be involved!

REGISTER or RESERVE YOUR VENDOR TABLE NOW for Maximum Discount!

The cost of a table includes all other activities and allows you to bring an assistant.

You have plenty of advance notice to set the time aside and arrange your busy schedule so that you can be a part of this great opportunity!

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING

- Help with media contacts and press releases for promotion -- Help us spread the word!
- A good weighted keyboard that we can use for the day in the performance venue.
- One copy of your original CD that we can add to the "CD Basket" to make a great collection of music which we will offer as a door prize.

Become a
conference
participant!
Success Comes
to those who get
involved!

To volunteer, call Bill Pere at 860-572-9285 or e-mail bill@billpere.com

Contributing your time and effort will make this a great success.

CSA SONGWRITERS SHOWCASE

PINE LOFT

CSA presents a monthly Songwriters Showcase each month at the Pine Loft in Berlin, CT.
(Pine Loft is located at 1474 Berlin Turnpike, 1 mile south of the Rt 9 intersection, at the Rt 5 and 15 junction.)

CSA has a 25 year history of running quality Songwriter Showcases all around the state. We are pleased to present a monthly showcase at the Pine Loft, in Berlin 7:30-10:00pm. The series is hosted by Brian Booth and features various performers each month.

For information or to inquire about booking, call Don Donegan at 860-659-8992, or Brian Booth at 860-667-2248.

March 19

Connecticut State Troubadour and IMC Indie Artist of the Year ('03) Bill Pere with Kay Pere, Scott Sivakoff, Jane Bolduc, and Peg D'Amato

Bill has released 14 CD's produced CD's for other artists, written 23 stage plays, performed internationally, and has had songwriting articles published in most of the major industry publications.

**April 9 :
Horizon Blue (Monique and Peter Hill)
Amy Gallatin**

Good listening environment, Sound System provided. Dinner Menu available.

COME SUPPORT CSA ARTISTS AND EVENTS. BE INVOLVED !

Directions to Songwriters Showcase at the Pine Loft in Berlin, CT. Pine Loft is located at 1474 Berlin Turnpike, 1 mile south of the Rt 9 intersection, at the Rt 5 and 15 junction.



Mystic River Folk Concerts

CSA brings you a great series of National and Regional acts

Celebrating 25 years of CSA, 15 Years of LUNCH and 350 Years of Mystic. All shows at Union Baptist Church, corner of Route 1 and High Street, Mystic. (just up the hill from Mystic Pizza). All proceeds benefit social service agencies in Connecticut through LUNCH. Snacks and beverages available (if you would like to be considered for an opening slot, contact Kay@kaypere.com)

Did you know that at any given time, there are 33,000 homeless people in Connecticut and 40% of them are children? In our state, more than 16,000 people are turned away from homeless shelters every year. There are 100,000 children under the age of 12 in Connecticut who do not have enough food to eat. Your support of these events makes a difference in the lives of others ! Please post this schedule by your calendar.

Friday, April 16 -- 7:30pm. Tickets: \$10. For more info, contact <kay@kaypere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH <www.lunchensemble.com> **SPECIAL INDIE GRRL NIGHT !!** Female artists from the Indie Grrl group from different parts of the country. Learn how to become part of the IndieGrrl network.

Friday, May 14 -- 7:30pm. Tickets: \$10. For more info, contact <kay@kaypere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH This is a Special Concert featuring the incredible harmonies, songwriting, and musicianship of **Mad Agnes** <www.madagnes.com> . This well-known trio of Margo Hennebach, Adrian Jones and Mark Saunders is an audio-visual delight. This concert is a must-see for appreciators of good songcraft and quality artists.

