

2018 Street Performer Series Performer Bios

Balloon Twisters

The Balloon Guy

Jim Perry, also known as "The Balloon Guy," has been twisting balloons for more than 25 years. He is a graduate of the world famous Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Clown College. He can make more than 100 different balloon animals, swords, flowers and hats.

Chau "Chuckles" Le-Tran

Chuckles can twist balloons into hundreds of shapes, including flowers, animals, plants, helicopters, wands, swords and much more. He caters to kids of all ages and even adults who are kids at heart. Chuckles has performed at events all across Michigan and is excited to return to the Street Performer Series this year.

Dan the Magic Man

Dan Mutschler is a self-taught balloon artist who performs regularly at birthday parties, scouting events, art fairs and at Logan's Roadhouse. He also volunteers weekly at several nursing homes, performing card tricks and visiting with elderly residents.

Caricature Artists and Graphic Artists

Caricatures by Britta

Britta Lindemulder is Holland native who holds a degree in Illustration from Grand Valley State University. She first learned to draw caricatures in 2007 during a summer job at Michigan's Adventure and loves seeing the smiles on people's faces when she hands them their custom drawing.

Caricatures by Corey Ruffin

Corey is a world-renowned caricaturist who has drawn faces in 48 states and on 4 different continents. Corey emphasizes humor and comedy in his fanciful and exaggerated drawings. He is the fastest caricature artist in the nation and onlookers watch in amazement as he whips out a portrait in less than a minute!

Circus Acts

Bangarang Circus

Bangarang Circus Arts is a collective of performance artists who share a passion for all things circus and a desire for community. It is their goal to offer the circus arts to everyone who seeks them. Bangarang Circus specializes in aerial arts, hooping and acrobatics.

Cirque Amongus

Cirque Amongus is a variety circus arts show that includes unicycling, juggling, acrobatics, comedy, magic, jump-rope, music and more! They have been pleasing audiences with their family friendly performances world-wide for a collective 70 years.

Dancers

Allison McDaid

Allison has been tap dancing for 12 years and loves creating rhythms with her feet that connect to music. Although tap is her preferred dance genre, she also performs jazz, hip hop, lyrical and ballet. Throughout the years, she has perfected her technique with lessons from professional tap dancers and at dance conventions.

Floor Fienz Family

Formerly the Circus Junkeez, the Floor Fienz Family is an exciting group of break dancers that have been performing for over ten years as part of the Street Performer Series and other community events. In

addition to keeping the tradition of break dancing alive, they aim to set a positive example for youth in our community.

Holland B. Boys Fanatix

Made up of break dancers of all ages, these family members and former members of the Circle Junkeez crew will awe you with their breakdancing skills. They'll prove that the art of break dancing is still alive and well!

Mystic

Maribel Garza has been belly dancing for over 15 years. Her belly dance is what she considers a traditional belly dance with a modern twist. Not only is she a performer, but she also enjoys teaching belly dancing as well. It has been her passion to not just perform, but to share this beautiful art with the public.

Henna Artists, Airbrush Tattoos, and Face Painters

Beauty in a Blink

Brittany Brink offers temporary airbrush tattoos to both children and adults. She is a professional makeup artist and uses FDA-approved ingredients. She offers a variety of kid friendly designs and loves working with clients to make their overall vision come to life.

Dez's Face Painting

Dezarae Begay holds a degree in Theatre from Grand Valley State University. When she's not performing on stage, she enjoys sharing her face-painting talents at events in both Holland and Zeeland. The paint she uses is FDA-approved and her full-face designs consist of tigers, butterflies, cartoon characters and more.

Family Entertainment by Gracie

Originally from Boston, Nancy Greiner is new to the West Michigan performance scene and is the recent founder of The Funnybone Foundation. In addition to clowning at children's hospitals and nursing homes, she does music, magic and face painting and will be offering glitter tattoos for all ages on Thursday nights.

Henna Tattoos by Anna Schierbeek

Anna has been performing for the public for almost a decade. She made her first Street Performer Series appearance when she was 17. Anna loves to be a part of the local community and to see people get excited about art through henna.

Henna Tattoos by Jahara

Jahanara Begum has been a Street Performer in Downtown Holland since the beginning of the Street Performer Series. She is a highly skilled and experienced henna artist who uses all natural ingredients. Her designs never fail to impress!

Magicians

Maciek the Magician

Maciek is an award-winning magician that provides the audience with an interactive magic show the whole family will be sure to love. He connects with his audience through a display of unique magic, strong visual effects, universal appeal to audiences on all levels, energetic style of presentation and tasteful humor.

