



WINTER NEWSLETTER – 2020

47th Annual Blue Skies Music Festival

July 31st - August 3rd



Welcome to the 2020 Winter Newsletter with news about how to stay in touch on the Blue Skies Mailing List, how to help out with accessibility issues at Blue Skies, how to take part all year long in spreading Blue Skies magic with Blue Skies in the Community, how to register for Kids' Arts Camp and Adult Music Camp, how to enter the t-shirt design contest, how to share your knowledge and enthusiasm by presenting Holistic, Teen or Kids' Area workshops and how to participate in getting ready for Blue Skies #50. Whew! Oh yes, and once you've finished reading about everything Blue Skies, don't forget to Google the 47 Society . . . just because.

The Blue Skies Mailing List

What is the Blue Skies Mailing List?

The Mailing List is a database of all of the people who will receive a 2020 ticket request form/lottery card when they are mailed out in March.

How do I know if I'm on the Blue Skies Mailing List?

Everyone on the mailing list receives an email from Blue Skies at the end of January and is asked to indicate if they want to remain on the list, drop off the list or correct their contact information. This keeps the list up-to-date and lets folks drop off the list when we don't hear from them.

How do I get on the Blue Skies Mailing List for the 1st time?

Come to Blue Skies on a Day Pass and write your contact information in the big Blue Skies Mailing List Binder. That's all there is to it! Hope to see you in 2020! You can also sign up by sending your preferred email and postal addresses to maillist@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca



Accessibility Is An Important Issue For Us

We have been thinking a lot about barriers that people with disabilities might encounter at Blue Skies. We are working on ways we can be more inclusive, transparent, and helpful. So far, we have created an accessibility coordinator position, an accessibility policy and training for organizers and volunteers. We have also improved the accessibility of one of the outhouses and piloted a process for welcoming service dogs.

How could you help?

Help me collect blueskies'ers experiences using accessible facilities at the festival! I would love to hear if you have experience using the accessible camping area or parking. What was good, not so good? Also, if you have ideas on how we can expand our learning. Email us at accessibility@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca



Blue Skies in the Community

Making Music Happen

The Blue Skies in the Community Committee is a dedicated group of volunteers who work year-round to sprinkle a little Blue Skies magic into the communities surrounding the Blue Skies site. We do this by promoting and financially supporting live music at events in the area, and by organizing and running some programs of our own. We gratefully accept donations to continue our work. Please check out our website to see what we do. Blueskies-in-the-community.ca

Community Granting

Our Community Granting program had its usual active year in 2019. We worked with Al Rankin to support 11 different workshop/concerts in schools in Rural Frontenac County. We also supported a number of workshops and concerts for the general population in Kingston, Westport, Maberly, Snow Road and Tweed. We continued our long term support for the Tay Valley Choir, and the Frontenac Bucket Drummers, and awarded several bursaries to students for private music lessons. If you have a project you would like to discuss, please contact Linda Rush for information and an application. lindarush@yahoo.ca.

Blue Skies Kids Arts Camp

Hold onto your sunhats!
The 19th annual Blue Skies Kids' Arts Camp begins **Monday, July 20th, and runs to Friday, July 24th, 2020**, on the magical Blue Skies Festival site.



Campers choose from a variety of Music and Arts workshops taught by highly accomplished instructors. In addition, there are daily whole group games and Community Building activities. For older campers there are ample opportunities for personal growth and the development of leadership skills.

Information regarding changes in our registration process will be posted on our website www.blueskies-in-the-community.ca in late February. If you have questions, contact our camp directors Jenn & Janine at blueskiescamp@gmail.com

Blue Skies in the Community

Making Music Happen

Blue Skies Community Fiddle Orchestra

January 2020 marks 20 years of music with the **Blue Skies Community Fiddle Orchestra**. What a fantastic legacy for such a small community! Mark your calendars! There will be a celebration concert at 6:30pm in Perth, ON on June 13th 2020, at St Paul's United Church, 25 Gore Street West.



Our Director has created a compilation of tunes and memories from the past 20 years. The intention of the book is to make the sheet music available for current and former members of the orchestra who wish to participate in the concert to practice throughout the year. Jerrard Smith has designed a 20th Anniversary T-shirt to be worn at the concert. The cost of the Book and T-shirt is \$50. If you wish to purchase the book and shirt, volunteer for the concert in any capacity or donate to the Blue Skies Community Fiddle Orchestra, please contact Cindy McCall 613-278-2448 or cindy.fiddlemusic.mccall@gmail.com. If you know of anyone who was involved with the Orchestra over the past twenty years, please share this with them.



