

unplugged xi

sept 13-16

3 days of **craft** | 3 nights of **music**



photo by Stephan Hoglund

North House Folk School | www.northhouse.org



Our early campus from the Grand Marais harbor. Campus has now grown to include five timbered classroom buildings echoing the rustic and rich stories of the North.

Welcome!

Welcome to Unplugged XI, North House Folk School's signature fall event "under the big top." The event's aspirations are simple: Celebrate the Mission, Sustain the Dream. Whether you have been with us every year or this is your first visit to campus, we hope the event inspires your heart, sparks your curiosity and opens the door to the North.

Over the past decade-plus, Unplugged has touched and inspired thousands of people. To the many people and partners who help make Unplugged a reality we offer our sincere thanks!

What is North House?

North House Folk School is a dynamic, year-round educational non-profit that celebrates the rich traditions of northern craft in a non-competitive learning environment. Over 350 courses featuring the talents of 100+ artisan instructors engage themes ranging from timber framing to woodworking to boatbuilding to fibers.

>>> **The mission of the North House Folk School is:**
to enrich lives and build community by teaching traditional northern crafts in a student-centered learning environment that inspires the hands, the heart and the mind.





A family canoe building workshop underway on campus during the first summer of coursework on campus. Twenty-three courses were offered. The year - 1997.

Our Beginnings

Vision

The spirit, mission and vision of North House Folk School have captured the imagination of many, from Lake Superior's North Shore to Greater Minnesota and far beyond. North House is inspired by Scandinavian "folkeshoskoles," developed in Denmark during the mid-1800's; life-long skills and traditions shared in a non-competitive environment are the foundation of the folk school concept.

Early Years

The concept of a folk school on the north shore was an initiative begun by local citizens and volunteers. Positive responses to initial course offerings during 1995 and 1996 inspired both students and volunteers. With enthusiasm growing, the volunteer Board of Directors formally founded the

North House Folk School in Grand Marais in January of 1997.

Campus

As interest in its mission and participation in its programs grew, North House recognized the need to develop a campus that would support and nurture the creative spirit of the organization and its students. Working in partnership with the City of Grand Marais, North House secured grant funding to restore two historic waterfront buildings (owned by the City of Grand Marais). North House expanded its campus by investing first in adjacent property that included a historic fishing building and two timbered docks on Grand Marais' historic harbor, and secondly, in a 50' sailing schooner (thus extending the campus onto Lake Superior). Today, one could easily mistake the campus for a folk school on Norway's coast.

unplugged



Unplugged I in 2002 truly opened a door to North House's future. Pictured: Michael Monroe, Jon Vezner, Michael McDonald, Kathy Mattea and Bernie Leadon.

The Story of Unplugged

Eleven Years, Eleven Concerts, Over \$100k Raised

Eleven years ago Grammy-award winning songwriter Jon Vezner first stumbled into a then quiet, but nevertheless inspiring North House Folk campus. The school's commitment to lifelong learning and teaching of traditional northern crafts struck a chord with Jon.

Jon's impression of North House's vision was so strong that he returned to Nashville to enlist a few well-known friends including Michael McDonald (formerly

of the Doobie Brothers), Bernie Leadon (formerly of the Eagles), and Kathy Mattea (famed country folk singer) to host a benefit concert. He also invited Minnesota's own performing artist Michael Monroe, whose music was inspirational to Jon during college.

These five artists' generous efforts truly opened the door to the future, helping North House raise establish a fledgling endowment fund.



To celebrate, the event's tenth anniversary featured many "Unplugged Alumni Performers." Making the celebration even more inspiring: NPR's Mountain Stage Radio Show made its first ever visit to the Midwest, recording two shows that were each broadcast twice worldwide during 2011-12.

Again this year, Mountain Stage Radio returns to record two more shows that will be broadcast in 2012-13.

Our thanks go out to Jon Vezner, to the many performers who have graced the Unplugged stage and to the Mountain Stage Crew. Your gift of music has ignited our hearts!



