



Saline
Area
Schools

**Fiddlers
ReStrung**

Spring 2011
Volume 6, Number 1

FIDDLE BEAT

Fiddlers ReStrung's Spring Hometown Concert
Saturday May 7th at 7 pm at Saline Middle School
(7190 N. Maple Road, Saline, Michigan)

Jeremy Kittel to Perform With Fiddlers ReStrung on Saturday, May 7

Fiddlers ReStrung is pleased to announce that Saline native and local favorite **Jeremy Kittel** and his **Jeremy Kittel Band** will appear with the Saline group at their **Spring Hometown Concert at Saline Middle School on Saturday, May 7, 2011 at 7:00 pm.**

The concert is certain to be a much in demand event and represents a homecoming for Jeremy after a grueling schedule that has included the release of a new CD. He has performed multiple times with Fiddlers ReStrung in the past, and of course is an alumnus of the Saline Area Schools program precursor group, the Fiddlers Philharmonic.

In Saline we know fiddler Jeremy Kittel as a native performer who was stirring up excitement in Michigan's Celtic music scene even during the days when he had to be dropped off to play gigs. At this point in his career, the 24-year-old musician has challenged himself at every turn, branching out into bluegrass, jazz, and, as a member of the award-winning Turtle Island Quartet, classical music. Now he lives and works all over the country and the globe.

Jeremy's latest album, "Chasing Sparks," was recorded in New York, San Francisco, Nashville, and Ann Arbor. His hand-picked (and hand-picking) Jeremy Kittel Band has musical roots that traverse the globe. With the drive of Celtic fiddling, the spontaneity of jazz, soul of bluegrass, rhythms of Africa and Latin America, layered melodies of Eastern Europe, and the intricacies of chamber music, the Jeremy Kittel Band has been delivering concerts on the forward edge of progressive acoustic music. "There is a completely overwhelming amount of great art and music, and it's so accessible that it is impossible for me to ignore," Jeremy says. Stop by, renew old acquaintances, and check out the latest from a Washtenaw County-born musician who's making big waves!



For Tickets, call (734) 224-8725
or visit Saline Community Education
Adults \$15 Students & Seniors \$10

Fiddlers ReStrung is a 21-piece string ensemble featured at over 80 performances annually consisting of students at Saline High School, all of whom share in producing a unique ensemble truly their own. The organization is officially sponsored and supported by Saline Area Schools and Saline Community Education. Students are chosen based not only on musical talent, but personal maturity as well balancing a demanding performance schedule while maintaining high standards in other school activities, sports, and academics.

Fiddlers ReStrung's Holiday Hometown in Support of Toys for Tots in December 2010

Chief Craig Hoeft of the Saline Area Fire Department and members of Fiddlers ReStrung played Santa Claus to Saline Area Social Services over the holiday break by delivering toys collected during the annual Toys for Tots campaign. This year's campaign collected more than 1,500 new toys for deserving children who may have not been able to enjoy receiving toys for Christmas without the generosity of the Saline community and the efforts of the Fire Department, Fiddlers ReStrung and the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program.



In what has become an annual area tradition, the Fire Department and Fiddlers ReStrung kicked off the toy collection effort during the Saline Holiday Weekend, highlighted by Fiddlers ReStrung's Winter Hometown Concert at Saline High School on Dec. 5, 2010. For the past four years, the Fire Department and Fiddlers ReStrung have collaborated in the collection effort, collecting more than 4,000 toys during that time that are distributed by Saline Area Social Services to needy families and children.

"The Toys for Tots campaign demonstrates in a very meaningful way the great relationship that exists in our community between the Fire Department, Fiddlers ReStrung and, of course, the Saline community itself," said Chief Hoeft. "On behalf of the families benefiting from this holiday generosity, I cannot say thank you enough. It is inspiring to see such an outpouring of holiday spirit every year." The toys were turned over to Social Services on Dec. 20 by Chief Hoeft and Fiddlers ReStrung members just in time for Christmas.