Saturday, May 22 --Lift your Spirits in "A Day of Praise" A round robin concert with accomplished artists performing spiritual and inspirational music. 7:00pm. Tickets: \$10. For more info contact <bill@billpere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH <www.lunchensemble.com>

Saturday, June 19 --7:30pm Tickets: \$10. For more info, contact <kay@kaypere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH. Special guest from Ohio -- The Wisdom and Wit of Patti Witten ("*Thoughtful folk-pop with subtle poetic beauty*" -- Performing Songwriter Magazine)

Saturday, August 14 -7:30pm Tickets: \$10 For more info contact <kay@kaypere.com> .Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH In conjunction with the annual **Mystic Outdoor Arts Festival**, come hear two of Connecticut's Official State Troubadours, Mike Kachuba, with Jeff McQuillan, in a show that celebrates the visual arts through music. as they present songs based on paintings of "The American Artist in Connecticut". With opening songs by Kay Pere and Bill Pere

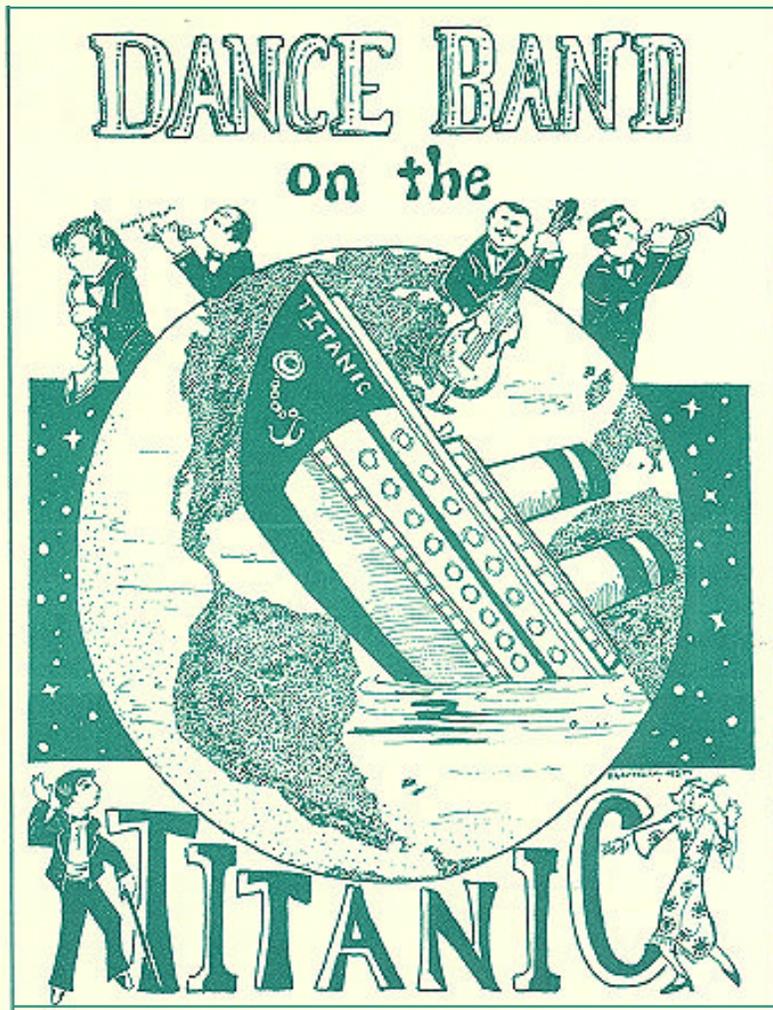
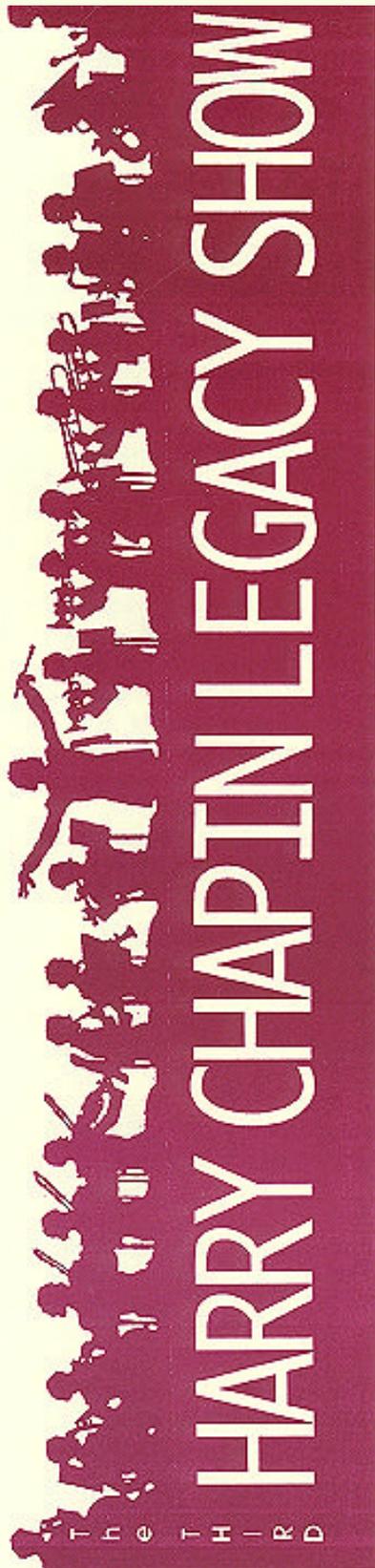
Saturday, September 18 -- The Mystic History Concert in honor of Mystic's 350th Anniversary. 7:00pm,. Tickets: \$10. For more info, contact <bill@billpere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH A concert featuring CSA artists presenting songs about Connecticut and Mystic history. Official Connecticut State Troubadours BILL PERE and TOM CALLINAN , joined by Kay Pere and other guests a present songs from their original individual and collaborative repertoires, and well as some traditional favorites. Bill will perform selections from his CD's "Crest of a Wave" and "Profiles of Connecticut" . Kay will debut some songs from her "Dolphin's Daughter's " collection