Above: A huge team of volunteers helps make the event possible—doing everything from setting up chairs in the tent to decorating with flowers. Below: The Fish Boil, and iconic part of Unplugged 1-9 was a spectacle, featuring a large kettle and lots of fire.





The Mountain Stage crew at their first rehearsal under the big tent. Their visit celebrated the tenth anniversary of the Unplugged event on the North House campus.

Meet the Performers

Thursday-Friday-Saturday Lineups and Performer Bios

Thursday, Sept 13

w/ Mountain Stage Radio

Trampled By Turtles, LOW,
Rhett Miller, Barbara Jean,
Minnesota featuring Peter
Himmelman

Friday, Sept 14

w/ Mountain Stage Radio

Chris Hillman, Herb Pedersen
Jonathan Edwards, Mollie
O'Brien & Rich Moore,
Gretchen Peters,

Saturday, Sept 15

**Unplugged Featured
Performance**

Jon Vezner, Jonathan Edwards,
Mollie O'Brien & Rich Moore,
and special guests

Barbara Jean

In 2011 Barbara Jean won the songwriting competition at the Big Top Chautauqua with her folk-inspired sound, and this summer received honorable mention in the prestigious Telluride Troubadour Contest. Her first album will be released this year.

Chip Taylor

Singer/songwriter/producer Chip Taylor has penned some of the most memorable songs in rock 'n' roll history including "Wild Thing," the song Jimi Hendrix once called the "new national anthem." Other Taylor classics include "Angel Of The Morning" and one of Janis Joplin's last hits "Try - Just A Little Bit Harder."

**Chris Hillman
& Herb Pederson**

Chris Hillman (formerly of the Byrds and the Flying Burrito Brothers) and Herb Pedersen's musical



friendship has lasted more 45 years. Their latest record, “At Edward’s Barn,” continues their long-running love for country and bluegrass music.

Gretchen Peters

Respected by songwriters, musicians and critics alike, Gretchen Peters’ tunes have been covered by a “Who’s Who” of country artists including Trisha Yearwood, Pam Tillis, George Strait, Martina McBride and Patty Loveless. In 1995, Peters won a Grammy for “Song of the Year” with her hit “Independence Day” (recorded by Martina McBride).

Jon Venzer

Jon is the creator of Unplugged, and his tireless efforts have made eleven years of the event a reality. His catalogue of recorded songs, topped by the poignant “Where’ve You Been,” reflects his straight-to-the heart sensibility and sensitivity. The song was honored with a Grammy Award for “Best Country Song” and the Nashville Songwriters Association “Song of the Year.”

Jonathan Edwards

Born in Aitkin, MN, folk and country singer/songwriter may be best known for his Top 5 hit “Sunshine.” “Honky-Tonk Stardust Cowboy” followed. Since 1971, Jonathan has released 15 albums.

Low

Formed in Duluth, MN, in 1993 by the husband-and-wife team of guitarist/singer Alan Sparhawk and drummer/singer Mimi Parker, Low’s

sparse, understated “rock” was a reaction to the grunge music that was in vogue at the time.

Minnesota feat. Peter Himmelman

Himmelman remains one of the most revered singer-songwriters of his generation, and his new project Minnesota defies easy categorization – standing as far apart from his acclaimed discography as it does the typical creation of a rock album in this day and age. This show marks their debut performance.

Mollie O’Brien & Rich Moore

Comprised of powerhouse singer and Wheeling, WV, native Mollie O’Brien and guitarist/husband Rich Moore, this is no mere “folk duo.” Their repertoire spans the range of American music from ragtime, jazzy blues, gospel to Dixieland, tango and saloon cabaret.

Rhett Miller

The front man and main songwriter of the hard-charging, rock ‘n’ roll quartet the Old 97’s, Texas native Rhett Miller is also an accomplished solo artist. In addition to his nine studio albums with the 97’s, he has released four solo albums.

