

Meet our Instructors for the 2022 Ola Belle Reed Songwriter's Retreat



[Cathy Fink](#) – Artistic Director - GRAMMY Award Winner, Cathy has won the John Lennon Songwriting Contest, International Songwriting Competition, Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Contest and has recorded 48 albums in her 48 year career, mostly with partner Marcy Marxer. Influenced by folks like Tom Paxton, Alice Gerrard, Pete Seeger and Ola Belle Reed, she writes what she wants in whatever style suits her from bluegrass to swing and from folk to rock. Her songs have been featured on NPR as commentaries and have helped propel the SHOUT AND SHINE diversity movement in the bluegrass world. She has been nominated for 12 consecutive GRAMMY Awards and her two GRAMMY's say "Artist, Engineer, Producer", but the title she likes best is "Social Music Conductor."

www.cathymarcy.com



[Pierce Freelon](#) is a Grammy-nominated musician, producer, and educator from Durham, North Carolina. He is the co-creator of Beat Making Lab, an Emmy Award-winning PBS web series and is the writer, composer and co-director of the PBS animated series The History of White People in America, an official selection of the Tribeca Film Festival. His critically acclaimed Children's Music has been featured on NPR, Today Show and MSNBC. In 2022, Little, Brown books will release his debut Children's book, Daddy Daughter Day.



[Alice Gerrard](#) - IBMA Lifetime Achievement Honoree, GRAMMY nominee and eclectic songwriter, Alice has mixed and matched her love of traditional Appalachian music with songwriting for over fifty years. Her duo with Hazel Dickens brought her to bluegrass notoriety, but her songwriting has been as eclectic as the many causes she cares about. Alice toured with Ola Belle Reed on the Southern Folk Cultural Revival tours and appeared together on many festivals and concerts. She is the subject of the new documentary, "You Gave Me A Song."



[John Cloyd Miller](#) is an award-winning songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and vocalist from Asheville, NC. A twelfth generation North Carolina native and the grandson of pioneering bluegrass fiddler, Jim Shumate, John also teaches applied traditional music and songwriting at Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, NC. He is 1st place winner of the prestigious Chris Austin Songwriting Contest and a recipient of an Artist Fellowship for songwriting by the North Carolina Arts Council. A long-time member of the vibrant Asheville music scene, John currently performs in the acclaimed duo Zoe & Cloyd with his wife, fiddler and vocalist Natalya Zoe Weinstein. The pair were recently featured in

Season 5 of the nationally syndicated PBS show, David Holt's State of Music, and their fourth album, Rebuild, was released in October 2021 on Organic Records.