Saturday, October 16 -7:30pm Tickets \$10 For more info contact <kay@kaypere.com> .Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH Legendary singer-songwriter **JACK HARDY** from the heart of the New York music scene . Visit Jack's website at www.jackhardy.com to learn all about this icon of contemporary folk and folk-rock. Jack will perform with his trio. Reserve early.

Friday, Nov 12 - 7:30pm. Tickets \$10. For more info contact <kay@kaypere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH . Featuring the uplifting music of Second Circle, with CSA's Jack Kavanaugh.

Saturday, December 11 -- The 8th Annual LUNCH Holiday Show .Featuring Bill Pere , Kay Pere Scott Sivakoff, and the LUNCH Ensemble with songs of the season, new original songs, and an original stage play. . This year's show is "The Gift of the Madguy" .Show starts at 7pm with live pre-show music beginning at 6:15. Tickets in advance: \$8 (adults) \$6 (kids under 12); At the door: \$10 (adults) , \$8 (kids under 12) \$8 (CSA members). Proceeds benefit social service agencies and provide holiday food baskets for those in need. . **Come support this important community outreach effort.** Tickets and Info: 860-572-9285 or e-mail bill@billpere.com

FRIDAY APRIL 2 and SATURDAY APRIL 3, 7:00pm



www.lunchensemble.com



LOCAL
UNITED
NETWORK to
COMBAT
HUNGER



LEONARD J. TYL
MIDDLE SCHOOL
in Montville

Two Shows: Friday-Saturday April 2-3 7pm at
**Leonard J Tyl Middle School
Auditorium**

166 Chesterfield Rd, Montville (860-848-2822)

Featuring the Music of Harry Chapin and new original songs
by Bill Pere and the LUNCH Ensemble. Proceeds to benefit
local Social Service Agencies.

Tickets: \$10 in advance (\$8 kids under 12)
\$12 at the door (\$10 kids under 12)

To reserve : Call 860-572-9285

Food for Thought : YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE !



