

# **CLEAR FORK BLUEGRASS QUARTET, *traditional bluegrass***

## RESIDENCY INFORMATION & GUIDE

Clear Fork's residency activities are designed as a compliment to the stage show and custom designed with the presenter's needs in mind. Below are descriptions of the various programs we offer, with hopes that you can design a residency that will most benefit your community. We will gladly help you create a residency program that will suit your specific needs.

### WORKSHOPS

CLEAR FORK can offer group workshops on violin, acoustic guitar, mandolin, banjo, and acoustic bass, as well as harmony singing and Bluegrass style. These workshops can be technically oriented, appealing mainly to students of music, or stylistically oriented with lots of question and answer time. Either can be tailored to accommodate advanced students or the layperson.

### CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP

CLEAR FORK's Children's Workshop is designed for grades 1st through 6th. The workshop is often the students' first introduction to some of these instruments and the music they create. The students get a chance to touch and examine the instruments and learn how they make music together. The students are encouraged to clap along on certain songs, and a sing-along is always part of the workshop.

### MASTER CLASSES

Master Classes are offered in violin, 5-string banjo, and Bluegrass Style. Both Jim Metz and Ray Sponaugle have enjoyed many opportunities to teach on a master level. These classes are geared to intermediate/advanced music students with a good understanding of music theory, the ability to read music or tablature, and a strong interest in these highly stylized areas.

### LECTURE/DEMONSTRATIONS

CLEAR FORK's Lecture/Demonstration program is geared to larger groups and provides a general education into the history and origins of Bluegrass music. Instrumental and signing style is discussed as well as demonstrations of the instruments and other musical styles as they relate to Bluegrass music. This program ends with a question-and-answer period.

### ORGANIZED DANCING

Complete with caller, fiddler, and band, CLEAR FORK's dance program teaches the participants many of the traditional, organized dances, most often associated with fiddle music and Bluegrass. Step-by-step instructions make it fun and easy for the dancers, no matter what their ability level. The participants learn square, line, circle, and contra dancing.

### **GREAT LAKES PERFORMING ARTIST ASSOCIATES**

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As well as learning the dance steps, the history and origins of the various dances are discussed. Not recommended for young children.

### **REHEARSALS**

Band rehearsals can be made open to the public. Though they're informal, the public gets a chance to see the inner workings of an ensemble and to watch the artists interact. Attention is paid to any questions that may arise from the audience, but most of all, the informality of the situation helps to create that special, one-on-one relationship between the artist and the public.

### **STAGE PERFORMANCE**

CLEAR FORK's stage performance consists of two musical and fun hours, with a short intermission. Where the residency programs focus on certain groups, this performance is for all. The band displays their virtuosity and experience on all fronts, as they take the whole audience, young and old alike, on a musical, Bluegrass journey.

### **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESENTING CLEAR FORK**

#### **CLEAR FORK IN CONCERT**

Stage - A raised stage a minimum of 10' x 16'

Electricity - One grounded electrical outlet

Lighting - Full stage lighting

#### **CLEAR FORK's EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

Workshops/Classes - Two standard-sized classrooms or one room large enough to hold simultaneous activities.

#### **CLEAR FORK's DANCE PROGRAM**

Dance Area - A large room, cafeteria, or gymnasium, with hard non-carpeted floors is needed.

CLEAR FORK is able to supply a compact, efficient sound system complete with all cables, microphones, speakers, and stands.

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