

## HILL AND HOLLOW MUSIC ARTIST RETREAT GUIDELINES

### BACKGROUND AND PHILOSOPHY:

After presenting a formal concert series and related outreach for many years, we were suffering from burn-out and longing for change. We took a year off to sort things out and get some perspective. We realized that we would like to keep music alive in our personal life and to share it with our community, but what we really like is *process*. We enjoy interacting with the artists and facilitating their music-making, while ensembles have always enjoyed their time on our farm and in our community. We analyzed what we have to offer while we pondered what might be useful to artists, and we decided to go in a new direction by offering rural retreats for ensembles. We believe we have an appealing situation that allows *creativity and synergy* to happen.

Periodically an ensemble needs something special and different. Some have been living in cramped urban apartments and need an escape from the freelance rat-race. Some have been living out of a suitcase on the touring treadmill and can't remember where they performed the night before. Some ensembles' members live scattered all over the globe, and it becomes a challenge to schedule rehearsal periods in one location. These are only a few reasons why a retreat can be a valuable experience for an ensemble.

### OUR RESOURCES AVAILABLE:

- Large rambling 1840's farmhouse, completely renovated:
  - four bedrooms (2 queen, 1 double, 1 twin)
  - three baths
  - roomy eat-in kitchen fully equipped including dishwasher
  - gracious dining room
  - spacious, high-ceilinged 20' x 20' music room with Baldwin 6-foot grand piano
  - large deck overlooking meadow and forest
  - living room with spinet piano
  - laundry room
  - two-car garage
  - additional sleeping capacity possible with limited privacy: a queen sofa-bed and two very comfortable twin day-beds located in music room and living room.
- Meals: we stock the fridge and pantry with basics supplies in consultation with ensemble in addition to providing some meals like soups, casseroles, etc.
- Housekeeping: we provide bedding and towels
- Internet Access
- 1925 Steinway model D piano (9' grand) housed in historic church where most Hill and Hollow concerts were presented – beautiful acoustics for recording or live concert
- Recording engineers with state-of-the-art equipment and expertise
- Appreciative audience we have cultivated for 15 years

*To view photo-gallery, in-depth description, and monetary value of house, please go to [www.adkbyowner.com](http://www.adkbyowner.com) and click "Vacation Rentals," "Northern Region," and "Saranac."*

### **EXTRA-MUSICAL RECREATION:**

- On our property, miles of groomed paths through fields and woods for walking, snow-shoeing, and nordic skiing
- Beautiful river and lakes within minutes nearby for swimming and paddling
- Adirondack Mountain Club groomed trails to hike and Nature Conservancy interpreted sites to explore nearby
- 300-acre New Land Trust 5 minutes away offers 87 miles of groomed gentle trails for walking, snow-shoeing, and nordic skiing

### **ENSEMBLE EXPECTATIONS:**

- Coordinate own transportation: own car is preferable
- Provide an informal performance (Ideally, to share with us informally what you have been working on during your retreat in a flexible format, such as a house concert soirée for 20± patrons; a free & open community concert in a public venue; a lecture-performance for adults held at a public library or college; or a school presentation)
- Respectful care of house for duration: keeping up with daily housekeeping (doing own dishes and sorting trash according to local recycling laws)

### **ENSEMBLE ELIGIBILITY:**

- Emerging professional ensembles (whose members have completed their formal education with B.A., B.M., M.M. degrees or performer certificates)
- Mid-career professional ensembles that have had recent personnel changes
- Newly formed professional ensembles whose members are mid-career artists
- Established professional ensembles

*If in doubt about eligibility, please contact us*

### **LINKS TO USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND REGION:**

<http://www.adkbyowner.com> (Adirondack by Owner, sales and vacation rentals: view photo-gallery, in-depth description, and monetary value of our guest house)

<http://www.newlandtrust.org> (287-acre preserve, 5 minutes away, with 87 miles of groomed gentle trails for hiking and skiing)

<http://www.townofsaranac.com> (About the township in which we are located)

<http://northcountrypublicradio.org> (Our region's public radio station)

<http://www.adk.org> (Adirondack Mountain Club official site)

<http://www.nature.org/adirondacks> (Nature Conservancy-Adirondack Chapter official site)

<http://www.adirondacktrailhead.com> (More Adirondack interest and news)