MARKETPLACE



CT SONGWRITING ACADEMY - Find your individual path to success. Career consultation from the National 2003 Indie Artist of the Year. Songwriting, Music Theory, and Career mentoring. Instruction in MIDI and computer-related music skills, and setting up your own business. Complete state of the art Digital and MIDI recording, arranging, and production services. Completely affordable. CD duplication/packaging. Successful track record at marketing products, concepts, events, and generating income for independent artists. Private consultation or lessons in any aspect of music theory, craft, business, or production. Call **Bill Pere**, 860-572-9285. E-mail: Bill@billpere.com

RAINBOW MUSIC Studio in Glastonbury offers vocal and guitar instruction. Vocal includes breathing techniques, expanding range, harmony, music theory. Guitar - beginner thru advanced. Also basic demo service available. Don Donegan is CSA's founder and past president and a full-time performer. Web site is www.dondonegan.com E-mail is ddoneman@aol.com or phone 860-659-8992"

FUNKEE BOY MUSIC - Professional Music Production and Demo Services that gets results! Over 80% of the songs we've produced have been signed to publishing or record deals. Our credits include Tenderoni (signed to LaFace Records), Lori Salvatera (MCA records development deal), TV shows "Beverly Hills 90210", "The New Love Boat", "Sunset Beach", etc. Visit us online at www.funkeebuy.com and hear our work. Call Bobbi Tammara (203)573-9972.

MAESTRO PRODUCTIONS It's your song, your demo. Low overhead allows us to produce a high quality demo your way for less in our complete MIDI/Digital studio. Sing it yourself or use our vocalists. We're not done until you're satisfied. We also offer lead sheets and other songwriter services. Call Ed Rosenblatt, 860-426-0723.

STUDIO VOCALIST AVAILABLE - For demos; Most styles and harmonies including rock, pop, jazz, gospel, and country. Professional Voice Instruction. Transcription and Lead Sheets, too. Call Kay Pere, Sound Krayons Music, 860-572-0629.

HI-TOP PRODUCTIONS Attention Singers and Songwriters without bands. - Producer in Stamford CT with pro 32 track digital studio will add full instrumentation (guitar, bass, keyboard, drums) and make a radio-ready CD. You benefit from top quality musicianship and a great sounding end product. Call Steve Hansen 203-967-2200 for free consultation.

AGAINST THE GRAIN PRODUCTIONS -- Former EMI Records executive now offers recording, production services and song consultations. Pro Tools based recording utilizing state of the art digital tracking -- apogee converters/john hardy preamps/british supersonic compressors and great mics. Contact Bob Williams at 203-256-8974 or rocknovel@snet.net.

FEMALE VOCALIST AVAILABLE Beautiful & incredible vocals for your next demo! Female Singer w/ mid to high range voice available for leads/ or background. Most styles (pop, rock, blues, country, jazz, Broadway, etc.) Meet me at next CSA meeting or call Lani at 860-738-2888

SUITE AUDIO : New mastering/recording facility in Clinton, CT created by Bob Nary of DocRock Digital. Amazing new ProTools HD and WAVES based mastering, recording, remastering, and restoration. CD and tape copies too. Great sound, great rates. Visit: SuiteAudio.com, or call toll free 1-866-664-9174

EXIT4MUSIC DESIGN SERVICES FOR MUSICIANS - CD design, Band and Artist Logos, Promotional Art, Digital Photography, Web Media, Murals and Scenic Painting for Video. PC and Mac Support, Adobe Photoshop Help, Fast Turn Around. Results. Douglas Branson 860.927.5338 www.exit4music.com

SONG-A-DAY MUSIC CENTER in Coventry offers instruction for all ages and levels in piano, guitar, bass guitar and violin. Private and small group. Four qualified instructors on staff. Workshops, guitar repair, instruments and supplies available. Young People's Summer Violin Camp. CSA member Ruth O'Neil, Director. 860-742-6878 or e-mail at raioneil@aol.com

VOCALIST -- Experienced and talented female singer available to sing on your demo CD to promote your song! Do you love to write songs but don't like to sing? Do you have a song you'd like to record but you wrote it for a woman? Let me help! Fair rates! Contact Bonnie Lee Panda at (203) 272-0045.

