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Images available upon request

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**Berkshires Arts Festival Announces Musical Performances and Workshops
Slated for Fourth of July Weekend**

Three-day arts festival in Great Barrington offers something for everyone

Great Barrington, Mass. –The 10th Annual Berkshires Arts Festival at Ski Butternut on Route 23 in Great Barrington, Mass., will offer ongoing workshops, demonstrations, talks, activities for children, and live musical performances over the Fourth of July weekend. Festival hours are Saturday, July 2, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, July 3, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Monday, July 4, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Featured musical performances at the Berkshires Arts Festival will include:

Saturday, July 2, the indie/new wave band Lunic will perform at 1 and 3 p.m. The band features songwriter/multi-instrumentalist Kaitee Page, violinist/violist Megan Berson, and drummer Lisa Wilson. "All-girl New Yorkers Lunic make distinctive and sultry psychedelic indie with hints of downbeat British electronica acts The xx and Portishead, mournful dashes of violin and melodic lead guitar flourishes," said the NXNE Music Fest.

Sunday, July 3, the Berkshire County-based band Blueberry Buckle Trio will perform at 1 p.m. The group, formerly known as the Byrne Trio, is composed of Tom Byrne on guitar, bass, and the occasional wind instrument, and his two young daughters, Cate on violin and Savannah on drums, performing a mix of classical, fiddle and pop. Together, they have played dozens of shows at a variety of venues and events including The Readsboro Arts Festival, North Adams Co-operative Art Gallery, Petrino's Café, St. Anne's Lawn Party, fundraisers for MCLA and United Way, The Lenox Apple Squeeze, Pittsfield's Third Thursdays, and Williamstown's Sundays at Six.

Performing daily, on July 2, 3 and 4, will be Northampton-based Peter Blanchette, composer, musician and inventor of the 11-string Archguitar. His repertoire of unusual and internationally acclaimed arrangements and compositions spans from medieval to contemporary to ethnic. A recipient of the MCC Artist Grant in Music Composition, Blanchette is a veteran performer of such high profile venues as NPR's "A Prairie Home

Companion,” and The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. His CDs receive heavy airplay on “Sunday Baroque,” “The Thistle and Shamrock,” and regionally on WAMC, WNYC, and WFCR. In 2011, he received New England Public Radio Foundation’s Arts and Humanities Award for outstanding individual artist. As a composer, he has contributed to such television programs as HBO’s “Sex and the City,” and PBS’ “Inside the Tuscan Hills.”

Each day at the festival numerous children’s activities will be offered, including face painting with Maria Mariposa, who also will be performing fire dancing. Presenting daily will be the Greenfield-based Alotta Hoopla, a hooping entertainment company, who will demonstrate and perform hooping with handmade hoops of all sizes, weights and colors. The hoops will be available for festival goers to explore, exercise, dance and have fun with. Alotta Hoopla teaches the hoop dance through a variety of moves, exercises and technique, making it engaging, progressive, and accessible for all ages and abilities.

Other scheduled events and ongoing activities at the Berkshires Arts Festival will include:

Tim Scull: “The Art of Clay” lecture, in Tent A

“Try Your Hand at the Potter’s Wheel”, in Tent A

“Kids Play with Clay”, at Tent A (outside)

Richard Foye: “Raku firing”, at the Upper Lodge (outside)

Bruce Ringier: “Blacksmith workshop”, at Tent A (outside)

Warren Bonderchuck : “ Build your own Trellis”

Will Beemer: “Timber Framing”

Berkshires Arts Festival offers outstanding original works in ceramics, painting, jewelry, glass, wood, mixed media, sculpture, fashion, and photography for display and sale. The three-day festival includes a delicious selection of food prepared by chefs from The Inn at Yellow Springs in Chester, Pa. The producers of Berkshires Arts Festival are Richard and Joanna Rothbard, artistic directors of American Art Marketing and owners of An American Craftsman galleries with locations in New York City, Savannah, Ga., and Stockbridge, Mass.

Admission is \$11 for adults; \$10 for seniors; \$5 for students; and is free for children under 10. A weekend pass for the three-day festival may be purchased for \$13. The

show will be held, rain or shine, under tents, outdoors, and in the air-conditioned lodge at Ski Butternut. Ample free parking is available. For more information about the festival, including a full list of exhibitors and works for sale, go to berkshiresartsfestival.com or call 800.834.9437.

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Calendar Listings:

Saturday through Monday, July 4th weekend (July 2, 3, 4): 10th Annual Berkshires Arts Festival, held July 2, 3 and 4 at Ski Butternut, Route 23, Great Barrington, Mass. A juried show of 200 American artists and artisans from the Berkshires and beyond featuring works for sale in ceramics, painting, jewelry, glass, wood, mixed media, sculpture, fashion, and photography. The festival includes musical performances, workshops, demonstrations, and children's activities. Hours: Saturday, July 2, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, July 3, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Monday, July 4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$11 for adults; \$10 for seniors; \$5 for students; and is free for children under 10. A weekend pass for the three-day festival is available for \$13. Free parking. For more information, visit berkshiresartsfestival.com or call 800.834.9437 or call 800.834.9437.

July 2: 10th Annual Berkshires Arts Festival, a juried show featuring the works of 200 artists and artisans exhibiting ceramics, painting, jewelry, glass, wood, mixed media, sculpture, fashion, and photography for sale. Ski Butternut, Route 23, Great Barrington, Mass. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is \$11 for adults; \$10 for seniors; \$5 for students; and is free for children under 10. A weekend pass for the three-day festival is available for \$13. Free parking. For more information, visit berkshiresartsfestival.com or call 800.834.9437.

July 3: 10th Annual Berkshires Arts Festival, a juried show featuring the works of 200 artists and artisans exhibiting ceramics, painting, jewelry, glass, wood, mixed media, sculpture, fashion, and photography for sale. Ski Butternut, Route 23, Great Barrington, Mass. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is \$11 for adults; \$10 for seniors; \$5 for students; and is free for children under 10. A weekend pass for the three-day festival is available for \$13. Free parking. For more information, visit berkshiresartsfestival.com or call 800.834.9437.

July 4: 10th Annual Berkshires Arts Festival, a juried show featuring the works of 200 artists and artisans exhibiting ceramics, painting, jewelry, glass, wood, mixed media, sculpture, fashion, and photography for sale. Ski Butternut, Route 23, Great Barrington, Mass. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$11 for adults; \$10 for seniors; \$5 for students; and is free for children under 10. A weekend pass for the three-day festival is available

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