

World Fiddle Day Event Brings Communities Together in New Bedford

World Time Fiddle Session will be hosting a multi-cultural, interactive, traditional music event called "World Fiddle Day" at Hatch Street Studios in New Bedford on May 20th.

The event runs from 12:30 to 5:30 pm and includes open playing opportunities for musicians, children's activities, vendors, workshops, dancing, and a full schedule of performances by traditional fiddle music acts. In celebration of the world's diverse fiddling traditions, featured performances include Old-Time American, Canadian, Cape Verdean, European, Gypsy, and Yiddish offerings. Cape Verdean fiddler John Miranda and Australian fiddler Mark Russel will be bringing the more distant traditions to New Bedford, while New England style caller Louisa Pugh will help reinforce native roots.

"Building community through traditional music is the goal with World Fiddle Day, as it is at all Old Time Fiddle Session events," says the organization's founder Jeff Angeley. As such, interactive activities for children and adults round out the day's offerings. Some highlights of the programming include a Children's Art Lab instrument painting station, contra dancing for beginners, henna design by Unravel Henna, and a selfie station with real instruments for props. Open Old Time, Irish, and Quebecois jams and workshops for musicians will also run for the full length of the event. There will be food and craft vendors, raffles, and games as well.

Tickets are \$15 for individuals and \$40 for family passes. Online sales are available at Eventbrite. In person sales can be found at the Hippo boutique in New Bedford, The Symphony Music Shop in Dartmouth, and Children's Art Lab in

Mattapoisett.

About Old Time Fiddle Session Old Time Fiddle Session and Community Gathering was founded in January of 2017. Its mission is to provide traditional fiddle music programming for the South Coast of Massachusetts in an interactive, community-based format. In addition to "World Fiddle Day," 2018 programming includes plans for regular monthly sessions, involvement in the New Bedford Folk Festival, and a late-year "Breaking Up Christmas" event.