GUITAR Instruction -- Jazz Guitar Improvisation volumes I & II. Complete method books/CDs -- \$24.95 each. Charlie Parker Transcriptions for Guitar Volumes I & II -- \$16.95 each. All orders \$3.50 s/h. Check/money order: Phunquie Pholk Music, PO Box 290752, Wethersfield, CT 06129-0752. web: www.ericelias.net or e-mail: ericjazz@aol.com

DO I HAVE A SONG FOR YOU -- Shoreline-based musician/songwriter with hit hooks and lyrics. country/ Rock/ Ballads/ Showtunes/ TV Themes. Tell me what you need. Ralph Onofrio, Songs, PO Box 554 N. Branford CT 06471; 203-483-7127.

CREATIVE GROUP LLC CD duplication and direct to CD printing with low minimums all done in-house; fast turn around time; Can do larger runs silk-screening to CD's with minimums of 1,000. We can also help design your next label and jacket inserts with in-house graphic designers available. See our web site at www.thecreativegrp.com or call Jon Landers at 203-270-3404.

Do you Have some old Equipment to donate?

Like many non-profit groups, CSA and LUNCH welcome donations of items for our programs. (tax-deductible for the contributor). Some items we need include: office equipment and supplies, photocopy machine, sound equipment, musical instruments or supplies, computer related items, etc. If you would like to help out by donating some of your old items, it would be greatly appreciated and would be a tax deduction for you. Call Bill Pere 860-572-9285.

COMMISSIONS AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS

COMMISSIONS FOR NEW MEMBER REFERRALS: Any member who refers a new member to CSA receives a \$10 commission when the person joins. The person you refer must join CSA at the regular membership rates, and must put your name on the application form as the source of the referral. For more information contact Bill Pere at bill@billpere.com

ATTENTION ALL CSA MEMBERS:

To insure that you get your newsletter and other important time-sensitive information, we need your current e-mail address. If you change your address or if you have not given it to us, please send your current e-mail address to us at : info@ctsongs.com

**Participate!
Get Involved!**
Investing your
time in CSA is
investing in
yourself!



CSA makes no endorsement as to the quality of any of the services advertised.

Connecticut Songsmith is published monthly by the Connecticut Songwriters Association, founded in 1979 by Don Donegan. **Editor:** Bill Pere. Letters, comments, and articles are welcome. Send to CSA Editor, 40 Bruggeman Pl, Mystic, CT 06355. (submissions should be electronic, are subject to editing, and are published solely at the discretion of CSA)

CSA on the web at <http://www.ctsongs.com>

-- Phone and E-Mail --

Special Projects, Newsletter, and Membership: info@ctsongs.com ; 860-572-9285

Executive Director : **Bill Pere**, bill@billpere.com

... OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS ...

President/Exec Dir :	Bill Pere, Mystic, CT	bill@billpere.com
Secretary :	Pat Reynolds, Willington, CT	patsongs@snet.net
Treasurer :	Kay Pere, Mystic CT	Kay@kaypere.com
Directors :	Don Donegan, Glastonbury, CT	DDCSA@aol.com
	Roy O'Neil, Waterbury, CT	gotsongs@cs.com
	John Gregory, Marlborough CT	jgregory@portone.com
	Paul Chapin, Watertown, CT	paul4csa@aol.com

CSA ADVERTISING RATES and DISCOUNTS

CLASSIFIED: Free to members, run at the discretion of CSA; \$10 per issue for non-members, ~50 word max. All ads subject to editing. Ads must include full name. CSA reserves the right to refuse any ad.

