

Coastal Uke Fest in Cohasset

Program Book



Sunday, October 4, 2026 – 1-5:30 p.m.

At First Parish in Cohasset,
23 N. Main St. and 30 N. Main St.

WORKSHOPS BY TIME SLOT

1:00 to 1:30

“Aloha ‘Oe” (advanced beginner)—Room A, Parish House

With this classic Hawaiian song, learn to pick the melody, and incorporate strumming to go along with the melody. — Kapono Wong

Beginner’s Uke Intro (beginners)—Room B, Parish House

Let’s have some fun learning how to hold the ukulele, make a basic strum, count in music, and play 4 basic chords (C, G, F, Am). — Mary Beth Courtright

Hawaiian Songs (advanced beginner)—Room C, Parish House

Strum along to some island favorites, with someone who grew up in Hawaii. — Mike Nakashima

Know Your Uke (all levels)—Room D, Parish House

Learn about owning, tuning, and caring for a ukulele. See different uke types in the “Ukulele Petting Zoo.” — Ken Mattsson and Dan Harper

1:30 to 2:45

Chuckling and Rhythm (advanced beginner)—Room A, Parish House

Learn chuckling with different rhythmic patterns and three finger tremolo picking (flamenco style). — Kapono Wong

Accompaniment Patterns for Songs (beginners)—Room B, Parish House

Students are always asking “which strum pattern? which picking pattern?” This workshop will help all those interested in joining jam sessions and improving their musicality. — Anne Ku

CAGFD Method (intermediate)—Room C, Parish House

The CAGFD Method allows you to take basic chord shapes and play them in five different positions up the neck. Mastering it will give you the ability to play chords up and down the neck with ease, rather than being stuck in first position. — Clark Wanat

Play Well with Others (all levels, ukes and all instruments)—Room D, Parish House

We’ll go over the basic etiquette of jam sessions, then give some tips and tricks for playing well with other musicians. — Glenn Rivard (guitar) and Dan Harper (uke)

Jam Session (all levels, ukes and all instruments)—Room D, Parish House

Mixed genre jam for ukes and uke-friendly instruments.—Glenn and Dan

Ukulele off the Page (advanced beginner)—Room E, Meetinghouse

Have you ever been at a group jam, and no one had any song sheets, and you were lost? This workshop will help ukulele players to use their ears to start to hear chord changes and make an educated guess out how to survive in a jam. — Ken Mattsson

2:45-3:00

Break, snacks, and merch

3:00-4:15

Fingers to spare? Try chord embellishments! (adv. beginner)—Room A, Parish House

Let's take advantage of our free fingers and give them something to do: an embellishment here, a complementary harmony line there, and a better understanding of how chords work! — Armand Aromin

Fingerstyle and Shortcuts to Sightreading (beginners)—Room B, Parish House

Why is it easier and faster to read (and play from) chord diagrams than standard music notation and ukulele tablature? You can improve through practice and understanding the shortcuts. Aimed at those who want to get better at reading and playing fingerstyle ukulele. — Anne Ku

Funk Strumming (intermediate)—Room C, Parish House

We unpack the rudiments of funk scratching in a lesson that will help you perfect your strumming technique and improve your rhythmic sensibility. Great for (but not limited to) hip hop, rap, R&B, funk, soul, and dance beats. — Clark Wanat

Jam Session (all levels, ukes and all instruments)—Room D, Parish House

Mixed genre jam for ukes and uke-friendly instruments.

How To Play at Open Mics (inter. to adv.)—Room E, Meetinghouse

One of the places that many musicians find their start is the open mic stage. So, what can you (generally) expect during your first open mic set, and what can you do to prepare? — Ken Mattsson

4:15-4:30

Break, snacks, and merch

SKILL LEVELS

- *Beginner* = from “just started!” to “know a few chords and learning how to strum”
- *Advanced beginner* = know basic chords and basic strumming, can do a barre chord but avoid it
- *Intermediate* = know most first position chords, strumming is intuitive, have tried some fingerpicking
- *Intermediate to advanced* = know barre chords and fingerpicking, ready for an open mic
- *All levels* = suitable for all players
- *All instruments* = suitable for all uke-friendly instruments

WORKSHOPS BY SKILL LEVEL

Beginner

1:00-1:30—Beginner's Uke Intro—Room B, Parish House

Let's have some fun learning how to hold the ukulele, make a basic strum, count in music, and play 4 basic chords (C, G, F, Am). — Mary Beth Courtright

1:30-2:45—Accompaniment Patterns for Songs—Room B, Parish House

Students are always asking "which strum pattern? which picking pattern?" This workshop will help all those interested in joining jam sessions and improving their musicality. — Anne Ku

