

Join us for the Flurry Festival! Participatory Music and Dance -- and Performances



Whether you like to watch live music and dance or want to get on the dance floor or make music yourself, you will find plenty of great sessions at the **FLURRY FESTIVAL**, a three-day event held each year over President's Day Weekend in Saratoga Springs. Over 300 performers and instructors engage 3000-plus participants in dances, workshops, concerts, storytelling, singing, and jamming. Attendees of all ages come from all over the northeast, other parts of the US, and from Canada.

While the Festival was once called the “Dance Flurry,” the event has grown to include many events focused on music and performances for non-dancers and dancers alike. In addition, almost all sessions welcome beginners and you **do not** need a partner for any of the sessions.

We would like to bring traditional music and dance to life for young people, ages 6-21, by providing them with the opportunity to experience the Flurry Festival. Free youth tickets are available for groups, those with special needs, and chaperones. Those using the tickets can choose to attend part or all of the festival. Here is a sample of the type of sessions participants can attend:



Storytelling performances and workshops: The Storycrafters, Storytelling and Singing Games, Joe and Jesse Bruchac



Especially for Kids and Teens: Teen Showcase, Stuntology, Wizard of Oz Puppet Show, Family Dance, Improve Games, Crankies, Body Percussion, Rod Puppet Making, Teen Jam

Instrumental Workshops: Watch the session as a performance, or bring an instrument and join in -- Banjo, Fiddle, Guitar

Jam Sessions: Cape Breton, Quebecois, Pan-Celtic, Waltz Book, Old Time, Contra Tunes, Scandi, English, Swing, Cajun, Teen Jam

Participatory Singing Sessions: Shape Note, Gospel Harmony, Funny Songs and Sing-a-Longs, Song Swap, Round Singing, Pub Sing, French Singing



Traditional music concerts: Enjoy listening to live music every hour throughout the Festival -- Jazz, Blues, Appalachian, Music of the Workers, Songs of Pete and Woody, Piano Concert

Dance performances, workshops and participatory sessions: Dance Round the World Showcase, Swing, Contra, Morris, West African Drum and Dance, Square Dance, Waltz, Blues, Cajun, Zydeco, World Dances, Tango, Chinese Folk Dance, Appalachian Flatfooting, Salsa, Cuban, Scandinavian, Country Line Dancing, Polish Dance, English Country, Scottish Country, Irish Step Dance, Sean-Nos, Tap Dance, Community Barn Dance, International Folk



Youth Outreach at the Flurry

Youth-serving community agencies, such as youth shelters, mentoring programs, refugee and immigrant organizations, and community centers will receive free youth and chaperone tickets to attend the Flurry Festival.

The Flurry Festival can serve youth in many ways. At the festival, young people are:

- Participating in music and dance activities.
- Experiencing an age-integrated event where young and old have fun together in healthy ways.
- Increasing experiences in movement and exercise.
- Sharing joyful experiences with their family.
- Realizing that they can connect with the community of arts that can redirect them from life on the streets.
- Participating in community-building activities.
- Finding that they have undiscovered talents.
- Finding a more hopeful peer group to identify with in their lives.
- Finding a cross-cultural array of performers that youth can identify with and broaden their understanding of embracing differences in our world.
- Being redirected from alcohol and drug use with active and healthy engagement.



Stewart's Shops Holiday Match Grant

We want to give a hearty “Thank You!” to the Stewart's Shops Holiday Match Grant, which graciously donates funds for the youth scholarship tickets. The free grant tickets provide community youth and family-serving agencies in our community, an opportunity to be a part of a fine festival. It is an act of caring for those who are our community caregivers.

We feel strongly that the Flurry Festival is a community-building event that provides healthy exercise, peaceful interactions, relationship-building opportunities and a respect for the talented diversity of our community, both local and global.

If you are interested in Youth Outreach opportunities, please contact Beverly Lazar Davis at 518-281-9130 or bevlazardavis@gmail.com



DanceFlurry Organization Outreach

The DanceFlurry Organization (DFO) provides support to individuals and groups who want to present traditional music and dance in the greater Capital District. The DFO offers grants up to \$500 to organizations and schools to support music and dance events. Past grant recipients held family and community dances at libraries and schools and presented music workshops. To apply for grants, visit: www.danceflurry.org/grants-and-scholarships. For questions or help with event planning, contact: program@danceflurry.org.