

The Vermont Legislature presents

FARMERS NIGHT

2020

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Wednesdays throughout the 2020 Legislative Session

7:30 pm in the House Chamber

Vermont State House



January 15 • Nisht Geferlach Klezmer Band

The soulful and stirring music of the Jews of Eastern Europe and New York's Lower East Side echoes through the Green Mountains, with songs from the golden age of New York's Yiddish Theater, lively instrumentals and dance tunes that display the Dixieland influence on Jewish immigrant musicians.

January 22 • Vermont Symphony Orchestra

Music Director Jaime Laredo's final Farmers' Night program includes two charming miniatures: one by Holst, inspired by folk songs, and one by Sibelius that showcases the flutes. Works by Elgar and Mozart feature winds and strings. The concert concludes with a world premiere by a talented senior from Hartford HS, and a toe-tapping rag from Scott Joplin.

January 29 • Julian Gerstin Sextet

Presented by the Vermont Jazz Center, Brattleboro

The music of the Julian Gerstin Sextet explores sounds of the Caribbean and Eastern Europe through original, lyrical jazz compositions. Many of these songs are based on traditional or popular global rhythms from Martinique, Cuba, Colombia, Bulgaria or Turkey, presented in musical settings where the band's jazz-honed improvisational skills can take flight.

February 5 • Honoring the 19th Amendment through Word and Song

Presented by Vermont Humanities Council and Friends of the State House

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, Marlboro College professor Meg Mott leads a dialogue on the history and meaning of the 19th Amendment. Wesleyan University scholar/composer Neely Bruce will conduct the State House Singers in his original choral arrangement of the Bill of Rights, along with the premiere of his 19th Amendment composition.

February 12 • Elder's Statesmen: Bluegrass Under the Dome

State Representative Caleb Elder will be joined by Patrick Biondo, Matt Flinner, Brett Hughes and Pat Melvin for an evening of high energy bluegrass music. With a mix of traditional and original music for bass, guitar, banjo, mandolin and fiddle, this group will keep your foot tapping and a smile on your face.

February 19 • Bryan Blanchette

Abenaki singer songwriter Bryan Blanchette and friends will perform both contemporary and traditional Abenaki songs, featuring traditional social dance demonstrations. Nikwôbi is the Abenaki word for now. These new Abenaki songs help demonstrate that Abenaki culture is alive—not just something that belongs in a museum.

February 26 • Brattrock

Are you ready to rock? Don't miss this electrifying evening of high-energy teen-powered music, featuring three top youth bands from around the Green Mountain State! Thirteen-year-old singer-songwriter, Emily Matthew-Muller, joins award-winning indie-rock band, Moxie, and local funk phenoms, Squig Heart, in an awe-inspiring triple whammy that's sure to bring down the House.

March 4 • NO Farmer's Night – Town Meeting Break

March 11 • 40th Army Band – Vermont National Guard

Join our soldier musicians for a night of patriotic American tunes as well as classical and contemporary music.

March 18 • Alnôbaiwi

Vermont's Indigenous peoples have kept the winter at bay by sharing music, dance, stories and craft-making inside their warm camps—but also joining friends and neighbors across the village for an evening of ritual and performance. Join the Alnôbaiwi for wampum reading, individual and group drumming and singing, seasonal dancing, teaching and storytelling.

March 25 • Vermont Symphonic Winds

Lisa Jablow, conductor

This large orchestra of winds is fast becoming a favorite on the Farmers Night schedule, with their lush, yet surprising sounds in classical and contemporary selections.

April 1 • Poetry Out Loud

Presented by the Vermont Arts Council

Vermont's Poetry Out Loud competition will present its 2020 winners—vocalizing the art of the word in a most compelling way!

April 8 • Josie Leavitt, Storyteller Extraordinaire

In a state with many gifted storytellers, Josie Leavitt is one of the best. Come join her for some real yarns—beautifully conveyed!