3:00-4:15—Fingerstyle and Shortcuts to Sightreading—Room B, Parish House

Why is it easier and faster to read (and play from) chord diagrams than standard music notation and ukulele tablature? You can improve through practice and understanding the shortcuts. Aimed at those who want to get better at reading and playing fingerstyle ukulele. — Anne Ku

Advanced Beginner

1:00-1:30—"Aloha 'Oe"—Room A, Parish House

With this classic Hawaiian song, learn to pick the melody, and incorporate strumming to go along with the melody. — Kapono Wong

1:00-1:30—Hawaiian Songs—Room C, Parish House

Strum along to some island favorites, with someone who grew up in Hawaii. — Mike Nakashima

1:30-2:45—Chuckling and Rhythm—Room A, Parish House

Learn chuckling with different rhythmic patterns and three finger tremolo picking (flamenco style). — Kapono Wong

1:30-2:45—Ukulele off the Page—Room E, Meetinghouse

Have you ever been at a group jam, and no one had any song sheets, and you were lost? This workshop will help ukulele players to use their ears to start to hear chord changes and make an educated guess out how to survive in a jam. — Ken Mattsson

3:00-4:15—Fingers to spare? Try chord embellishments—Room A, Parish House

Let's take advantage of our free fingers and give them something to do: an embellishment here, a complementary harmony line there, and a better understanding of how chords work! — Armand Aromin

Intermediate and higher

1:30-2:45—CAGFD Method (intermediate)—Room C, Parish House

The CAGFD Method allows you to take basic chord shapes and play them

in five different positions up the neck. Mastering it will give you the ability to play chords up and down the neck with ease, rather than being stuck in first position. — Clark Wanat

3:00-4:15—Funk Strumming (intermediate)—Room C, Parish House

We unpack the rudiments of funk scratching in a lesson that will help you perfect your strumming technique and improve your rhythmic sensibility. Great for (but not limited to) hip hop, rap, R&B, funk, soul, and dance beats. — Clark Wanat

3:00-4:15—How To Play at Open Mics (inter. to adv.)—Room E, Meetinghouse

One of the places that many musicians find their start is the open mic stage. So, what can you (generally) expect during your first open mic set, and what can you do to prepare? — Ken Mattsson

All Levels

1:00-1:30—Know Your Uke / Ukulele Petting Zoo—Room D, Parish House

Learn about owning, tuning, and caring for a ukulele. See different uke types in the “Ukulele Petting Zoo.” — Ken Mattsson and Dan Harper

1:30-2:00—Play Well with Others (ukes and other instruments)—Room D, Parish House

We’ll go over the basic etiquette of jam sessions, then give some tips and tricks for playing well with other musicians. — Glenn Rivard (guitar) and Dan Harper (uke)

2:00-2:45—Jam Session (ukes and other instruments)—Room D, Parish House

Mixed genre jam with ukes and uke-friendly instruments. — Glenn Rivard (guitar) and Dan Harper (uke)

3:00-4:15—Jam Session (ukes and other instruments)—Room D, Parish House

Mixed genre jam with ukes and uke-friendly instruments. — Glenn Rivard (guitar) and Dan Harper (uke)

SUGGESTED SKILL LEVELS

- *Beginner* = from “just started!” to “know a few chords and learning how to strum”
- *Advanced beginner* = know basic chords and basic strumming, can do a barre chord but avoid it
- *Intermediate* = know most first position chords, strumming is intuitive, have tried some fingerpicking
- *Intermediate to advanced* = know barre chords and fingerpicking, ready for an open mic
- *All levels* = suitable for all players
- *All instruments* = suitable for all uke-friendly instruments

WORKSHOP GRID

Rooms A-D in the Parish House
23 N. Main St.

The Meetinghouse
30 N. Main St.

	A	B	C	D	E
1:00	"Aloha 'Oe" Kapono	Beginner's Uke Mary Beth	Hawaiian songs Mike	Know Your Uke Ken & Dan	
1:30	Chucking & Rhythm Kapono	Accompaniment Patterns for Songs Anne	CAGFD Method Clark	Play Well With Others	Uke Off the Page Ken
2:00				Jam Session w/Glenn & Dan	
2:45	Break - Snacks - Merch				
3:00	Fingers to Spare? Try Chord Embel- lishments! Armand	Fingerstyle & Shortcuts to Sight Reading Anne	Funk Strumming Clark	Jam Session w/Glenn & Dan	How To Play at Open Mics Ken
4:15	Break - Snacks - Merch				
4:30					CONCERT

MAP

Not to scale

30 N. Main St.
Meetinghouse

Room E

Cohasset Common

Main Street

23 N. Main St. – Parish House

Restrooms:

