



West Coast Amateur Musicians Society Summer Music Camp 2023

Pre-Camp Information

Thank you for deciding to make our camp part of your summer music experience!

Herein you will find all sorts of information that will be helpful in deciding what to pack, and what to expect when you get to camp. Please also refer to the [FAQ](#) which is a one-page question-answer sheet of most commonly asked questions.

HOW DO I GET TO CAMP?

From Greater Vancouver Lower Mainland by car

Trinity Western University is located at 22500 University Drive, Langley Township. From Vancouver, take Highway 1 East until Exit 61, 216 St. Follow signs for 216 St South. In half a kilometer, turn left onto University Drive. In 1.8 km, at the roundabout, take the second exit onto University Drive.

Public Transportation

TWU is serviced by the 562 bus, which leaves every 30 min from Langley Centre and from Carvolth Exchange. We recommend using Translink TripPlanner or Google Maps to figure out connections.

CHECK-IN

Check-in time is from 2:00pm to 4:00pm on Sunday, July 23, in the 1st floor lounge of Douglas Hall at Trinity Western University. Park in front of this building while you collect your registration package including a parking pass, which will allow you to park your vehicle in any of the parking lots during the week. Day students should arrive by 3:30pm.

After settling into your room, new campers may choose to explore the campus by following the campus map and the map of classrooms (found in the [Camp Booklet](#)).

Parents/guardians of all campers aged 14 yrs and under must attend a brief orientation session with their children in the 2nd floor lounge of the Douglas Hall residence from 4:45 - 5:15pm.

From 5:30 - 6:00pm, there will be a fun "Meet-and-Greet" activity for ALL campers, all ages, which will take place in Freedom Hall in the Robert N. Thompson building.

Dinner will follow at 6:00pm and orientation will begin at 7:00pm. The first musical session of the camp is a read-through session of the Vivaldi *Gloria* which follows the orientation session. We encourage all those not attending the Orchestral rehearsal (singers and instrumentalists) to attend the choral read-through.

WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

Musical Items

In addition to your instrument, all instrumentalists will need a music stand, and many singers also use one. If you have any spare stands that you'd be prepared to let other people use, please label them clearly and leave them in a classroom for others to borrow in that location - and remember to collect them at the end of the week. You may also find it useful to bring pencils, and wind clips or clothes pins (for outdoor performances).

We do not supply any instruments at camp, other than the large percussion equipment, keyboards and a few guitars. If you're thinking you'd like to learn a new instrument, this is a great environment in which to try it out, but you'll have to bring it along with you. Many of our coaches are available to provide lessons outside of the regular scheduled classes, but the cost of these lessons is negotiated between the student and the teacher (it is not included in the camp fees).

If you have an instrument which you "sometimes" play, such as a guitar or a recorder, there may well be opportunities to use it at camp (for example in the Celtic Music or Early Music sessions, where a wide variety of instruments is always welcome). There are also a great many options for vocalists, so don't feel you need to have an instrument with you, other than your voice!

You may need to bring your own music for your coached chamber group and/or any ad hoc music-making. We're hoping that string players will print out their parts for the string ensembles. If you think you might take one of the Celtic Instrumental classes, Amy asks if you can download and print out your own copies of the music at <https://www.amystephenmusic.com/wcams-tunes-2023.html>. All other music will be supplied at camp.

Some campers like to take advantage of the week to get together with other musicians and read through other music. We recommend that you bring your own music, or download something from IMSLP before leaving home. You may also request to borrow music from the limited WCAMS Music Library by contacting the strings/woodwind/brass librarians on the [WCAMS Music Library](#) page.

Non-Musical Items

In addition to your personal effects, you may find it useful to bring a water bottle, a coffee mug, an alarm clock, a notebook and a fan (in case of very hot weather).

WHAT DO I WEAR?

Camp is very casual - shirts, shorts, sandals - just comfortable summertime clothing. We have had many years of very hot weather during the week of camp, but of course there is no guarantee. Even during a hot spell, the evenings can be cool, so come prepared for some variability in weather.

As far as concert dress is concerned, there is no "dress code" at all. When attending the faculty concerts in the evening, many campers just wear what they've had on during the day, although some like to dress up a bit. For student concerts (which involve performances by virtually everyone at the camp), there is again no official code. Many people wear something dressier for the concert performances, but again, this is not the type of "formal wear" that you might wear in town. Women tend to be in skirts or sundresses, men perhaps in slacks or shorts, but no ties, no jackets, no fancy shoes - it's camp! Whatever you're comfortable in will be acceptable, and some people don't dress up at all for the concert events.

DO I NEED TO BRING FOOD?

Each meal at TWU is a set menu, served buffet style: breakfast, morning snack, lunch and dinner. Separate meals are being prepared for campers who have notified us of special dietary restrictions. Everyone else will collect their food from the buffet. Milk, juice, water, tea and coffee are available at every meal. Note that the cafeteria will NOT be open between meals. There is a Starbucks in the Robert Kuhn Centre.

Residences are divided into pods of rooms. Each pod has a lounge area with full fridge and microwave for the campers' use.

If you have any questions about campus food contact [Gayle Day](#).

WHAT WILL MY ACCOMMODATION BE LIKE?

Camp participants are housed in student residence buildings on the TWU campus. Some residences have bathrooms shared between two rooms, and others have communal hall washrooms. Rooms accommodate one or two campers.

