

40th Summer Music Camp 2023



Class Descriptions

Vocal classes:

SATB choir (Trish Plumley): Here is a chance to explore, expand and enjoy your choral journey at camp. SATB stands for "Soprano Alto Tenor Bass", and so anyone who can sing (that's everyone!) can join this class. Women with low voices are welcome to sing tenor. A mix of technique, reading and musical fun learning various songs. Join us and sing as if no one is watching!!!

Celtic singing (Amy Stephen): Vocalists of all levels are welcome and music reading is not essential as many of the songs will be learned following the 'oral tradition' (with lyrics provided).

Vocal jazz (Frances Roberts): Explore swing, Latin, blues and a cappella vocal jazz styles in three- to six-part harmony. If you want to groove a bit while you sing, go ahead! No previous jazz experience necessary. Double bass and drum-set players also welcome!

Choir (Lars Kaario): Everyone is encouraged either to sing in the large choir or to play in the orchestra (see 'Choral Orchestra') which accompanies it. This year the group will perform Vivaldi's *Gloria*.

Choral sectional (Frances Roberts, Lars Kaario, Marco del Rio): These rehearsals focus on helping singers in each of the four choral sections (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) to learn the notes, to work on phrasing and to practise the pronunciation of their individual part of the choral work.

Drop-in singing (Frances Roberts): A mix of global music: rounds from around the world, some 3- and 4-part African songs. It will be primarily acapella singing, improvising and harmonizing. No experience necessary.

Voices Only (Geordie Roberts): The A, B, C's of vocal technique. Monday: breathing, posture, alignment. Tuesday: placement, vowels. Wednesday: increasing range. Thursday: applying concepts to repertoire. Friday: vocal health. If you would like to come to only a few sessions, that is OK.

Instrumental classes

Guitar/Ukulele (Adrian Verdejo): Learn the most common chords and strumming techniques for both guitar and ukulele and have fun strumming and singing together! Some guitars available to borrow but please bring your own ukulele.

Beginner/Intermediate Celtic (Amy Stephen): For C instruments – violin/fiddle, penny whistle, flute, recorder, cello, viola, acoustic guitar and ukuleles (mainly using G / Em / D / Bm / C / Am & related chords). Tunes are all played at a slow speed and are repeated daily for learning. This year we'll also learn a tune by ear only. Sheet music for the tunes is available on Amy's website at <https://www.amystephenmusic.com/wcams-tunes-2023.html>.

Advanced Celtic Instrumental (Amy Stephen): We will play the tunes available for both Intermediate and Advanced (speed: around 100 bpm). If you have other tunes you already play, and would like to play them with the group, please send music as soon as you can to stephamy@gmail.com so she can add them to the list.

Orchestra 101 (Henry Shapard): This is for people without orchestral experience or for experienced musicians who are playing a second (or third, fourth, or more!) instrument.

Orchestra (Henry Shapard): This group will play three short symphonic pieces. Seats for wind and brass are limited; their coaches will decide on seating on Monday morning.

Choral Orchestra (Henry Shapard): This group accompanies the large choir performing a work from the major choral/orchestral repertoire. All string players can attend, but seats for wind and brass are limited; their coaches will decide on seating on Monday morning.

Advanced string ensemble (Tawnya Popoff): This group performs without a conductor. Seats are limited and will be decided after Monday's 'only' class. Participants have strong sight reading and mixed meter reading skills, and be able to play a three-octave scale in any key.

Intermediate string ensemble (Henry Shapard): This is for players from grade 3 to grade 7. Repertoire has varied from the Baroque (Bach's 3rd Brandenburg concerto), through the Classical (Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*) and Romantic (Grieg's *Holberg Suite*), to Modern (arrangement of Abba songs). Two contrasting pieces are usually chosen each year. The final performance will be conducted by the coach.

Wind ensemble (Mike Keddy): This group rehearses 3 or 4 pieces for concert band (winds, brass and percussion) and is open to all Intermediate to Advanced players.

Cello ensemble (Cyrena Huang): play in a group of cellos with 2–4 people on each part. Some parts are all in first position; others can involve thumb position. No prior experience with ensemble playing is necessary.

Flute ensemble (Brenda Fedoruk): For flute players who wish to work on the fundamentals of ensemble playing: counting, listening, rhythm and intonation. The repertoire will be selected to address the needs of those participating, and the environment will be fun and inclusive. If you would like to play piccolo or alto flute (or even bass flute), and have the instrument, bring it along and we will try to work it into the repertoire! Prior flute group experience not necessary.

Instrumental Jazz (Adrian Verdejo): will focus on learning to play basic jazz styles, focusing in particular on learning to improvise (yes, you can learn to improvise!) Open to all instruments and abilities, though basic sight reading skills would be valuable.

Recorder Consort (Karen Epp): In this class we will be focusing on recorder techniques. Breathing, articulation, breath control, and fingering will all be studied through a variety of different consort music. You will be challenged but not overwhelmed!

