

NEWS

The Evergreen State College
Olympia, Washington 98501

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A 76-year-old woman songwriter, singer and political activist opens the first Pacific Northwest Women's Music Festival at The Evergreen State College May 6.

Malvina Reynolds, popular performer and recording artist from Berkeley, California, returns to Olympia May 6 for a 7 p.m. concert in the main Library lobby. Her performance launches a weekend of workshops and presentations organized, produced and performed exclusively by -- and for -- women.

Supported by the Evergreen Women's Center, the Music Festival seeks to "create a new network of communications for women in the Pacific Northwest who are interested in music," according to Becca Todd, an Evergreen junior helping coordinate the festival.

"We're emphasizing this as an all-women event," she says. "We feel the festival offers an unusual opportunity for women to consciously gather and explore their own music and beliefs, and to possibly synthesize women's theories and practices in creative song and spirit." Todd says men are "discouraged from attending."

Two evening concerts and a Sunday afternoon performance highlight the festival. Admission is \$10 in advance for the three concerts; \$7 in advance for two performances or \$4 at the door for each event. Tickets may be purchased at the Evergreen Women's Center, Library 3214 or in the College Activities Building.

Scheduled with Ms. Reynolds Friday night is Naomi Littlebear and the URSA Minor Choir from Portland, Oregon. Saturday evening, beginning at 7 o'clock, Bellevue performers Maggie Savage and Jude Fogelquist will open the program, followed by pianist/songwriter Mary Watkins, a member of the Olivia Records Collective based in Los Angeles, and by Teresa Trull a North Carolina feminist songwriter.

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JUDY ANNIS, DIRECTOR
Information Services

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Sunday's 2-6:30 p.m. concert closes the festival with performances by Ginny Gales, a vocalist and songwriter accompanying herself on guitar and piano; and by Baba Yaga, a seven-member women's band from Portland performing Latin jazz and funk rock music.

Workshops, scheduled from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, concentrate on "the politics behind women's music, and offer an historical perspective of women's contributions in music." Todd says. Topics include writing feminist lyrics, building a culture to meet women's needs, working for the Olivia Records Collective, surviving in the music industry, and expressing third world women's concerns in women's music.

Workshops, which are free and open to community women, will also discuss technical aspects of music production, theory and performance.

Complete details on the Women's Music Festival are available at the Evergreen Women's Center, 866-6162 weekdays during working hours.