Men: Parish House (see map)

Women: Parish House (see map)

All gender: Parish House, upstairs

All gender: Meetinghouse

Loaner ukes:

Office, Parish House (see map)

Snacks:

Kitchen, Parish House (see map)

Merch (during breaks):

Hallway, Parish House

Merch (after concert):

Vestibule, Meetinghouse

Workshops:

Room A: Parish House (see map)

Room B: Parish House (see map)

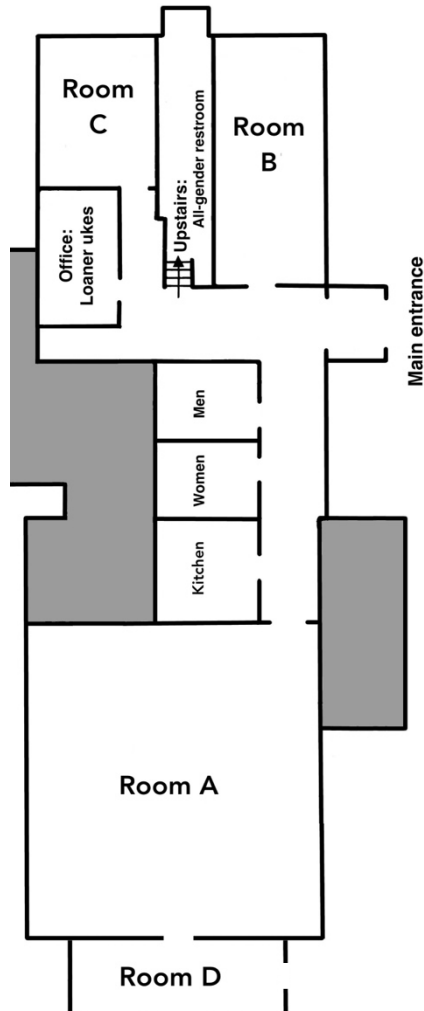
Room C: Parish House (see map)

Room D: Tent on back deck of
Parish House (see map)

Room E: Meetinghouse

Concert:

Meetinghouse



FEATURED WORKSHOP LEADERS



Armand Aromin is a multi-instrumentalist and luthier. As a performer, he plays folk and trad songs with The Vox Hunters; Irish music with the quartet Eight Feet Tall; and he plays with The Ivy Leaf, a traditional Irish music band. He teaches fiddle, English concertina, tin whistle, and ukulele. Recent recordings include “Eight Feet Tall” (2023) and “Fresh from the Board” (2020), both available from BandCamp.

Website: www.arominviolins.com

Fingers to Spare, 3:00 p.m.

Anne Ku is a multi-instrumentalist and professional musician who plays ukulele, guitar, piano, and organ. Among her many activities as a music educator, she teaches ukulele in the Boston area. As a composer, she publishes the “Pick Pluck Play” series of original compositions for ukulele. A music scholar, she wrote her master’s thesis on ukulele song sheets in music education.

Website: www.anneku.com

Accompaniment Patterns for Songs, 1:30

Fingerstyle & Sightreading Tabs, 3:00



Ken Mattsson is a multi-instrumentalist who plays ukulele, hammered dulcimer, and several other instruments. As a songwriter, he has released two recordings, “Breaking Through” and “Courage To Play,” both available from his website. As a teacher, Ken has helped ukulele players with basic music theory and many other topics. He coordinates the White Mountain Ukulele Retreat in June.

Website: www.kenmattsson.com

Know Your Uke, 1:00

Uke Off the Page, 1:30

How To Play at Open Mics, 3:00



Clark Wanat is a songwriter, ukulele player, and currently a ukulele principal at Berklee College of Music. He plays lead uke and is the lead singer for The Gwiggles, a four-piece indie rock band. “My Pluralized You,” The Gwiggles’ first EP, features six songs written by Clark, including the single “Emma Sue.” The Gwiggles are on Spotify and all major streaming platforms.

Instagram: @clark_is_a_conehead

CAGFD Method, 1:30

Funk Strumming, 3:00



Kapono Wong is a ukulele virtuoso from Hawaii. A recent graduate of Berklee College of Music, he has had the privilege to perform with Jake Shimabukuro, Taimane Gardner, Henry Kapono, and more. Kapono plays all genres of music, giving each one his unique touch. He has been listed as one of the “HOT 100 Unsigned Live-Performing Artists in the U.S.” in the *Music Connection* magazine.

Youtube: @kaponowong

“Aloha ‘Oe,” 1:00

Chuckling and Rhythm, 1:30

ADDITIONAL WORKSHOP LEADERS

Mary Beth Courtright is a music educator and performer who plays piano, organ, and ukulele. She is the music director of First Parish in Cohasset.

