Rhythm Ukulele

OSHER 698-001
Dates: Tuesdays: October 13 – November 16
Time: 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Location: Online via Zoom
Instructor: Bill Stoye

Course Description:
This class will focus on learning new styles and rhythms for playing the ukulele, including strums, plucking and picking patterns, and breaking down rhythms and counting. Learn how dynamics and combining rhythms will breathe new life into songs. You should be at a comfortable beginner or advanced beginner level, ready to add some new songs and rhythmic styles to your repertoire. Bring your own ukulele and we'll play in standard (GCEA) tuning, low G preferred but not mandatory.

Course Overview:
Week 1: Posture (sitting and hand/arm), tuning the instrument, strap or no strap, hi G vs lo G string, introduce 2 songs, simple strums, straight vs swing rhythm, intro to new strum patterns, Q & A.

Week 2: Review fundamentals, expound on good habits/techniques, timing and tempo, isolating difficult chord transitions, 2 new songs, intro to “chunking”, what is syncopation?, intro to easy fingerstyle pattern, Q & A.

Week 3: Review fundamentals, review new styles, singing while playing, 2 new songs, integrating playing styles, intro to “plucking”, review, Q & A.

Week 4: Fundamentals reminder, review new styles, creating dynamics by utilizing new techniques, 2 new songs, demonstrate rhythmic options, intro pluck/strum combo, Q & A.

Week 5: Review fundamentals, review new styles, student play/give feedback, fingerstyle in 6/8 vs 4/4-time, 3 new song handouts, culminating all styles, Q & A.

Week 6: Course review, Q & A, all together, play, play, play!