Trampled by Turtles

A bluegrass band gone bad, this Minnesota-based acoustic quintet formed in 2003. The members were raised on punk ‘n’ roll but gravitated to traditional instruments to craft a pedal to the metal style of Bluegrass.

unplugged XI: schedule of events

	program	mini course
9/13 thurs am	<p>Aug 30 - Sept 16 / Points North Online Auction open at www.biddingforgood.com/northhouse</p> <p>9 am - 7 pm / Folk Artisan Marketplace open</p> <p>9 am-sunset / Schooner Hjørdis 2-hour sails †</p>	<p>10 am / Mini Course: - Birch Bark Weaving †</p>
9/13 thurs pm	<p>2 pm / Tour the North House campus</p>	<p>2 pm / Mini Course: - Raise a Timber Frame †</p>
9/14 fri am	<p>9 am - 7 pm / Folk Artisan Marketplace open</p> <p>9 am-sunset / Schooner Hjørdis 2-hour sails †</p>	<p>10 am / Mini Courses: - Intro to Saami Bracelets † - Raise a Timber Frame † - Spinning Fibers: An Intro †</p>
9/14 fri pm	<p>2 pm / Tour the North House campus</p>	<p>2 pm / Mini Courses: - Useful Hand Sewing† - All About Leaves: Northern† Ecology Field Session † - Birch Bark Weaving †</p>
9/15 sat am	<p>9 am - 7 pm / Folk Artisan Marketplace open</p> <p>9 am-sunset / Schooner Hjørdis 1-hour sails †</p> <p>1 pm / Free Public Concert & Cloth-Waulking with featured instructor Norman Kennedy</p>	<p>10 am / Mini Courses: - Wood-Fired Bread Baking † - Steambending & Greenwood Primer †</p>
9/15 sat pm	<p>2 pm / Tour the North House campus</p> <p>Prior to concert start / Dedication of the Outdoor Commons Concert Intermission / Live Auction</p>	<p>2 pm / Mini Courses: - Wood-Fired Bread Baking † - Natural Dyes in the Steambox †</p>

music	coursework
	<p>Sept 12-13 / Spinning Clinic with Norman Kennedy †</p> <p>Sept 13 / Performance Workshop with Mollie O'Brien & Rich Moore: Making a Song Your Own †</p> <p>Sept 13 / Saami Friendship Bracelet †</p> <p>Sept 13-14 / Unplugged Songwriting Workshop with Jon Vezner †</p>
<p>6 pm / Opening Act: Local Band & Tent seating opens for Mountain Stage ††</p> <p>7 pm / Mountain Stage Radio Show with Larry Groce †† with Trampled by Turtles, LOW, Rhett Miller, Minnesota w/ Peter Himmelman, Barbara Jean</p>	
	<p>Complete descriptions of courses & mini course available online www.northhouse.org or call 218-387-9762</p>
<p>6 pm / Opening Act: Local Band & Tent seating opens for Mountain Stage ††</p> <p>7 pm / Mountain Stage Radio Show with Larry Groce †† with Chris Hillman, Herb Pedersen, Jonathan Edwards, Mollie O'Brien & Rich Moore, Gretchen Peters, Chip Taylor</p>	
<p>9-10:30 am / Harmony Singing Workshop & Song Circle with Ann Russ</p> <p>10:30-12:30 / Traditional Music Jam: Old-Time & Folk Traditions w/ Bob & Louisa Fabbro</p> <p>1 pm / Free Public Concert & Cloth-Waulking with Norman Kennedy</p> <p>7:30 pm / Unplugged Songwriters Featured Performance †† with Mollie O'Brien & Rich Moore, Jonathan Edwards, Jon Vezner, and Special Guests</p>	<p>Sept 15 / Turning Around a Simple Song: Songs & Stories with Larry Groce †</p> <p>Sept 15 / Music Performance, Professionalism & Presentation with Jonathan Edwards †</p> <p>Sept 15-16 / Sew Your Own Scandinavian Workshirt †</p> <p>Sept 16 / Oatcakes & Porridge: Traditional Scottish Cuisine with Norman Kennedy †</p>

† registration required: call or visit us on the web
†† tickets on sale July 1 at www.northhouse.org

