



30 Years

Community Music School

Inspiring youth through
access to high-quality
music instruction

Impact Report 2022-2023

Community Music School

Raleigh, North Carolina

est. 1994

www.cmsraleigh.org



30 Years Of
**BRIGHTER
FUTURES
THROUGH
MUSIC**





30 Years

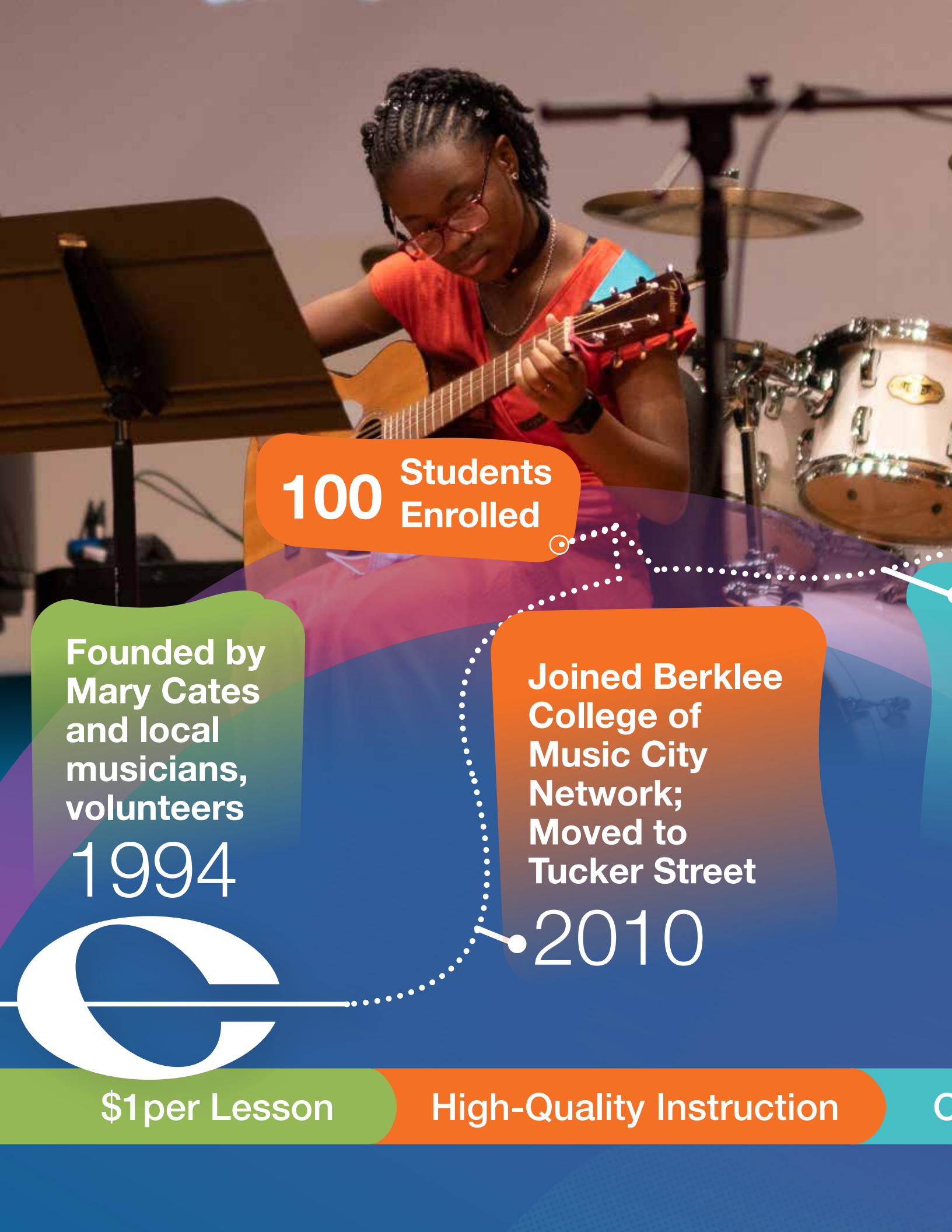
3,000 Students



My experience at CMS set the table for my life. My CMS instructors invested in me as a young child, and I have been able to take that wonderful gift to a new generation. **The power of music education changes a student's life forever.**

Myriah Luke,

CMS alumna, former CMS instructor, current CMS board member and Wake County Public Schools high school orchestra director