Bedding is provided, but you will have to make your own bed. Some people like to bring an extra pillow. Towels will be provided, but if you like to use a large bath towel, bring your own. Note that TWU does not supply soap or other toiletry items. You may also wish to bring extra hangers, an extra blanket, a reading lamp, a fan or a kettle.

If you have guests who want to come for the concerts on Friday and Saturday night, TWU has a limited number of guest suites available for \$99/night. Guest suites have two twin beds, a kitchenette and private washroom. To reserve a suite, contact Wai at wai.law@twu.ca / 604-307-5457. Those staying in guests suites may purchase meal tickets from Wai, at least 30 minutes before the meal start time.

Note: guests who are not staying in one of the TWU guest suites will not be permitted to purchase meal tickets. If you have guests attending one of the evening concerts, be sure to let them know to eat dinner before they arrive!

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR COURSES?

You don't have to sign up for anything! Chamber music groups are the only activity for which pre-registration is required, and these have already been organized. If you signed up for a chamber group but have not been contacted, please contact [Irene Percival](#), our music co-ordinator.

Faculty members will describe their sessions at our Sunday night orientation. On the first full day of camp (Monday) you simply follow the timetable and attend those classes that you think might be of interest to you. If on the Tuesday you want to try something different, you are free to do so. After that time, it's best to decide what you want to stick with, as performances are held Friday and Saturday nights, and by Wednesday the leader of each class will want to know who is going to be performing. You can read [Class Descriptions](#) of all the classes - printed copies will be available in the camp office.

There are some classes in which enrolment is limited. The [Large Symphony Orchestra](#) and [Choral Orchestra](#) can only accommodate a fixed number of wind and brass players. The wind and brass coaches will take camper's wishes and abilities into consideration, and assign these parts at the Monday Onlys (first) session. The assignment of strings between the Advanced and Intermediate Ensembles will also be determined at Monday's "Only" session. The assignments will be posted on

the whiteboard outside the Dining Hall by lunchtime on Monday, in time for the first String Ensemble sessions in the afternoon.

Repertoire for all our large ensembles is posted on our [Repertoire page](#).

VOLUNTEERS AT CAMP

"It takes a community to run a camp".

There are a number of little tasks for which we could use help during the week, for example setting up for a concert, moving instruments, stage managers. A white board will be set up each day outside the Cafeteria with a sign-up for that day's volunteer tasks: please sign up for what you are available and able to do.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES AT CAMP

WCAMS provides financial assistance to music students, youth, adults and families who could not otherwise afford to attend camp. Donations by campers and several fundraising activities support this fund. In 2015, WCAMS established a permanent Endowment Fund with Vancouver Foundation whose annual distributions also supplement our Financial Assistance program.

If you have a CD you don't listen to anymore, some printed music that you no longer play, or a best seller or favourite book from your book club, please consider donating these items to our Used Book/Music/CD Sale. Please only donate "like new" or "gently used" items, and ensure that printed music contains all parts. You can drop these items off at the table at registration. You can browse other people's donations in the RNT outside Freedom Hall and help yourself to whatever grabs your eye, in exchange for a monetary donation, anytime during the week.

Thanks very much for helping out!

REMINDER FOR PARENTS / GUARDIANS / CHAPERONES

Anyone under the age of 19 MUST be accompanied by an adult chaperone, and must have a waiver signed by parent or legal guardian (not the chaperone). These forms must be submitted before camp. If you are bringing an under-19 and have not yet filled out the waiver form, please download and print the form from here:

<https://wcams.ca/camp/Waiver2023.pdf>

and mail it to our Children and Youth co-ordinator, Jane, at the address provided on the form before arriving at camp.

All youth (grades 5-9) MUST attend their appropriate class during the four morning sessions. Youth who would prefer to attend one of the adult sessions MUST have permission from the instructor of the class they wish to attend, and notify the faculty of the class they will miss as well as the Youth Co-ordinator. If a youth has to miss a morning class due to illness, the faculty member and the Youth Co-ordinator must be notified.

Youth are welcome to attend afternoon and evening sessions: Orchestra 101 (for instrumentalists) and the Drop-In Singing class (for everyone) are highly recommended.

QUIET TIME

Our camp schedule is a very busy one, and both youth and adults become quite tired by mid-week. We have a daily Quiet Time from 2:00 to 3:00, and we encourage both adults and youth to make use of this time for relaxing. If you do not feel you need to rest at this time, there are a few

“drop-in” classes offered during this time which you may attend intermittently, depending on whether or not you need a rest that day. Please do not practise in any of the residence buildings during Quiet Hour, by you can make music in any of the classrooms or in the practise rooms in the Music Building.

COVID POLICY

WCAMS will follow all COVID-19 related guidelines and recommendations from BC Public Health, which are subject to change. Based on the current recommendations, we will not be implementing any mandates or strict protocols at this year’s camp, and rely on campers to use common sense and consideration for others.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you can manage your illness similar to how you manage other respiratory infections like influenza (flu). Stay home if you feel sick and take prevention measures to limit the spread of infection, including avoiding close contact, wearing a mask and cleaning your hands regularly.

For more information, see <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/if-you-have-covid-19>

LAST DAY

On the final morning, Sunday, July 30, there are no scheduled activities. Breakfast is served from 8:00 – 9:00am, and check-out is from 9:00 – 10:00am.

We hope that camp will be a great experience for you, and look forward to seeing you there. If you have any other questions, please call (250-634-2781) or [Email](#) our Info Line who can direct your question to the appropriate person.

See you soon!