Songwriters-in-the-Round, Feb. 15

Sean Goodwin & Ashly Hernandez, Staff Writers | Posted: Monday, February 12, 2018 3:23 pm

The Music Department is presenting the Songwriters-in-the-Round concert that will showcase professional musicians and their original works.

The producer of the event, Professor Arthur Winer, brought together eight musicians to participate in the concert that will debut 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15 in the Music Recital Hall.

“I always try to find some young, up and coming singer/songwriters,” Winer said.

The event brings a night of various music styles, since each musician comes from a different background.

Performing songwriters will consist of Keaton Simons, Mara Connor, Eleni Mandell, Bleu McAuley, Sarah Lentz, Sonja Midtune, Kelly Jones and Winer.

One of the star performers of the night will be Vicki Peterson, one of the founding members and lead guitarist of “The Bangles.”

Not everyone knows who “The Bangles” are, but some of their hits include, “Walk like an Egyptian,” “Eternal Flame” and “Manic Monday” to name a few.

Peterson has performed on campus before, and this is a great opportunity for students to learn from someone currently in the music industry.

Jones is one of the veteran musicians who has been part of the department for several years.

Thursday will be one Jones’s last performances on campus before she moves to Portland, Ore.

“Kelly Jones taught songwriting here for about five years,” Winer said. “This is her farewell.”

The concert will also feature new songwriters from professional and nonprofessional backgrounds.

Eleni Mandell is one of the musicians who will perform at CPP for the first time.

Mandell is a well-established musician who will bring her expertise to all aspiring music students.
“Eleni Mandell is our new songwriting teacher,” Winer said. “Kelly Jones and Eleni Mandell have big careers outside of CPP. “They perform all over the world.”

Another musician debuting at the Songwriters-in-the-round is Lentz.

Lentz had an extensive career centered in New York City, N.Y. before moving here.

Musicians like Simons have a history of playing with other musicians and like to bring an exciting performance to their audience.

“Keaton is a great guitarist,” Winer said. “He’s always loved to jump in and play guitar for other people.”

Tickets for the concert are $10 for students, and all proceeds will go towards helping The Music Department host similar events in the future.