

STAR OF THE NORTH 2022 English Country Dance Weekend

Friday, October 21 - Sunday, October 23, 2022

OUR ARTISTS

Karen Axelrod's piano playing combines expressiveness, energy, lyricism and power. She is equally at home with styles ranging from traditional folk melodies to passionate tangos to old world French musette waltzes to English Country Dance tunes and much more. She left behind classical music over 40 years ago and has happily settled into her musical home...somewhere between folk, classical and improvisation. Her playing is soulful yet touched with humor and whimsy. Karen plays with a number of bands, including Alchemy, Foxfire, Peregrine Road and 3rd String Trio. Based in Brattleboro, VT, Karen tours extensively throughout the United States, Canada and abroad at dances, festivals, concerts, camps, private parties, and other events.

Daron Douglas plays English country dance fiddle and continues her family's tradition of Appalachian "song-saving," and song-sharing passed on by her North Carolina grandmother and great-grandmother. Daron has played with the Knoxville Early Music Project, the Hominy Mamas, the contra dance band Misbehavin' and currently fiddles with the bands Foxfire and Goldcrest. She travels often to play dance weekends, and lives, weaves, gardens, and makes music in New Orleans.

Joanna Reiner has taught and called English dance for over two decades. In addition to being one of the leaders of the Philadelphia-based Germantown Country Dancers, her calling has taken her from Amherst to Ann Arbor, from St. from New England Folk Festival to Hey Days, from St. Croix to Vancouver, and other points abroad, including many sessions at Pinewoods Camp. While known for her clear calling and instruction, Joanna loves teaching workshops for ECD callers, and workshops that explore ECD technique, new dances, and how people learn and remember dance choreography. Joanna is the Director of Programs for the Country Dance & Song Society (CDSS).