

Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival

Awaken Your Inner Artist

VOL. 2, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2021

Director's Note

February saw us put on a unique Winter Edition: 12 workshops that were a mixture of face-to-face and zoom. Registrants learned to play instruments and sing and paint and draw from some of the best instructors in the world while making sure that everyone was able to stay safe and healthy. It looked different, but it was a lot of fun and I want to make sure to say "Thank You" to everyone who participated and to everyone who helped put this on.



With Winter Edition completed, we are full speed ahead for the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival 2021. July 18-August 1 we are looking at having 75 Guest Artists teaching over 150 workshops across 20 different genres. The two weeks will conclude with our Festival Within a Festival: 20 performances, exhibitions and galleries concentrated into three days of artistic excellence! "But James," you may be saying, "what about Covid? What about health and safety? Can you really host a festival this summer with the year that we have just had?" What great questions you have. No one knows what this summer will look like. No one knows exactly what policies vaccinations and warmer weather will bring. Since we don't know, we will prepare to have an incredible face-to-face event. If it turns out that we need to adapt and adjust, we know how to do that. Artists are great at improvisation. We will hold off opening up registration until June 1 so that everyone can have the clearest picture possible to make educated decisions about how to engage this summer. And then it will be a whirlwind of activity through July. We are so excited to welcome our Guest Artists back and have you interact with them again.

Keep your eyes out for updates. We will be sending out monthly newsletters. The www.fsaf.org website is a tremendous resource. Our facebook page is consistently updated. And tune in to our Web Interview series as I talk with our guest artists and take my first lesson in their speciality. Those videos can be found at:

We will see you this summer,
James

What's Next? **Supporting Festival**

2020 was a year full of challenges but you all kept supporting us as we worked through online classes, cancellations, in-person classes with social distancing and masks. We made it! Now that 2021 is here we still need your help. Now is the season for tax write-offs, pick click give, and other ways to support your local charity. We are enrolled with **Amazon Smile**, every time you buy from Amazon you can be supporting FSAF. If you have any questions, let us know! Thanks for always thinking of us.

Artist Spotlight~ James Yoshizawa

James Yoshizawa is a versatile drummer/percussionist living in Los Angeles, CA with a BM in Percussion Performance from California State University, Long Beach. Some recent, noteworthy engagements include a 3-month run as the percussionist and bodhran soloist in the touring production of the Broadway musical, "Come From Away," a guest performance with the band NYCO accompanied by the Alabama Symphony in Birmingham, AL, and the recording of all the percussion tracks for an upcoming show at Tokyo Disney. He has also been a guest artist at the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival since 2013. As an educator, he maintains a private lesson studio and has taught at many nationally acclaimed high school percussion programs around Southern California.



SAVE THE DATE



2021 SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL

July 18th— August 1st,
2021

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Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival Administrative Offices

600 University Ave. Suite 8 Fairbanks,
AK 99709

Mailing Address PO Box 82510
Fairbanks, AK 99708