



**2006**

An intensive Eastern European music  
and culture experience for motivated  
young musicians ages 12-22.

**August 21-25, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**intermediate/advanced\***

**August 26 & 27, 1-4 p.m.**  
**introduction/exploratory†**

**Register by August 1, 2006**

Student ensembles • Hands-on learning  
European folk singing • Cultural studies  
Guest area specialists • Seasoned faculty

## **BALKAPALOOZA! is ideal for motivated young musicians who:**

- are current students of Eastern European folk music who seek a deeper knowledge of these art forms and would like the opportunity to work with guest area specialists to sharpen already strong ensemble skills. (intermediate/advanced level participation recommended)\*
- are new to Eastern European folk music and would like to gain understanding of the various cultures and basic music techniques. (introduction/exploratory level participation recommended)†
- would like to gain more experience in Eastern European-specific ensemble playing. (introduction/exploratory level participation recommended)†

\*Intermediate/advanced level entry is upon invitation only after formal assessment by a faculty mentor.

†Students must already have had previous study of a specific instrument. Ability to read music is helpful, but not mandatory (aural learners will have additional preparatory work).

## **ACTIVITIES Intermediate/Advanced**

- Participate in a student-led ensemble on your main instrument.
- Learn about and apply style/technique, ornamentation, meters, theory and control in daily music workshops.
- Explore a secondary instrument.
- Learn percussion basics and theory hands-on.
- Sing and learn various techniques in daily vocal workshops emphasizing style, language and pronunciation.
- Enhance your cultural studies experience through dance, reading and research.
- Reflect on and discuss source recording selections at daily listening sessions.
- Work with guest area specialists.

**Preparatory listening and reading lists will be distributed before the intensive. Students must select one item to research from each list to discuss during the week.**

## **ACTIVITIES Introduction/Exploratory**

- Participate in a youth ensemble led by intermediate/advanced students with support from seasoned coaches.
- Learn about and apply style/technique, ornamentation, meters, theory and control in faculty-led music workshops.
- Enhance your cultural studies experience through dance, reading and research.
- Reflect on and discuss source recording selections at daily listening sessions.

**All students will receive preparatory listening and sheet music resources for practice before the weekend, as well as recommended reading and listening lists for future study.**

*Balkapalooza! suggests a donation of \$150 per intermediate/advanced musician or \$60 per introduction/exploratory musician. Your kind donations pay for materials, instructor fees and incidentals.*

To learn more or to register, e-mail [balkapalooza@gmail.com](mailto:balkapalooza@gmail.com) or call **612.384.6760**.



## FACULTY MENTORS

### Colleen Bertsch

Colleen holds a Bachelor of Music, Violin Performance degree from Concordia College, Moorhead, MN and a Bachelor of Music, Music Education degree from the University of Minnesota. Upon graduating in 1999, she served as director of orchestral programs in the Hastings, Bloomington and Roseville Area school districts and currently maintains a private violin studio in Northeast Minneapolis. Colleen has traveled to France, Czech Republic, Hungary, Serbia and Mexico to study, perform and collect folk music and culture. She is a student of Vizeli Balázs, lead violinist of Téka, the highly acclaimed Hungarian folk ensemble based in Budapest. Colleen is the violinist for the international folk dance band Orkestar Bez Ime (OBI) and a member of Ethnic Dance Theatre.

### Natalie Nowytski

A classically trained vocalist and performer since childhood, Natalie has been an active teacher, director and student of international folk music since 1996. She has traveled to Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France and Ukraine to study culture and folk music. Often dubbed "chameleon voice," Natalie sings in more than 30 languages—including her native Ukrainian—and in over a dozen distinct vocal styles. She has performed with Peter Ostroushko, Ruth MacKenzie and other folk luminaries. As a vocalist and director of Mila Vocal Ensemble, she has repeatedly appeared on Garrison Keillor's *A Prairie Home Companion* and at the prestigious Koprivshitsa folk festival in Bulgaria. Although she calls the voice her main instrument, Natalie plays nearly a dozen folk and classical instruments and is the vocalist/percussionist for local folk dance band Orkestar Bez Ime (OBI).

### Countries of focus for BALKAPALOOZA! 2006:

Bulgaria • Hungary • Romania • Serbia • Ukraine



## **BALKAPALOOZA!**

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