



Wrap Up Your Holidays with Us!

Take a much-needed break from the hustle and bustle of the season and enjoy our December Newsletter. We've got a lot to cover! Watch our fun and informative New Virtual Store Tours and Staff Picks; meet our Instrument Specialist, Ian Dehmelt; listen to our "We Recommend" pick - Colorado bluegrass band Hot Rize; see our Top 5 Gifts Under \$30; learn what's so special about Breedlove guitars; find out who's battling it out on the banjo in the swamp, and a lot more. So take a few minutes and dive in! You'll be glad that you did.



Take Our Ukulele Video Tour!

Ukuleles are affordable, fun to play and, with just four strings, relatively easy to learn. The Denver Folklore Center is happy to stock a large selection of new and vintage [ukuleles](#) with prices ranging from the very affordable to rare collectibles.

Watch our new Ukulele [Video](#) Tour! Join Saul, owner of the Denver Folklore Center, for a few tips on picking out the best uke for you or someone you love. Learn some basics like how to play, types of ukuleles, different tonewood attributes and more. Then [contact](#) us or come in and let our team help you choose the ideal instrument in your price range.

And be sure to read our blog [post](#) to find out Which Ukulele Size is Right for You.



Staff Focus - Ian Dehmel

Originally from the Western Slope (Fruita, CO), Ian Dehmel is one of our Instrument Specialists. He started in instrument sales at a shop called Mesa Music and moved to Denver to attend MSU. He lived in the UK for a year where he received his Master's. Ian plays guitar, banjo, mandolin, piano, ukulele and the saw, "which is always a real fun trick to bust out"- all self-taught. "My main instruments are definitely guitar and banjo."

Ian enjoys a broad spectrum of music - "I'm very into American Primitive Fingerstyle guitar by folks like Daniel Bachman and Leo Kottke, Kottke's 'Armadillo album' was a revelation for me. I love labor and protest songs (from musicians) like Utah Phillips & Pete Seeger, indie folk from performers like Joanna Newsom and Devendra Banhart, good old British Invasion Rock,

His introduction to the Folklore Center came from his dad, who had lived in Denver back in the '70s and loved coming into the store. Ian began working here back in March, about a week before the (pandemic) shutdown.

"My favorite thing about working in the store, and around music in general, is getting to share my passion for the instruments with others. Whether it's a long-time picker that knows everything about everything, or a beginner looking to get into playing for the first time, it makes me happy to help them get the sound they're looking for."

especially the Kinks, and great clawhammer banjo players like Allison de Groot.”



**5 Gifts
under \$30**

www.DenverFolklore.com

Still trying to decide on a gift for the music lover in your life? We've got you covered! Mark from the Denver Folklore Center reveals his top 5 Gift Ideas under \$30 [here](#). The musician in your life will love receiving these thoughtful and practical items they can use and enjoy. Come by the shop or visit us online and peruse our large selection of accessories and instruments.



We Recommend...

Hot Rize

Hot Rize (also performing as Red Knuckles and the Trailblazers) has a number of connections to the Folklore Center. Probably the most well-known and popular Colorado bluegrass band, Hot Rize - Pete Wernick, Tim O'Brien, Nick Forster and Bryan Sutton (Charles Sawtelle was an original member but passed away in 1999) - was founded in 1978 and is probably the most well-known and popular Colorado bluegrass band and a friend of the Denver Folklore Center. They created a soulful new style of bluegrass, which showcased their skills as instrumentalists, songwriters and innovators.

With roots firmly grounded in the sounds of notable artists like Bill Monroe, Flatt & Scruggs and the Stanley Brothers, Hot Rize honed their unique sound in small Colorado bars and venues before moving on to Prairie Home Companion, the Telluride Bluegrass Festival, the Grand Ole Opry and touring across four continents. After over forty years, Hot Rize has left its unmistakable mark on the music world.

Listen as @hotrizeofficial performs "[Nellie Kane](#)" at Music City Roots Live from The Factory.



Staff Picks

The Staff and Owners at the Denver Folklore Center want to share our favorite instruments with you. Watch as we demo and discuss our top choices. And enjoy Video Tours of the store in our Buyer's Guide series. All of these videos and more can be found on our [YouTube Channel](#). Subscribe today!



Treat Yourself!

While shopping this Holiday Season, don't forget to Treat Yourself to something special from the Denver Folklore Center. Our selection of quality acoustic instruments can't be beat! Self-gift that new mandolin, banjo or guitar you've been wanting from our large inventory of stellar brands like Blueridge, Martin, Taylor, Collings, Breedlove, Eastman and many more. Is money tight this year? We are fully stocked with very affordable instruments like ukuleles (\$45 – \$300) and harmonicas - something perfect for every budget! (Remember, sales tax will be going up a little at the first of the year so buy now!)

Shop by phone, online or in the store. And enjoy risk-free shopping (no restocking fee for returns or exchanges) November 27-January 15 on any new instrument purchased from us!

We offer curbside and in-store pickup and free shipping. Got a question? Our staff of Instrument Specialists are here to help! Start now and finish your

holiday shopping early at the Denver Folklore Center – serving the needs of acoustic musicians since 1962!



Sound Better & Play Better with Breedlove

The Breedlove Guitar Company first began manufacturing high quality instruments in beautiful Bend, Oregon in 1990. Their vision for "creating the finest acoustic instruments in the world" has led them to blend modern acoustic guitar science and manufacturing techniques with old world hand-made craftsmanship. The result being fantastic acoustic instruments made with new modern shapes, contemporary appearances and crafted using locally and sustainably sourced tonewoods.

In 2017 the Breedlove Guitar Company further revolutionized the steel string

acoustic guitar construction process by implementing a technique called Sound Profiling - designed to eliminate the tonal variations that occur between different instruments of the same make and model. The Sound Profiling process has led to the Breedlove Guitar Company constructing some of the most consistent instruments ever produced and we invite you to give the Breedlove brand a try.

Visit our website or come into the store today to see our amazing selection of [Breedlove Guitars](#). Have questions? [Call or email](#) our staff of instrument specialists who are happy to help.



What People Are Saying About Us

"The people here care about your safety and care about your instruments. Just got a custom-made pick guard on a worn spot on my Peavey Concert Ukulele. John (Rumley) took extra care to make sure that it was placed properly and matched the sound hole on the opposite side of the fretboard. Excellent job and more than reasonably priced." – Leigh H.



Dueling Banjos - In the Swamp!

Attention Banjo Lovers! It's time to have a laugh and settle "who played it better" once and for all in this friendly competition. Watch Steve Martin and Kermit the Frog face off in a battle of [Dueling Banjos](#). He's an amazing banjo player! And Steve Martin's pretty good too.



Don't Fret Over Cracks in Your Instrument

We'll Tell You How and Why You Should Humidify

Wooden instruments, especially all solid wood instruments (i.e. expensive) are susceptible to problems from temperature and humidity changes. Even more

stable instruments, like guitars with laminate backs and sides, can show signs of excessive drying (right now, we are seeing an increasing number of instruments with problems due to dryness).

Luckily, most of these issues are reversible with proper humidification. You can use a soundhole humidifier, a case humidifier, a room humidifier or a combination of any of these. If you have specific questions about humidifying your musical instrument, feel free to call, email or drop by the store and we will be happy to help you.

[Taylor Guitar](#) has some smart advice on how and why you should humidify your wooden instruments.

Contact Us

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