POINTS NORTH AUCTION

ALL DOLLARS RAISED SUPPORT NORTH HOUSE FOLK SCHOOL

3 Ways to Bid

1 Live Auction

The bidding will literally sing out from the Unplugged stage during the live auction. Be ready to call out your bids at the close of intermission (approx 8:45pm) on Saturday, Sept 15th. Six items are featured:

- Private In-Home Concert with Jon Vezner
- Layne Kennedy "Wrath of Superior" giclee print
- Lou Pigolet Hand-Turned Wooden Bowl
- 14' x 16' North House Folk School Timber Frame
- Six 2013 Fisherman's Picnic Buttons and six fish burgers
- Chance to be "Director for a Day" at North House Folk School



Items in the live auction, which will take place on stage at the close of intermission on Sat, Sept 15, include a North House timber frame and the chance to be "Director for a Day" at North House. See complete item list above.



2 Silent Auction

Underway throughout Unplugged, the Silent Auction will culminate at 7 pm on Saturday, Sept 15 prior to the concert start. Items are displayed in the blue building at the Unplugged Marketplace. Visit and bid often!



NORTH HOUSE FOLK SCHOOL
enriching lives and building community through the teaching of traditional northern crafts | www.northhouse.org

Username northhouse Password Sign In Forgot Password? Register to Bid Bidding For Good Home Help

Auction Home

View All Items (110)

- No Bids (37)
- Art (10)
- Build the Commons (2)
- Dining (7)
- Food & Gourmet Items (2)
- Golf & Sports Gear (3)
- Home (3)
- Shopping (16)
- Tickets-Entertainment (3)
- Tickets-Sports (1)
- Travel (36)
- Unplugged Concerts (37)

Auction Ends: Sep 16, 2012 10:00 PM CDT

Search for items...

Explore Lake Superior's North Shore - Online Auction Open!

Let the adventure begin! Hiking, Canoeing, Kayaking, Skiing, Fishing, Sailing, Golf, Journey to the North Shore and Cook County, Minnesota, the land of wilderness, lakes and outdoor adventure. Catch a sunset over Lake Superior, wander the back roads through remote wilderness, downhill or XC ski, hike the Superior Hiking Trail, and take a class at North House. Build your own special adventure with lodging, dining and experiences offered as part of our North House Adventure.

Live Event

LEARN MORE ABOUT NORTH HOUSE

north house folk school

3 Online Auction

Being part of North House's auction is easier than ever - over 100 items are featured online. The auction is jam-packed with classic northern destinations and experiences. From lodging packages to handcrafted items to one-on-one tutorials with featured instructors. The *Points North Online Auction*

launched on August 30th and culminates at 10pm on Sunday, September 16, 2012.

Follow the link at www.northhouse.org or scan the QR code above with your smartphone to go directly to the auction page!

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Public Programs at Unplugged

Folk Artisan Marketplace

Thurs, Fri & Sat / 9 am – 7 pm

Traditional northern craft is the soul of North House. Meet the artisans, hear their stories, and discover the beauty - all at the Folk Artisan Marketplace in the Blue Building. Daily *Small Talks on the Back Porch* feature a different craftsperson each day (full schedule below), plus their craft is available for purchase.



Jarrod Stonedahl returns again this year to demonstrate his craft of woodturning on the spring-pole lathe.

Featured Artisans / Small Talks on the Back Porch

Each day will feature two “small talk” sessions at 11 am and 3 pm. Each of the featured artisans will give a short, informal talk on the back deck of the Blue Building and demonstrate a particular aspect of their work.

Thursday, Sept 13

- 11 am Ian Andrus / Basketry
- 3 pm Jo Wood / Bead Embroidery

Friday, Sept 14

- 11 am Fred Livesay / Spoon Carving
- 3 pm Elise Kylo / Felting

Saturday, Sept 15

- 11 am Mary Schliep / Rosemaling
- 3 pm Jarrod Stonedahl / Spring Pole Lathe Turning

North House Campus Tour

with Director, Greg Wright / Thurs, Fri & Sat at 2 pm

See the hidden corners, ask any questions, bring your curiosity. Free and no registration required. Meet by the wood-fired bread oven.