DISPLAY: (Rates are for Electronic or Camera-Ready Copy. If you want us to do typeset and layout for you, add one-time \$15 set up charge).

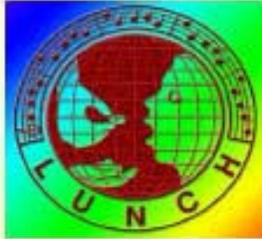
1/8 page: \$30 per issue
1/4 page: \$40 per issue
1/2 page: \$50 per issue
full page: \$80 per issue
WEB BANNER -- \$75/yr

30% Discount for 8-12 consecutive issues; 20% for 5-7 consecutive issues; 15% for 3-4 consecutive issues; 10% 2 consecutive issues

Full Payment must accompany all ads. Make checks payable to: CSA Newsletter, PO Box 511 Mystic CT 06355. Deadline for ads is the 15th of the preceding month. (Commissions available for CSA members who sell ads).



**Connecticut
Songwriters
Association**



**Local
United
Network to
Combat
Hunger**



**This event is an
official part of the
Mystic 350th
Anniversary
Celebration**



SATURDAY MAY 22
Union Baptist Church, Mystic CT
(corner of Rt 1 and High St -- Exit 89 off I-95)

A DAY OF PRAISE

A program of Spiritual and Inspirational Music

3pm-5pm: • Discussion of the Genre,
• Marketing Opportunities and Resources
• Song Share

5pm- 6pm: • Fellowship Pot-Luck Supper
(Please bring a dish to share;
Full kitchen facilities are available)

6pm-7pm: Prep and Sound Checks for Concert

7pm - 10pm Concert, open to the public,
proceeds to benefit Social Service
Agencies through LUNCH

Registration in Advance is only \$10 for the entire program (\$15 for non-CSA members). You can be at the concert portion of the program either as an attendee or as a performer.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PERFORM AT THE CONCERT:

1. Contact Bill Pere no later than April 15 for slot availability
2. Submit a recording of 1-2 songs that you would perform. Songs must be inspirational, spiritual, or gospel related and appropriate for being performed for a family audience in a church setting. Original songs are encouraged but not required.
3. The concert will be continuous round-robin style, with no set-up/breakdown time. Sound system will be provided for the concert, but we will be supporting primarily an acoustic sound - - Ensembles are okay, but we cannot accommodate a full electric band. There will be a keyboard provided, and a Steinway Grand Piano.
- 4 The total number of songs each artist can perform will be determined by the final number of performers booked.

All registrants may have a spot on the merchandise table to display and sell CD's. It is requested that \$1 of each item sold be donated to CSA

A CSA 25th Anniversary Event

CONNECTICUT SONGWRITING and PERFORMANCE CONFERENCE UPDATE (lots of information here)

To all those who will be attending, here is an update for you and a bunch of information you'll need to get the most out of the experience .

(NOTE: presenters/exhibitors will get additional information later)

The Conference is less than 6 weeks away -- We are looking forward to a great day of music, learning, meeting new people, and sharing. This event is a partnership between the Connecticut Songwriters Association, celebrating its 25th Anniversary (<http://www.ctsongs.com>) and LUNCH, celebrating its 15th Anniversary (<http://www.lunchensemble.com>). We are also grateful to Three Rivers College, for providing their wonderful facilities for the day. In addition to a great educational and networking event during the day, the evening concert is part of CSA's and LUNCH's community outreach, using music to raise money to support local social services.

ARRIVING

Come as early as you can to check in. At check-in, attendees will receive
-- conference name tag which will give you admission to the daytime activities. (there are different colored tags for attendees, presenters, and exhibitors)

-- Meal ticket for lunch/supper if you've pre-paid with your registration (if you did not pre-pay, you can still purchase a meal ticket for lunch as it is part of a fundraiser for the College's Children's Center)

-- Concert Ticket for the evening show (extra concert tickets can be purchased for \$10 each)

-- A tote bag for 'stuff' that you may pick up during the day.

