



ABCflyer2025b

American Banjo Camp

Sept. 4-7, 2025

Pilgrim Firs
Conference Center
Port Orchard, WA



Classes in Bluegrass & Old-Time 5-String Banjo, Fiddle, Guitar, & Mandolin

website - <http://AmericanBanjoCamp.com>

email - info@AmericanBanjoCamp.com

Peter Langston & Ken Perlman, directors
Linda Leavitt, onsite coordinator

American Banjo Camp presents an intense weekend of old-time and bluegrass music instruction in the Pacific Northwest, focusing on the five-string banjo as well as fiddle, guitar & mandolin, and featuring superlative instructors. There are hands-on classes, demonstrations, and concerts, not to mention plenty of opportunities for jamming!

Teachers: We have the very best. See the listings inside.

Schedule: We have classes, demonstrations, & hosted jams Thursday afternoon, all day Friday, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning through lunch. In addition, we have concerts Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, followed by late-night jamming. Schedules are posted and updated on the ABC website (<http://AmericanBanjoCamp.com>).

Weekend Only: If you can't get away Thursday you can come starting Friday, although you will miss some of the introductory events (which are particularly valuable for first-time campers). See "How To Register," inside.

Classes: ABC offers interactive classes tailored to our faculty's expertise. You'll get a lot of playing in the hands-on classes.

Jamming: We schedule slow, intermediate, and open jams each day. Our teachers get the music rolling. And if you don't yet know how to jam, our workshops teach you how.

Beginners: We feature a special series of classes for newcomers in both our banjo genres, taught primarily by our beginner specialists. Our regular instructors also teach classes in the beginners' programs; observing world-class masters at close quarters provides the inspiration to keep beginners progressing on the instrument for months or even years to come!

Fiddle Track: We offer a full program in old-time fiddle, led by renowned Seattle fiddler Greg Canote and supported by fiddling banjo teachers TBA.

Guitar Track: We offer a full-time program in intermediate guitar. Our instructors are Greg Blake (bluegrass guitar), Peter Langston (bluegrass guitar) and Jere Canote (old-time guitar).

Mandolin Track: We offer a full-time program in intermediate mandolin. Our instructors are Dale Adkins and Peter Langston.

Location: We're located at the Pilgrim Firs Conference Center, a beautiful sylvan setting near Port Orchard, Washington. Early September is often blessed with glorious weather in the Pacific Northwest, and classes can be held indoors or outdoors, depending on weather conditions. See the website for general information on our site and travel directions.

Accommodations: Most of the lodging at Pilgrim Firs (aside from a few 2-person rooms that we reserve for folks with special needs) is in small cabins equipped with modern bathrooms with hot showers, electricity, and heat. Towels, pillows, and bedding are provided.

Ages: ABC is a camp for adults of all ages, but please consult with us before registering an adult under 18 years of age.

Food: Meals are included in the price and we always have vegetarian options. The dining hall overlooks the private lake and outdoor dining is available.

Spouses: We have a special rate available to spouses, parents, or others accompanying a registered attendee. The "spouse" rate includes meals, lodging, and attendance at the evening events.

T-Shirts: If you register before Aug. 15th you can order special ABC commemorative T-shirts (\$19 for XL and smaller, slightly higher for larger; add \$5 for long sleeve) -- available *ONLY* before 8/15! Your tshirt(s) will be waiting for you when you check in at camp.



American Banjo Camp 2025 Teachers

Bluegrass Banjo



Greg Cahill formed the Special Consensus in 1973. He conducts workshops and master classes at bluegrass camps and festivals worldwide. His teaching credits include Nashcamp, the Maryland Banjo Academy, the Sore Fingers Summer School (UK), and Bluegrass Camp Germany. He has taught at the Old Town School of Folk Music in Chicago for over 40 years.



Gina Furtado grew up playing the banjo in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. She first gained international recognition with her stint playing in Chris Jones and the Night Drivers. Since then she has released two records with Mountain Home Music Company that feature her creative banjo playing and quirky songwriting, resulting in several #1 songs on Bluegrass Today charts.



Eli Gilbert is one of the most watched and supported banjo instructors online today. In addition to his online educational resources, Eli has taught at numerous bluegrass and banjo camps, including Banjo Summit, Augusta Bluegrass Week, Banjo Camp North, and Ashokan Bluegrass Camps. As a performer Eli tours with Missy Raines and Al-legheny.



Alan Munde needs no introduction to long-time Bluegrass fans. From his early creative work with Sam Bush in Poor Richard's Almanac to his traditional bluegrass apprenticeship with Jimmy Martin and the Sunny Mountain Boys to his 21-year stint anchoring the landmark Country Gazette, Alan has blazed a trail as one of the most innovative and influential banjo players of all time.



Mike Stahlman is a Portland, Ore. banjo player whose playing style was heavily influenced by Earl Scruggs and Alan Munde. Mike has taught bluegrass banjo at Portland Community College since 1997, and currently plays banjo and tours with the Oregon-based band Lee Highway. He also plays with The Loafers. Mike has recorded two banjo instrumental CD's - *Bluebonnet* and *First Dance*.



