

Philadelphia Book Festival

2007 Featured Performers

Angel Band

Angel Band grew out of some of the best area musicians- Nancy Josephson, Jen Schonwald, Kathleen Weber, David Bromberg, Bobby Tangrea, Bob Taylor and Jeff Wisor—getting together to jam at a small cafe in Delaware. The singing, the playing, the fun, and the spirit shines on all who listen.

Arpeggio Jazz Ensemble

One of Philadelphia's more innovative and progressive jazz groups, Warren Oree and the Arpeggio Jazz Ensemble have been introducing young children to jazz with fun, interactive performances since 1979.

Big Splash Productions Presents: *Blue Lou and the Bullyfish*

Featuring Curtis Cregan of TLC's *Hi-5*, *Blue Lou and the Bullyfish* is a new children's musical that combines singing fish with life lessons about dealing with bullies.

Brother Nashid Ali, Storyteller for Harmony & Peace

Through uplifting stories that use drumming, poetry and songs, Brother Nashid Ali creates a safe environment for children to play together and explore issues of culture, self esteem, grief and loss counseling and conflict resolution.

Buried Beds

On their debut full-length, *Empty Rooms*, West Philadelphia's Buried Beds have developed a unique fusion of old-time Americana, Indie rock melancholy and classical string arrangements

John Flynn

John Flynn writes powerful songs of humanity and hope. Of Flynn's latest CD, *Two Wolves*, Chris Spector of *Midwest Record Recap* writes "Flynn might well be one of the greatest hidden treasures the American Axis has to discover and offer."

Folklore Urbano

New York City-based Folklore Urbano features the original music and arrangements of Pablo Mayor. The group combines traditional Columbian rhythms with sophisticated jazz rhythms, "taking Latin music to an entirely new dimension," says Vicky Sola in *Latin Beat* magazine.

More...

Jeffrey Gaines

Since Jeffrey Gaine's self-titled debut was released, this dynamic singer, guitarist and songwriter has been heralded for his powerful live performances. Recently, Gaines was described by *MOJO* as "the man who sounds like Otis Redding, Elvis Costello and David Bowie, wrapped up in one amazing package."

Genticorum

Weaving wooden flute, fiddle, acoustic guitar, jaw harp, bass and foot percussion with strong vocal harmonies, Quebec's Genticorum offer a blend of traditional songs and original compositions. Their latest album is *Mailins Plaisirs*.

Gillygaloo

Gillygaloo plays folk roots music for the whole family using an incredible variety of instruments including the fiddle, button accordion, guitar, mandolin, banjo and ukulele. For this performance Gillygaloo will be joined by harmonica great, Peter "Trip" Henderson.

Marta Gomez

Marta Gomez and her group perform a repertoire composed of original songs based on a variety of rhythms from all over Latin America including Cuba, Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, Peru and Argentina- mixed with jazz and pop elements. **EVENT CANCELLED**

Harry and the Potters

The idea is that Harry Potter from Year 7 and Harry Potter from Year 4 started a rock band. Now no one can stop the wizard rock. Not even Voldemort. The band's latest album is *Harry Potter and the Power of Love*.

Joe Tayoun's Middle Eastern Ensemble with Roger Mgrdichian and Meesha

Percussionist Joe Tayoun grew up playing alongside Arabic, Turkish, Persian, Armenian, Greek and Israeli musicians and dancers. Roger Mgrdichian specializes in the oud, an ancestor of the European lute, and Michelle "Meesha" Tayoun dances and teaches at events all over the world.

Kruno Gypsy Jazz Ensemble

Kruno Gypsy Jazz Ensemble fuses Eastern European folk traditions with Django Reinhardt swing. This new merging of sounds enthralls audiences with its sweet Balkan melodies and hot Gypsy jazz.

One Ring Zero

One Ring Zero has released six albums, including the critically acclaimed *As Smart As We Are*, a book-cum-CD featuring songs with lyrics contributed by such authors as Jonathan Lethem, Margaret Atwood, Paul Auster, Dave Eggers, A. M. Homes, Rick Moody, Neil Gaiman, and Denis Johnson.

More...

Patti Smith

Godmother of punk and recent Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, Patti Smith returns to the Free Library to sing and recite poetry from her collection *Auguries of Innocence*.

Sonqo

Sonqo means heart in Quechua, a language of the Incas and ancient civilizations of South America. Sonqo plays Andean music featuring authentic indigenous instruments, costuming from several Andean regions and songs in Spanish, Quechua and English.

