

## Pianafiddle Educational Offerings

In addition to traditional “in school concerts,” student concerts, and ensemble coaching, Pianafiddle offers the following improvisation workshop.

### **The Art of Improvisation**

An educational program designed for students, audiences, and associations.

Pianafiddle offers an original educational and performance residency based on the art of improvisation, with the added benefit of participants (students) performing before a live audience during a short portion of Pianafiddle’s concert. Instrumentalists, regardless of instrument, age, or skill level, are invited to participate in a pre-concert workshop exploring improvisation and improvisational techniques with concert violinist/fiddler Adam DeGraff and ragtime/jazz pianist Randy Morris of Pianafiddle. The participants have an opportunity to showcase their talent and their newly acquired skills before a live audience. Here is how it works:

- At least two hours prior to the Pianafiddle concert, all participating students, regardless of age, but limited to 15 to insure individual attention, arrive at the concert hall with their instruments.
- For the next hour, Adam and Randy will lead the group in melodic, harmonic and rhythmic improvisation exercises, explaining and exploring a variety of styles.
- By the end of this hour-long session, all participants will be ready to improvise on their very own 8 bar solo, accompanied by Adam and Randy.
- One hour prior to the Pianafiddle concert, Adam and Randy will take a break to prepare for their concert while workshop participants are encouraged to practice their new licks, and then change into their performance attire.
- At concert time, participants should take their seats in the audience instruments nearby. They will be invited to the stage during the second half of the concert for their chance to shine.
- Participants will be encouraged as they perform, reminded that there are “no mistakes” when improvising, as long as they are having fun.
- Audiences will be encouraged to cheer and support these budding new soloists.

Participants are encouraged to invite their friends, family and complete strangers to the concert where Pianafiddle will take a moment to explain how important the arts can be in a community and encourage them to become regular subscribers to your local concert series.