

# TED<sup>x</sup> Greenville // 2012: Breakthrough

x = independently organized TED event

## Speakers & Performers

Breakthrough discoveries, technologies, ideas and talent.

**3.30.12 Kroc Center**

in downtown Greenville

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tickets and info: [www.TEDxGreenville.org](http://www.TEDxGreenville.org)

 @TEDxGreenville

 [www.facebook.com/TEDxGreenvilleSC](http://www.facebook.com/TEDxGreenvilleSC)

## Who



Alchemy Improv Comedy

## In Their Own Words

al-che-my [ˌɑːlkəˈmiː] process of transforming something common into something special. Alchemy Comedy entertains audiences every Friday with fully improvised shows and different guests each week. We are also committed to teaching the art of comedy and have classes starting all the time.

[alchemycomedy.com](http://alchemycomedy.com)

## Snapshot

Improv Comedy



Vinnie Angel

Vinnie Angel is an artist/filmmaker best known for putting “the men back in menstruation” as the creator of Vinnie’s Tampon Cases. His ongoing societal interventions employ creative strategies to subversively snag young people into engaging in transformative dialogs about entrenched social issues.

[vinnieangel.com](http://vinnieangel.com)

Instigating Voluntary Transformations



Ian Belknap

Ian Belknap is founder and Overlord of WRITE CLUB, the nation’s premiere competitive philanthropic readings series, with chapters in Chicago, Atlanta, and SF, LA and NY on the way, and interest in many other cities. To date, volunteer-run WC has given over \$7K to charity.

[ianbelknap.com](http://ianbelknap.com)

Write Club



The Bent Strings

This young group from Greenville, SC wows crowds with a unique blend of progressive folk rock, jazz, and americana. Influenced by groups such as Nickel Creek, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Acoustic Syndicate and The Strokes, The Bent Strings launch out where these groups leave off, offering audiences tight and energetic covers and fresh originals.

[thebentstrings.com](http://thebentstrings.com)

Folk, rock, jazz, americana



Dr. Steve Bronack

*Info coming soon!*

[cv.bronack.net](http://cv.bronack.net)

SimHub Tech Demo

## Who

## In Their Own Words

## Snapshot



Dr. Juan E. Gilbert

Dr. Juan E. Gilbert is an IDEaS Professor and Chair of the Human-Centered Computing Division in the School of Computing at Clemson University where he leads the HCC Lab. He is also a Professor in the Automotive Engineering Department at Clemson University.

[juangilbert.com](http://juangilbert.com)

Voting Machine for Everyone



Carol Hamilton

Carol Hamilton is an expert at leveraging interior environments. She is the author of Feng Shui Coaching as well as the editor of Demystifying Homeopathy, A Concise Guide for Perspective Clients, by Jacob Mirman, M.D. She holds professional certifications in coaching, classical homeopathy, and Reiki. Through corporate trainings and residential consultations Carol has been helping clients thrive for the past fifteen years. As a proponent of education she offers a pro bono program to all schools. She lives with her family in Greenville, SC.

[carolhamiltonlive.com](http://carolhamiltonlive.com)

Creating Inspirational Environments



Irma Luna

As a young girl, Irma developed a passion for helping people who are limited in the English language. This passion helped her to realize the lifelong dream of becoming a multilingual medical interpreter. She recently fulfilled another dream, that of being a published author. She has been married 29 years to her high school sweetheart. She is also mother of three adult children, grandmother of a 3 year old grandson, and a proud mother-in-law of a brave Army soldier, and a new wonderful daughter-in-law.

Full Circle



Christoph Kresse

Christoph Kresse (AKA Saki Bomb) is an instrumental/electronica music artist, producer, sound designer and DJ, originally from Hamburg, Germany, located in South Carolina USA. His musical styles can probably be best described as a mix of Ambient, Worldtronica, Experimental and Electronica music. A multi-instrumentalist, Saki Bomb is known for his unique use of Scottish bagpipes. He also records and samples percussion, drums, programmed drum machines and synthesizers. In addition to instrumental tracks he also samples field recordings and incorporates these into his music.