Vieux Farka Toure

With flourishes of rock and reggae amidst Saharan blues and traditional Malian melodies, Vieux Farka Toure, son of the late international superstar Ali Farka Toure, ushers in the next generation of Mali blues.

Walnut Street Theatre Presents: *Once Upon a Wolf*

The Big Bad Wolf's gone good! Join him as he gives old fairy tales a modern twist and new perspective. America's oldest theatre company uses audience participation to challenge preconceived notions of good and bad and to deal with prejudice and peer pressure.

Yosi

Bundle magazine says Yosi's "catchy ska and pop will have your tot pogo-ing like she's at CBGB's." His children's concerts feature his hit songs "Hole in the Ground," "Six Little Monkeys," and "Chicken Noodle Soup."

Stage Hosts and Guest Interviewers

David Dye

David Dye is a longtime Philadelphia radio personality whose music enthusiasm has captivated listeners of WXPN's *World Café* since 1991. He will host the Toyota Music Stage on Saturday, April 21.

Tamala Edwards

Action News weekday morning anchor, Tamala Edwards has worked for ABC's World News Now, World News This Morning, and as a staff writer for *Time* magazine. She will interview Robin Roberts on Saturday.

Michaela Majoun

Michaela Majoun is the host of WXPN's *Morning Show*. She will host the Toyota Music Stage on Sunday, April 22.

[More...](#)

Monica Malpass

Monica Malpass, co-anchor of Action News at 5 p.m., joined Channel 6abc in January of 1998. She is co-anchor of the award-winning political discussion program *Inside Story*, and is author of 6abc's political podcasts, political blogs and web book reviews. Malpass will host the Storybook Parade on Saturday.

Matt O'Donnell

Weekday morning anchor for Action News, Matt O'Donnell joined 6ABC in 1996. Since then he has covered a variety of news stories, including the Eagle's road to the Super Bowl, Live 8, and the 2003 New York City blackout. He will interview Lee and Bob Woodruff on Sunday.

Karen Rogers

Karen Rogers is the traffic and weather anchor for Action News Mornings. She joined Channel 6 ABC in 1996, as reporter and producer for the show AM/Philadelphia, and later for Philly After Midnight. Rogers will host the Children's Storybook Parade on Saturday.

Strolling Performances by...

Comedy, Magic & Ventriloquism with Steve Charney and Harry

The *New Yorker* calls Steve Charney a "scholar of various types of lunacy." He is a musician, ventriloquist, radio programmer and author. His latest book is *Kids' Kookiest Riddles*.

David Smith: One Man Side Show

A laugh-a-minute show of juggling, sideshow and comedy, David Smith will keep you riveted with amazing feats that will have you talking for years.

Kiva and Devin of the Give & Take Jugglers

Drawing from a variety of traditions from vaudeville and circus arts and theater, Kiva and Devin of the Give & Take Jugglers surprise, please and invite audiences to participate in their impressive juggling comedy act.

Ron Geoffries: Magic, Comedy & Juggling

Ron presents the perfect combination of entertainment- magic and illusion for your mind and comedy for your funny bone. Come see Ron perform magic right under your nose!

Ron Wood and the Zen One Dance Collective

Zen One Dance Collective is a multi-media theater company that fuses the movements of Breakin', House and Capoeira while maintaining the roots and integrity of each form. The Collective's goal is to make a positive change in the world through music and dance, one audience at a time.

[More...](#)

Silly Reba: Magic and Balloon Sculpting

Silly Reba has been delighting audiences since 1980 with magic and balloon sculpting. She will make balloon art and perform pocket magic for booklovers of all ages.

Featured Library Programming

Rare Book Department Exhibition & Tour

Enter the Actress: Women on the American Stage

The presences of women on the stage, and the roles they have played, have challenged traditional feminine stereotypes for nearly two centuries. From drama queens to showgirls- the stories of these resourceful, talented women are told through images, playbills and memorabilia from the Rare Book Department's Theatre Collection.

Historical Gems of the Government Publications Department

Government Publications Department

The Free Library of Philadelphia has the oldest and largest collection of government publications in the Delaware Valley. This one-hour program will examine some of the gems that are held within the department's more than 4 ½ miles of library shelves. Documents that we will explore may include: the Philadelphia name census since 1790; the published writings of George Washington and the Nuremberg Trial transcripts.

Library Access Technology Workstation Demonstrations

Government Publications Department

The Free Library is very proud to offer state of the art technology that enables people who are print impaired to use the Internet and library materials independently. Join us for a fascinating look at how our workstation expands the world of books and the joy of reading.