

## OPUS | FEBRUARY 2019



The Concord Conservatory of Music

[www.concordconservatory.org](http://www.concordconservatory.org)

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**News at CCM**



**CCM welcomes Kathleen Parks, Violinist,  
Fiddler, Vocalist, Songwriter & Teacher**

As the instructor for the [Intermediate Fiddling Class](#) and [Old-Time Class/Jam](#), both on Monday evenings, [Kathleen Parks](#) brings inexhaustible energy and creativity to the classroom.

A graduate of the Berklee College of Music on full scholarship, Parks is one of two frontwomen for Twisted Pine, who will perform at the [CCM American Roots Fundraiser](#) on March 30th.

Widely recognized as one of the most exciting and skillful bands in the Boston-area acoustic music scene, Twisted Pine has been nominated for the International Bluegrass Music

Association's Momentum Award and has performed at a multitude of festivals and venues across U.S. NPR Music enthuses about the “upbeat, poppy vibe; energetic, driving rhythms;

virtuosic solos; tight harmonies” on the self-titled new record, which features five original songs by Parks. [Learn more about Kathleen Parks>>](#)

### Important February Dates:

- [Mile Twelve](#), Bluegrass Concert, Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm
- **Student Recitals**, Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 and 2:30 pm
- [Second Saturday Bluegrass Jam](#), Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 – 9:30 pm
- [Monthly Uke Jam](#), Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 – 9:15 pm
- **CCM Student Players at Rivercrest**, Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:45 - 4:45 pm ([Sign up](#)).
- CCM closed for Winter Vacation Break, Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>

**Are you a CCM friend yet?** Join us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) to hear the **Tune of the Week**, be the first to learn CCM news, and more! See what music videos we like, photos we post, practice tips and articles we suggest, and what’s new in the music world.

### Singing with Parkinson's



#### [Singing with](#)

[Parkinson's](#) provides a social opportunity for those in the community with Parkinson's disease, along with their families and caregivers, to participate in voice therapy and receive support through singing, performance, and the joy of making music together. In 90-minute weekly sessions, participants will help

choose songs and perform a variety of genres. They'll gain self-confidence through strengthening their voices. Singing with Parkinson's begins Wednesday, March 6 from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm at CCM.



Research has shown that vocal exercise enhances voice volume in people with Parkinson's and that the presence of music and rhythm improves movement. "Our goal for the ***Singing with Parkinson's*** program is to offer people coping with the disease a chance to sing together, perform in the community and build new friendships," said Kate Yoder, Executive Director of CCM. "In addition to stimulating creativity, *Singing with Parkinson's* will help members with breathing, stretching, posture and vocal exercises—all therapeutic benefits provided in a supportive environment".

[Dr. Greta Feeney](#) will lead the 90-minute weekly sessions on Wednesday mornings at CCM. Dr. Feeney is an American opera singer, scholar, and educator. She studied at The Juilliard School in New York and made her operatic debut on the main stage at The San Francisco Opera, where she has performed in more than 20 productions.

As a music educator and mentor, Dr. Feeney's work ranges from teaching private voice lessons to choral conducting, with a special focus on restorative voice techniques using a "speech-to-song" approach. Dr. Feeney serves on the faculties of the Concord Conservatory of Music and the Nantucket Music Center and is faculty chair of the voice department at Powers Music School in Belmont, MA.

CCM will provide an accompanist for the weekly sessions as well as refreshments and time for the group to socialize. If you or anyone you know might benefit from the new CCM Singing with Parkinson's, you can [register](#) for the class online, [email us](#), or call (978) 369-0010. We want to ensure that people living with Parkinson's Disease enjoy their full capabilities.

**Student Spotlight: Mariana Cadavid, Connecting Music and Culture**



All musicians have to start somewhere, and while CCM student Mariana Cadavid is only a few years into learning to play the guitar, she has all the markings of an excellent musician. Now 12 years old, Mariana first started learning to play the trombone several years ago with her school band, but she quickly found that her real passion was for guitar.

Most musicians, especially those just getting started, know that it can be hard to make yourself practice, especially when things get hard. Mariana admits that for her, the most difficult part is memorizing notes and remembering fingering. But while many find themselves wondering just how they can stay focused and determined, for Mariana the answer is simple: “My goal is to become a good guitar player...and in order to do that I need to practice”. Just like that Mariana throws herself wholeheartedly into learning.

She takes guitar lessons once a week with CCM faculty Björn Wennås, and together they explore mostly music by Spanish and Italian masters like Carulli, Carcassi, Sor and Tarrega as well as some traditional Spanish folk music. According to Björn, these composers are an excellent place to start for those interested in guitar because of their role in a phenomena called “la guitaromanie” (guitar mania) that took place in early 19th century Paris. These

composers along with Aguado and Giuliani resulted in a large body of music and method books being published by big French publishing houses during that period, many of which are still being used today. Mariana says she hears a lot of Spanish music at home and finds the Italian music “beautiful.”

Now, Mariana and Björn are looking towards Mariana’s Colombian heritage for more musical discovery. “It’s always fun and gives extra meaning to the student and his/her family when we connect music and culture, and I learn a lot as well!” says Björn.

