



### **Important Dates for 2018/19**

- Auditions: August 25/26
  - Orientation August 25 in Nelson Music Room
- Fall Semester begins: Week of September 4 (first ensemble rehearsals Saturday, Sept. 8)
- Fall Semester Ends: December 12 (last day of ensemble rehearsals Saturday, Dec. 8)
- Spring Semester begins: Week of January 7 (first ensemble rehearsals Saturday, Jan. 12)
- Spring Semester ends: April 28

### **No rehearsals or classes on the following dates:**

- Saturday, November 24 (Thanksgiving weekend)
- Saturday, March 30 (Spring Break)

### **Fall Semester Concerts and Recitals**

- Violin and Cello Choir Concert: Saturday, November 10 @ 4pm, Nelson Music Room
- Orchestra Concert: Sunday, November 11 @ 6:30pm, Baldwin Auditorium
- Chamber Music Concert: Wednesday, December 12 @ 7pm, Nelson Music Room (Dress rehearsals 5–7)
- Solo Recitals: Saturday, December 8, 3–7pm (Dress Rehearsals: Saturday, Dec. 1)

### **Spring Semester Concerts and Recitals**

- Violin and Cello Choir Concert: Saturday, February 16 @ 4pm, Nelson Music Room
- Orchestra Concert: Sunday, February 17 @ 6:30pm, Baldwin Auditorium
- Solo Recitals: Saturday, March 23, 3–7pm (Dress Rehearsals: Sat, March 16)
- Chamber Music Concert: Saturday, April 20 @ 5pm, Nelson Music Room (Dress rehearsals day-of)
- Violin and Cello Choir Concert: Saturday, April 27 @ 4pm, Nelson Music Room
- Orchestra Concert: Sunday, April 28 @ 6:30pm, Baldwin Auditorium

### ***Other important dates***

- Concerto Competition: Saturday, November 3, Nelson Music Room
- Four Seasons *Next Generation* Residency: October 20/21
- Faculty Scholarship Fundraiser Recital: Saturday January 26 @ 4pm, Nelson Music Room

**Visit the website for master classes and workshops for the 18/19 Season!**

[www.stringschool.duke.edu](http://www.stringschool.duke.edu)

## 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, Kaity Woodrum, Elizabeth Shamblin, Laura and David Stemmler, Noemi and Cesar Delgado, Jonathan and Grace Stocker
  - 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 3 installments. Late payments will incur \$25 late fee.

### 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.
- 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.
- All students must email conductors/parent assistant ahead of a projected absence from an orchestra rehearsal.