Beginners’ Intro to Uke, 1:00

Dan Harper has organized mixed-genre jams in New Bedford and Palo Alto, and the uke jam in Cohasset. He has played ukulele since 2005.

Play Well with Others, 1:00; jam sessions at 2:00 and 3:00

Mike Nakashima is a lead singer and percussionist for local bands. He learned how to play ukulele as a 4th grader in Hawaii.

Hawaiian Songs, 1:00

Glenn Rivard is a guitarist and singer who performs with local ensembles. He runs the Casual Jam, a mixed-genre jam session in Sharon.

Play Well with Others, 1:00; jam sessions at 2:00 and 3:00



COHASSET OPEN STUDIOS

www.cohassetopenstudios.com

November 7 & 8 10 am - 4 pm

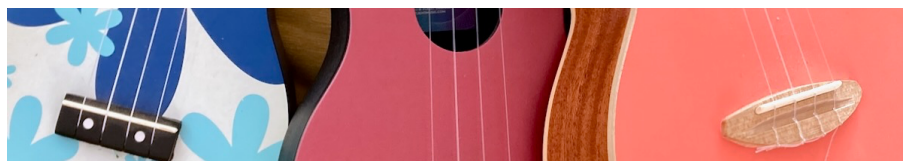
Visit 20 artists in Cohasset studios: oil, acrylic, pastel, watercolor, photography, fiber, mixed media

cohassetopenstudios.com



Pick Pluck Play!

a series of books for fingerstyle ukulele by Anne Ku
www.anneku.com/ukulele



Cohasset Uke Circle

A relaxed supportive group of people playing at all different levels. All uke-friendly instruments welcome.

2nd and 4th Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m.
Carriage House Nursery School, 23 N. Main St., Cohasset
www.cohassetukulele.org

LOCAL UKE GROUPS AND UKE-FRIENDLY JAMS

Cohasset Ukulele Circle — 2nd and 4th Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m., Carriage House Nursery School, 23 N. Main St., Cohasset. Ukes and uke-friendly instruments. Info at www.cohassetukulele.org or ask Mary Beth Courtright.

Hingham Ceilidh — 1st Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m., First Parish Church office, 14 Main St., Hingham (enter on South St.). Info at oldshipchurch.org/calendar/

Hingham Ukulele Club — Tuesdays, 11 a.m., Hingham Center for Active Living. Check the Center's newsletter, available at www.hingham-ma.gov/353/Center-for-Active-Living

Linden Ponds Ukulele Club — Linden Ponds residents can contact Duane Wilkie for time and location.

Plymouth Uke Meetup — 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 3-5 p.m., Independent Fermentation Brewing, 127 Camelot Drive, Plymouth. Info at Ukulele Union of Boston meetup.

Sharon Casual Jam — 2nd Fridays, 7-9 p.m., Unitarian Church, 4 N. Main St., Sharon. All acoustic instruments. Info at www.uusharon.org/calendars/month or ask Glenn Rivard.

Three Chord Thursdays (virtual) — Select Thursdays at 3 p.m., online uke session w/Anne Ku and guests. Info at www.anneku.com/3-chord-thurs/

Ukulele Union of Boston Meetup — Uke events throughout eastern MA: meetup.com/bostonuke/events/

Sometimes I can't think of a better way to end my day
than coming home and just strumming my ukulele
for a few minutes. —Jake Shimabukuro

The ukulele has been an instrument played in families,
and maybe now it's making the whole world a family.

—Eddie Kamae

GENERAL INFORMATION

Loaner ukuleles

You leave your driver's license. We loan you a ukulele. You return the ukulele before 4:45. (Some concert and tenor ukes may be available.) Available at the Office, just inside the main entrance of the Parish House at 23 N. Main St.

Coffee and snacks

Coffee and light snacks are available in the kitchen of the Parish House (see map). Free-will donations accepted.

For meals, walk out the main entrance, turn right, there are restaurants in the Village 5 min. down Main St.

Merch

Merch will be available during breaks in the hallway of the Parish House, and in the Meetinghouse following the concert.

Mahalos

Thank you for financial support: Gleason Music Fund of First Parish in Cohasset; anonymous donors.

Thank you for organizational support: Board of First Parish in Cohasset. And a special thanks to all the volunteers who make this event possible.

Donate

The festival is completely free!

But if you'd like to donate, space for the festival was provided free by First Parish in Cohasset. To thank them, make a donation to support the maintenance of their historic buildings. Use this QR code:



Coastal Uke Fest in Cohasset

at First Parish in Cohasset, on Cohasset Common
2026 festival chair: Mary Beth Courtright
www.cohassetukulele.org