

Freedom to me means not being controlled by anything or anybody. I think Paul Laurence Dunbar and Robert Burns thought the same thing, too. My favorite line was "But I judge no man by his clothes - not gentleman nor tramp." [Dunbar] That is my favorite line because it shows me how to be a good person in today's world.

Freedom
Playing baseball and hitting dingers
When I am stealing second with the wind in my face,
When I am up to bat the blood rushing like rapids,
When you play with no rules and you get to break free

Ben Williams

Nick Devoti

KWANSABA - IMANI- FAITH

When kids get older, have trust.
We are wiser than you think.
We are smarter than you believe.
Trust us, for your benefit and ours.
We will be just fine.
Don't doubt us, we will amaze you.
Trust us to amaze you.

Welcome to freedom,
Opening the doors to my kingdom
Wind rushing to my face as I take my standom
Come and join me as I/we all take our freedom

Zeladis Duncan

Caroline Breville



REGIONAL ARTS COMMISSION OF ST. LOUIS



THE DUNVEGAN FOUNDATION OF THE CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETY, USA, INC.

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SPAE is proud to partner with:

Focal Point
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Scottish St. Andrew Society of Greater St. Louis
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SPAE is grateful for grants from:

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Photos by:

St. Gabriel the Archangel - Jennifer Bolesta, Visual Art teacher
McCluer North - Jacqueline France

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Artists in Residence Schedule

August 23 - October 18, 2019 - Interdisciplinary Project—CONNECTIONS: ROBERT BURNS AND PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR—VOICES OF THE PEOPLE - MK Stallings, Jessi Cerutti, William Ray, Thomasina Clarke, Jil Chambless, Diane McCullough, Carrie Pace, Gina Pereda

September 23 - October 11, 2019 - Scottish traditional fiddle with Brian McNeill

October 7- 18, 2019 - Scots Song with Jil Chambless

August 1, 2019 - Felting workshop for teachers - 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. - "THE ART AND SCIENCE OF FELTING" - STEAM Academy, 8855 Dunn Rd., St. Louis, MO 63042 with Jessi Cerutti, Carrie Pace and Gina Pereda

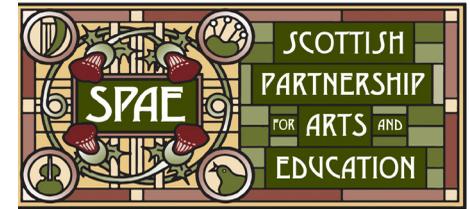
Concerts

William Ray and Thomasina Clarke - Connections Concert - September 11, 2019 - 11:00 a.m. - Central Branch, St. Louis Public Library, 1415 Olive St., St. Louis, MO 63103 - free and open to the public

Brian McNeill - Saturday, September 28, 2019 - 8:00 p.m. - Focal Point, 2720 Sutton Blvd., Maplewood, MO 63143 - tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com

McCluer North and McCluer High School Orchestras with Brian McNeill - October 11, 2019 - 7:00 p.m., McCluer North High School, 705 Waterford, Florissant, MO 63033 - free and open to the public

To do this, we need your help. Please join us as a Founding Member or as a General Member. Your help, along with grants and corporate matching funds, will provide the St. Louis metropolitan area with valuable educational and cultural opportunities to understand our Scottish American heritage. SPAE is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation and your donations are tax-deductible to the extent the law allows. Thank you for considering us in your charitable giving.



2019 - 2020 Season

In the belief that music and the arts are key to connecting cultures and understanding our roots, Scottish Partnership for Arts and Education provides cultural experiences and educational opportunities in Scottish traditional arts and the historic connections between Scotland and the USA by conducting classes, workshops, lectures and public performances.



Students at St. Gabriel the Archangel

Felting at St. Gabriel the Archangel



Students at McCluer North High School

For information visit our website at:

www.stlspae.org

or telephone Diane McCullough, 314-773-4195

SPAE HISTORY AND PROGRAMS

- Founded 2006
- Has served over 22,000 students and audience members to date
- Offers FREE Artist in Residence workshops to schools in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St. Charles County and Jefferson County
- Features workshops in Scottish fiddle and Scots & Gaelic song
- Unique interdisciplinary project for 2015-Present: **Connections: Robert Burns and Paul Laurence Dunbar—Voices of the People**
- Teacher development classes focus on connections in American music and poetry between Celtic and West African music and poetry as expressed in the USA. NEW in 2019 – STEAM workshop “The Art and Science of Felting”
- Concerts at The Focal Point have featured Jim Malcolm, Brian McNeill, Ed Miller, Caroline Pugh, Mark Clark, Amy Lord, Calum Martin and Mitzi MacDonald.
- Interdisciplinary Project 2012-2014: Community and the Environment – Inspiration for Music, Art and Poetry (based on the contributions of John Muir and Capt. Charles Young of the Buffalo Soldiers)
- Gaelic Psalm Singing and American Music Conference—April 25-26, 2015

My idea of freedom is the ability to speak what you want because in a lot of countries you can't say whatever you want because you will be thrown in jail or killed. This also goes with what you view on the internet. This is important because you can speak out against what is wrong. My favorite line in all of these poems is: "The ristercrats ain't got it all, fur much to their su'prise that's [happiness] one of earth's most blessed things they can't monopolize." [Dunbar] This is because no matter how rich you are you can't buy everything.

