

Join Us at the 22nd Annual United Way Bluegrass Benefit!

All proceeds go to United Way of Dane County

Madison, WI (January 18, 2023) – Enjoy a stellar lineup of bluegrass bands, while helping to make Dane County a better place to live, for all! Come to the **Barrymore Theatre at 1:00 pm on Sunday, February 19** for the **22nd Annual United Way Bluegrass Benefit**. We're pleased to showcase five bands and performers who will donate their time and talents – with all proceeds going to United Way of Dane County. Longtime United Way advocate Dave Kinney has organized this concert since its inception alongside musician Bob Batyko who co-leads the benefit and recruits the performers.

“United Way of Dane County connects so many nonprofits, businesses and residents together – and this concert is the perfect way to celebrate that,” said Kinney. “Bring your kids, your friends and yourself to enjoy local bands as they put on a great show for a great cause.”

Since 2001, this annual concert has grown in popularity among bluegrass fans and families who are looking for family activities on a winter afternoon. Thank you to Barrymore Theatre, Stephanie Benicek (Audio for the Arts), WORT 89.9 FM, WVMO 98.7 FM, Isthmus and the Sugar Maple Music Festival for their partnerships.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5-12. Children 5 and under are free. For families, there is a maximum cost of \$20.

Tickets are available at the door. Dane County health and safety protocols will be implemented. For more information on COVID-19 safety protocols and requirements, visit the [Barrymore Theatre website](#).

Program of Performers:

- 1:00 pm: **Annie and the Oakies**
- 2:00 pm: **Dave Landau, The King of Kids Music**
- 2:30 pm: **Cork 'n Bottle String Band**
- 3:30 pm: **Chicken Wire Empire; sponsored by Sugar Maple Music Festival**
- 4:30 pm: **The Sparetime Bluegrass Band**

For more information about the Bluegrass concert, contact Dave Kinney at searchoptimizers@gmail.com or (608) 206-4311. For more information about the performers, contact Bob Batyko at (424) 249-9945 or oldandshowingtheway@gmail.com. For all other media inquiries, please reach out to Ashley Manthei, Director of Communications at United Way of Dane County, at Ashley.manthei@uwdc.org or (608) 416-0401.

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About Dave Kinney

Dave Kinney worked at Oscar Mayer/Kraft Foods for 30 years in the Finance area before retiring in 1996. He volunteers with United Way READI (Retired Employees Are Dedicated Individuals) on various projects. The company rehired Dave for twelve years (2001-12) as a United Way Loaned Executive.

About United Way of Dane County

For 100 years, United Way of Dane County has mobilized the caring power of our community to create lasting change for multiple generations. With a mission to unite the community to achieve measurable results that change lives, we are committed to being a catalyst for inclusion and systemic change – working collaboratively with local nonprofits, businesses, community leaders, donors, volunteers and families to solve big-picture issues no one person or organization can address alone. Together, we are The Power of Many. Working for All. And we invite every Dane County resident to be a part of the change we all wish to see. Visit www.unitedwaydanecounty.org to learn more.