



UKULELE WORKSHOP SCHEDULED AT ARTS ON THE LAKE

“You can’t play the Ukulele with a sad face,” says Sandy McKelvey who will lead “How to Play the Ukulele,” at Arts on the Lake, 640 Route 52, Lake Carmel, on Sunday, October 21, at 3 pm.

Part of the Community Workshop Series, these workshops are open to all levels of experience within the community, said AotL’s Executive Director James Shearwood. “We expect some participants will be trying the instrument for the very first time,” added Shearwood, “whereas more advanced students may want the experience of playing with others.”

Instructor McKelvey said she will start with some basic principles of music theory.

Arts on the Lake by arrangement with Radovich and Dean Music expects to have some extra ukuleles at the workshop for an afternoon rental of \$10.

The fee for participation is \$5, which is waived for Arts on the Lake members and students.

Advance registration is needed to rsvp@artsonthelake.org or (845) 228-2685.

Instructor McKelvey has said “The ukulele is the easiest instrument to learn and is also the most fun.” She expects even beginning participants will learn a simple tune within the two-hour workshop.

Although McKelvey studied classical guitar as a teenager and later pursued Brazilian Bossa Nova while living in Brazil during college, she picked up the ukulele about ten years ago and realized what a great instrument it was – “instant gratification and because it’s small it travels well.” McKelvey currently resides with her family in Cold Spring and started the Farm to School project for fresh food in Philipstown schools.

At a West Coast Music Festival McKelvey was inspired by the Langley Ukulele Ensemble of British Columbia to pursue teaching the instrument. From a rural area in Canada, under the direction of Peter Luongo, the Ensemble now tours the world.

If a ukulele ensemble were to develop at Arts on the Lake, Shearwood said the organization would be very supportive.

Funding for the Community Workshop Series is made possible, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Cuomo and the NY State Legislature and with public funds from Putnam County. These grant programs are managed and monitored by the Putnam Arts Council.

More information on all activities at Arts on the Lake is available at www.artsonthelake.org or (845) 228-2685.

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