. . . Blue Skies in the Community News continued on next page

Blue Skies in the Community

Making Music Happen

Blue Skies Adult Music Camp 2020

Blue Skies in the Community is pleased to present the third annual Blue Skies Adult Music Camp! Last year's camp was so much fun that we are going to do it again. This camp will take place from the evening of [Sunday July 26th to midday on Wednesday July 29th, 2020](#), just a few days before the festival, at the lovely, rural Blue Skies site, near Clarendon, Ontario. (So unlike other music camps, we'll actually be camping outdoors, with tents 'n' stuff.)

We'll be offering three streams of musical instruction - 'Let's Sing!', with Nicola Oddy, 'Singing Around the Campfire' with our old friend Magoo, and, new for this year, 'Bluegrass' with Joey Wright!



'Let's Sing!' is open to anybody who likes to sing, and no experience is required.



The Bluegrass stream is suitable for those with at least a 'reasonably competent beginner' ability on any of the traditional bluegrass instruments: guitar, fiddle, mandolin, banjo, and upright bass.

'Singing Around the Campfire' is designed for folks who know at least a few chords on a guitar, ukulele, or mandolin, and would like to sing and play with others in a casual, welcoming setting.

The cost for this event is \$180. For more information, or to sign up, please visit blueskiesmusicfestival.ca, and click on 'Adult Music Camp 2020'.



Don't delay, it's going to be fun and spaces are limited - last year was sold out!

T-Shirt Design Contest

Submission Deadline: February 16th, 2020

Would you love to have your design featured on the 2020 Blue Skies T-shirt? Get out your pencils, markers, computer or whichever medium you feel most creative with and design a contender for the 2020 T-shirt. If submitting via email, ideally the designs should be in an editable digital format such as .ai, .psd, .pdf.

Designs are subject to change due to printing limitations.

Please submit
a Maximum
of 3 designs.

The contest winner will receive 2 free weekend camping passes to the 2020 Blue Skies Music Festival! A number of runners-up will have their designs published in the 2020 Blue Skies program. Please make sure your name and contact info is in the email or on the back of the submission.

To be a winner your design should:

- refer to music! It is a music festival after all
- give a sense of Blue Skies' unique atmosphere
- actually state "Blue Skies Music Festival, 2020"
- be submitted in colour (up to 3 colours in addition to the T-shirt colour)
- avoid a large area of material that is completely coloured in
- avoid a lot of broken lines or shading - this is difficult to print on a shirt

Please note: if you want to retain the original copy of your design, please submit a colour photocopy. Write your name in pencil on the back of the design.

Blue Skies Music Festival T-Shirt Design Contest
PO Box 216 KINGSTON, ON K7L 4V8



Photo by Tom Dowdall

To submit electronically: tshirtdesign@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca



Remember – The Deadline is **February 16th, 2020**

Kids Area workshops

Application Deadline: Friday, February 16th, 2020

Kids and teens of all ages come to explore the arts, whether it's to listen to music, to create some wonderful crafts, to learn new skills or just to meet some new friends. We provide a wide range of activities so that everyone finds something they will enjoy. If you love to share your talents with others, please consider proposing a Kids and/or Teen Workshop.



Back again - Teen Workshops

We will be offering some Teen Workshops for those who are ready to move on from the Kids Area, or have been gone for a while, and for those who are not ready to join the adult Holistic workshops. We envision an array of opportunities from henna, to acro, poi, T-shirt redesign, and learning songs to play around the campfire. The possibilities are endless!

The Kids, Teens and Holistic areas are working closely together to share workshop topics and presenters again this year. All presenters are asked to present two different workshops, either on the same day or on two different days. Scheduling is tricky so we ask that you please be flexible and understanding. Send all your fun, innovative Kids and Teen proposals to blueskieskids@gmail.com

Please include:

1. a description of your workshop(s) and the target age group(s)
2. if you intend to present your workshop with a co-presenter
3. a short title and write up to be printed in the program (for each workshop)
4. your mailing address, email address and phone number
5. the number of immediate family members (partner, kids) that you will require tickets for, as well as those of your co-presenter (if you have one)

Application Deadline: Friday, February 16th, 2020

Successful proposals will be contacted in early March.



