

# Virtual Bones Fest XXIV

Saturday, July 26, 2020

9:00 AM EDT/13:00 UTC/GMT



Hosted by the Rhythm Bones Society's  
Board of Directors, Steve Brown, Program Chair  
Skeffington Flynn, Technical Chair  
Steve Wixson, Program Booklet

## VIRTUAL BONES FEST XXIV PROGRAM - July 25, 2020

**Bones Fest XXIV** will be a virtual Bones Fest using ZOOM teleconferencing technology that will look like the photograph above. The exciting aspect is that people who have never been to Bones Fest are attending this Fest, and that means we have rhythm bones players from around the world in virtual attendance. The Virtual Fest is scheduled for July 25, 2020, and will begin at 13:00 UTC which is 9:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time and the time used in the program details below.

### Zoom Meeting Rooms.

Bones Fest XXIV will use three Zoom meeting rooms, and attendees will receive an email with the information needed to join each room (Meeting ID and Password). The room titled 'Main Room' will be open for the entire Fest. The 'Bone Room' and 'Rhythm Room' will be open for concurrent workshops.

**Legal Backup Music Required.** At previous Fests, performers who played to commercial CDs did not get their performance video on our website due to copyright issues. Since this year's Fest is entirely online, we have a library of legal music that you can download and use. This has the benefit that you can practice to a song ahead of time. Attendees will be emailed a link to the library. If you have legal music, you can certainly use it. If you would like to play to a fiddle tune, Jonathan Danforth will record it for you. Details will be emailed to attendees. Thanks to Jonathan.

**Fest Graphic/Motto/T-shirt.** There will be a t-shirt that can be ordered after the Fest. It will be similar to the photograph on the first page, but with the Group Photograph. The Fest motto is "Streaming Rhythm Bones Around the World."

### Saturday, Noon to 3:00 PM - July 18, 2020 – Practice Workshop – Moderator: Skeff Flynn

This Pre-Bones Fest workshop is for attendees and us as hosts to practice how to use Zoom for the greatest benefit. It will cover how to sign in, basic controls, microphone placement, video camera placement, lighting, screen sharing, chatting and more so all of us get the most out of the Fest.

### Program Overview

Time (EDT)	Time (UTC)	Description	Moderator	Room
9:00 AM	13:00	Opening Session	Steve Brown	Main
9:30 AM	13:30	Individual Introductions	Steve Brown	Main
1:00 PM	17:00	Beginner Workshop	Steve Brown	Bone
1:00 PM	17:00	Intermediate Workshop	Tommy Hayes	Main
1:00 PM	17:00	Advanced Workshop	Kenny Wolin	Rhythm
2:00 PM	18:00	Rhythm Bones Around the World and History	Jonathan Danforth	Main
2:00 PM	18:00	Teaching Techniques	Mardeen Gordon	Bone
2:00 PM	18:00	Tips and Techniques	Steve Brown	Rhythm
3:00 PM	19:00	Applying Rhythm Bones to the Drumset	Bill Vits	Main
3:00 PM	19:00	Contest Judging	Steve Brown	Bone
3:00 PM	19:00	More Tips and Techniques	TBD	Rhythm
4:00 PM	20:00	Virtual Pass-Off	Skeff Flynn	Main
5:00 PM	21:00	Membership Meeting	Steve Brown	Main
5:30 PM	21:30	Cocktail Party	TBD	Main
6:00 PM	22:00	Show Performances	Steve Brown	Main

## **Saturday, 9:00 AM – July 25, 2020 – Bones Fest XXIV Begins**

### **9:00 AM- Opening Session** - Meet and Greet with Steve Brown

The session begins with opening remarks from Rhythm Bones Society's Executive Director, Steve Brown. During this session in a somewhat controlled way, attendees can say hello or chat with old friends, and we can find out what parts of the world are represented.

### **9:30 AM – Individual Introductions** – Moderator: Steve Brown

Each participant gets an allotted time (5-10min) to introduce themselves, talk about how they came to the bones, and demonstrate how they play. This is the hallmark of the Rhythm Bones Society, including everyone, no matter level of play.

