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AES Audio Engineering Society - Pacific Northwest Section

Around the Puget Sound, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.

April Meeting Notice
Recording Songs with Caspar Babypants
Presented by
Caspar Babypants
Writer, Musician, Producer
and the
AES PNW Section
ZOOM MEETING 6:00PM PDT (UTC -7)
Wednesday, 7 April, 2021

Seattle-based artist Caspar Babypants has released 18 albums of clever, catchy, and irresistible music for children since 2009. The mastermind behind Caspar Babypants is Chris Ballew, who first gained national notoriety in the '90s with the group The Presidents of the United States of America. Ballew records and produces the Caspar Babypants albums at his studio where he works and occasionally collaborates with other musicians. Across his catalog of recordings he has created a unique high-

fidelity sound with both acoustic and electronic instruments that remains remarkably consistent across all of his albums. At this meeting, participants will get a chance to learn from Ballew about his approach to recording albums and get an inside look at the artist at work in his studio. We encourage families, children, and people of all ages to attend this online meeting. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions and talk with Ballew about his musical legacy.



Caspar Babypants

WHO? Caspar Babypants is also known as Chris Ballew. Chris is the three time Grammy nominated songwriter and lead singer for the four times platinum Seattle based rock and roll band *The Presidents of the United States of America*.

WHAT? Caspar Babypants makes high quality, thoughtful, simple, acoustic sing along songs for parents and kids 0 to 6 years old to enjoy together. In addition he writes children's books with his wife Kate Endle. Kate illustrates the books and creates the cover art for the Caspar Babypants albums.

WHEN? Caspar began writing songs for kids in the summer of 2008 and put out his debut record in 2009. The 18th album "HAPPY HEART!" came out on 11/13/20. There are also a bunch of books written by Caspar and illustrated by his wife Kate Endle. "My Woodland Wish" and "Bunny Rabbit In The Sunlight" were published in 2011 and a third book called "Augie to Zebra" came out in 2012. There are two new books titles "Penguin On A Scooter" and "Ocean Motions" both of which came out in 2018.

WHY? Caspar says: "Having young children is a joyous and unforgettable experience. However, the home of new parents can also be a stressful, sleepless and nervous environment. That is why I make music that is a positive, helping component in the home and car where young families spend a lot of time together. I want to help parents sing to and with their children and provide a shared happy musical experience for the whole family. I specifically want to make music for newborn to 5 year old kids because I admire their associative, inventive imaginations and as an adult I nurture that same creativity and state of mind in myself." Caspar is also involved with several non-profits that focus on parent education and outreach to neglected and abused kids and homeless families.

WHERE? Caspar Babypants lives in West Seattle and Vashon Island by the beach and in the woods where the songs are.

More Fun Stuff

BabyPantsMusic.com

THIS EVENT IS FREE, OPEN TO ALL, AND AES MEMBERSHIP IS NOT REQUIRED

[EventBrite Link](#)

PNW AES Zoom Meetings

We started holding our meetings via Zoom beginning with the April 2020 meeting. Zoom has dramatically increased our reach, well beyond our Section's geographic area. Since doing this, we've had attendees from Canada, and as far away as Indonesia, and Australia. Zoom gives the ability to record our meetings, and those recordings will be posted in our past meetings Archive. For now, video from our Zoom meetings can be found (mostly) at Dan Mortensen's [YouTube channel](#).

We use EventBrite to manage our free tickets to meetings. You need to RSVP for yours via the following link. The Zoom URL will appear on the virtual ticket for the event. Copy it down!

[EventBrite Link](#)

When you register at EventBrite and when you enter the Zoom meeting, please use your real first and last names so we can get to know each other. You do NOT need to create an EventBrite account to register.

Please Note

In order to maintain decorum and avoid interruptions, even unintended ones, we have established a few ground rules for meeting attendees:

1. We want to see your full name on display in Zoom at the meeting.
2. All audience audio and video will be muted for the duration of the event.
3. The presenter will determine if they can accept questions during the presentation, or wait until specific Q&A times, and that will be announced at the beginning of the meeting. (We often use the "chat" feature to allow attendees to ask questions when they think of them, with moderators passing them on to the presenter at the appropriate time.)
4. Based on our experience with no-shows, we reserve the right to issue more tickets than available slots. We don't want to turn people away based on inaccurate estimates of attendance, but we do have budgetary limits to the number of slots we can make available. If we reach capacity before you log in, we regret that we have no way to expand capacity at the last minute.
5. It would be good if you watched the chat stream during the meeting. Not only is it a way to submit questions to the presenters, but it's also a way for others to contact you personally. You have the option there to direct your comment to anyone who is part of the meeting as well as to one person in particular.

Finally, in the rare instance of behavior by an attendee that moderators believe is disruptive, we reserve the right to immediately eject such attendees.

Tea* Time Topics every Saturday, 3:30pm (Pacific) to 6:30pm A Virtual Zoom meeting



Former Chair Dan Mortensen started the custom of people introducing themselves at our meetings. The breadth and depth of your skills and interests led to Dan wanting a more in-depth kind of presentation but without the preparation needed for a full-on meeting.

The idea behind these events is that "Audio" is a big subject with many specialties, and at our meetings we all focus together on one subject. When we do our self-introductions as part of our meetings, it's ALWAYS fascinating to hear about the kinds of things our audience members do to manifest their love of audio.

Dan thought it would be fun to create an event where the meeting IS the audience members' descriptions of what you do, preferably with pictures/recordings/movies or whatever will help you convey to us what you're up to/interested in/want to learn more about.

Format

The TTT meetings take place each Saturday afternoon via Zoom, and will continue for the foreseeable future, if not beyond. If things open up and people start getting busy again, we'll adjust the schedule. We've been doing this for several months now, and the topics have been varied and interesting. Here is a [summary \(click here\)](#) of the topics we've explored since we began in May.

Registration to attend Tea* Time Topics

You will need to register by contacting Dan via [When you register](#), please give your real first and last name.

Note that these Tea* Time Topics events are in addition to our normal 10 times/year (not in July or August) Section meetings and not a replacement for them.

Footnote: *This is Dan's normal time for tea. You may have whatever refreshments you wish, but if you get unruly/belligerent you'll be bounced without apology.

Greg Dixon

AES PNW 2020-2021 Section Chair

n.b. *The material presented at our meetings is the opinion of the presenter and not necessarily that of the Society. You are encouraged to conduct your own research and to form your own opinions before adopting the presented material as Truth.*

Last modified 03/14/2021 2100hrs.