Mimes, Jugglers, and Yo-Yo Artists

Connor Scholten

Connor is a Holland native who began his performing career during the first Street Performer Series in 2005. In addition to winning national contests, Connor has worked full-time in the yo-yo industry, designing

yo-yos, coaching the top players in the world and teaching the modern art of yo-yo to thousands of people online.

Juggler Gerry

Gerry began juggling professionally over 20 years ago. He is a juggling enthusiast and professional performer who has travelled across the country to share his talents. He employs humor and audience participation in his act, while juggling a variety of objects.

Mat Emerick

Mat engages the audience with a gift for comedy, mimicry and silent acting reminiscent of great mimes and physical comedians like Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton and Red Skelton. Mat tosses, balances and spins a variety of objects in a juggling show that will both excite and amuse an audience of any age.

The Three Finger Juggler

Neil Redding began performing as a juggler for the public at the age of 16 and spent over 12 years performing throughout England. Seven years ago, he moved to the United States to focus on a regular job but decided to begin juggling again when his son Peter Smedley became a street performer two years ago.

Will Juggle

Will began juggling when he was just 8 years old. His current juggling repertoire includes clubs, balls, rings, cigar boxes, shaker cups, Chinese yo-yos, tennis cans, hat and cane and even a "pet" raccoon. Will invites his audiences to play along, making his shows interactive for people of all ages and audiences of any size.

Kyle Johnson

Kyle is a California native who first learned to juggle when he was 14. He works to integrate traditional juggling, contact juggling and movement to make his act unique. He now performs as a juggler and teaches the art of juggling around the globe.

Musicians

Boyz Got Brass

Boyz Got Brass is made up three talented musicians from West Ottawa High School, Gage Deyarmond Nate Moored, Mason Ouzts and Tate Szilagyi, who are making their Street Performer Series debut this summer. Together they play trombone, piano, trumpet, clarinet and saxophone.

Brioso String Quartet

From Bach and Broadway to the Beatles, Bruno Mars and beyond, the Brioso String Quartet has been providing quality instrumental music for over 20 years. The quartet is made up of violinists, Tammy Clark and Jennifer Tuinenga, with Laurie Van Ark on the viola and Ginger Vandenbrink on the cello.

Bruce Cooke

A retired math teacher, Bruce brings a lifetime of music appreciation to performing folk, gospel, blues and American Standard jazz songs on a variety of instruments to the Street Performer Series. He also enjoys performing at church and in schools both in bands and as a soloist.

Butterfly Band

The Butterfly Band is a mother and daughter duo, made up of Deb and Erin Gorby, who love to play music together and share it with others. Deb has played flute and recorder for over 30 years, while Erin studies the piano, ukulele and hammer dulcimer.

Calico

Calico is made up Peg Becker, Dave Kinsman, Joe Thorstenson and Gary Vrugink. Together, the group has played an eclectic mix of country, folk, gospel and Celtic music punctuated with audience participation and a touch of humor for over 25 years.

Celtic Kilroy: The Irish Street Musician

Matthew "Celtic" Kilroy makes the music scene come alive, quite literally, as a music-playing, live bronze statue. Celtic Kilroy plays a variety of instruments, including the guitar, banjo, harmonica, Irish penny whistle, Irish drum and rhythm bones. He has performed across the country at festivals, parties and pubs.

Chase Griffin

Chase has been playing the saxophone for just over 8 years and is currently a student at Western Michigan University, where he studies both the jazz and classical styles of the saxophone. He enjoys street performing because of his ability to bring a smile to people's faces.

Cmd. Z Music

Cmd. Z Music or Zach Rasmusson, is a church music director who will be playing guitar and singing at the Street Performer Series. He's been performing both solo and in bands for over 20 years and is a seasoned professional.

Dallas Nicole

Dallas is a talented singer and instrumentalist, who plays the guitar, ukulele, mandolin, piano and box drum. She is currently recording her first album, now that she has returned from spending the last three years in Puerto Rico as worship music leader.

David Dilsizian

David is a professional jazz singer who has performed in Nashville, Chicago, New York, and Detroit. He is currently a singer with Opera Grand Rapids and will be joining us the Street Performer Series for the first time this summer.

Doctors' of Jazz Infection

This small jazz combo is made up primarily of doctors from Holland Hospital, including David Benjamin, Jeff Carroll, Nate Hansen, John Schloff and Micah Vanderhill. Each of them have been performing in a variety of bands and orchestras before joining together to entertain the staff, visitors and patients at the hospital each day at noon.

Doug Marlink

Doug first began playing banjo in the mid-1970's. He performs mostly bluegrass and some jazz music on the banjo. He is a street performer regular who can often be found both in Downtown Holland and at the Holland Farmers Market.

Dying Will Be Easy

Brothers James and Ben Woiwode, along with friend Cameron Hurd, have been playing music together on and off for more than 10 years. The three have compiled an extensive repertoire, with a sound that includes roots blues, traditional folk songs and 30+ original songs the band has written over the years.