100 Students
Enrolled

Founded by
Mary Cates
and local
musicians,
volunteers

1994

Joined Berklee
College of
Music City
Network;
Moved to
Tucker Street

2010

\$1 per Lesson

High-Quality Instruction

C

200 Students
Enrolled



5-year
Strategic
Plan after
1-year
pause

2017

Moved to
Longleaf
School of
the Arts

2019

2023
New
Strategic
Plan
through
2027

Community Partnerships

Volunteer Support



Dear Friends,

This year's annual report demonstrates the joy that more than 225 students, their families and their instructors feel as **CMS pursues its mission to enrich and inspire children and youth through access to and delivery of high-quality music instruction.**

Our commitment to both high quality and access sets us apart from other music school options in Wake County. Community Music School formed in response to a need created by financial barriers that have kept children from accessing high-quality music instruction. As we celebrate 30 years of impact in Wake County, we remain true to our guiding belief that music is foundational to every young person's development.

Our vision is to create a community where brighter futures are fostered through music.

Our new 2024-2027 Strategic Plan sets the course for:

Increasing access for more students. Access means recognizing, acknowledging, and addressing the economic barriers faced by those within our community. It means understanding there is a community need for affordable high-quality music instruction to be provided simply and equitably for any who have need.

Ensuring CMS has the resources to offer high-quality experiences. High-quality music instruction means recruiting and retaining high-quality instructors and providing high-quality instruments. It means valuing the diversity of our staff and students and respecting and spotlighting the meaningful experience of every family.

Since the beginning, CMS has offered private music lessons to students for \$1, thanks to the generosity and support of individual donors, corporations, foundations, and public grants. On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for supporting access to high-quality music education for hundreds of children each year. Thank you for contributing to the joy and impact this creates in our community.

With gratitude,

Donna Mooney-Haywood, 2023-2025 President & Chair of the Board of Directors

Donna Mooney-Haywood

Learning

Music is foundational to every young person's development.

Belonging

Everyone should feel welcomed. Our community thrives when diversity, equity and belonging are centered in all aspects of our organization.

Connecting

CMS mentors and inspires youth and engages families and community partners.

Celebrating

Children and youth should be celebrated for their efforts and accomplishments.





“

A child's focused expression during a performance is born of persistence and practice, and a joy to see. Equally joyful is the proud smile when they finish performing and realize what they've accomplished!

Melanie Doerner

Executive Director



A big step my student took this semester was singing at a community event.

At the next lesson after the performance, our discussion and debrief was very helpful in showing me how better to support her. **The confidence building is huge.**

Dr. Terrell Hooper

Voice Instructor



CMS is the only organization in Wake County that provides professional, personalized music instruction in multiple genres exclusively to students from families with financial need.

Benefits of Arts Education

Students from low socioeconomic backgrounds who have access to the arts are more likely to

- 🎵 **Set higher career goals**
- 🎵 **Have higher STEM scores**
- 🎵 **Volunteer more**

Source: National Endowment for the Arts



IMPACT

19

Professional
Instructors

\$1

Per Lesson

1:1

Music
Instruction

2

Satellite
Sites

225

Students
Enrolled

2,864

Hours of Instruction

27

Summer
Campers

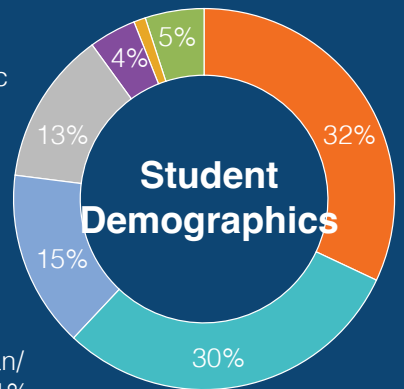
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Graduating
Seniors

Ages

7-18

- Black/African American 32%
- Latinx/Hispanic 30%
- Mixed Race 15%
- White 13%
- Asian 4%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 1%
- Other/Undisclosed 5%



30 Years

Beginnings

Students start by exploring musical concepts such as rhythm and pitch, then select an instrument. All lessons are with professionals who provide high-quality instruction. This year, the wait was over for a long-time CMS family when their first grandchild turned 7 – the next generation!

Relationships

As we got to know CMS student Caleb and his younger brother Noah, we learned more about the adult musicians in their family. Nick Venable, uncle to the boys, joined the CMS professional faculty. Dad, uncles and boys performed together for their first time at our Spring gala to great acclaim.

Futures

CMS supports the goals and interests of students, offering lessons on a variety of instruments, connecting them to community resources, and helping them plan for a future that includes music if desired. Felicia spent 6 weeks at the Brevard Summer Institute, playing music that was “fun, challenging, but not impossible.” She is now at UNC School of the Arts.



