

Lewis Alan Gelfond Short bio

Musical expertise, diversity and experience are what I bring to my performances with classical ensembles, jazz, swing, bluegrass, country, and specialty ethnic music. I have been a performer teacher, dance caller and independent booking agent for 25 years. Today I am well versed in many styles of music on fiddle/violin, mandolin, guitar and banjo; including Irish and Scottish music, country, swing, cajun, tango, ragtime, Scandinavian and gypsy music.

I have instructed fiddle students at the Greyfox Bluegrass Festival Academy for kids, taught teen arts workshops and teach violin and mandolin privately. Since I was 8 I have played classical viola. At 23 I took up violin/fiddle, mandolin, fiddle and guitar. Since I was 35 I have performed hundreds of assembly programs for children of all ages. Lew worked for Encore Entertainment with Richard Stillman performing school assemblies and workshops. Lew has studied as a classical violist with teachers from the Philadelphia Orchestra, Boston Symphony and Manhattan School of music.

Lew was part of a group of blue grass and old time musicians for years in the Philly area around Media, PA known as the "Rural Rhythm String Band". Lew has lived and played in Richmond, VA where he won talent competitions and performed at the universities and clubs. Lew played in country rock band "Freewheelin'" in New Jersey. Lew played in the Colorado mountain band "Go For Broke" all over the Western Slope at clubs in Vail, Steamboat Springs and Aspen. This band became the house band at the Glenwood Springs Hotel in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Lew toured France twice, giving over 50 concerts and leading dance workshops with his band "The Hotfoot Travellers" playing country swing and bluegrass music.