Mariana loves taking lessons with Björn and says her favorite thing is that “[Björn] leaves you wanting to come back to class because he has a positive presence and energy, and he is a good listener. He is patient during lessons, and he calmly teaches me how not to make that same mistake again.”

Learning music takes a lot of time and effort outside the classroom, and Mariana hasn’t undertaken her musical journey alone. Her family plays a large role in supporting and inspiring her musical practice. Mariana says, “They are there when I need help, and I feel safe knowing I have a family who is present. I am lucky to have my parents drive me to my lessons, and if I forget a note, my mom plays the note on the piano so I can find it on the guitar”. Mariana’s mom Maria could tell her daughter loved music from a very young age, and does her best to support Mariana’s learning however possible.

“I always try to incorporate music into everyday life to inspire her to love music. I do not interfere with her when she practices, and I let her and her teacher make the decisions, but I always try to be available and help her if needed,” says Maria. Maria had a musical childhood herself; her mother was a musician with a major in musical education and Maria and her sisters all played instruments growing up. Maria is “delighted [Mariana] found a teacher who inspires her to play better and challenges her to do her best.”

Mariana shows how enthusiasm and dedication can take you everywhere with music, and even though she is just at the beginning of her musical career, it is clear that Mariana has what it takes to go far.

“One of the best things about teaching Mariana is that she listens and processes what I’m communicating to her regarding technique, and dynamics, and then attempts to implement it almost immediately,” says Björn, “she is always quick to laugh, and comes with smart,

insightful questions.” Björn hopes to give Mariana more performance experience and opportunities to play with other young CCM musicians like violinists, cellists, and flutists.

Mariana has found inspiration not only in her teacher and her family but also from watching performances by accomplished artists. Mariana remembers seeing a guitarist once who composed his songs and “was amazed at his ability to play a ve-minute guitar piece without messing up...he played so well, and his songs [were] beautiful”.

So next time you hear a musician performing, and nd yourself in awe of the skill and practiced ease with which they play, take a moment to consider that before every great musician there was a student like Mariana just getting started whose passion for learning the guitar, along with the support of her community, will carry her for years.

### **American Roots Benefit, BBQ, Bluegrass, & Bourbon!**



*“Music connects us, teaches us, soothes us, inspires us. In Concord, we are blessed to have a world-class music school, and it is our privilege and responsibility as a community to nurture and support its*

*growth and success.*

*As such, the Concord Conservatory of Music will host an American Roots event on March 30, 2019, to showcase and support financially the excellent music education offered to anyone - regardless of age or ability. We hope that the community will come together in March to celebrate the joy of music, as well as ensure that the Conservatory can continue to reach more of the community through music."*

Susanna Barton, *American Roots Benefit Chair & CCM parent*

Please join us on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm for the CCM **American Roots Benefit** featuring the band [Twisted Pine](#) at the Performing Arts Center at 51 Walden Street in Concord.

[RSVP today](#). The funds from the event allow us to continue to provide financial aid to students and families-in-need, attract the best instructors to our school, and maintain local outreach programs while meeting operating expenses.

### **We need your help.**

Please [email](#) our Benefit Chair, CCM Board member Susanna Barton, to see how you can help us. Your expertise with decorating, planning a party, gathering people to support a great cause, and more, will help with the success of our fundraiser.

Support the school with your friends and reserve a Table of 10. [Visit us online](#) and enter party attendee names, or call Sue Seger at 978-369-0010.

### **Thank you for all your support.**

### **CCM's 2018 -2019 Concert Series**





**Purchase your tickets today for the remaining three concerts of the 2018 -2019 Series!**

February 8, 7:30 pm, [Mile 12 – Bluegrass](#). Read more on [Mile Twelve](#).

[Mile Twelve](#) is a fresh, hard-driving young band beautifully walking the line between original and traditional bluegrass. Fast gaining recognition for their outstanding performances in bluegrass and folk circles, Evan Murphy, Bronwyn Keith-Hynes, Nate Sabat, BB Bowness and David Benedict write captivating songs and daring instrumental pieces from diverse influences. Banjo luminary Tony Trischka says, “Mile Twelve is carrying the bluegrass tradition forward with creativity and integrity.”

March 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am & 2:00 pm – Grammy-Award winning [Okee Dokee Brothers, a Family Concert](#)

The GRAMMY Award-winning Okee Dokee Brothers perform and record family music in the American Roots tradition with the goal to inspire children and their parents to get outside and get creative. The four-time Parents' Choice Award winners have garnered praise from the likes of NPR's All Things Considered and USA Today, and have been called "two of family music's best songwriters."

April 5, 7:30 pm, [CCM Jazz – Originals](#)

We bring the CCM Jazz faculty to kick off National Jazz Appreciation Month. Tsuyoshi Honjo on saxophone, Justin Meyer on bass, Brian Friedland on piano, Phil Sargent on guitar, Gabriela Martina on vocals, and Mike Connors on percussion will perform their original compositions.

[Please consider purchasing your tickets in advance>>](#)