

# Everyone for Pangea

Musicians gather to help youth.



**A**n all-star cast of musicians seeking to inspire activism and giving will join forces for a benefit concert Thursday at McDonald Theatre. Eugene resident Matt Butler, formerly of Jambay, founded the **Everyone Orchestra** in 2001, consisting of a core group of musicians — the

“Core-tet.” Bassist Damian Erskine, keyboardist and electronics guru Asher Fulero (Surrounded By Ninjas) and electric guitarist Scott Law (Hanuman), along with drummer Butler create a foundation for improvisations, while former Leftover Salmon-er Tye North “conducts” various parts of the performance

via cue cards and hand signals.

A revolving cast of guest musicians enhances the Everyone Orchestra at each sporadic performance. This time the ensemble welcomes some incredible talents: Phish drummer Jon Fishman, banjoist/slide guitarist Tony Furtado, Garaj Mahal bassist Kai

Eckhardt, former vocalist/percussionist for The Motet Jans Ingber, vocalist/guitarist Libby Kirkpatrick and vocalist/guitarist/poetess Maya Dorn.

The pleased beneficiaries of The Everyone Orchestra’s kindness is Pangea Project, a Portland-based leadership development group “engaging youth from low-income families in creating solutions to social and environmental issues that confront their communities through local and international service-projects that share a common theme.” The name Pangea inspires an image of a reunited world, an image the Project’s founders hope will instill youth with a sense of positive impact.

An Everyone Orchestra performance is not just a run-of-the-mill show. Butler reveals “in every show there are highlighted mini-sets with members of various collectives playing their songs, and a number of jams with a mix of the players from small to medium-sized collectives.” These mini-sets culminate in an extended jam, with everyone together on stage following the conducting of North, which might include suggestions for time changes, musical style, emotion, or even actions. Improvisational grooves and playful interaction between band, conductor and audience is key in this unique concept group of musicians bringing about positive change. The evening will also feature a guest speaker, environmentalist **Julia “Butterfly” Hill**.

The McDonald hosts an exciting night of music on Friday as well, as **The Derek Trucks Band** takes the stage. The perenni-

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