

25th ANNUAL CELEBRATION
OF WOMEN AND
THEIR MUSIC



Live and Livestreamed from
TAK in Dilworth, MN
Saturday, February 19, 2022
6:30 p.m.

Celebration of Women and Their Music
Mission Statement

*To recognize artistic passion in women and
create opportunities for emerging and
established artists by opening avenues for
networking, mentoring, supporting and promotion
of their individual talents.*



Welcome - Deborah J Jenkins - Founder

Emcees – Margie Bailey & Deborah J Jenkins

Performers

Deb Harris – Seema Tian 2021 Award Winner

Stella Peterson 2021 Award Winner – Bailey Roth

Paula J Larsen

Rosie Savageau Nestingen 2006 Award Winner

Maddy Daugherty 2022 Award Winner

Connie Gjermundson – Sarah Morrau – Nita Velo

Barb Gravel – Prairie Public Television

Silver Winds Flute Quartet

Diane – Emy Miller

Nattie Jean

Jessie Veeder Scofield

Ella Olson 2022 Visual Arts Award Winner

Tracy Walvatne – Application Chair

Deborah J Jenkins – Pat Lenertz Band

Finale – One Spirit – All performers Featuring:
Deb Jenkins – Connie Gjermundson, Sarah Morrau,
Jesse Veeder Scofield and Nita Velo
With drummers Michael Carbone, Roger Gress and
Randy Schrenk

2022 Award Winners

Mary Ellen Thompson Award

Kaitlin Bitzegaio (Sheyenne High School) Vocal

Strong Girl Award

Madison Daugherty (Moorhead High School) Vocal

Celebration Of Women Award

Claire Grudem (Sheyenne High School)
violin, banjo and piano

Soul Sista Award

Amy Hong (Fargo South) Violin

Charlotte Stoker Arts Award

Lindsay Noyes (Sheyenne High School) Piano/Violin

Strong Girl Award

Ella Olson (Moorhead High School) Visual Arts

Chase Your Dream Award

Morgan Reeder (Fargo South) Visual Arts

Dancing Queen Award

Allison James (Sheyenne High School) percussion

Ruth Roseberg Evans Award

Kyra Asplin(Sheyenne High School) Visual Arts

Emcee

Margie Bailly

Retiring in 2011, Margie served as Executive Director of the Fargo Theatre for 14 years, overseeing a 3 million dollar renovation project and the development of the Fargo Film Festival. Margie has a BA degree in music from Grinnell College and a Masters Degree in Public and Human Services Administration from MSUM. Music has played a major role in her life, starting piano lessons at 5 and spending high school summers at the Interlochen National Music Camp in Michigan. In retirement Margie is involved in the “Welcome to a World Filled with Beautiful Music” project, which recognizes and celebrates the power of music in maintaining healthy brain activity.

Featured Artists

Kirstin Carlson

Kirstin Carlson is a band director at Ben Franklin Middle School in Fargo, ND, and a private flute teacher. As well as playing with the Silver Winds Flute Quartet, she performs with the Master Chorale of Fargo-Moorhead and is an active freelance performer. Kirstin has played with the Grand Forks Symphony, the Lake Agassiz Concert Band, the Trollwood Performing Arts School as a woodwind mentor/performer, and the Gooseberry Park Players as the pit manager/performer. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, and a Master of Science degree from Minnesota State University-Moorhead.

Madison Daugherty 2022 Award Winner

Madison Daugherty is a senior at Moorhead High School. The first time she remembers performing was at Disneyland in California when she was three years old. There was a karaoke stand where they played a song from Hannah Montana and she said “I sang my little heart out. My mom could see the overwhelming joy on my face and I remember her telling me that I was going to be a superstar one day.” Her stage name is Maddy Daugherty and she said performing today still gives her that same rush and excitement as when she was three.

Connie Gjermundson

The personal trail of Singer/Songwriter/Musician Connie Gjermundson comes through her ranching family on the beautiful prairies of western North Dakota. Family roots – and experiences among the grass, livestock, fences, arenas and prairies there – enriched Connie’s youth and imbued her with their essences. Musically gifted since her early years, Connie says, “Life lessons, and the blessings I experienced raising four children, inspire me.” The songs of her soul explore a wide range of life experiences, and she feels blessed when others tell her how the songs touch them. MUSIC is forever a healing force in Connie’s life.

