

## Presenter: Mike Diabo

### **The Power of Song** - all levels, all tunings

- Improve your overall musicianship
- Learn how to use a familiar song as a practice tool for many techniques
- Strumming patterns, finger picking
- Chord variations, bar chords, suspended chords as ornaments
- Scales
- Grooves

### **Swing that Uke** - all levels, all tunings

- Work on your Swing/Jazz style playing with a couple of minor blues songs (Steel Trap, Banzai Pipeline)
- Learn how to develop a solid swing feel
- How to improvise over a minor song
- Chord variations, melodic variations

## Presenter: J. Chalmers Doane with Melanie Doane

### **Master Class with J. Chalmers Doane**

Chalmers will be sharing his musical insights which will be sure to get you thinking about your relationship to your uke and to music. Some topics included are: Why the ukulele?, How to practice, How to nurture a love of music, and, oh yes, do bring your ukulele along. Of course, you'll be playing too!

Chalmers will be joined by his daughter, Juno Award winner, Melanie Doane, who will be moderating the session. You can expect lots of playing, some Q & A, and special time with this Order of Canada recipient and Canadian Icon.

## Presenter: Angela Dwyer

### **Two Scales and a Ukulele!**

For the Beginning Ukulele Player, Handouts will be available in both C6 and D6-tuning.

This is all you need to open up a whole world of music playing fun. In this workshop we will play "with" the pentatonic and major scales building melody, harmony, and rhythm. Wipe away those visions of being alone in a room practicing exercises and drills. These scales are meant to be shared. This is where you get to come out and play.

## Presenter: James Hill

### **Old Wine, New Bottles**

Intermediate, Handouts will be available in both C6 and D6-tuning.

Have you heard C, F, and G7 too many times? Like an old, reliable pickup truck these three chords will get the job done... but like an old, reliable pickup truck they could do with a little TLC. A paint job? A new set of tires? In this intermediate-level workshop, you'll learn how to breathe fresh life into these beloved workhorse chords. Fall in love with C, F, and G7 all over again!

**Presenter: James Hill**

**BOOSTER UKE!**

Beginner/Intermediate. Handouts will be available in both C6 and D6-tuning.

Based on James' book of the same name, BOOSTER UKE takes you from "ho-hum" to "big fun" in a relaxed, stress-free way! The secret: Chord twins, a simple technique, that will change the way you play. (note: even if you bought the book or have taken James' online BOOSTER UKE course, don't miss this workshop as James will teach great songs that aren't included in the book.)

**Write. Now.**

All Levels, Handouts will be available in both C6 and D6-tuning.

Want to create your own melodies? Curious about songwriting? Whatever your level, James shows you how to smash writer's block and unlock new ideas using nothing more than a deck of playing cards! By the end of the workshop you will have written (At very least) a new chord progression and melody to match.

**Presenter: Cynthia Kinnunen**

**Rhythm is Going to Get You**

Confident Beginner. Handouts will be available in both C6 and D6-tuning.

That trusty old "down up" strum has been your go-to but you're ready to step it up and add some spice to your songs. Let's take a look at how we create rhythm on our ukuleles through a variety of strum techniques, including chunking, muting, and more.

**Let's Build a Song Arrangement**

All Levels, Handouts will be available in both C6 and D6-tuning.

How can you take a simple song and create something much bigger? We'll look at some ideas for building an arrangement that can take a simple tune and, by adding an intro, outro, and some interesting bits in between, we can make it a full-fledged song arrangement on the ukulele.

**Harmony Made Simple**

All Levels, Handouts will be available in both C6 and D6-tuning.

A melody vocal line is essential in a song but what if we want to add some two-or three-part harmony into the mix? In this workshop, we'll learn how to create harmonized vocal parts on your ukulele with some simple techniques. You'll have a chorus of sweet voices in no time!

**Presenter: Bryan LaPlante**

**Sugar and Spice: Adding Variations and Suspensions to Make Songs Shine**

Beginner/Brave Beginner Level, C-tuning. Handouts will be available in D-tuning as well..

A harmonic (chords only) guided lesson and jam session that adds or removes fingerings to songs with major and minor chords, taking your playing to the next level! Sometimes these positionings are the key to playing the memorable 'hooks' or lead parts of songs. If attending this session, players should be comfortable playing common chords on the first three frets (ex. C, G, F, Am, Dm, Em), and singing while playing the 'island strum' pattern. Repertoire will include classic and contemporary pop/rock, folk, and country.

**Cherries on Top: Composing and Integrating Intros, Breaks, and Outros**

Intermediate Level, C-tuning. Handouts will be available in D-tuning as well.

This melodic (single fingered notes) and harmonic (chords) guided lesson and jam session will take us through how to grab your audience's attention from the first strum, surprise them throughout the song, and leave them cheering for more! Repertoire will demonstrate application in a range of songs, and then teach you how to come up with them on your own. There will also be a 'breakout' section where you will work in groups to intros, breaks, and outros, then perform something together at the end. If attending this session, players should be comfortable with using all four fingers on the left hand, playing common chords on the first three frets as well as full or partial barre chords (ex. Bm, Bb), and playing together with others.

**The Whole Shebang: Orchestrated Ensemble Arrangements, 'Mandolin' Chords, and Percussion**

Advanced Level, C-tuning. Handouts will be available in D-tuning as well.

This guided lesson and jam session will incorporate variations, suspensions, melodic and harmonic intros, breaks, and outros, percussion (tapping, flicking, and chucking), and James Hill's beautiful 'mandolin' dyads into fully arranged ensemble pieces. During the workshops, you will learn and play already completed songs, then break out into groups to craft your own interpretations. If attending this session, you'll be comfortable switching between C-major scale notes and chords (including barre chords) within a song, singing while playing various strumming patterns in a group, and using all four fingers to form chords. Best results come from taking all three beginner, intermediate, and advanced sessions throughout the day!

**Presenter: Gene Nichols**

**Please note:** There will be separate C6 and D6 tuning song packets for each of Gene's workshops. Be ready to sing!

**60's Workshop**

The 60's workshop will include songs from the entire decade - from both sides of the Beatles divide. Detroit, Los Angeles, London, Liverpool, New York, Bakersfield, Toronto, San Francisco, Nashville, Chicago, etc. - music of all sorts will be represented in the song packet. We will do some fingerpicking and some strumming -sometimes within the same song. The 1960-69 decade was one of our major cultural moments; let's board the time capsule!

**Gordon Lightfoot Workshop**

The late Gordon Lightfoot was one of the best songwriters ever, period - and his work will endure. Let's honor him and do our own small part to sustain his legacy. Classics and lesser-known gems from his canon will be explored. Fingerpicking optional.

**Canadian Singer-Songwriters Workshop**

We will re-investigate the second part of an earlier Ceilidh workshop, and sample the work of more-contemporary Canadian writers, as well as some of the nation's classic writers, such as Neil Young, Robbie Robertson, Ian and Sylvia Tyson, and Joni Mitchell.