



To our Customers and Friends:

The holiday season is a time to reflect and offer thanks and this one will be no exception for all of us at the Denver Folklore Center. After two years of adjusting to the new and unexpected caused by COVID-19, it has been good to get back to something closer to normal these last 12 months.

We said goodbye to our manager of 20+ years, Jeff Jaros, on his retirement and welcomed Katie Belknap to our team. We survived a few encounters with COVID but managed to stay mostly healthy overall. Most of our vendors got caught up on production and now

our showroom is filled with beautiful instruments and all the accessories acoustic musicians could ever need.

The world around us has gone through some profound changes in 2022 as well - war in Ukraine, an economy that seems less friendly and an uncertain political climate in our own country. Throughout one thing has remained constant - the incredible impact music has on our lives. Whether you play an instrument, have someone in your life who does or just enjoy hearing music performed, the benefits are significant.

We at the Denver Folklore Center have been privileged to play a small role in the lives of so many people this past year. All of us are extremely grateful to our customers, followers on social media, vendors and community partners for supporting and working with us.

However you choose to celebrate this season we wish you peace, joy and lots of music now and in the year ahead.

Thank you,

The Denver Folklore Center Team:

Katie Belknap

Claude Brachfeld

Ian Dehmel

Austin Jewell

Angus Ogg

Pam Metz

Saul Rosenthal

John Rumley



2022 Holiday Staff Pick: Blueridge BR-40T Tenor Guitar

If you are looking for musical holiday gifts, our 2022 Denver Folklore Center Holiday Staff Picks might help you out!

First, Austin chose this **Blueridge BR-40T Tenor guitar!** It perfectly melds sound, feel and affordability.

This four-string tenor guitar will instantly feel like home base in your hands. The solid Sitka spruce top provides a rich yet articulate tone, and the full gloss finish, mahogany back and sides and MOP inlays makes it look as good as it sounds! It comes with a thick padded Blueridge ProTour gigbag.

See all of our 2022 Holiday Staff Picks [HERE](#).

And learn more about this guitar below.

LEARN MORE



Photo Credit: Jerry Rubino

Friend of the DFC - Holly Near

Singer, songwriter and activist are just a few ways to describe the amazing Holly Near. She's not only one of the most "powerful ... singers of our time," Holly has also been a champion for peace and feminism, combining music, activism and her "celebration of the human spirit" in her performances for over fifty years.

Holly's childhood was rooted in activism because her parents were progressive. "I heard them discuss the world over coffee in the morning

Holly produced an historic website, [Because of a Song](#), that documents women musicians in Oakland, CA who made a profound contribution to what became known as Women's Music. She's been working on the website archive since 2019 and it's now done and available to the public for free.

The website features over thirty hours of filmed conversation, four short films featuring Linda Tillery, Carolyn Brandy, Mary Watkins and

and I got my feet wet in high school working on a committee to try to get rules changed so girls could wear pants to school.” These early experiences proved to be good practice for Holly. “The anti-war and civil rights movements were swirling around me as a late teen/young adult. One can choose to ignore or jump in - I jumped in.”

Melanie DeMore, a curated resource room, a listening room of over six hundred songs in six playlists, a captioned photo gallery of nearly two hundred images and much more.

KEEP READING



What People Are Saying About Us

I had a great experience at The Denver Folklore Center. The two gentlemen there were very patient as I explored banjos. I had already discussed what I wanted in an email before I came to Denver. However, when I came to the shop, I found that my favorite banjos were the Utes, perfect for my need for a traveling banjo - I highly recommend them. Although the store is very small, it had an excellent collection of instruments for its size. My banjo was packed up and shipped to me at no extra cost and arrived very quickly, almost beating me home. Highly recommended! – J.M.



Where Are They Now – Ramblin' Jack Elliott

American folk singer and songwriter Ramblin' Jack Elliott has been performing music longer than most. His fans include everyone from Johnny Cash to the Grateful Dead to the Rolling Stones. And Bob Dylan called him “The King of Folksingers”.

Jack's musical path began when he ran away from home at fourteen to join a rodeo, and then in 1950 he met Woody Guthrie who took him under his wing (and into his home). Jack learned music from Guthrie and has had a long career performing all over the world - and he's acquired quite the catalogue.

So, what's he doing now? Jack turned 90 in 2021 and he's still at it, playing festivals and venues. You can see his upcoming tour dates below. And if you've seen him recently, let us know. We'd love to hear about the experience.

TOUR DATES



New to the Store: Northfield Mandolins!

We became dealers of Northfield Mandolins recently and have already been impressed with these great sounding and playing instruments.

Since each one of these fine, hand-carved eight-strings has a unique voice, we felt we needed to play a few against one another to give our customers a sense of the breadth of what they can do.

Watch and listen as Austin tears through a few tunes on a Northfield [NFM-A5](#) and an [NFS-F5](#). Then learn more about these beauties below.

NORTHFIELD MANDOLINS



The One that Got Away - Suzanne Vega

Keep an eye out for Suzanne Vega's guitar, would ya?

"For a while I had a deal with Yamaha and had their guitar. I've had finer instruments, but this one in particular was a deep dark green and it was a signature model - it had my name. It was stolen from the front of my house, someone just took it out of the car, probably in the '80s or '90s when I lived in a sketchy neighborhood on Canal Street and the West Side Highway (New York). I've always wondered if it would ever show up again because it had my name in mother of pearl inlay. So, if anybody knows where it is, I'd like it back."

READ MORE STORIES

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