Ben Athman

Freedom is being able to choose and say what you want. For example, if you have freedom you

should not have slavery. Also you should allow people to do what they want because they are human. "I know why the caged bird beats his wing till its blood is red on the cruel bars" [Dunbar], this is showing that slaves had no form of freedom. What people thought was freedom back then wasn't.

Zach Ortwerth

I think to be free means to be able to do everything anyone else can do, no matter what you look like or act like. "I know why the caged bird sings" [Dunbar] - I picked this line because it really stood out to me and makes me understand the pain of the people who don't have freedom.

Luc Woolbright

Brian McNeill is a virtuoso on fiddle, viola, mandolin, cittern, bouzouki, guitar, bass, concertina and hurdy-gurdy. Brian was the founder of the Battlefield Band in 1969, one of Scotland's best known folk ensembles. He is a leading writer of Scottish song, has numerous recordings – solo and with other leading Scottish traditional musicians. In 2010, he released his twelfth solo album of original material. He has produced recordings for many new and well-known folk artists, and has published 3 original mystery novels. He was Head of Scottish Music at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD) in Glasgow, Scotland from 2001-2008. Brian is a Master Teacher, able to motivate audiences and students of all ages. www.brianmcneill.co.uk



MK Stallings, poet, teacher, founder of UrbArts, holds a Master's degree in Sociology from the UM St. Louis, teaches Introduction to Sociology for St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley, has developed and facilitated youth writing workshops since Fall 2001, specializing in poetry. He is the slammaster of UrbSLAM and directs VerbQuake, a city-wide poetry performance competition where high school students refine their writing and presentation skills under the instruction of poets experienced in slam.



Jil Chambless, originally from Montgomery, AL, now resides in Tuscaloosa and has played an active role in the Celtic music scene for more than 20 years. As singer and flute and whistle player, Jil has completed many recording projects and performed at Celtic festivals and concerts all over the USA, Canada, Scotland and Israel



with Henri's Notions, Ed Miller, The Vogt Family Contra Band, The Vulcan EEjits, and with guitarist Scooter Muse. She teaches math at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

William Ray is the Lead Interpreter with St. Charles County Parks at the Historic Daniel Boone Home. He is an expert in Americana, the folk music and culture of the USA. In concert at the Central Branch of the St. Louis Public Library, he will demonstrate, on fiddle and gourd banjo, the music, both Scottish and American, that corresponds with the poetry of Burns and Dunbar.



Jessi Cerutti, St. Louis visual artist, explores personal memory and local history through printmaking and fiber arts. She has had exhibits in Chicago and Cleveland. She teaches workshops, does adjunct teaching in the St. Louis area and is co-founder and VP of Rock n' Roll Craft Show. Her website is: www.jessicerutti.com.



Thomasina Clarke is a recently retired teacher from the St. Louis Public Schools. She is also an accomplished actor and has performed with the St. Louis Black Repertory Theater, Shakespeare Festival-St. Louis, Hot City and Upstream Theatre Companies as well as Call to Conscience and Unity Theatre Ensemble and she teaches for Springboard. She has been nominated by The St. Louis Theatre Circle for outstanding actress in a comedy for portraying Dottie in the Black Rep production of "Dot", a play about the effects of Alzheimer's disease on a family. She

will recite poetry by Robert Burns and Paul Laurence Dunbar in the concert with William Ray at the Central Branch of the St. Louis Public Library (see calendar).



TWO VILLANELLES

A1 STEAK SAUCE

A1 Steak Sauce is good to me
Sweet Baby Ray's cannot compete
A1 is boss, you'll see
Every time I use it, I'm filled with glee
As its aroma fills the air
A1 Steak Sauce is good to me
It has reminders of a memory
It makes me think of life without care
A1 is boss you'll see
A1 will never be plan B
Unless you're calling its flavor a bear
A1 Steak Sauce is good to me
It is so good it causes me
To never want to share
A1 is boss, you'll see
If you say the bottle is empty
I'd squeeze another once out of there
A1 Steak Sauce is good to me
A1 is boss, you'll see

J.T. Emke

ODE TO MY GUITAR

Black and white with silver strings
Plucking the chord with the black jazz pick
I just love how she sings
Like an echo, the song rings
The tone is deep and thick
Black and white with silver strings
Ideas in my head about various things
I just need to give the switch a flick
I just love how she sings
Songs soar around as if they have wings
Mahogany wood that was once a stick
Black and white with silver strings
Songs fit to play to kings
Songs as solid as a brick
I just love how she sings
Music bounces around like springs
Every so often I learn a new trick
Black and white with silver strings
I just love how she sings

Joey Hanks

After all this discussion of freedom, my visions are still the same. Freedom to me is a world where everyone is free to be who they truly are with no judgment or hate. It is a world where people can choose what they like, who they are, and much more without retaliation from the government, or neighbors, or even their peers. I think that these two poets expressed freedom as a world where everyone is equal no matter their social status or skin color. My favorite line was "clamb the hill thegither" [Burns]. I like this line because we climb the hill of life with our friends and family. We must support each other to get to the top.

Grace Zolla

Freedom is like a pet.
You can let it roam around in your back yard,
But without the guidelines of the fence
That pet might run away.
Freedom is like the ocean.
Sometimes it will be calm and peaceful
And sometimes it's restless and crazy.
Freedom is like a kid.
If you don't give it guidelines and standards
It will fail
And go down a bad path.

Joe Pottinger