

# 2024 Music Placement Information

*Any Furman student with musical skill is invited to participate!*



## Auditions for Music Ensembles

### ◇ Furman Bands

Open to all woodwind, brass, and percussion musicians as well as dancers, twirlers, and colorguard, the Furman University Bands are comprised of students from across campus who come together to perform as the Paladin Regiment Marching Band and the Furman Symphonic Band. In the fall semester, the marching band rehearses only 4 hours a week -- on Wednesdays and Fridays from 4-6 p.m. -- and performs for the home football games and select exhibition and parade performances. The Symphonic Band rehearses on Mondays from 4-6 p.m. in the fall semester and on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4-6 p.m. in the spring semester. Students in the band should register for MUS 061-Furman Bands, and they are eligible for exciting travel performance opportunities as members of the Furman Bands. Contact [sue.samuels@furman.edu](mailto:sue.samuels@furman.edu) for more information, and please scan the QR here:



### ◇ Furman Jazz Ensemble and Combos

Horn auditions will occur between 6:30-9 p.m. on Wednesday, August 28, and between 2:30-3:45 p.m. on Thursday, August 29. Sign up for a time on Straw Poll using this link: <https://strawpoll.com/e7ZJax43Kg3>. Rhythm section auditions will occur in the Daniel Music Building Room D13 ("band room") between 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27. Sign up for a time on Straw Poll using this link: <https://strawpoll.com/3RnYXwdmWye>. Audition results will be emailed to each student who auditioned by Monday, September 2. The Furman Jazz Ensemble will rehearse each Monday and Thursday from 2:30-3:45 p.m. beginning Thursday, September 5. The Furman Jazz Combos will rehearse twice each week for 60 minutes, once with a faculty coach. Times will be determined once the ensembles are formed. The first coaching will occur during the week of September 2-6. If you have ANY QUESTIONS regarding auditions, please email Dr. Matt Olson at [matt.olson@furman.edu](mailto:matt.olson@furman.edu).

When asked what makes studying music at Furman appealing and satisfying, our students talk about the many opportunities they have to perform. Students choose from large ensembles like the Symphony Orchestra, the Symphonic Band, the Furman Singers, and the Marching Band, as well as smaller groups like the Percussion Ensemble, the Jazz Ensembles, the treble choir Belle Voci, and the String Quartets. Talented vocalists participate in full-scale productions of the Sarah Reese Lyric Theatre. Dedicated performers may be honored by selection to the biannual Honors Recital. Twice yearly, the choral organizations combine with the orchestra to present choral-orchestral concerts of works from the oratorio repertoire. Talented instrumentalists compete for solo performances with the orchestra in our Concerto Competition. Rarely does a small liberal-arts college offer the range of performing opportunities available at Furman. You can choose from among more than 20 different student ensembles. All performing groups are open to all Furman students, regardless of major.

# Ensembles

- ◇ Furman Symphony Orchestra
- ◇ Guitar Ensemble
- ◇ Chamber Strings
- ◇ Hartness String Quartet
- ◇ Gladden String Quartet
- ◇ Cello Choir
- ◇ Wind Ensemble
- ◇ Symphonic Band
- ◇ Paladin Regiment Marching Band, Marching Drum Line, Color Guard, & Dance Team
- ◇ Basketball Pep Band
- ◇ Jazz Ensemble
- ◇ Jazz Combos
- ◇ Percussion Ensemble
- ◇ Clarinet Ensemble
- ◇ Woodwind Ensembles
- ◇ Saxophone Quartets
- ◇ Horn Ensemble
- ◇ Brass Ensembles
- ◇ Furman Singers
- ◇ Belle Voci
- ◇ Chamber Choir
- ◇ Oratorio Chorus
- ◇ Sarah Reese Lyric Theatre

All auditions are held in the Daniel Music Building. For more information, please go to [furman.edu/music/](http://furman.edu/music/) and click on the “Explore Music” link, which will take you to the “Quick Links for Students, Teachers, Parents” page.