-- Schedule of activities and a campus map.

-- Exhibitors will be shown to their station. Exhibitors will have 1 long table (6-8 ft)

Volunteers helping with setup may arrive as early as 7:30am

Exhibitors may arrive as early as 8:00am

Attendees may arrive as early as 8:30 am

There will be no problem with parking. There is ample space, directly adjacent to the main building.

Arriving early is important for several reasons:

(a) Throughout the planning process, the list of presenters and activities has evolved (and may still evolve), so that the final schedule of events will be given to you at check-in time. There will be an amazing assemblage of highly talented and accomplished people on hand, and the conference has been set up to allow a mix of structured and unstructured time. Most times there will be more than one activity happening at once (e.g. a workshop, a performance, critiques, discussion, etc.) Take some time at the very start of the day to plan what you would like to attend, to get the most from the day.

(b) All activities will be in and around the main building at Three Rivers, and though it is not that large, it's still easy to get lost. By arriving early, you'll have time to orient yourself and be able to get from one activity to the next in minimal time. If you know where you're going, you can get from one location to any other in less than 5 minutes.

-- Exhibitor tables will be in the Cafeteria and in special locations in the corridors/lobby.

-- Workshops will be in designated classrooms.

-- Scheduled performances will be in a GREAT performance space called 'the Gallery'.

-- Unscheduled/OpenMike performance, WEATHER PERMITTING, will be outside at the Gazebo.

-- Lunch and Supper will be in the Cafeteria.

-- The evening concert (this is shaping up to be a great event in and of itself) will be in the auditorium

-- There will be an instrument check room, where you can safely leave your instrument in a secure, attended area, and retrieve it any time you need it.

Thus you will not have to carry your instrument around with you all day.

-- Presenters will have a designated "Green Room" area for relaxing as needed.

IMPORTANT : If you have friends or know folks who might only want to come to the evening concert without registering for all of the daytime events, please let them know that tickets for just the concert may be purchased at the door (\$10) or reserved in advance by calling 860-572-9285). The Concert begins 7:30pm and will be a fantastic event.

(c) Attendees who are educators applying for CEU credit have some extra paperwork to take care of at check-in, and you'll have to sign-in-sign-out of each of the sessions you attend.

(d) And of course, the most important reason for arriving early -- donuts. We will have snacks available in the morning, but they'll disappear quickly. If you would like to help out by bringing some extra donuts or similar item to share, it would be appreciated. Musicians have always had a great sense of community, and sharing snacks and sharing music always go well together.

PERFORMANCE SLOTS

There are a limited number of performance slots in the Gallery, and there will be open mike opportunities in a different location, (slots are going quickly). If you are attending the conference and would like to perform some songs, you'll need to let us know in advance if you haven't already (those of you who have already requested a slot will be accommodated). Keep in mind that since there are other events going on all the time, we cannot guarantee the number of people that will be listening at a given venue at a given time. All performance times, locations and set-length are at the discretion of the schedulers. All performances must be "plug-and-play" -- there is no time for setup and breakdown of equipment. Sound system will be provided.

SONG CRITIQUES

This is one of the most valuable benefits of interacting with other experienced songwriters. Insightful, objective feedback that you don't have to pay someone to give you is hard to come by, and is an essential ingredient for creating the best possible songs. At several times throughout the day, you will be able to bring a song to our panel of critiquers, and get constructive comments about your song.

The critique panel will be headed up by some of the best and most experienced song critiquers you'll find anywhere, in the persons of Don Donegan, Joe Manning, and Les Julian. Song critiques are done each month at CSA meetings and are considered one of the most valuable benefits of CSA membership. At the Conference, you do not have to be a member of CSA to have a song critiqued, and you may have more than one song done during the day, subject to the overall number of songs being submitted and the schedule set by the critique panel. A song can be done live, recorded, or it can be just a lyric. Songs submitted for critique do not have to be fully polished or completed. Works in progress or initial ideas are fine.