Winter Camp 2011



Taking advantage of the Presidents Day weekend break from school over the weekend of February 18-20, members of Fiddlers ReStrung participated in their annual winter camp at the Double JJ Ranch in New Era, Michigan.

Departing bright and early from Saline High School on Friday morning, the group and their parent chaperones caravanned across the Lower Peninsula on their trek to the great North Woods for 3 days of relaxation, camaraderie and fun, with a dose of rehearsing and new music learning thrown in for good measure.

The Fiddler ReStrung also presented a concert in the Frontier Lobby of the JJ Ranch for the staff and guests of the resort which was well-received by the enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

Karaoke and Dance Party →



← On Friday after-dinner entertainment was a 30-minute concert for the rest of the group performed by the Freshmen Fiddlers, accompanied by senior Sean Chene on bass (a.k.a. The Freshman Ninjas and Sean).

Farewell, FRS Seniors

Summer is the bitter-sweet time as we say good-bye to some of the Fiddlers ReStrung Members as they graduate and move on to the bigger and better things. This year we have seven seniors graduating from the Saline High school. Here is what they wanted to say about their time with Fiddlers ReStrung and their plans for the future.



Trevor Morrison: One of my favorite things about FRS would probably be getting to bond with some great people over the time that you are in the group. I don't think I could have survived freshman year without knowing some juniors and seniors to help me out when I didn't really know anyone. Another thing I really do enjoy is traveling and performing in general. When people smile, dance and have a good time in the audience it makes me truly happy because I know that I helped in giving joy to the person in some way. I think I definitely improved my social and group interaction skills thanks to Fiddlers. This really helped in high school, because there are three more grades of kids around you! I plan on attending a college to pursue an education in sociology/psychology. I'm partly looking at University of Connecticut, Wesleyan University or Connecticut College. Also I hope to continue my music blog and if y'all haven't heard of it it's www.combobreakerkid.wordpress.com.

Adriane Rasmussen: I enjoy being able to arrange the cello parts of all fiddlers music. There is a lot of musical creativity allotted for the cello section, which is something I appreciate. My confidence level has improved dramatically since the beginning of my time with ReStrung. I am much more confident about my cello playing abilities, and I feel that I have grown as a musician as well. Upon graduating high school I plan on majoring in political science. With the intention to pursue a law degree later on. I also plan on playing my cello while in college, and hopefully the rest of my life.



Sean Chene: I would have to say that my favorite thing about Fiddlers ReStrung is the sense of knowing that I'm not the only music dork out there. FRS taught me a lot about having respect for upperclassmen, as well as learning to step up and fill the shoes that had been left for us by the alumni; take the leadership role and to mentor those to follow in your footsteps. The future is not exactly clear for me. The true plan as it stands currently, is that I plan to go to WCC, pursuing an associates degree in Automotive Technologies or in Psychology. After which, I plan to transfer to another college, EMU, WMU, or Baker, to pursue my Bachelors in my chosen major.

Christina Radak: My favorite part about fiddlers is getting to know a whole group of awesome people that I probably wouldn't have met, or been close to, without it. The people in this group are some of my best friends! Aside from getting better at violin, which would naturally occur, I learned to work with people and compromise. Sometimes when you get a bunch of strong headed people together, which we are, it can be really tough to get anywhere, but I've learned to work through that and get some pretty rad outcomes! As of right now, I am undecided in what college I will be going to (Michigan State or the University of Cincinnati), but I know that I will be double majoring in Criminal Justice and Psychology. My dream goal is to work within the federal criminal justice system!

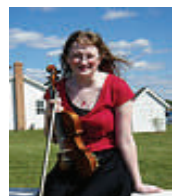


Sabine Bickford: I have been in FRS for four years now, and it still feels like I just barely tried out! My favorite part of the experience has been how close I have gotten to each and every person in the group. On top of the amazing music, Fiddlers ReStrung had provided me with an irreplaceable community and support system. The ways I listen to, play, and think about music have been changed for the better, and there's nothing about my experience in the group I would change. My future is mostly unknown, but I plan on studying international relations at college next year.