### **1:00 PM – Workshop Sessions A**

#### **Beginner** – Bone Room - Moderator: Steve Brown

This session teaches the basics of getting started, holding, producing the sounds, the tap, the rattle, and shaping the sounds to music.

#### **Intermediate** – Main Room – Moderator: Tommy Hayes

Know the basics, how to hold, make the sounds, and playing a bit to music? Tommy picks you up from here, and helps you develop skills to apply to music.

#### **Advanced** – Rhythm Room – Moderator: Kenny Wolin

This workshop will focus on taking 2-hand independence to the next level. We'll start with thinking the bones triplet-tap motion as 4 sixteenth notes to create more syncopated rhythms. Then, we'll work on some right hand repeated rhythms (ostinato patterns) while improvising basic rhythms with the left hand. I use this technique a lot in my playing, especially with rock, bluegrass, polkas, and Latin music. Search "Kenny bones Wolin" on YouTube for some examples.

### **2:00 PM – Workshop Sessions B**

#### **Rhythm Bones Around the World and History** – Main Room – Moderator: Jonathan Danforth

Rhythm Bones date back literally thousands of years, and can be found in a multitude of cultures. Join our resident historian Jonathan Danforth as he takes us on a journey to different times, and places where the bones have been played and developed.

#### **Round table discussion on teaching techniques:** – Bone Room – Moderator: Mardeen Gordon

Teaching is paramount to spreading rhythm bones to a new generation, and keeping it alive. Each player has their own unique approach, passed to them from their mentor, and given their own personal touch. Hear the experience of attendee's, and join in on the conversation.

#### **Tips and Techniques** – Rhythm Room – Moderator: Steve Brown

This session will feature several short presentations including, Graham Hargrove, accompanying Ottawa Valley Step Dance, Brad Dutz, Quads and odd time signatures, Borris Sichon, rhythm bones and Didgerdoo, Mardeen Gordon History Rap, Tom Connolly rhythm bones and washboard, Brad Dutz and James Yoshizawa rhythm bones duets, and others yet to be identified. This session continues for another hour.

### **3:00 PM – Workshop Session C**

#### **Applying Rhythm Bones to the Drumset** – Main Room – Moderator: Bill Vits

We will explore the possibilities of rhythm bones with sticks, brushes and shakers while incorporating the feet at the drum set. Different styles (bluegrass, country, Latin, swing and rock) can all add rhythm bones for a unique flavor. Drumming techniques that apply to rhythm bones playing will encourage experimentation as we sample

some rudiments that work on rhythm bones. You don't know till you try!

**Round table discussion on Judging the All Ireland Bone Playing Championship:** – Bone Room – Moderator: Steve Brown

Ever want to compete in a bone playing contest? So very few exist, but perhaps the best known, and most competitive is the All Ireland Bone Playing Championship, held in Abbeyfeale, County Limerick, Ireland. We have assembled a panel of 5 Judges who have more than 15 contests between them. Junior Davey, Tommy Hayes, Johnny Ringo McDonagh, Mel Mercier discuss their perspective and experience judging the contests.

**More Tips and Techniques** - Rhythm Room - Moderator: ????????????????

This is a continuation of the Tips and Techniques session above.

**4:00 PM – Virtual Pass Off** – Moderator: Skeff Flynn

The late Walt Watkins gave us the Pass Off where each person in turn plays for a short time and then passes the playing to the next person. In Zoom there is a time delay so the players will seem to be out of 'sync' with the music, but it will still be fun for all.

**5:00 PM – General Business Meeting** – Moderator: Steve Brown

The Rhythm Bones Society Bylaws require an annual meeting to elect the Board of Directors and other matters raised by the members present. This is normally a short meeting.

**5:30 PM – Cocktail Party** – Moderator: ????????????????

This is a time to enjoy more jamming, say goodbyes and close with the traditional Congo Line with each person presented full screen. Again there will be 'sync' issues, but by now who cares!

**6:00 PM – Show Performances** – Emcee: Steve Brown

This will be like our Public Performance at a traditional Bones Fest. Attendees who want to perform sign up using the Chat tool.

Technical Information