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## POUGHKEEPSIE CHAPTER CONCERT SERIES LAUNCH!!!

By Kevin Becker

In September of 2006, the Poughkeepsie Chapter will set sail in a new direction by launching a new concert series on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Each concert will open by showcasing "up and coming" younger talent. Then after a break, the evening will close with a more polished and experienced act.

Our youth showcase in September will introduce **Samantha Chestney** to our Folk Guild community. Samantha is an accomplished fiddler and flute player as well as a wonderful singer. She performed the leading roles of Maria in "The Sound of Music" and JoJo in "Seusical" at Regina Coeli School. She is also a performing member of the Strawberry Hill Fiddlers and Stringendo.

Our youth showcase in October will feature **Jessie Hays**. Only 12 years old, Jessie plays the violin and flute and has performed many times at our open mic coffeehouse in Kingston. She attended the NYASTA strings workshop over the summer and has been a performing member of the Flying Fiddlers and Stringendo.

Our featured performers for the 2<sup>nd</sup> set following the youth showcase in September will be **Kevin and Carol Becker**. In October our featured performer will be **Linda Breithaupt with Harmony Fire**.

**There are a number of changes from the open mic format we'd like to highlight:**

- 1) The concerts will **start at 7:30pm** which is a little earlier than usual to better align with our younger performers.
- 2) Since this a concert series, **there will not be the traditional HVFG open mic** at Poughkeepsie this year.

**Inside: Coffeehouse Schedules  
and directions!**

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**Kevin and Carol Becker**

- 3) With an eye towards consideration for our audiences, the evenings will probably be shorter than the traditional open mic night where we wrestle with balancing the length of the program with making sure everyone gets a chance to perform. We anticipate the evening will be ending by about 9:30pm.
- 4) **Admission to the concert series will be a very reasonable charge of \$5 for HVFG members, \$7 for non members, \$3 for children under 12, and a family rate (cap) of \$20.**

**Final Note:** Our new mission in Poughkeepsie is still evolving. We still need your ideas and suggestions for youth features AND we still need to rebuild a strong committee of volunteers to run the chapter activities. If you are interested in being involved with and influencing activities in Poughkeepsie, we'd like to hear from you!! Please contact Kevin Becker (or any other board member) at 845-229-0170 or hvfolks@aol.com with your ideas.

Admission to all coffeehouses is \$4 for members and \$5 for non-members:  
Admission to Friends of Fiddlers' Green Concerts is \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for Hudson Valley Folk Guild Members, Seniors, full-time students and free for kids under 12 with their parents.