Trey Wellington's approach to the quintessential American instrument is all about looking forward. An International Bluegrass Music Association Award winner, Wellington is critically acclaimed not only for his technical prowess, but also for leveraging his unique point of view to craft a one-of-a-kind voice on the instrument, a playing style that is wholly his own, unconcerned with tradition

Old-Time Banjo



Hilarie Burhans has been playing and teaching clawhammer banjo for more than 45 years. She lives in the Appalachian foothills of Athens, Ohio and is a much in-demand player at old-time music festivals thanks to her intensely rhythmic, driving banjo style. Her instructional videos on the Patreon platform have many devoted subscribers who praise her clear, relaxed teaching style.



Joseph Decosimo has introduced audiences around the world to the beauty and vitality of the fiddle, banjo, and song traditions from the Appalachian South. A supportive teacher and PhD-holding folklorist, he served on the faculty in ETSU's Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music Studies Program. He is a national Old-time banjo champion and winner of the Clifftop fiddle contest,



Frank Evans fell in love with banjo at age 10. In 2010 he joined the bluegrass outfit the Slovan Ramblers. In 2011 Evans became the first banjo player to attend Humber College of Music where he studied Jazz. He has taught at the Rockygrass Academy, Nimble Fingers Bluegrass Camp and has played and taught alongside Tony Trischka, Peter Rowan, John Reischman, and Ken Whiteley.



Maggie Lind has been singing and making music her whole life. She got a banjo as a teen and became enthralled with the tunes, dancing, old recordings, stories, and community that go hand in hand with old-time music. Maggie has been teaching clawhammer banjo in Portland for 20 years. She has taught hundreds of students in her popular Portland String Band Class



Ken Perlman is known wherever banjos are played as a master of clawhammer technique and clawhammer mechanics. He was a Banjo Newsletter columnist from the early 1980s till the magazine closed down in 2021; he has taught at well over a dozen music camps. In 2017, Ken was invited to offer a Master's Showcase at the Appalachian String Band Festival (AKA: "Clifftop").



Molly Tenenbaum began playing old-time clawhammer banjo as a teenager, and has played for square dances and dance camps ever since. She teaches regularly at Dusty Strings Music School in Seattle. She loves the intertwine of the banjo and fiddle more than just about anything, and is at her happiest when her banjo is guessing what the fiddle will do at the same time the fiddle does it.

How To Register

ABC requires advance registration, which means filling out a registration form online and getting it to us. There are many ways to do this.

You can find the registration form online at:

<http://americanbanjocamp.com/ABCreg.php>

You can send the completed registration form to us either by selecting the PayPal option, (which allows you to pay by credit card or paypal), or by clicking a button to send us a copy of the registration form and then mailing a check to us.

Deposit: It's easiest to send full payment with your registration, but you can send a deposit of \$100 to hold your place until July 1st when the balance is due. Registering after July 1st requires the whole amount.

Refunds: If you should need to cancel for any reason before August 1st we would refund all of your payment. Between August 1st and the start of camp we would refund all but \$100. If you cancel after camp starts, there would be no refund.

Cost: The "full" camp (Thurs afternoon to Sun. lunch) costs \$910 US for tuition, events, meals, & lodging on site. Spouses or others accompanying registered attendees can sign up for meals, lodging, and the evening events (concerts, jams, snack) for half price. There are other discounted prices for commuters or for weekend-only campers. See the website (<http://www.americanbanjocamp.com/ABCregnotes.php>) for details.

More Teachers!

Dale Adkins (mandolin) is a native Oregonian and longtime NW guitar legend who Flatpick Guitar Magazine states is: "... a major force!" He is an instrumental wiz on guitar, banjo, mandolin, ukulele, and tenor guitar. He has been playing and performing on mandolin in Bluegrass and Old Time configurations for more than 20 years.

Greg Blake (guitar) was born and raised in West Virginia where he developed his love for bluegrass & traditional country music. He was recently nominated for Male Vocalist of the Year by the IBMA. Now a member of Special Consensus, Greg also teaches guitar and vocals throughout the year at bluegrass instructional camps.

Greg Canote (fiddle, uke) & **Jere Canote** (guitar, uke) are as renowned for their affable attitudes and humor as they are for their music. Greg on fiddle, and Jere on guitar, and both on banjo ukes, perform zany concerts, play for dances, lead songs, and generally promote a good time! The twins started singing soon after they were born, and haven't closed their mouths since!

Peter Langston (guitar), a strong and imaginative player, plays anything with strings on it -- even the banjo! He has performed with such notables as Doc Watson, Tony Trischka, Reverend Gary Davis, Peter Rowan, Alison Brown, Johnny Gimble, and Mike Seeger and has run numerous music camps..

Mick Nicholson (bass) started out as a tuba player, a member of the Bremerton Symphony for 6 years. Mick freelances as an electric and acoustic bassist and teaches at various band camps and workshops. He also plays a mean tuba, though he does not endorse or receive remuneration from the Mean Tuba Company

Want to stay off site? Register as a commuter and stay at a nearby motel with an ABC discount!