Scottish Traditional Song, Story & Craft

Free Community Concert with Norman Kennedy / Sat, Sept 15 at 1 pm

Experience the powerful intersection of craft and song with famed Scottish Treasure Norman Kennedy. Kennedy is a National Heritage Fellow, and truly a “keeper of the old ways.” His performance will include traditional Scottish songs plus a cloth waulking (yes, we spelled that right), Free and open to the public. Hosted in the wood shop (red building).

Music Jam Sessions in the Blacksmith Shop

Sat, Sept 16 throughout the morning

9-10:30 am

Harmony Singing Workshop & Song Circle
with Ann Russ

10:30 am-12:30 pm

Traditional Music Jam: Old-Time & Folk
Traditions with Bob & Louisa Fabbro

Opening Acts

It's never too early to make music. Come down to campus before the concert each night to enjoy some music before the big shows.

- Thursday 6 pm: Eric Frost & Bill Hansen
- Friday 6 pm: Bump Blomberg & Adam Moe
- Saturday 6:30 pm: The Splinters



This young listener got into the spirit of things at last year's Unplugged and danced to the merry tunes produced during the jam sessions on Saturday morning.

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Year-Round Programs



Blacksmithing and bread baking are just two of the 350 courses offered year round at North House Folk School. (And not all of them start with the letter “b”)



We hope one thing is abundantly clear: Unplugged is only one chapter in the story of North House. Hosting special events that gather and celebrate community is just one of our passions. Campus is busy year round with students building timber frames, hand-spinning fibers, baking delicious wood-fired breads, and swinging the blacksmith’s hammer—the list goes on!

During the typical year we:

- Offer over 350 courses
- Feature the craft of 120+ regional artisan instructors
- Welcome students from 35+ states
- Offer public programs

Staying Connected

There’s no easier way to stay in touch than North House’s monthly e-newsletter. Photos, stories, updates! Sign up on our website.

Get The Print

A copy of North House’s course catalog is an adventure waiting to happen. On your coffee table or in your favorite reading corner it beckons and calls. The catalog is printed twice each year, and getting a copy of your own is free and easy: call us at 218-387-9762.



Voicing Your Support

After fifteen years of effort, we know that it takes people to open the door to North House's future. From volunteers to donors to secret admirers, a little bit of everything is needed to turn our dreams and possibilities into reality.

It's important to emphasize that every donor's decision to step forward to support North House has an impact on many levels. Clearly, making a donation strengthens North House financially—indeed, support from individuals underwrites 10% of our operations – funding projects that range from featured speakers to youth programs. That said, it also sends a strong signal to the foundations and partners who also support our efforts. Your investment underscores that the community believes in our efforts.

Becoming a supporter has its benefits, too. All donors receive our course catalogs, our newsletter *Shavings*, a one-time school store discount, "speakers passes" to all North House events, and more.

Fill out and return the form at right if you'd like to join the North House family. Your support does make a difference.

☐ Yes, I'd like to support North House's Mission

___ Basic \$25
___ Donor \$50
___ Supporter \$75
___ Leader \$100
___ Sponsor \$250
___ Pathfinder \$500
___ Patron \$1000
___ Friend of North House..... \$2000
___ Other \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

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Amount enclosed \$ _____

Payment type (circle one)

Check Credit Card

Card type (VI MC DI AE)

CC# _____

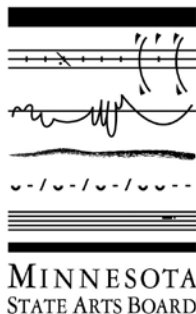
Exp Date _____ CVN _____

Signature _____

Return to: North House Folk School
PO Box 759, Grand Marais, MN 55604

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Event Sponsors



This activity is funded, in part, by the Minnesota State Arts Board through the arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the Legacy Amendment vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.



LUTSEN + TOFTE
GRAND MARAIS
GUNFLINT TRAIL
GRAND PORTAGE



Bluefin Bay Resort



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**NORTH HOUSE
FOLK SCHOOL**
on the harbor in Grand Marais, MN

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www.northhouse.org