Instrumental 'Only' classes:

Violins Advanced (Jeanette Singh): A mixture of technique, masterclass, and playing as a group. Also known as the "violin nerds" class. For this class, violinists should be comfortable playing a fast two-octave scale in any key.

Violins Beginner/Intermediate (Sunny She): A class which provides technical help, works through fundamentals, and offers a master-class opportunity. All levels of players are welcome.

Violas (Tawnya Popoff): A mixture of technique, masterclass and playing as a group.

Cellos Advanced (Albert Seo): A mixture of technique, masterclass and playing as a group. For this class, cellists should be comfortable playing a three-octave scale in any key.

Cellos Beginner/Intermediate (Cyrena Huang): A mixture of technique, masterclass and playing as a group. All levels of players are welcome.

Double basses (Meaghan Williams): This course will introduce and review basic principles of technique and cover a mix of orchestral repertoire and ensemble playing. All levels are welcome!

Flutes (Brenda Fedoruk): This year we will have a different focus! Our group class will focus primarily on musicianship, and how to play more expressively. In each class we will look at a different musical "gesture" and we will play exercises together to improve and recognize each "gesture". There will be a short masterclass component each day for those players who wish to perform and to receive specific feedback on their current projects.

Oboes (Heather Haydu): A daily masterclass setting, where everyone has an opportunity to play for a collaborative and supportive group of colleagues! Technique, reeds, breath control and posture are all topics that will be covered, and we will also play as a group.

Clarinets (AK Coope): Each class will cover a different aspect of clarinet playing with group participation for all each session- appropriate for all levels. Masterclass option available for any who are interested (one to two performers per class).

Bassoons (Sophie Dansereau): Reed fixing, technique, interpretation, masterclass and group playing during the week. Each day a topic will be selected by the students.

Recorders (Karen Epp): Technique (tonguing, breathing, intonation, etc.) will be explored in the context of bringing recorder consort music to life. Bring your assorted sizes ... a home will be found for all levels of player, low intermediate to advanced.

Horns (Andrew Mee): A mixture of technique, orchestral repertoire and horn ensembles.

Lower brass (Sharman King): The sessions will include a group warm-up, ensemble playing and discussions of lower brass (trombone, tuba, euphonium,...) playing. This class is suitable for players of all levels.

Percussion (Mike Keddy): This is a fundamentals and techniques class that will each day focus on different aspects of the huge variety of skills involved in playing percussion. We will cover timpani, snare drum, keyboard percussion and everything else we can get to, with particular focus on areas of need for the attending participants. Sometimes this time is used to do sectionals on big repertoire being performed at WCAMS that week or to give participants specific exercises to work on for the other 51 weeks of the year. It is fun, fast-paced and, mostly, hands-on.

Pianos (Eric Hominick): We will focus on one or more of these items, depending on attendance and interest: repertoire, sight reading, collaboration skills, crossing-over styles and duets.

Mixed classes

Teen pop (Adrian Verdejo): For 15–20-year-olds. Play or sing arrangements of modern pop songs. The goal of this course is to give you the skills and confidence to be able to lead your own band!

Collaborative music (Geordie Roberts): A coached masterclass for singers & pianists interested in accompanying, designed to help both singers and pianists take songs from “just words and notes” to “a true musical experience”. Auditors welcome, but be warned: we will try to coerce you into singing something! We will work on performance aspects of singing/accompanying, including technical considerations, performance anxiety, level of expressiveness, diction and languages, historical conventions and singing outside the box.

Early Music (Karen Epp): Come one come all! This ensemble welcomes everyone no matter what their skill level or instrument/voice. We tend to focus on Renaissance and Baroque music, but may have some excursions into other periods. It is an opportunity for instrumentalists and vocalists to learn about working and making music together. Something for everyone!

Musical Theatre (Sarah-Lynne Plumley, Geordie Roberts): This class is open to adults and youth. After learning the song *9 to 5*, from the musical by the same name, we will add a little movement and simple dance steps to perform this short number. Bring costumes and props: office attire and office supplies. Lots of fun and laughs!

Other classes

Body awareness for musicians (Trish Plumley): The more aware you become of the subtleties of your primary instrument – your body – the more joyful, integrated, eased and fulfilling your life as a musician can become. Hop into loose-fitting clothing and get ready to explore both movement and relaxation. Increase your awareness of the dramatic range of possibilities for motion through Alexander technique, yoga and Feldenkrais-inspired concepts that will help you listen and respond to the singular needs of your body!

Conducting (Lars Kaario): An opportunity to learn the basic techniques of conducting, including patterns, articulation, cues, cut-offs, dynamics and expression. Lars will discuss a variety of approaches to conducting, both choral and orchestral. Appropriate for beginner-to-intermediate level. It will be fun and interesting!

Music lectures: Faculty give lectures on a wide variety of topics. The titles of this year’s lectures can be found in the camp booklet which will be available a couple weeks before camp.