

# CALLIOPE Rootz



## Calliope Board Member Wins Volunteer of the Year Award

Calliope is proud to announce that Margaret Cassidy, Vice President of the Calliope Board of Directors, was named Volunteer of the Year at the Greater Pittsburgh Art's Council's Work of Art Awards. The awards ceremony was held at the New Hazlett Theater and was followed by a reception at the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh.

Margaret has worked tirelessly for the Pittsburgh's arts community. In addition to her work with Calliope, she was recognized for her work with GPAC's Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts program through which she has served many clients, including sculptors, printmakers, and storytellers on issues as varied as labor, copyright, publishing, and contract law. We congratulate Margaret on this achievement and look forward to a new season with her on board.

(Above photo: GPAC CEO Mitch Swain, Margaret Cassidy, Calliope Managing Director Patricia Tanner)



# Blues at the Crossroads:

## Calliope Presents a Day of Blues Music Events with Steve James & Del Rey by Ernie Hawkins

On Sunday, September 30, Calliope will present Blues at the Crossroads—a day of blues music events at the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, featuring workshops, a fundraising dinner, and a concert with master musicians Steve James & Del Rey. I have known Steve and Del for quite a while now. We've worked together some, particularly lately at guitar camps and intersecting concerts, and they always amaze and delight me. They play music that is brilliant, passionate, hugely entertaining, deeply moving, and, even educational. Steve James is world famous for his acoustic Texas blues, slide guitar, blues mandolin, and exuberant performing. But the last few times we have worked together I have really come to love his originals. These will stick with you. He is one of the great roots songwriters of our generation. Del Rey is Ms. All Universe Resonator Boogie-Woogie Guitar Champ who also writes great, surprising songs. Then she picks up her resonator ukulele. I ask: when is the last time you have been simply delighted by—get this—acoustic ragtime-jazz-boogie-blues ukulele? Although Del was 13 when her hero the great Memphis Minnie died, she somehow manages to effortlessly reincarnate Minnie's spirit right before your very eyes. You will get a lot of history from both of these players. In fact you will get an experience which conjures another time. Individually they are pros, world class. Together they lift themselves, and the audience to some wholly new thing, like characters out of a traveling medicine show, a philosophical ragtime circus from the 1930's blowing through 2007. Jaws drop, hearts open. *I love Steve and Del and I urge you to go see them, you'll love them too.*

### An Outline of the Day's Events:

#### **Workshop: Blues Ukulele with Del Rey**

1:00-2:30pm (\$30 bring your own uke, \$40 workshop + a uke you can keep)

#### **Guitar Workshop with Steve James**

2:30-4:00pm (\$40-bring your guitar)

#### **Blues & BBQ Fundraising Dinner**

5:30pm (\$140, includes dinner, cocktails and preferred seating for the concert)

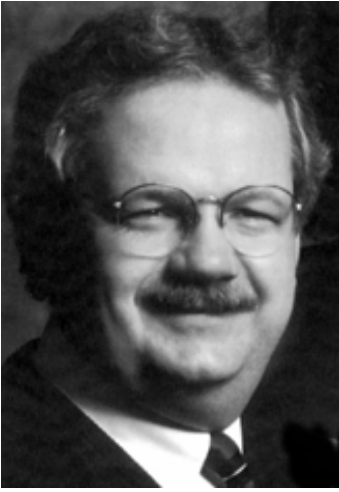
#### **Blues at the Crossroads Concert with Del Rey & Steve James (+opener Bill Weiner)**

Doors open 7:00pm, Concert starts 7:30pm (\$40 admission includes soda, beer and snacks)

To order tickets for the dinner and concert, order online at: [www.calliopehouse.org](http://www.calliopehouse.org).

To register for workshops, contact the Calliope office at 412-361-1915.

# Calliope Adds New Faces to Board of Directors



**Joe Switala** is a Project Executive/Senior Project Manager for the Massaro Corporation. Joe and his wife Carole are recent members of Calliope, but long time music lovers. Joe is a fundraising volunteer for a variety of organizations having to do with animals and the outdoors. “We just recently became involved with Calliope and I am very glad we did! We are enjoying every moment!” says Joe. “In joining the Calliope Board, I hope to contribute whatever skills I have that would be of service in promoting the well being of the organization!”



**Rush Miller** has served as University Librarian and Director of the University Library System at the University of Pittsburgh since 1994. Rush received a Ph.D. in Medieval English History from Mississippi State University, and an M.L.S. from Florida State. Before coming to Pitt, he was Dean of Libraries at Bowling Green State in Ohio for eight years. “I grew up in the South listening to all kinds of music from folk to rock n roll to country-the very roots of American music,” says Rush. “I am excited about helping to preserve and promote traditional American music through my involvement with Calliope!”



**Tom Bartnik** is an urban planner who has spent twenty years working on neighborhood redevelopment efforts. Tom and his family moved from Chicago eight years ago. Having been a member of the Old Town School of Folk Music in Chicago, Tom was happy to find Calliope and has been a concert series subscriber for the last six years.

**Tom Moore** is a Vice President and Wealth Advisor with Morgan Stanley. In addition to his work with Calliope, Tom is also a board member of Gateway to the Arts and of the Circles Board of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. “I love live music,” says Tom. “I grew up on my Dad’s Weavers, Pete Seeger, and Kingston Trio records...then bought my own Bob Dylan and ‘British invasion stars’ records.” Tom notes that he is especially looking forward to the Roches and Roger McGuinn concerts this season.

(Photos top to bottom:  
Joe Switala, Rush Miller,  
Tom Bartnick)

# Calliope Classes Open for Registration



Fall classes at the Calliope School are set to begin the week of September 17. Education Coordinator Emily Pinkerton has been busy this summer, adding new classes to the school's already diverse roster of music and dance. "We're very excited about our newest course offerings, which include Blues Improvisation, Songwriting with Heather Kropf, Steel String Theory and An American Sampler™, which is a collaboration with WYEP," she says. "Don't miss this opportunity to sharpen your skills, or to branch out to new styles and instruments!"

The Calliope School offers a variety of courses--including guitar, accordion, harmony singing and more. Check out [www.calliopehouse.org/school](http://www.calliopehouse.org/school) to view the full roster of Calliope classes.

Fall Classes begin Sept. 17  
For a full course listing, visit:  
[www.calliopehouse.org/  
school](http://www.calliopehouse.org/school)

You can register online  
(anytime day or night), call us  
(412-361-1915)  
or fax in your registration  
(412-361-1475).



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