To have a song critiqued, bring at least 20 copies of a typed lyric sheet, and a song on cassette or CD, or do it live.

OTHER INFORMATION

In addition to the list of presenters initially issued, we have a confirmed appearance by Marcie Geller, singer-songwriter from New York, who has appeared on Live With Regis Philbin, and has her music appearing on Nickelodeon. Marcie will be giving a showcase performance and participating in a panel discussion.

We also expect some IndieGrrl artists to be on hand as well.

Presentations/Discussions will be in two forms:

- scheduled classroom sessions of about 1 hour in length
- exhibitor tables which are actually expertise stations, where the presenter staffing the table will be available to interact with you to answer your specific questions.

Note that the presenters are being generous with their time and will be happy to interact with you during unstructured periods, but please do not monopolize the time or attention of any individual.

The first official session begins promptly at 10:00am but in the hour before, from 9-10, some of the presenters will be available to interact and answer questions. Another reason to be there early.

If you would like to try to arrange any one-on-one mentoring time with any presenter, or follow-up contact, You may ask them, realizing of course that it is solely up to them if they are willing and able to fit it into their schedule.

If you are a conference attendee and not a member a CSA and you would like to join, you will be able to do so at the Conference at a discounted rate.

CD BASKET:

If you have a CD of your music, we invite you to bring some to share and swap.

Also, if you wish, we'd like everyone to donate one copy of their CD to a "CD Basket" which will contain one CD from each attendee who has one, which we will use as a door prize at the concert. A great way to get lots of great music !

GETTING TO THREE RIVERS COLLEGE, MOHEGAN CAMPUS

If you are not familiar with Three Rivers, take note that there are campuses in different locations -- the Conference is at the MOHEGAN campus, NOT the Thames Valley Campus. It is located on Mahon Drive, in Norwich.

(For those coming North on 395 - you'll see signs for the Thames Valley Campus before you see the signs for the Mohegan Campus, so don't get confused).

Since folks are coming from many different starting points, the best thing to do is to use MapQuest or a roadmap to find your best way to get to Route 169 in Norwich (it intersects I-395, or Rt 2 or Rt 32). From 169, you want to turn onto Ox Hill Rd, and then Mahon Drive is off of Ox Hill. The direction to turn (left/right) depends on which way you are coming.

ESTIMATED Driving times: -- About 1 hour from Hartford/Glastonbury area, and about 75 minutes from New Haven area. **For additional directions, visit the Three Rivers Website at <http://www.trcc.comnet.edu>**

FINAL THOUGHTS

We have been planning this event for about a year. It is a complex undertaking and we want it to be a positive experience for all. Since this is the first time we are doing this, we know everything won't be perfect. There will be some inevitable snafus in the logistics or little things that we didn't think of, but overall we know it is going to be a great day with something of value for all who attend. Most importantly, your presence and the enthusiasm you bring with you are the key ingredients for a successful day, so that when the inevitable glitches arise, we'll get them taken care of and get on with the business of learning about songwriting and performing.

Please tell your friends and colleagues about the Conference and the Concert and we hope you'll be able to bring some other folks with you to share the day. We look forward to having you there, and it looks to be a great opportunity to learn, to share music, ideas, and experiences, to make new friends, and to just celebrate CSA's birthday and have fun in the company of creative people.

If there are new developments, we'll send another update. If you have specific questions between now and the Conference, please e-mail to info@ctsongwriters.com and we'll do our best to get you answers. (Note that after April 15, we probably will not be able to respond to specific questions)

See you there !

Sincerely,

Bill Pere
President, CSA
Founder and Executive Director, LUNCH
IMC Indie Artist of the Year '03
Official CT State Troubadour '95