Deb Haarsager

Deb has been a member of the Silver Winds Flute Quartet since its inception in 2002. She is a graduate of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, where she was a member of the Concordia College Band and Concordia College Woodwind Quintet. Her other musical interests include playing in the Lake Agassiz Concert Band and participating in worship ministry at her church. Deb is happily retired after working many years as a litigation paralegal in a private law firm.

Peggy Hammerling

Recently retired, Peggy taught flute and coached chamber music ensembles at Valley City State University in North Dakota and at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. She currently teaches in her private flute studio and enjoys working with students of all ages. Along with the Silver Winds Flute Quartet, Peggy performs with the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony, Fargo-Moorhead Opera and Lake Agassiz Concert Band. She also directs the St. John's Lutheran Recorder Ensemble. Peggy holds degrees from Pacific Lutheran University in Washington, Clarke College, and Minnesota State University - Moorhead.

Deb Jenkins

Deb Jenkins, founder of Celebration of Women, is a vocalist and has been a cornerstone of the Fargo music scene since the 1970s. With an affinity and passion for singing the blues, she has an inclusive

repertoire including popular music. Deb has performed for virtually every type of audience in venues ranging from outdoor music festivals to night clubs to fundraisers. Deb recorded two CD's, with her band, Down Home Blues and Deb Jenkins Freedom. Deb said. "It has been an AMAZING twenty five years and I hope everyone will follow their dreams as I did, as they came true. Thank you for all your support."

Natalie Koistinen

Nattie Jean is a singer songwriter from North Dakota. She was raised in Fargo, ND, but has since moved south of the Bismarck area. Music is a huge part of her life as she was raised around music. Her parents were in a band together all throughout her childhood years. She hopes to keep the tradition going by passing the love of music on to her three children. Nattie Jean can be found on Facebook and Instagram. All of her music can be found on all streaming platforms with new music coming out this year!

Paula J Larsen

Born in Des Moines, IA, Paula Larsen taught business subjects in Honolulu and Des Moines, before pursuing a 21-year career in ND with IBM in marketing and systems engineering. At NDSU, she was Development Director of KDSU Radio (6 years) and worked in administration (9 years). In retirement, she returned to her love of music and released two albums: "Legacy" (2014) and "Testimony" (2021). She and husband, Dick, live in Fargo and have 4 children, 8 grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren.

Hannah Leiseth

Cellist and vocalist, **Hannah Leiseth**, is a senior and National Honors Student at Moorhead High School. Hannah started music lessons at the age of three and over the last 14 years has learned to play 10 instruments including the harp. She has enjoyed singing and playing for weddings, church services and area nursing homes. Hannah has experience both on and off the stage for musical theatre as well, having been involved in productions for Gooseberry Park Players, FMCT and school. Her latest composition and voiceover has been featured in a podcast called "The Bus." Hannah has been involved with the Fargo-Moorhead Area Youth Symphonies (FMAYS)

for 7 years, acts as section leader for both choir and orchestra at MHS, and has won numerous “Superior” ratings at MN State Music Contests with an invite to play with the MN All-State Orchestra this winter. Hannah has enjoyed music camps that provide opportunities to collaborate with new-found friends at International Music Camp, Northstar, LSM Winter Conservatory, Concordia’s Honors Orchestra and Soiva International which allowed her to travel to Finland. She’s thankful to her many music teachers and mentors over the years who have inspired her to go into music education.