Allison Westfall: My Favorite thing about FRS is playing at gigs. I got better at putting emotion into my music. I plan to go to college but I haven't decided where I'm going yet.



Anjali Saripalli: Upon witnessing my first Fiddlers ReStrung concert as a youngster, I knew this was the group for me. From fiddle club to Fiddlers ReStrung, I have been given many unique opportunities and been exposed to a lot of fantastic players and music. From my four years in FRS not only as a fiddler, but a clogger and tin whistle player, I have not only grown musically but as a person as well. Playing the music I love so much with my peers is definitely something I will miss next year when I graduate and leave for college. Fortunately I am planning on attending the University of Michigan and majoring in biomedical engineering, so I will not be too far away from my fiddling roots!



Fiddlers ReStrung Entertain Crowds at Big Rapids, Michigan's Festival of the Arts



Maybe it could be called the dog days of February or Arts Go To the Dogs, but by whatever description applied, Fiddlers ReStrung enjoyed a busy day in bringing their music to West Michigan. Combining a scheduled appearance at Big Rapids' Festival of the Arts with matinee performances at the halftime of Ferris State University's men's and women's basketball games, the group scored a trifecta in their three shows.

One of the bigger crowds of the year enjoyed both Ferris State's 1,000th victory of its men's basketball program and the Fiddlers ReStrung half-time show at mid-court. The women's game followed the men's game, and a second halftime performance inspired the Lady Bulldogs to match their men's team victory with a win of their own. Once again, the Ferris State team played before one of its larger crowds of the year, attributing some of the turn-out to the performances by Fiddlers ReStrung.

The evening performance was part of Big Rapids' and Ferris State's Festival of the Arts cultural celebration during the wintry month of February. A 45-minute show was rewarded by an enthusiastic crowd with an appreciative standing ovation.

New Members of the Fiddlers ReStrung

Fiddlers ReStrung announced the addition of four new members selected at auditions this past January. Srimona Bandyopadhyay (violin), Nirvan Bhattacharyya (cello), Katherine Vaujin (violin), and Kera Yang (viola, not pictured) have successfully completed the initial audition process from among the many young musicians who attended the open auditions conducted by the group earlier this year.

Each of the new members performed a number of musical pieces for the selection committee to showcase their artistic talent and ability to interpret the musical style and range that is characteristic of Fiddlers ReStrung. Students also participated in interviews with members of the group and selection committee as part of the audition process. Fiddlers ReStrung new members are chosen based on a balance of musical talent and personal maturity to enable them to balance a demanding performance schedule while maintaining high academic and extracurricular standards at school.

The four new members will be welcomed into the group provisionally this spring to begin attending rehearsals and a rigorous immersion period of learning many of the standard favorites that make up the Fiddlers ReStrung repertoire. As they become more comfortable with the music and performance schedule of the group, the new members will more formally join in the group's performances over the course of the busy summer schedule.



Rummage and Bake Sale

March 26th 8am—5pm
Liberty School Cafeteria

7265 Saline-Ann Arbor Road,
Saline, MI 48176



**All proceeds benefit
Fiddlers ReStrung!**

FRS Summer Tour

Great Northeast Tour
June 24th to July 6th

The Fiddlers ReStrung will be heading to Northeast for their summer tour this year.

For up to date information, visit our website:

www.fiddlersrestrung.com

Or via Twitter

[Twitter.com/FReStrung](https://twitter.com/FReStrung)

Allison Cregg, Artistic Director

For booking information contact us via email
bookings@fiddlersrestrung.com

734-429-8000 ext. 4576

Fiddlers ReStrung

Saline Community Education
7265 Saline-Ann Arbor Rd
Saline, MI 48176

Your **tax-deductible donation** in support of the activities of these talented musicians would be greatly appreciated.

Please make your check payable to:

“Saline Area Schools-Fiddlers ReStrung

Mail to: Fiddlers ReStrung,

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