



Workshop Information

Scenic Roots is pleased to offer workshops and private lessons in addition to concerts. They always try to teach concepts and techniques along with tunes, and spend time preparing materials in advance so that they are clear, concise, and easy to read. Below is a list of possible workshops, but they are happy to create new workshops designed to fit the needs of your festival.

Fiddle

- Bowing: Teaches different bowing styles, including hokum and shuffle
- Old Time: Teaches how to play in an authentic old time style
- Contra Tunes: Teaches all you need to know about playing for a dance
- Irish: Right and left hand embellishments in the context of traditional Irish tunes
- Backup Playing: Teaches how to accompany other players and vocalists

Mountain Dulcimer

- Arranging: Helps students create beautiful arrangements of the music they love
- Bum-Diddy: Gives an in-depth look at right hand technique for flatpicking or fingerpicking
- Developing Good Habits: Teaches students how make the most of their practice time
- Changing Keys: Teaches students how to play in *any* key by using a capo and/or re-tuning
- Advanced Master Class: A class critique to help students sharpen their skills

Hammered Dulcimer

- Tunes: In this class we will focus on learning a new tune
- Tuning: Focuses on the question, “How do I tune my dulcimer, and how should I keep it in tune?” Getting to know the notes of your dulcimer (beginner)

Clawhammer Banjo

- Basic Technique: What you need to know about your right hand
- Fretless: How to play fretless banjo

Storytelling/Emceeing

- The art of storytelling: How to sell a story to your audience and make up stories on-the-fly
- What the Audience Needs: Tips on emceeing; what you should and should not say

Children’s Workshops

- Sing-alongs: Playing and singing lots of songs that kids love like “Proper Cup of Coffee,” “Sandy Boys,” and “Watermelon”
- Dance: Basic American folk dances like “Heel Toe Polka” and “Virginia Reel”

Business

- Basics for Band Promotion: How to put together a promotional package, web presence, and basic promotion for your band