Dylan Holmes

Dylan is a talented 19-year old singer/songwriter from West Michigan. He learned to play the guitar at age four and has since performed across the country at a variety of venues...but always returning home each summer to perform at the Street Performer.

Easy Does It

Easy Does It features Dean Michaels on the harp and Greg Howard on the guitar. This duo has been performing their mix of classical music and popular tunes together at weddings, dinner parties, receptions and church services since 1990.

Fiddlestix

Fiddlestix is a string quartet made up of high schoolers Dani Canan, Emma Hakken, Hannah McAndrews and Lydia VanderKooi. They have been performing together since middle school and over the course of the last four years, their repertoire has grown to include popular hits, Disney classics and familiar show tunes.

Frokken

High schoolers Gavin Frody and Emma Hakken have been performing together for the last three years. Gavin plays the cello and Emma plays the violin. They look forward to making their Street Performer Series debut together on Thursday nights!

Goode'n Grits

Goode'n Grits is an old time string band made up of fiddle, banjo, guitar, and brass. The band has been performing together for seven years and will bring a mix of traditional country and bluegrass tunes to the Street Performer Series.

Grace Metheany

Grace began performing as a dancer and actress at young age. Now 17 years old, she performs publically in choir, at poetry readings, in talent shows and in musicals. She will be using her electric guitar, mandolin, and piano to cover popular songs and share her own original music on Thursday nights this summer.

Jackson Snyder

Jackson is a talented young artist who sings and plays the ukulele. Jackson loves to sing and has performed in musicals in the past, but started playing the ukulele when his sister bought one for him and started giving him lessons on how to play it.

Jaren and Jade LaGore

Jaren and Jade are two young sisters who love to perform together! Together, they sing and play the guitar violin and viola. They look forward to returning to the Street Performer Series this summer.

Jaxson

Singer and guitarist Jaxson Castorena has been performing a mix of popular cover songs at the Holland Farmers Market every Wednesday and Saturday for the last year. He is the led acoustic guitarist for the high school worship team at his church and looks forward to making his Thursday night debut this summer.

Josiah Broussard

Josiah has been singing for as long as he can remember and picked up the guitar for the first time two years ago. He sings in the choir at his high school, in addition to leading worship and playing guitar at his church. leads worship and plays guitar at his church

Jeffery Giles

Jeffery has a passion for music that dates back to his early childhood. His life has been consumed by the flow, creation and constant songs in his heart and head. Originally a singer and songwriter, he has expanded his talents over the last 35 years to include acoustic guitar and electric bass so he can continue to share his love for music with others.

Kaylie McConnell

Kaylie is a college sophomore who places both acoustic and electric violin with a loop. In high school she performed with both the West Ottawa Chamber Orchestra and the Holland Area Youth Symphony. This will be her seventh year performing as part of the Thursday night Street Performer Series.

Larry and Carla

Larry and Carla Sue began playing hand bells in the same year, but in different countries! Carla started her journey in England while Larry began his in California. They met through a hand bell choir, got married and now perform together as a hand bell duet across the country.

Laura Thurston One Woman Band

Laura brings multi-instrumentalism to a new level. You will be enthralled when you see her rappin' on a suitcase kick drum with one foot and tappin' on a tambourine with the other; all the while hands on her guitar and mouth on her harp. On top of that, Laura then adds sweet sugary vocals to her acoustic folk-grass mix while giving energy and presence to capture your attention.

Lia Weiss-Gelmi

Lia is a 13-year-old whose journey with piano began at the young age of 3. She continues to expand her horizons each year, adding vocals, trombone and ukulele along her musical journey. This will be her fifth year participating in the Street Performer Series.

MacKenzie Sikma

MacKenzie is a 17-year old high school student returning to Downtown Holland for the second year. She has been singing since she was two years old, performing both popular and country songs for all audiences. Recently, she performed the national anthem at the Palace of Auburn Hills and the Berlin Race Way.

Madelyn and Logan

The singer and guitarists Madelyn Roe and Logan Kimber have been performing together for the past ten years. In high school, they performed at open mic night events, showcase events and talent shows, and have recorded a number of covers for YouTube.

Micah Huisman

Already, an accomplished singer, Micah began playing the cello five years ago and it has since become his biggest passion. He performs regularly with his high school orchestra and at his church, along with performing at weddings and nursing care facilities.

Mike Villar

Mike has been playing guitar for 38 years and has led various worship bands in and around Southwestern Michigan for the last 20 years. He is the lead vocalist for the band Strum, Dumb and Dumber but also plays acoustic guitar, banjo, and mandolin.

