

# JOHN MCCUTCHEON

## HOME FOR THANKSGIVING



**NOVEMBER 27, 2020 AT 7:00 PM**  
**STREAMED EVENT**

Join John McCutcheon in giving thanks this holiday. Due to his deep connection to SJU ('74) and his long history of performing as part of the Fine Arts Series, John has extended a special invitation to our audiences to take part in his *Home for Thanksgiving* concert, hosted through a new music streaming service called Mandolin.

A master instrumentalist, singer, songwriter, storyteller, activist and author, John is folk music's renaissance man with a knack for simple songs told with literary craft, charming wit and pure heart. John has earned six Grammy nominations for his eclectic catalog of American folk music.

This performance is presented in partnership with FARM, a regional chapter of Folk Alliance International, the leading international voice for folk music. All ticket proceeds will be divided to support John McCutcheon, FARM and the Fine Arts Series at SJU.

## CONNECT

TOPICS AND THEMES THIS EXHIBITION ENGAGES WITH:

- Peace Studies
- Music & Folk Music
- Strings
- Regional American Culture
- Storytelling
- Political Science

## ARTIST WEBSITE

[John McCutcheon](#)

[McCutcheon Virtual  
Concert](#)

[McCutcheon's Book:  
Flowers of Sarajevo](#)

## QUESTIONS

Folk music reflects local tradition and culture. It is one of the ways small, unique communities retain some of their characteristics.

- How is your culture reflected in traditional song?
- Experiencing and understanding other cultures has become increasingly valuable in our globalized community today; what can you learn from other cultures? This performance?
- How could you share your culture through artistic expression? What would it look or sound like?

Much of McCutcheon's music is focused in political action and social consciousness. McCutcheon says, "I've been writing stuff that takes a sideways view of a lot of the political climate."

- How do you hear these themes in McCutcheon's music?
- Can you think of any other artists that use their art to explore political or social issues?
- How can you use artistic expression to support political or social issues?
- During limited contact due to COVID-19, the arts can act as a medium to reach new audiences. Have you experienced any new forms of art during the past few months?

John McCutcheon is also a popular children's book author and has published several books. He says, "stories might give additional tools to our children as they learn to navigate the rocky shoals of this world."

- McCutcheon uses stories to pass along knowledge and advice. Can you think of a story you learned a lesson from?
- Did you have a favorite story as a child? How have the themes from those childhood stories impacted your life?
- Does the purpose of storytelling change as you age? If so, how? If not, why?