

# Music Conservatory of Coeur d'Alene Course Descriptions: Fall 2021

Classes are held weekly. A minimum of four students must be registered in order for a course to go forward. Children's courses meet for 45 minutes, while young adult and adult courses and ensembles meet for 60 minutes.

## Children's Courses

### Mini Music Makers

This sequential, nurturing course series starts children out on their musical journey.

#### **Mini Music Makers I** with Channing Dance, ages 6 months to 24 months

Parent and baby come to class together to learn about elements of music, rhythm, pitch, and movement through singing, dancing, listening, and interacting together with music. Maximum of eight students per class.

#### **Mini Music Makers II** with Channing Dance or Pamela Davies, ages 2 to 4

Children take part in fun activities while learning elements of music including rhythm, singing, listening, and dancing. Parental participation is required. Maximum of eight students per class.

#### **Mini Music Makers III** with Julienne Dance, ages 5 to 6

Children explore instruments, learning basic beginner skills. Music and rhythm reading are also introduced. Parents are encouraged to attend class sessions and practice at home with their children daily, learning to cultivate a positive and joyful experience. This level prepares a child for private lessons at the conservatory. Maximum of six students per class.

#### **Introduction to Singing** with Cheyenne Helms, ages 5 to 8

This course is geared to nurture children's love for singing and teach them how to use their voice. Classes include games, songs, rhythm, and movement to cultivate listening and ear training as children learn to sing from their whole selves.

#### **Introduction to Ukulele** with Rhys Gerwin, ages 6 to 10

This course is an introduction to the ukulele geared for beginners. Children learn the strings and basic chords. Classes include singing and group activities to nurture familiarity and enjoyment of the instrument.

## Conservatory Ensembles

### **Chamber Orchestra** with Jan Pellant, ages 12 to 18

This ensemble offers young musicians the opportunity to create music in an ensemble with other musicians under the direction of a conductor and orchestra coach. The student's private teacher collaborates with the conductor, facilitating the student's readiness for ensemble work. Strings, winds, and percussion players who have studied privately are invited to register for this course.

### **Chamber String Ensembles** with Jan Pellant, ages 12 to Adult

Chamber string ensembles showcase the superb chamber works of great European classical composers in string trios, quartets, quintets, and sextets. Students are matched by level to rehearse and perform this wonderful repertoire.

### **Brass Chamber Group** with MariAnn Flynn, ages 12 to 18

This ensemble is open to brass players who are proficient on their instrument. Instrumentation is flexible, enabling us to perform a wide range from brass choirs and large fanfares to chamber music such as trios, quartets, and quintets.

**French Horn Ensemble** with MariAnn Flynn, ages 12 to 18

This ensemble is open to French horn players who are proficient on the instrument. Students perform a wide range of repertoire from brass choirs and fanfares to chamber music such as duets, trios, and quartets.

**Guitar Gurus** with Rhys Gerwin, ages 12 to Adult

Jam and perform with other intermediate guitar students who also take private lessons. Small groups are matched by level to play music in a variety of styles, including classical, jazz, and folk.

**Harp Ensemble** with Kim Davidson, ages 8 to Adult

This ensemble is for harpists with two or more years of private instruction and the ability to read music and sight-read a single line of music. We focus on ensemble playing, harp technique, and theory as it applies to the harp.

Note: this course is registered on a per-class basis by arrangement with the instructor.

**Piano Partners** with Piano Faculty, ages 8 to Adult

Piano students are coached in four-hands (duet) and two-piano repertoire. Two to four students are matched by level to challenge their skills and understand their role in creative piano ensemble performance. Their private instructor collaborates with the Piano Partners instructor in rehearsing and performing this repertoire.

**Zimbabwean Marimba Band** with Caden Davis, ages 8 to Adult

The music of the Shona people in Zimbabwe is an ancient tradition that was adapted to marimbas in the 20th century. Come take part in this great tradition playing this music in an ensemble of marimbas, from bass marimba all the way through soprano marimbas.

## Young Adult and Adult Courses

**Beginning Class Piano** with Andrew Maurer, ages 8 to Adult

Learn how to play the piano in a small-group setting in the conservatory's state-of-the-art piano lab! The course includes keyboard coordination, musical terminology, note and staff reading, primary chord functions, basic theory, and learning pieces of various genres. Class size is limited to four students, so every student receives plenty of individual feedback and assistance each class.

**Intermediate Class Piano** with Andrew Maurer, ages 8 to Adult

Continue your piano studies in the conservatory's state-of-the-art piano lab! The course includes more advanced piano technique including scales and arpeggios, pedaling, harmonizing melodies, transposing, ensemble playing, improvisation, and learning solo pieces. Class size is limited to four students, so every student receives individual feedback and assistance. Students are placed into this section after taking Beginning Class Piano, via a proficiency placement audition, or by arrangement with the instructor.

**Introduction to Guitar** with Rhys Gerwin, ages 8 to Adult

This course covers the basics of the guitar, including tuning, technique, and reading. Students also learn musical concepts such as rhythm, notes, and listening. By the end of the course, students have the tools to start learning their favorite songs and also can move to private lessons.

**Music Theory** with Rhys Gerwin, ages 10 to 18

Music theory—the study of the nuts and bolts of music—is a necessary complement to playing an instrument or singing. Students will be grouped with students of their level, working with the instructor to gain proficiency in working through the Royal Conservatory of Music theory curriculum.

**Ear Training/Aural Skills** with Rhys Gerwin, ages 10 to 18

Learn the art of listening to music as it relates to performance and composition. Fundamental concepts help students build listening skills on a common foundation. Topics covered include pitch intervals, rhythm training,

rhythmic dictation, melodic dictation, and chord identification. Basic music theory knowledge is recommended but not required.

**Sight Reading** with Jan Pellant, ages 12 to Adult

Sight reading is a skill that anyone can develop with practice! This course focuses on the art and strategies of playing music immediately on first sight, with an eye on attending to key and rhythm, seeing music in wider swaths, and continuing through mistakes.

**Score Preparation and Ensemble Conducting** with Jan Pellant, ages 12 to Adult

This course discusses specific steps of the score preparation process, including traditional ways of learning scores and contemporary score preparation with or without use of recordings. Lessons on baton techniques are provided to students interested in guest conducting conservatory ensembles. Literature includes standard compositions of the Western classical composers from the 18th century to today.

**Integrative Performance Wellness** with Matt Goodrich, ages 12 to Adult

This course teaches students to cooperate with natural human design, coordination, and creativity when playing their instruments or singing. We explore integrating important “wholeness” principles into practice, performance, and teaching, leading to lifelong healthy movement, coordination, and creativity in music making. If you don’t feel totally at ease at your instrument or while performing, this class is for you!

**Classical Music History and Interpretation** with Jan Pellant, ages 12 to Adult

This course discusses the history of Western classical music through its musical eras, including Early Music (500–1400), Renaissance (1400–1600), Baroque, Classical, and Romantic (1600–1900), Modern (1890–1950), and Contemporary (1950–present). Presentations discuss authentic music styles and music making in the past and present. Classes also include score analysis and guest artists performing in authentic styles.