

Duke University String School Calendar 2017-2018

Celebrating 50 years!

Important Dates

- Summer Camp: July 17–22, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Durham
- Fall Semester Orientation: Saturday, August 26 @2pm, Nelson Music Room
- Auditions: Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27
 - *For new students, students wishing to audition for the next ensemble or move sections, and students interested in a leadership position in their current ensemble.*
- Fall Semester begins: Week of September 4 (first ensemble rehearsals Saturday, Sept. 9)
- Fall Semester Ends: December 12 (last day of ensemble rehearsals Saturday, Dec. 9)
- Spring Semester begins: Week of January 8 (first ensemble rehearsals Saturday, Jan. 13)
- Spring Semester ends: May 6

No rehearsals or classes on the following dates:

- Saturday, November 25 (Thanksgiving weekend)
- Saturday, March 31 (Spring Break)

Fall Semester Concerts and Recitals

50th Anniversary Celebration Weekend!

- Violin and Cello Choir Concert: Saturday, November 11 @ 4pm, Nelson Music Room
- Orchestra Concert: Sunday, November 12 @ 6:30pm, Baldwin Auditorium, *Reception following*
- Chamber Music Concert: Tuesday, Dec. 12 @ 7pm, Nelson Music Room (Dress rehearsals 5–7)
- Solo Recitals: Saturday, December 9, 3–7pm (Dress Rehearsals: Saturday, Dec. 2)

Spring Semester Concerts and Recitals

- Violin and Cello Choir Concert: Saturday, March 3 @ 4pm, Nelson Music Room
- Orchestra Concert: Sunday, March 4 @ 6:30pm, Baldwin Auditorium
- Solo Recitals: Saturday, March 24, 3–7pm (Dress Rehearsals: Sat, March 17th)
- Chamber Music Concert: Saturday, April 21 @ 5pm, Nelson Music Room (Dress rehearsals 2–5)
- Violin and Cello Choir Concert: Saturday, April 28 @ 4pm, Nelson Music Room (last day for choirs)
- Orchestra Concert: Sunday, May 6 @ 6:30pm, Baldwin Auditorium

Other important dates

- Faculty Scholarship Fundraiser Recital: Saturday January 27 @ 4pm, Nelson Music Room
- Concerto Competition: Saturday, October 28, Nelson Music Room

Who do I contact about..?

See list below for who to contact in each situation:

- **Katharine Whitmore**, *Staff Assistant* (katharine.whitmore@duke.edu)
 - Registration, payment, scheduling auditions, scheduling trial lessons
- **Ensemble Conductor**
 - Seating questions (leadership, moving up, changing instruments), Repertoire
- **Ensemble Parent Volunteer**
 - Weekly attendance in orchestra (for YS, CSO, ISO students)
- **Ensemble News Blog**
 - Regular updates on music, concerts, notes from ensemble conductors
- **Parent Advisory Committee**, Angela Lopez, Melissa Cox, Brandy Salmon, Kaity Woodrum, Elizabeth Shamblin
 - Can discuss questions or concerns with fellow DUSS parent
- **Private Teacher**
 - Rescheduling Lessons, individual progress, how to move up ensembles
- **Erica Shirts**, Director (erica.shirts@duke.edu)
 - Scholarships, concerto competition, donations, parent volunteers

DUSS Policies

All DUSS policies are listed in more detail online at:

<http://stringschool.duke.edu/apply/policies>

Payment and Refunds

- All Fees are payable in advance for the entire semester and are not refundable after the first day of instruction. No lessons will be given until payment is received.
- Payments may be made by check or online with a credit card.
- If requested, payments may be made in installments.

Lesson Make-Up

There are 14 lessons in each semester, Fall and Spring.

- Your teacher may elect to give up to 2 make-up lessons if the proper advance notice was given for the absence.
- Any lesson missed without 24-hour advance notice will be counted as given.
- Please see your teacher for individual studio policies, such as a severe weather policy.

Expectations for Orchestra, Ensemble and Group Class members

- All students participating in DUSS ensembles are enrolled in weekly private lessons, either from DUSS faculty or area teachers.
- Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts.
- Arrival 10 minutes early to have time to tune and be ready to play at the start time for each orchestra, ensemble, and group class.
- A student cannot play in the concert if he or she miss the dress rehearsal or more than 2 rehearsals without prior explanation and agreement between the conductor, parents, and the student. If the conductor allows a student to perform in a concert after missing a dress rehearsal, the conductor has the discretion to adjust their seating assignment.
- All students must email conductors ahead of a projected absence from an orchestra rehearsal.
- The conductor has the discretion to individually hear students who have missed 2 or more rehearsals before a concert. This applies to excused and unexcused absences.