



September 21, 2015
VSA Vermont uses the magic of the arts to engage the capabilities and enhance the confidence of children and adults with disabilities.

Behind the Scenes: *BOOM VT Drummers and Sponsors*

This year's drum festival will feature eight professional drummers and entertainers who have volunteered to share their expertise and love of drumming with our community. You can learn more about each drummer and the workshop, demonstration, or lesson that he will be offering below.



We are exceedingly grateful to our many sponsors, both monetary and in-kind, for their support of BOOM VT and VSA Vermont. We thank each one of them for giving freely to bring people with and without disabilities together through the joy of music and art.

[Drummers](#) | [Sponsors](#) |

Meet Our Drummers



Making Music with Disabilities with Peter Kriff: For over 31 years, Peter has been a jazz performer and Vermont Jazz Ensemble drummer. He serves as creative director of his own marketing and design agency and as executive director of the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), a citizens' council that funnels federal and state money to programs and services for people with disabilities. In this workshop, Peter will share his passion for music and his experience with adaptations that make it possible for him to continue to play the drums while living with a disability.

Make and Shake with Nic Cannizzaro: Nic is a professional orchestra musician and Juilliard graduate. He regularly plays with the VT Symphony and Springfield Symphony. Previously he performed with the NY Philharmonic and was on the national tour of Disney's Lion King. In this workshop, you'll learn how to make shakers and how to play various styles to keep the groove going! Nic will show you his various homemade shakers and give you ideas on how to make them for yourself. You'll experience how shakers can create a mood.



Conga Drumming with Bruce McKenzie: Bruce is the leader of Sambatucada!, a volunteer Brazilian Street Bateria. Started in 1995, Sambatucada! is known throughout Vermont. The group plays Afro-Brazilian rhythms: Samba, Samba-Reggae, Baião, and Maracatu. In this workshop, you'll experience the various hand shapes and sounds of a conga drum. Three different-sized instruments will be featured. And you'll learn about repetition and melody as you experiment individually and as part of a group.

Drumming in Community Lecture with Jeff Salisbury: Jeff has been a musician for fifty years and has played for Albert King and Cold Blood, Chuck Berry, Bo Diddley, Linda Tillery and many other rhythm, blues, and jazz artists. He is an original faculty member of Kosa International percussion workshops and has served as president of the Vermont Chapter of the Percussive Arts Society. In this workshop, Jeff will share information about the many ways music brings people together. He will lecture on the history of music in communities, sprinkling his stories with percussion demonstrations.



Percussion Workshop with Dov Schiller: Dov is a professional freelance drummer, percussionist, and timpanist. Dov attended the New England Conservatory of Music and is currently the Artistic Director and founding member of the Mt. Elmore Music and Arts Center. He enjoys playing with Cosa Buena Nueva, a 5-piece Jazz/Latin/World Band. Dov, who is a VSA Vermont teaching-artist, has been the instructor for Little BOOM VT for preschoolers at the Fletcher Free Library during September. He is gifted at linking quality children's literature with drumming activities.

Taiko Drum Demonstration with Stuart Paton. Stuart spent most of his childhood in Japan and became fascinated with the art of Taiko in first grade. In 1984, he began formally learning the art form. In 1986, he founded Burlington Taiko which has been mesmerizing audiences with its powerful, spellbinding, and propulsive sounds ever since. In this workshop, Stuart will demonstrate a number of Taiko drums and drumming techniques.





Driven: A Demonstration and Lecture with David Segal: David teaches drums at a top private school and has his own home studio for lessons and recording sessions. He has performed with the Simone Bolivar Big Band at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola at the Lincoln Center, leads his own trio, and is a freelance musician. He has played with many noted musicians. David, who was born with Arthrogyrosis, is a founding member of [Candomusos](#), an international organization that aims to promote and support musicians with any kind of disability.

René Pellerin and Damien Garcia: As emcee at last year's BOOM VT Drum Festival, René is no stranger to VSA Vermont. He recently served as a VSA VT teaching-artist at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts. René is well known nationally for his one man show *René the Unstoppable*. He is also a tireless advocate for people who are DeafBlind, Deaf, and Hard of Hearing. René and his grandson Damien, a fourth grader who enjoys communicating in American Sign Language (ASL) and mime, will be performing a piece together during our inclusive drum circle.



Other activities for the day include making and decorating bucket drums, painting to the sounds of drums, and exploring VSA Vermont's new sound-adapted Remo drum tables designed for people with sound sensitivities.

American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation will be provided, assistive listening devices will be available, and a verbal describer and sighted guides will be on hand for those with visual disabilities.

Come make joyous noise in the library. At BOOM VT, art beats for everyone.

Meet Our Sponsors

Here's a listing of businesses, foundations, and organizations that have helped BOOM VT become a reality. All deserve our thanks and credit for supporting BOOM VT as well as arts education programs for children and adults with disabilities.

- [Music Drives Us Foundation](#)
- Mervyn L. Brenner Foundation, Inc.
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We encourage you to shop these community-minded businesses and thank them for their support.

VSA Vermont is supported in part by the [Vermont Arts Council](#) and the [National Endowment for the Arts](#). VSA Vermont is a member of the VSA Affiliate Network, a program of the [John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts](#).

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