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Ferndale Library's Free Summer Concert Series

Featuring **Klezundheit**

**Tuesday, August 9 @ 6:30 pm**

Hosted in the library's courtyard (weather permitting)

FREE / ALL AGES

More info: <https://www.fadl.org/klezundheit>

### **Ferndale Library Hosts Free Concert Featuring Klezmer Ensemble Klezundheit**

*All-ages event perfect for fans of traditional klezmer music, Israeli dance music, modern Balkan, and jazz*

**FERNDALE, Mich. (July 27, 2022)**-- The Ferndale Library's annual Summer Concert Series welcomes Klezundheit to their courtyard on Tuesday, August 9, for a free, all-ages performance starting at 6:30 pm. Klezundheit was formed in 2014 to play traditional and modern klezmer, Balkan, and jazz music; it was the brainchild of Ken Posner of West Bloomfield and his son Alan of Berkley.

The Posner family has always been interested in klezmer music: Alan, together with his brother Jeremy (clarinet), and his cousins Justin Wedes (trombone and piano) and Erica Wedes (trumpet), were among the founding members of a local klezmer band for kids in the mid-90s. Klezundheit is essentially the grown-up iteration of that previous band. Klezmer is any traditional eastern European Jewish music—it is typically associated with dancing and has its own unique rhythms, arrangements, and harmonies, utilizing instruments like the tuba, flute, and harmonica. The term “klezmer” combines the Hebrew words for a vessel (“kley”) and melody (“zemer”)

Ken Posner said that Klezundheit gave him an opportunity that he never thought he would get: “I had played the trumpet all through high school and college, but I hadn't touched it for almost 35 years. As I watched and encouraged Alan to grow as a musician and educator, I dreamed that someday we might get a chance to play in a band together. It is really a dream come true. “

The band assembled by Alan is infused with a strong sense of family: Alan's wife Michelle is the flutist; Gail Posner (Alan's mom and Ken's wife) is the dance leader. The rest of the group includes pianist David Rogers, violinist David Reed, bassist/harmonicist Glen Gardner, tubaist Matt Adler, percussionist Dan Maslanka, accordionist Cheri Whalen, and saxophonist Dave Lurie. Several of these band members are either private music instructors or band/orchestra directors for local schools.

During their engaging performances, this talented ensemble has been known to infuse other genres into their sets, such as jazz (embracing virtuosic improvisation) and Balkan music (featuring complex rhythmic patterns).

Ferndale Library's special summer series of outdoor concerts are a centerpiece of its annual summer programming; these all-ages musical events are made possible by the Friends of the Ferndale Library. More info: [www.ferndalefriends.org](http://www.ferndalefriends.org)

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