



# UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

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## CONNECTICUT

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## HARTFOLK FESTIVAL AT USJ CELEBRATES FOLK MUSIC



Photo Courtesy of Poor Old Shine

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (April 30, 2014) – The second annual Hartfolk Festival will take place on Saturday May 31, 2014 at the Bruyette Athenaeum at the University of Saint Joseph, located at 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, Conn. Hartfolk welcomes headlining act, Poor Old Shine, an Alt-Americana group from Mansfield, Conn. The night also includes craft and art vendors, a wine bar, an Open Mic, and performances by the KC Sisters, Kerri Powers, Rachael Sage, and Sam Moss.

The Hartfolk Festival begins with an Open Mic for the public at 4:00 p.m., followed by the concert at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$12 - \$22 and can be purchased by calling the Frances Driscoll Box Office at 860.231.5555 or online at [usj.edu/arts](http://usj.edu/arts).

Poor Old Shine adds the Hartfolk Festival to its impressive list of venues throughout the region. The band has played to increasingly appreciative audiences at the Kennedy Center for the Arts in Washington, DC; Club Passim in Cambridge, Mass.; Rockwood Music Hall in New York City; and Infinity Hall in Norfolk, Conn.

Hartfolk's theme this year comes from a Poor Old Shine song lyric: "Don't let your burden touch the ground." This uplifting notion will be an undercurrent throughout the night's events. Also performing are the KC Sisters, five sisters ages 10-16 years. Multi-talented and

diverse, their work features multi-harmonized vocals, instrumentals, country fiddling, acapella hymns, pop, jazz, standards, and country.

The Festival highlights a range of artists in its in-the-round songwriter set. Recent Connecticut transplant Kerri Powers' brings her smoky and intimate folk/blues to the stage, along with New York City multi-instrumentalist Rachael Sage. Sage and Powers will be joined by Sam Moss, who grew up in Connecticut, and has won high praise from NPR, Dusted, Pop Matters, and *Blurt* magazine, among others.

The Hartford Festival's Artistic Director Kate Callahan is impressed by the caliber of musicians applying to the festival each year. "Selecting just a few performers from such a strong pool is not easy," she says, "I chose this year's performers because collectively, they channel the past, present, and future of folk."

While the Hartford Festival focuses on the current folk music scene, the Bruyette Athenaeum Performing Arts Series has presented a cadre of veteran folk artists, including Judy Collins, Peter Yarrow, Tom Rush, Richie Havens, Janis Ian, Livingston Taylor, and Jimmy Webb.

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*The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master's and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 22 majors and six pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at [www.usj.edu](http://www.usj.edu).*

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