[sakibomb.bandcamp.com](http://sakibomb.bandcamp.com)

Electronica

## Who



Mac Arnold & Plate Full O' Blues

## In Their Own Words

Max Hightower, harmonica, keyboard, rhythm guitar.  
Austin Brashier, singer & lead guitar.  
Mike Whitt, drummer.  
Danny Keylon, back up singer & bass player.  
Mac Arnold, lead singer, bass player, gas can guitar & slide gas can guitar.  
[macarnold.com](http://macarnold.com)

## Snapshot

Blues



Jennifer Jane Pickering

Jennifer Pickering's mission is to connect cultures and people through music and arts. Since 1995, she has served as the Executive Director and founder of the non-profit organization LEAF. During this time, she has produced 34 festival events, presented over 3,000 performing artists, created the local arts in education program LEAF in Schools & Streets which has empowered over 27,000 under-served youth through the arts, and started 9 cultural music programs in 8 countries through LEAF International.  
[theleaf.org](http://theleaf.org)

Living Life As a Festival



Glenis Redmond

Glenis Redmond is a nationally renown poet with South Carolina roots. She is a poet-activist that started the first poetry slam in downtown Greenville in the 90s-- taking the first all women's slam to the National Poetry Slam in Middletown, CT. As an individual Glenis placed in the top three at Nationals and was a two time Southern Fried Slam Champion. Glenis now travels 150 -170 days a year performing and teaching her fiery brand of healing poetry. She walks in all the worlds of poetry: the page and the stage. Glenis believes poetry is the mouth that speaks when all other mouths are silent.  
[glenisredmond.com](http://glenisredmond.com)

Saved By Poetry



[syntax.the.terrific](http://syntax.the.terrific)

A rapper of more than twenty years experience in traditional music recording and performance. But, over the last two years has devoted himself to a new enterprise. Advancements in self-recording and self-publishing now permit contemporaneous cultural and news commentary set to music. A song blog.  
[thepressjunket.com](http://thepressjunket.com)

Song blogging

## Who

## In Their Own Words

## Snapshot



Sirius B

Asheville's absurdist gypsy folk punk band plays instruments you've never heard: charango and melodic, along with accordion and cello.  
[siriusbmusic.com](http://siriusbmusic.com)

Absurdist gypsy folk punk



Caleb Suttles

Caleb Suttles is a filmmaker from Anderson, South Carolina and a student at Clemson University. His first film "Pre-Do: Foresight in 20/20" was a collection of sage advice from adults across the upstate, and was featured by WYFF News 4 and The Greenville Journal upon release in 2011. He remains prolific, and plans a release of his second film in 2012.  
[calebsuttles.com](http://calebsuttles.com)

Pre-Do



John Tynan

John Tynan is Deputy Director at Upstate Forever, a regional conservation non-profit. He oversees all programmatic and outreach efforts of the organization, including land protection, air & water advocacy, and regional planning initiatives. John also serves as a commissioner for Greenville Water.  
[upstateforever.org](http://upstateforever.org)


Market-Driven Sustainability



Janie Smith Dillard

Janie Smith Dillard is an Upstate theatre veteran who has embodied Aunt Eller in "Oklahoma," Ouiser in "Steel Magnolias," and too many other quirky characters to remember. Her love of theatre began in a second grade production where she shared the stage with her future husband, Ronny. If they don't kill each other before July 20th, Janie and Ronny will celebrate 47 years of wedded bliss. They have a daughter, a grandson, and in their spare time, they rescue feral cats.

Ungirdled Truths

Who	In Their Own Words	Snapshot
 Watson's Riddle	Watson's Riddle is a dynamic new instrumental group formed in Upstate, South Carolina by veteran guitarist Steve Watson and original Marshall Tucker Band drummer Paul T. Riddle with legendary pianist Chuck Leavell (Allman Brothers Band, Sea Level, Rolling Stones) and top-notch bassist Tim Lawter (Marshall Tucker Band). <a href="http://watsonsriddle.com">watsonsriddle.com</a>	Contemporary Jazz
Speaker tbd	Want to know where the world's largest EV Ecosystem is being built? Greenville, South Carolina. Learn more about what this means for the Upstate and for you.	The World's Largest EV Ecosystem

## TEDxGreenville Sponsors

### TEDxGreenville 2012 Premier Sponsor



Special thanks to TEDxGreenville's 2012 *Premier Sponsor* Greenville Hospital System, whose generous support was instrumental in making this year's big event possible for our community. Please take a moment to learn a bit more about GHS and the many ways their organization serves the Upstate at [www.ghs.org](http://www.ghs.org).

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