**PRESS RELEASE / PSA**

***Release Date:***Prior to September 26, 2020

***Event:*** 26th Annual Harvest Festival of Dulcimers-ALL ONLINE

***Event Date****:*Saturday, September 26, 2020, 9AM - 8PM

***Features:***Workshops/Concert/Jams with Hammered & Fretted

 Dulcimers and other Folk Instruments

***Pre-Festival Jams****:* How to Jam/ Mellow Jam/ Up Tempo Jam – 3 choices,

 Friday, 9/25/20, 6:30-8:30pm

***Focus Workshop****:*  Mountain Dulcimer, Sunday,

 9/27/20, 10:00am-2:00pm,

***Focus Workshop****:*  Hammered Dulcimer Plus Mixed Instruments, Sunday,

 9/27/20, 10:00am-2:00pm,

***Organization:***Southern California Dulcimer Heritage (SCDH)

                            Non-Profit ID 33-0670996

***Location****:*               ALL ONLINE – VIA ZOOM

***Photos****:*                By request, or may be gleaned from SCDH website

***Information:***         714-534-2855      or      [www.scdh.org](http://www.scdh.org/)

***Comp. Passes****:*      Members of the Press/ Radio admitted free of charge

 w/Press ID

**Press Release / PSA**

**26th  ANNUAL DULCIMER FESTIVAL – ALL ONLINE** [Short version]

Enjoy folk music played on the ancient hammered dulcimer, the American fretted dulcimer and many other acoustic instruments! The Southern California Dulcimer Heritage nonprofit will be hosting its 26th annual Harvest Festival of Dulcimers Saturday, September 26, 2020, all ONLINE this year via ZOOM, from 9 AM until 8 PM.

The ticketed online Concert at 6 to 8 PM is also open to the public and will include the festival headliners, Tina Bergmann, hammered dulcimer, with Bryan Thomas on bass, and Neal Hellman, on mountain dulcimer.

Featured musicians will be Tina Bergmann, hammered dulcimer, from Ravenna, Ohio, and Neal Hellman, mountain dulcimer, from Felton, California. Both performers are nationally known dulcimer performers and instructors. Many excellent local players will also be teaching and leading the six specialized jams. The music jams/ playing circles will take place Friday, Sept. 25, 6:30 to 8pm, and also Saturday, Sept. 26, 3:30 to 5pm.

For those wanting to learn more, teaching workshops will go all day long, not only for dulcimers but also will include classes on ukulele, bodhran (Irish frame drum), ten songs with same chord changes, tinwhistle and a sing-along. Musicians young and old participate in the annual festival. For registration/ tickets & more information:

[www.scdh.org](http://www.scdh.org/); e-mail  dulcimer@scdh.org; call (714) 534–2855.

**PRESS RELEASE / PSA**

**26th  ANNUAL DULCIMER FESTIVAL – ALL ONLINE** [Longer version]

The Southern California Dulcimer Heritage group invites you to the 26th annual Harvest Festival of Dulcimers on Saturday, September 26, 2020. In addition to the workshops and concert on Saturday, there will be two special 4-hour focus workshops the next day taught by the featured performers and open to other acoustic instruments. Featured artists include: Tina Bergmann, hammered dulcimer virtuoso from Ravenna, Ohio and Neal Hellman, Mountain dulcimer expert from Felton, California.  Both musicians will be performing at the 6-8 pm Online Concert with Admission Price. In addition, over a dozen excellent local players will also be teaching, including mountain dulcimer legend Joellen Lapidus and Patti Amelotte, of So Cal hammered dulcimer acclaim.

All of the festival activities will be held online this year because of health concerns and policies. Many musicians have learned how to hold music activities remotely.

As always, there will be a variety of 'Other Workshops' - including ukulele, bodhran (Irish frame drum), ten songs with same chord changes, tinwhistle and a sing-along. Workshops will be taught by various members of the folk music and dulcimer communities in Southern California. Four+ tracks of dulcimer workshops will be given for all levels.  You’ll find a full range of topics and hands-on classes in the 18 workshops, plus six specialized jams. Friday night jams include a workshop on How to Jam for fretted dulcimers, a mellow jam and an up tempo jam. Saturday afternoon jams feature playing circles/ jams for both hammered dulcimers and fretted dulcimers as well as a finale all instrument Community Jam.

The ticketed online Concert at 6 to 8 PM Pacific Time is also open to the public and will include the festival headliners, Tina Bergmann, hammered dulcimer, with Bryan Thomas on bass, and Neal Hellman, on mountain dulcimer.

The annual SCDH Dulcimer Festival is one of very few California dulcimer festivals for both hammered and fretted dulcimers and draws participants from several states.  For tickets & more info: [www.scdh.org](http://www.scdh.org/); e-mail dulcimer@scdh.org; call (714) 534–2855.