Triumphs | Fundraiser Honoring Tom McGuire

CMS friends, students and families gathered for a community event to support CMS and honor Tom McGuire's passion for music and children. The spring event, held at the A.J. Fletcher Opera Theater in Raleigh, raised \$137,000 to expand CMS enrollment and strengthen programs. Many thanks to:

- ✓ Honorary Chair Barbara McGuire, Board member Martha Sanders, and Co-Chairs Sandra Dubose and Elizabeth Beam
- ✓ Special guests Vienna Teng, the Venable/Wilkins Family Band, and CMS Pop Band

Tom McGuire dedicated his life to philanthropy and the arts and CMS is proud to celebrate his legacy with this annual event.

**Mark your
calendars for
May 15, 2024!**



2022-2023 Financial Highlights

Sources:

- ✓ Foundation & Private Support \$154,879
- ✓ Individual Contributions \$145,703
- ✓ Fundraising Events \$113,337
- ✓ Government \$58,054
- ✓ Corporations \$43,256
- ✓ Program Fees & Other \$14,718

Total: \$529,947

Uses:

- ✓ Program Services \$383,242
- ✓ Fundraising \$107,966
- ✓ General & Administrative \$47,731

Total: \$538,939

CMS is funded in part by the City of Raleigh based on recommendations of the Raleigh Arts Commission; and supported by the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County, as well as the NC Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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A family commits to a year-long relationship with CMS for weekly classes – and more. The music lessons are just one component of the learning process that is enhanced by recitals, master classes, concerts, ensembles, and field trips. This year, nearly half of CMS students are siblings.

music school
futures through music



I was looking for activities that would allow my daughters to express themselves authentically and reinforce their self esteem... programs that would build them up with encouragement and reassure them...a village of support that would help me guide them through the challenges of growing up. I found this in CMS. Thank you!

CMS Parent



DIAMANTE ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER



CMS in the Community

CMS deepens our role in the community through satellite programs, summer camp, and community partner engagement.



We launched a new satellite program at Wakelon Elementary School and returned to Southeast Raleigh Community Learning Center. We piloted a new workshop in music production, and are leading the Triangle Community Music Educators Consortium to convene peer organizations for collective impact.

Honor Roll of Donors

July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

**multi-year pledge*

Individual and Family Foundation Supporters

\$10,000+

Anonymous
Asha and Sajjan Agarwal
Foundation
Linda and Robert Grew
Merritt M Jones
Mann Family Foundation
Barbara McGuire
Frank W. Webb Charitable
Trust
Rosemary & Smedes York

\$5,000-\$9,999

Elizabeth and David Beam
Ella Ann L. and Frank B.
Holding Foundation
Jennifer and Andy Martin
David L. Marzetti Memorial
Music Trust Fund
Nancy and Ron McFarlane
Peterson Family Fund

\$2,500-\$4,999

Maggie Bailey and David
Levine
Thuy and Mitch Dancik
Joan and Prentiss Baker III
John and Jill Cramer
Carolyn Happer and Leonard
Graham

\$1,000-\$2,499

Chip Anderson
Kevin and Robin Anglely
Lynne and Walter Brock
Nancy Brockman
Jeffrey Brown
David Casteel
Janice Christensen
Rebecca Crosson
Thomas Cunningham
Cynthia and John Ethridge
Jim Fain
Fenwick Foundation
Floyd Family Foundation*
George Smedes Poyner
Foundation, Inc
Sarah Greaser
Guirlinger Family Fund
of Triangle Community
Foundation
Martha Hays
Nancy and Fred Hutchison
Sally and William Johnson
Charles Kronberg
Lyn. Maness
Sara Jo Manning

Regina McLaurin
Marjorie Hodges and Carlton
Midyette*
Lauren and Greg Miller
Donna Mooney-Haywood
Mary and Bill Moss
Jeannette Nelson
Ann and David Permar
Dwayne Perry
John and Elizabeth Purrington
Richard and Deborah
Ruggero
Martha and John Sanders
Bob Sar
Mary and Neil Saunders
Peter Scott III
Silverback Foundations Inc
Joseph and Elizabeth Smith
Norma and Robert Tomb
Christine and Charles Wagner
Shelle and Philip Wheeler
Dargan and Blount Williams
Sophia and Michael
Yarborough
Ginny Zehr

\$500-\$999

Anonymous
Beth and Jay Alley
Dr. Candice Arrick
Carol and Robert Bilbro
Adam Buchanan
Marion Church
Carroll and Tim Clancy
George Clark
Kelly Cobb
Allen Cobb
Peter Corson
Mary Currin
David and Morgie Duke
Thomas Fisher
Adam Fox
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Megan and Christopher Harris
Susan and Carl Hibbert
Vivian Hunter
Amie Irby
David Jernigan
Nell Joslin
Martha Keravuori
Christopher Lin
Amy and David Marschall
Elise and Tom Massey III
Robert McDevitt
Pansy Morton

