

Make Music Day Press Release • Harriet Rice

Local musicians invited to participate in Make Music Day 2020

What better way to lift the spirits of folks dealing with Covid-19 issues than by making and listening to music? Musicians from throughout Burnett and Polk Counties are invited to be part of Burnett/Polk Make Music Day (MMD) 2020 on Sunday, June 21.

"Burnett and Polk counties are joining 14 other Wisconsin communities from Green Bay to Barron that have signed on to be included in the state and national program " said Harriet Rice, Burnett County MMD co-coordinator along with Nancy Buley, Polk County. "This is the first time we're trying this event. If it's successful, it could be an annual musical happening," added Rice.

Make Music Day is a world-wide event that began in France in 1982 as the Fête de la Musique. It has since spread to 1,000 cities across 120 countries. More than 85 U.S. cities and the entire states of Connecticut, Hawaii, Vermont and Wisconsin will take part in MMD 2020, demonstrating the power of music to unite and uplift people, to spread joy and build community spirit during these challenging times.

"Due to the coronavirus pandemic, local and national organizers and musicians are planning creative socially distanced ways to share music. Those who are not comfortable performing in public can perform outside at home or even online!" said Buley, who is organizing performances in Frederic.

Completely different from a typical music festival or concert, MMD is simply a celebration of making music open to anyone, regardless of age or ability who to wants to perform and anyone who wants to listen. All musical genres are welcome, from classical to folk, country, hip hop, jazz to rock, and opera. The free performances are held at outdoor venues from front porches to gardens, sidewalks, parking lots to streets, store fronts and other public places from morning until night on the day of the Summer Solstice.

"Due to the coronavirus pandemic, local and national organizers are planning creative socially distanced ways for musicians to share music. Those who are not comfortable performing in public places can perform outside at home or even online." said Buley, who is organizing performances in the Frederic area.

"The public will be invited to hear outdoor performances they can listen to from their cars, walking or bicycling by, not gathering in groups (other than families), but maintaining social distancing as mandated by state and local health officials," said Rice.

Make Music Day is presented by The National Association of Music Merchants and is organized by the non-profit Make Music Day Alliance. For additional information, visit www.makemusicday.org.

Local musicians who would like to perform as part of Make Music Day should contact the appropriate coordinator. Burnett County: Harriet Rice, studionrthwds@gmail.com; 715.566.1356. Polk County: Nancy Buley, nancybuley@gmail.com; 715.431.0209. A full schedule of events will be posted at makemusicday.org/burnettcounty/.