

# NOTES FROM...



**WE'RE OPEN!!**

**Visit our Showroom 12-5 PM Daily**

**On May 22nd** we began welcoming a few customers at a time inside our [store](#) at 1893 S. Pearl Street (Denver) while observing social distancing and requiring that everyone wear masks.

While a few of our instruments were lucky enough to find new homes during the time our brick and mortar location was closed, we have plenty of [guitars](#), [mandolins](#), [ukuleles](#), harmonicas and [banjos](#) on hand. New instruments are now here from Breedlove, Kentucky, Guild, Taylor and Eastman. Our accessories department is also fully stocked with strings, straps, capos, picks and anything else you might need. Instrument rentals will, once again, be available (see below for details).



Many thanks to those who used our online store to make purchases during the store's closure. We have been a part of Denver's music scene for nearly 60 years because of the loyalty of repeat customers, the commitment of those of you who believe in supporting local businesses and the special culture and shopping experience that is unique to the Denver Folklore Center.

We look forward to seeing you again soon.

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## **Rentals Are Back!**

Renting is a great way to explore an instrument before you decide to invest in one for yourself.

The Denver Folklore Center has offered rentals for many years but had to spend that program for a few months while we were helping to flatten the COVID curve.

**Now rentals are back!**

For each month that you rent (up to 5 months) you will earn \$30 of in-store credit towards the purchase of an instrument in the category you are renting. If you were to rent a banjo from us for 5 months, for example, you would have \$150 in credit towards the purchase of any banjo in the store that we own.

For just \$45 per month you can rent a quality guitar (steel or nylon string), A-style mandolin or open-back banjo. We also have a limited number of hammered dulcimers available to rent and two stage-ready acoustic-electric guitars for those needing to plug in for that special event at which you are performing (\$100 per weekend).

So now that you know you don't have to spend hundreds of dollars to find out if you want to be a guitar player, come [rent](#) one from us and get started exploring.



## Live Music Nightly!

### Swallow Hill Music Presents Virtual Concerts on Facebook Live

Do you miss attending concerts and having that special connection with other music lovers? Join Swallow Hill Music on Facebook Live, where they offer a different artist every evening! All shows are at 6:00 pm Mountain Time. View schedule and links [here](#).



## What People Are Saying About Us

“Attention all twangers of git: these guys are fantastic. You will find an unparalleled

selection of top-notch acoustic guitars and other stringed instruments, to be sure...but let's not overlook the excellent repair department, staffed with knowledgeable and highly proficient individuals who will expertly diagnose any issues and bring your favorite instrument back up to snuff with a laser-like focus. Courteous and professional staff. If I had three thumbs they would all be way up; where things stand now I will raise my meager two to the sky in salutation of the good works being done here." – Jason G.

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## Musician Spotlight



### Rhiannon Giddens

Raw talent, charisma and visceral musical power all describe exceptionally talented singer and multi-instrumentalist Rhiannon Giddens. Playing solo or with a variety of musical partners, including her Grammy-winning band The Carolina Chocolate Drops, she dazzles on clawhammer banjo and fiddle.

Her vocal range spans a variety of musical styles, including old-timey African-American string band tunes, ethereal Gaelic musings and blues stylings. Whether performing at large outdoor venues or more intimate settings like the White House, Giddens' electrifying

Born in 1977 in Greensboro, North Carolina, she graduated from the Oberlin Conservatory where she studied opera performance, and her recent recordings run the musical gamut from hip-hop to Indian classical music.

Giddens canceled a busy summer touring schedule but is well represented on [YouTube](#) in a variety of different settings. If you attend a Rhiannon Giddens show, you'll be delighted and inspired by the scope and energy of her vocal and instrumental performance.

command captivates audiences as diverse as her own influences.

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## From Our Learning Center

### Banjo Pickin' 101 - Types of Banjos

Bluegrass or clawhammer? Open-back or resonator? What's a neck scoop? With so many options for the banjo, which one should you choose? We're here to help with a brief guide to banjo types, the music they might play, and the features that differentiate them. Read the article [here](#).

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## Q&A with the Denver Folklore Center

### Q. How do I know when it's time to change my instrument strings?

A. How frequently you need to change [strings](#) depends on how much and how often you are playing and which instrument. The more you play, the sooner you might want new strings. Steel string instruments will need changes much more frequently than nylon-stringed ones.

Also, some of us have more oils in our skin and that can speed up the need to change strings. If your instrument no longer sounds as bright as it did when you last changed strings it may be time for a new set. Check out our post on when to change your strings [here](#).

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## Ome Banjos

Ome is a small, dedicated banjo maker established in Boulder, Colorado in 1960. The founder and owner of Ome Banjos, Chuck Ogsbury, and the Denver Folklore Center have a friendship that stretches back more than 50 years. At Ome they combine time-proven features of vintage instruments with modern refinements in technology, design and manufacturing. They use the finest materials, custom-make their own metal and wood components, and take whatever time is necessary to create wonderful banjos. Most importantly, Ome maintains a small team of talented and dedicated crafts people who take pride in building the very best. We are proud to carry Ome [banjos](#) at our store.

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