Mu Beta Psi NCSU
Jeanette Nelson
Liza Nye
Susan Osborne
Alice Pettyjohn
Lillian and James Poole
Laura and Hurley Raynor
Katherine and Vincent Revels
Gwendolyn and Leroy
Reynolds
Linda and Dick Roseberry
Charyl and Charles Safley
Martha and Kevin Schneider
Katherine Schoellhorn
Nathaniel Smith
Lindsay Smith Newsom
Susan and Russ Stephenson
Jim and Cathy Stuart
Mary Ann and Robert Thomas
Rebecca Thompson
Bess and Win Walker
Malea Washington
Elaine Wooten Wood
Charlotte Wooten
Salli Parker Worth

Institutional Supporters

\$25,000+

City of Raleigh Arts
Commission
John Rex Endowment*
United Arts Council of Raleigh
& Wake County

\$10,000-\$24,999

Bank of America
John William Pope
Foundation
National Endowment for the
Arts
North Carolina Arts Council

\$5,000-\$9,999

A.J. Fletcher Foundation
Clancy & Theys Construction
Company
Temple Sloan Family
Foundation
Triangle Community
Foundation

\$2,500-\$4,999

Bloomsbury Bistro
Blue Cross Blue Shield NC
Burroughs Wellcome Fund
Christ Episcopal Church
Hayes Barton Baptist Church

Smith, Anderson, Blount,
Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan
LLP

St. Michael's Episcopal
Church

The Jim Allen Group, Inc
TowneBank
WCPE Education Fund
White Memorial Presbyterian
Church

\$1,000-\$2,499

100 Women Who Give A Hoot
(Raleigh Chapter)
Armstrong McGuire &
Associates
Dell Corporation
Ivy Community Service
Foundation of Cary
Raleigh Kiwanis Foundation
Ruggero Piano
W. Trent Ragland, Jr.
Foundation
The Woman's Club of Raleigh
Williams Realty & Building
Company
Wood Wise

Gifts In Memory Of:

Charlotte Houston Atkinson
Ronald Jacob Brewington
Marilyn Budrow
Mary Cates
Jack DeBruyn
Pork Chop Hipple
Tom McGuire
Jerry Nelson
Alice Poe Williams
Joseph Schmelzeis

Gifts In Honor Of:

Earleen Barnes
Lynne and Walter Brock
David Dowless
Christopher Holloway
Sara Jo Manning
Greg Nelson
Anita Nicholls
David M. Permar
Raleigh Flute Choir
Martha and John Sanders
Bob Sar
Jane Stikeleather
Allyn Vogel
Chris Wagner
Jake Wenger

Years

Community Music School is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit

322 Chapanoke Rd. Raleigh, NC 27603
(919) 832-0900 | cmsraleigh.org

Board 2022-2023

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President

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President-Elect

Martha Webb,
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Parent Representative

Waltye Rasulala,
Faculty Representative

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John Cramer

Sandra Dubose

Seth Friedman

David Jernigan

Myriah Luke

Ramon Martinez

Alfred Mays

Liza Nye

Martha Sanders

Robert (Bob) A. Sar

Chris Wagner

Staff

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Dawn Downing
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David Dowless
Director of Music Education

Adriana Arvelo
Director of First Impressions

Dariel Dixon
Database Manager

Chantavia Knight
Social Media Content Manager

Faculty

Adam Ainsworth: Violin/Viola

Helena Bandy: Violin

Julia Bora: Cello

Jake Buchanan: Percussion

Mike Buckley: Guitar

Kevin Clark: Guitar

Lekisha Crouch: Explorations I

Angela Dowless: Explorations I and II

Alexandra Franco: Piano

Charlie Garnett: Guitar

Winifred Garrett: Harp

Chris Hathcock: Music Production

Dr. Terrell Hooper: Piano, Voice

Dr. Anthony Lee: Piano

Rosendo Peña: Percussion

Waltye Rasulala: Piano, Voice

Clarence "Rocky" Raeford: Piano

Bailey Rose: Woodwinds

Zane Souvanlasy: Piano

Nick Venable: Piano

Daryl White: Band



“ At the annual benefit
gala, I shared the stage
with some fantastically talented and
hardworking young people. Nice work, I said
to as many of them as I could afterward. You
too, they each said, one professional to another,
sharing the feeling of a gig well played.

- Vienna Teng, Guest Artist