Diane Miller

Diane is a multi-disciplinary musician based in Minneapolis and the new radio host/producer of The Local Show on MPR's The Current. From hip-hop, rock 'n' roll, country, jazz, R&B, indie, soul and punk, Diane's remarkable ability to appreciate and perform nearly any style of music makes her a standout in Minnesota's arts community. Diane gained notoriety as a musician starting in her hometown of Fargo-Moorhead. She fronts the local hip-hop band D Mills & The Thrills, served as the editor-in-chief of the alt-weekly High Plains Reader, and booked music for the indie venue The Aquarium. Since moving to Minneapolis from Fargo in 2018, Diane has quickly become a fixture in the Twin Cities’ music scene. She’s a 2020-2021 McKnight Artist Fellow, a former talent buyer for Icehouse, a Minnesota Music Coalition board member and an active performing and recording artist. Diane recently headlined the Star Tribune stage at Basilica Block Party this September 2021. Some of her present collaborators include Kiss The Tiger, HALEY, Dosh, Greg Schutte, Mayda and more.

Emy Miller

Emy Miller has been very active in the Fargo-Moorhead cultural and performing arts scene. She has performed in many plays/musicals at FMCT. She loves and honors the rich culture of her native Philippines, over the years performing folk dances, songs and preparing special dishes at many public events. She is currently the Vice-President of the Filipino-American (FILAM MnDAK) Assn.

Sarah Morrau

Sarah Morrau is a singer/songwriter who believes in the healing power of music. She has performed regularly with pianist Rebekka DeVries at the Plains Art Museum Noon Holiday Concerts. They were also featured performers on Prairie Public Television's Prairie Musicians and with the Angels of the Muse program. Sarah has been involved with the Celebration of Women and their Music since the beginning as a performer, an emcee and helping with marketing. She is a contemporary worship leader at Olivet Lutheran Church. She was recently awarded a grant through the Arts Partnership, which she used to take voice lessons and record originals and jazz standards. Her previous recordings are available on iTunes, Spotify and [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and other streaming sites.

Rosie Sauvageau Nestingen

Rosie Sauvageau (sav-uh-joe) Nestingen (nest-ing-inn) is so excited to be back at the Celebration! Rosie has been a Celebration award winner, judge, and board member and is so grateful for the people and performers she's met over her 16 years of involvement. Rosie debuted a new work musical as the composer-lyricist, co-creator, and co-producer of a show titled *Right, Wrong or Bomb: A Dating Musical!* Which had two Minneapolis runs in 2016 and 2018. Rosie calls music her "5:00 - 9:00" and loves that the musical connections she's made through the Celebration are still influencers and collaborators in her creative process today. Rosie lives in South Minneapolis with her husband, Hans, and their dog, Oakland.

Ella Olson 2022 Visual Arts Award Winner

Ella is a senior at Moorhead High School. She says "If I had to describe myself I would say I'm creative, confident, and intuitive." Her hobbies include hanging out with family and friends, painting, shopping, and coffee runs. This fall she will be attending the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis through their College of Design. She says "Art in its beautiful form, has helped me express my emotions and life lessons. As I continue to grow into a strong woman, I want to inspire others to challenge themselves, put in the effort to the things they love and push themselves to success." She wants to be a role model by showing others how to have the courage

to do what they want and to freely express themselves in their own personal way. Her ultimate goal is to one day open her own art studio to display her life, feelings and beliefs on canvas.

Stella Peterson

Stella has been involved in the music community for about 14 years. She's taken violin lessons from 2008-2021 with Jane Linde Capistran and voice lessons from 2017-2021 with Sara Lichtblau. She has received over 20 awards for concerto competitions, EDC Music competitions, and State Music Competitions. In 2019 she had the opportunity to travel to Finland for the Soiva International Music Camp to perform her violin. Stella is currently attending Concordia College and studying Biology and Women and Gender Studies. She's taking violin lessons with Dr. Sonja Bosca-Harasim and voice lessons from Dr. David Hamilton. Music has been a passion of hers for the majority of her life and she hopes to continue it in the future.

Bailey Roth

Bailey graduated from NDSU with a Bachelor of Science in Music in December of 2020 with the intent of pursuing a career as a singer. She is currently writing her first album and "enjoying post-graduation bliss." This is her first Celebration of Women event and she is very grateful to be here! If she could say anything to future performers, it would be "Do what makes you happy, take every opportunity, and never underestimate the importance of rest." One of her favorite songs right now is "Both Sides Now" by Judy Collins.