## ◇ Choirs: Furman Singers, Chamber Choir, and Belle Voci

The Furman Choirs are comprised of the Furman Singers, Chamber Choir, and Belle Voci (treble chorus) and are open to all students by audition, regardless of major. Auditions held Sunday & Monday, August 25 & 26 from 6-9 p.m.; Tuesday, August 27 from 4-6 p.m. Fill out the interest form and schedule an audition time using this QR:



Furman Singers rehearses on Tuesday/Thursday at 4-6 p.m.; Chamber Choir meets on Monday/Wednesday at 2:30-3:20 p.m.; and Belle Voci on Tuesday/Thursday at 1-2:15 p.m. For more information, contact Dr. Stephen Gusukuma at [stephen.gusukuma@furman.edu](mailto:stephen.gusukuma@furman.edu) or Dr. Vivian Hamilton (Belle Voci) at [vivian.hamilton@furman.edu](mailto:vivian.hamilton@furman.edu).

## ◇ Furman Symphony Orchestra

Auditions for NEW string students who have not previously been approved for study and who are interested in applied lessons, chamber music, and/or the Furman Symphony Orchestra (FSO) will take place Tuesday, August 27 from 3:30-4 p.m. in DMB-013. String seating auditions for ALL students previously approved for study (both incoming and returning students) will take place Tuesday, August 27 from 4-9 p.m. in the Daniel Recital Hall; violins from 4-6 p.m., violas from 7-7:30 p.m., cellos from 7:30-8:30 p.m., and basses from 8:30-9 p.m. Students will prepare a short solo of their choice (up to 2 minutes), a short sight-reading selection, and short orchestral excerpts, which will be available by July 15. Wind, percussion, and brass assignments are given to the FSO conductor by the wind/percussion/brass faculty and will be posted in the first week of classes. The first FSO rehearsal is Thursday, August 29. FSO meets twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-6 p.m. For more information, contact Professor Stephan Fillare at [stephan.fillare@furman.edu](mailto:stephan.fillare@furman.edu).

## Auditions for Private Lesson Placement

All students with prior instrumental or vocal experience can be considered for private instruction. Private lessons are given at variable credit (0-2) and students sign up for 30-minute or 60-minute lessons per week. If a student who is not majoring in music signs up for 1-credit lessons in 4 consecutive semesters, that fulfills the Visual and Performing Arts general education requirement.



# Contact Us



## Music Theory at Furman

Music Theory study (which we call Basic Musicianship) consists of four semesters of written theory, aural skills, and keyboard harmony. Intended music majors are pre-registered for the 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., or 11:30 a.m. section of Basic Musicianship I, which Meets Monday - Friday.

MUS 111 satisfies the Visual and Performing Arts GER (VP).

## AP Theory Credit

Furman University now accepts AP credit for music theory. Furman accepts credit for MUS 111A and MUS 111B for students who scored a 5 on the AP exam. Furman offers students who scores a 5 on the AP exam the choide to audit MUS 111A and MUS 111B. Furman highly recommends that students who scored a 5 on the AP exam in their junior year or earlier to enroll in MUS 111A and MUS 111B.

Furman accepts no other form of credit (other than transfer credit as governed by university policy for equivalent courses). Furman no longer does internal testing. Furman no longer allows students to test out of half of MUS 111A (formerly known as attendance optional).

Students who have not scored a 5 on the AP exam, but who have considerable experience in music theory, should explore Furman's Credit By Exam policy.

The Keyboard Area faculty will administer a placement exam for keyboard harmony during the first week of classes. Contact Dr. Derek Parsons ([derek.parsons@furman.edu](mailto:derek.parsons@furman.edu)) with questions about keyboard harmony placement.

Email Dr. Benjamin Dobbs ([benjamin.dobbs@furman.edu](mailto:benjamin.dobbs@furman.edu)) with any questions about written theory or aural skills at Furman.

Contact any of the following music faculty members for information on specific instruments or vocal study:

Strings: Dr. Christopher Hutton ([christopher.hutton@furman.edu](mailto:christopher.hutton@furman.edu)). Students enrolled in lessons are required to participate in Furman Symphony Orchestra.

Woodwinds, Brass: Dr. Sue Samuels ([sue.samuels@furman.edu](mailto:sue.samuels@furman.edu))

Percussion: Dr. Omar Carmenates ([omar.carmenates@furman.edu](mailto:omar.carmenates@furman.edu))

Opera and Voice: Dr. Grant Knox ([grant.knox@furman.edu](mailto:grant.knox@furman.edu))

Piano: Dr. Derek Parsons ([derek.parsons@furman.edu](mailto:derek.parsons@furman.edu))

Guitar and Harp: Dr. Christopher Hutton



# *Sarah Reese Lyric Theatre*



# *Symphonic Band*



# *Furman Singers*



# *Belle Voci*



# *Jazz Ensemble*



# *Furman Symphony Orchestra*