Please keep in mind we have no running water or electricity in the Kids area.

If my application is accepted, I understand that, as a workshop provider, (even if I am presenting two different workshops or the same workshop twice), I will receive only one preselected Blue Skies Camping Pass order form. I will use this form to order and pay for all tickets required by me and my co-presenter (if I have a co-presenter). My personal ticket will be free. Children 12 and under are free. For example, my order may look like this: 1 free presenter, 1 spouse or partner or support person, 1 co-presenter, 1 co-presenter spouse or partner or support person = 4 camping passes, three of which I will pay for. My children 12 and under are free. Please send in your order as quickly as possible so we can confirm numbers for our weekend camping pass lottery.

Holistic Workshops

Application Deadline: February 16, 2020

Successful proposals will be contacted in early March



Holistic workshops are a wonderful part of the Blue Skies experience. They can introduce us to different ways of looking at ourselves and the world and whet our appetite to know more and do more. We are eager to hear your creative ideas for this year's program.

Have you got a talent, passion or area of expertise that you would like share? Have you wanted to lead a workshop at the Festival? This may be your opportunity!

We welcome proposals for Blue Skies 2020 in the following areas:

- o The Arts -- music, dance, visual, writing, and dramatic
- o Sustainable Living and the Environment
- o Peace, Justice and the Human Condition
- o Wellness and Healing: physical, emotional, mental, family and relationships, communication
- o Crafts - creating beauty with our hands

Are you a Registered Massage Therapist interested in volunteering?

Please contact Michelle or Allison at

holistic@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca

To apply to be a Holistic Workshop Presenter, please complete and send in the information requested on the Holistic Workshop Application that follows on the very next page ...

Submit to: holistic@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca

If my application is accepted, I understand that, as a workshop provider, even if I am presenting two different workshops or the same workshop twice, I will receive one preselected Blue Skies Camping Pass order form. I will use this form to order and pay for all tickets required by me and my co-presenter (if I have a co-presenter). My personal ticket will be free. Children 12 and under are free. For example, my order may look like this: 1 free presenter, 1 spouse or partner or support person, 1 co-presenter, 1 co-presenter spouse or partner or support person = 4 camping passes, three of which I will pay for. My children 12 and under are free. Please send in your order as quickly as possible so we can confirm numbers for our weekend camping pass lottery.



Holistic Workshop Application

Deadline: February 16, 2020

Please complete **ALL** of the following sections below and submit the information electronically to holistic@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca

- 1. Title of the Workshop(s):** As it would appear in the Blue Skies Program
- 2. Detailed Description of the Workshop(s):**
 - What are your goals?
 - What can workshop participants expect to do and/or take away from your workshop?
 - If you are looking to have the cost of your supplies reimbursed, please detail estimated materials and costs.
 - Please provide enough information so those reading the proposal have a clear picture of exactly what you and the participants will be doing in the workshop.
- 3. Summary of Workshop** (*50 words max*) As you would like it to appear in the Program
- 4. Can you see your workshop being presented:**
 - a. Both Saturday and Sunday for any age group in any workshop location?
 - b. Only at a certain time(s), area(s) or level of skill/understanding/age
 - c. One time only in a specific area or time
- 5. Workshop Presenter Contact Information:**

Presenter: FIRST and LAST Name
Phone Number:
Email Address:
Mailing Address:
- 6. Co-presenter** (if applicable)

Co-presenter: FIRST and LAST Name
Email Address:
Please clarify reasons why you require a co-presenter (maximum one paragraph)





50 Years of Blue Skies

Getting Ready for Blue Skies 50th

Let the banjos blare and the bagpipes bluster. Blue Skies is going to reach its 50th birthday in just a few years.

Our Golden Anniversary is roaring down the track and it's time to hop on board. We're already thinking about ways to celebrate this milestone. Ideas are being tossed around including thoughts about books, thoughts about movies and thoughts about what other thoughts we might think.

We know for sure we'll be looking for your stories and memories to share - and art-works, and poems, and songs, and photographs. We also need folks who are willing to help get this all underway. Whatever you can bring is exactly what we need.

If you'd like to help in any way, please e-mail us
at 50years@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca

New and exciting ideas are also encouraged.

**Let's really whoop up a storm to celebrate our upcoming 50 years
of music and community.**