Miriam DeYoung

Miriam is a high school freshman who plays the guitar, ukulele, piano and mandolin, in addition to singing. She performs mainly covers of popular and country songs, but also writes her own music. She has performed regularly at Grand Haven's popular Walk The Beat event in addition to their Concerts in the Park series.

has been a regular performer in Grand Haven for the last two years, but this will be her first time appearing as part of the Street Performer Series. You can catch her singing and playing her acoustic guitar on Thursday nights this summer.

Noah Lower

Noah hails from Indiana but spends his summer here in Holland visiting his grandparents. He has been playing the violin for five years and will be making his Street Performer Series debut this summer. He also enjoys playing the electric guitar, ukulele and Cajon, in addition writing his own music.

Patty Pershayla

Patty PerShayla is a singer-songwriter from Grand Rapids. She is known for her powerful voice, her unapologetic lyrics, and her ukulele renditions of heavy metal songs. She is a full-time, independent musician, who credits her success to community and collaboration.

Shayna Gibson

Shayna is a high school student who has been performing since she was ten years old. Her hobbies include singing, dancing and musical theatre, along with playing the ukulele, guitar, and keyboard. She performs with her high school choir and has sung the national anthem at a Whitecaps game.

Steph Gillett

Steph has been singing since she was six years old and taught herself guitar at the age of 14. Steph loves to perform hits that are on the top of the charts, but also songs from artists that are dear to her heart, like Taylor Swift, Blink-182 and songs that she's written herself.

The Growing Roots

The Growing Roots are a husband and wife duo that sing original music that pull from many styles, including rock, folk, blues, American and worship. Together, Scott and Lisa Barry sing and play guitar, tambourine, harmonica, shaker, ukulele and other small percussion instruments.

The Night Caps

The Night Caps, hailing from California, Florida, and Michigan take their own experiences in folk, country, rockabilly, and punk and blend them to create a uniquely American roots music sound. The band includes John Kite on guitar and lead vocals, Kirby York on bass and backing vocals and Jim Bob Ewing on percussion and vocals.

The Original Wooden Shoe Dixieland Band

Each of the five members of the The Original Wooden Shoe Dixieland Band, Jeff Carroll, Terri Carroll, Dana Lasswell, Joel Meyer and Frank Warrick, has an extensive background in music. They will be performing original Dixieland tunes on Thursday nights.

The Oxford Commas

The Oxford Commas have been part of the Street Performer Series scene since 2015. Together, Zachary Snoek and Mitchell Frauenheim perform a fun, instrumental take on everything from classic pop hits to today's Top 40 chart-toppers.

The Salted Bananas

The Salted Bananas are a band made up of classical guitarist and music professor Robert Lunn and his two teenage sons, Andy and Sam. Together, they will be playing a mix of rock, folk and classical music on the acoustic guitar.

Steel Doin' It

Formed in the spring of 2002, Steel Doin' It has been providing traditional steel drum music throughout West Michigan for over 15 years. They play everything from Caribbean music to the Beatles. Over the years the band members have changed, but that has not stopped the group of friends from enjoying time together and playing fun music.

Still Life

Still Life is an instrumental band consisting of Paul Van Heest, Jon Van Raalte and Acacia Ritsema. Individually they have been performing for over 30 years but have played together as a band for the last five years. They have prepared a set for Thursday nights that includes a variety of upbeat folk and rock music.

Tarnished Brass

Tarnished Brass is a brass quintet that was formed in the spring of 2003 with the goal of sharing their talents with others. Originally, they played hymns and classical music but now their musical library has expanded to include, marches, ragtime and show tunes.

The Travelers Vocal Band

The four members of The Travelers Vocal Band, Thom Eno, Sarah Feaster, Deon Hamstra and Mitch Ware, have been performing music for decades. They have a love for folk, jazz and Americana music and love how they can change a persons' mood from blue to bright and hopeful and from sad to joy.

Tony Halchak

Over the course of the last 16 years, Tony has performed thousands of shows all across the country. He is an award-winning American roots songwriter and musician who just released a highly acclaimed album called "Harvest Songs."

Yuri Kolev

Yuri is a classical violin player and who has been playing since he was six years old. Yuri has performed throughout Europe, including in Bulgaria, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, and Hungary, as both a soloist and a chamber musician.

Other

Holland Area Arts Council

The Holland Area Arts Council will be bringing their mobile Art Cart to 8th Street this summer! Kids of all ages are invited to stop by for an opportunity to make a fun, interactive and free craft!

Holland Summer Repertory Theatre

The Hope Summer Repertory Theatre (HSRT) has been West Michigan's premiere professional theater company since its establishment in 1972. Each season brings artists and actors from all across the country to perform a variety of works on the stage...and now on the streets too!