Erika Tomten

Erika is the Development Director of the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra. She has performed in numerous music ensembles in the Midwest and Pacific Northwest and taught private and group flute lessons for over 15 years. She is a graduate of Concordia College in Moorhead, MN where she studied music and studio art. Erika has played flute and piccolo with music ensembles throughout the Fargo-Moorhead area, including the F-M Symphony, Lake Agassiz Concert Band, the pit orchestra for FMCT and the Straw Hat Players, and in

the F-M Ballet's production of The Nutcracker. She is performing with the Silver Winds Flute Quartet.

Jessie Veeder Scofield Watford City, ND

Jessie Veeder Scofield writes and sings about the badlands of western North Dakota, where she grew up on the family ranch. She released her first original album at sixteen and went on to tour nationally and release four more albums, a book that features stories from life in the ranch and, most recently, her first children's book, Prairie Princess. Blending western, rock, blues and heartfelt honest lyrics, Jessie sings about the buttes and creeks of her family's working cattle ranch and her experiences of the huge oil mining boom in the region. Since 2010, Jessie, her husband, and their two young daughters have worked alongside her father as the fourth generation stewards of the Veeder Ranch. She chronicles life on the land on her blog "Meanwhile, back at the ranch...", as well as through a weekly column for Forum Communications newspapers. Jessie was voted North Dakota's favorite folk musician in 2016 and 2017 and was a 2019 recipient of the North Dakota Governor's Award for Individual Achievement in the Arts.

Jessieveedermusic.com

Veederranch.com - Facebook.com/veederranch-
Instagram.com/jessieveeder

Nita Velo

Nita Velo is an award winning songwriter living in Sabin, MN. She writes Americana, Christian, Country and Blues music. Our finale song, One Spirit, is one of her creations. Her songs are played on iTunes, Spotify, and Pandora. You can purchase albums or songs also at CDBaby.com

Sponsorships

Supporter Level \$250 - \$499

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Doug Scott
Sharon Savageau
Diane Townsend
Nita Velo
Katie Jo Walvatne
Tracy Walvatne
Ariel Wethern
Mary Jo Dailey

Honoring Barbara Crow

Thank you to Jacqueline Edison who contributed to the Celebration of Women and their Music this year in memory of Barbara Crow, loving mother and talented poet who passed from this world on February 17, 2021.

“Her legacy of creativity lives on in her written poems and in the musical talents of her daughter Sarah Morrau and granddaughter Katie Morrau.

Jacqueline Edison

We at Celebration of Women and Their Music have decided that this will be our last concert. Thank you so much for your support for the last 25 years. We so appreciate you being part of our village.

If you would like to continue supporting our mission, The Celebration of Women and Their Music also gives a scholarship each spring through the Fargo Moorhead Area-Foundation. The scholarship is listed under Celebration of Women and Their Arts. Interested applicants can go to fmareafoundation.org for more information.

Deb Jenkins has poured her heart and soul into this show for the past twenty-five years. We want to thank Deb for living out and actively pursuing her dream... A dream that has impacted so many and will for years to come. The show has provided not just the opportunity to perform, mentor and learn, but also financial awards and especially encouragement to young women in the arts – looking to pursue their dreams.

To Deb:

Thank you for connecting us – for creating a sisterhood of musicians and artists.

Thank you for teaching us that there is room for all and for encouraging us to share the unique gifts that we each offer the world.

Thank for working tirelessly year after year make this show happen – up against odds and challenges that at times were only known to you.

Thank you for your passion, your love and belief in something more.

Deb Jenkins – we thank you and honor you for staying true to your vision and the show's mission statement.

Thank you bringing us together – performers and audiences for the past 25 years – providing connections and opportunities through the Annual Celebration of Women and Their Music.

You truly embody the lines that you sing from Nita Velo's song "One Spirit" (our finale song).

"We are many different parts

Gifts abound with every heart

We are equal, we are strong,

One body blessed by God"

Thank you Deb. We love you.

The Celebration of Women is lovingly
dedicated to deb Jenkins' mother,
Donella L. Peterson

A woman who epitomized the
passion behind the concept
of this show with her quiet
strength,
her lifelong love of music,
her great influence on so many
women and her
beautiful soul.

“Without her I
truly would not be
the person I am”
~ Deb