

Keith Baumann  
The Hard Times Bluegrass Band

This is an opportunity to experience Bluegrass music, one of the few truly American musical art forms. With songs and tales of America's rich culture and history, Bluegrass utilizes a unique instrumentation and format to create its unmistakable sound. Keith Baumann and the Hard Times Bluegrass Band present an up-tempo performance that combines musical performance, visual demonstration, audience participation and spoken word.

Participants will learn about the historical roots of the music from its Scottish and Irish beginnings to its integration into American culture. The group will also demonstrate and discuss each instrument, describing its musical role within the group.

Keith Baumann and The Hard Times Bluegrass Band is made up of professional musicians, each with over 30 years of performing and teaching experience. They have entertained at major festivals, showcases, and concert halls throughout the United States. Keith Baumann is a master guitar, dobro, banjo and mandolin player who teaches various instruments and styles, including bluegrass, country and Jazz. The Hard Times Band has also been presenting a successful Bluegrass Music program for Chicago schools through Urban Gateways for 10 years.

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