



EXCELLENCE IN
THE ARTS
SINCE 1944

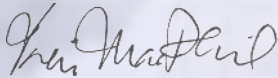


History

The Lawson Academy of the Arts at Converse College has provided opportunities for arts education in the Spartanburg community for 72 years. Founded in 1944 by Alia Lawson as the Converse Pre-College, the program originally began as a “lab school” training college music students in the art of teaching music. While this original purpose is still a significant part of our program, we have expanded to include so much more.

From the Director

Our outstanding, dedicated faculty offer individual lessons in voice and nearly all instruments, as well as group classes in several areas. These opportunities cover every age range, from preschool to retired older adults and everyone in between. In the summer, Converse students staff our Fine Arts Day Camp, where children attend daily classes in visual arts, creative writing, music, dance, and theatre. The arts are so important in today’s society. Here at the Lawson Academy, we have something for everyone, whether it is taking private lessons, participating in a class or ensemble, or simply attending some delightful performances by our students and faculty. While our offerings may change throughout the year, the most up-to-date information will be available on our website listed below. Please join us and make the arts an integral part of your life!



Contact Us

Dr. Valerie MacPhail
Director, Lawson Academy

Janae O’Shields
Assistant Director, Lawson Academy
Director, Fine Arts Day Camp

* Member of the National Guild for
Community Arts Education since 1984
* National Association of Schools of
Music (NASM) accredited

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday, 9:00 am–5:00 pm
864.596.9022 | janae.oshields@converse.edu
www.converse.edu/lawsonacademy



Register Online!

- Private lessons in most instruments and group instruction in several areas
- Options available for students 14 months through senior adults
- Costs range from \$22 to \$28 per 30-minute lesson; longer lessons also available
- Lesson days and times vary by instructor
- Register by 16-week semester (some offerings vary or offer flexible semesters and prorating)
- Contact our office or complete a web inquiry to find your perfect fit!

Keyboard

Piano Lessons

- Students age 3 through adult welcome
- Suzuki Piano available for preschool students (focusing on listening skills and playing by ear)
- Special instruction available for sight impaired students
- Some teachers participate in STAR Celebration and other competitions and activities
- Ask about availability at our Boiling Springs satellite location (Upstate Family Resource Center)

Instructors:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| - Holly Barnes | - Alexandra Lee |
| - Susan Davis | - Natalie Longobardo |
| - Julia Eldred | - Shannon Longobardo |
| - Joy Finch | - Paula Morgan |
| - Erin Galloway | - Erica Pauly |
| - Eranga Goonetilleke | - Suzy Smith |
| - Karen Hampton | - Carolyn Turner |
| - Sharalynn Hicks | - <i>Student Teacher</i> (reduced rate): |
| - Jessica King | Madeleine McEntyre |



Organ Lessons

- Age 4 through adults
- \$28 per 30-minute lesson; longer lessons also available
- Lessons held at Episcopal Church of the Advent, with opportunities to play on Converse campus
- Excellent supplementary study option for pianists
- Ask about sample lessons!

Instructor: Brennan Szafron

Strings

Guitar

Private Lessons

- Classical and acoustic guitar for teens and adults
- \$28 per 30-minute lesson; longer lessons also available

Instructor: Michael Miller

Childbloom® Guitar Program

- Ages 5-12
- \$350 for 16 30-minute classes
- Group instruction builds solo and ensemble skills
- Parent involvement encouraged
- Contact Childbloom® instructor Michael Miller at 864.921.7815 or michaelmiller.childbloom@gmail.com!

Spartanburg Bella Corda

- Guitar ensemble instruction (with instructor approval)
- \$160 for 8 60-minute sessions



Orchestral Strings

Private Lessons

- Students age 4 through adult welcome
- Costs range from \$22 to \$28 per 30-minute lesson; longer lessons also available
- Register by 16-week semester (some offerings vary or offer flexible semesters and prorating)
- Lesson days and times vary by instructor
- Suzuki Violin available for preschool students (focusing on listening skills and playing by ear)
- Special instruction available in jazz and fiddle
- Some teachers participate in ASTA, STAR Celebration, and other competitions and activities
- Satellite instruction available in Districts 6 and 7! Contact coordinator Mindy Burgin at mindy.burgin@converse.edu for more information.

Instructors:

- Lyn Acosta, violin
- Robert Borden, double bass (satellite)
- Mindy Burgin, cello (satellite)
- Kathy Foster, cello
- Mary Kay Hall, violin
- Mari Hashimoto, violin and viola
- Sharalynn Hicks, violin
- Theresa Jenkins-Russ, violin, viola, cello, and double bass
- Sarah Johnson, advanced violin
- Jennifer Peters, violin and viola
- *Student Teacher* (reduced rate):
Ashley Flower, cello
- *Student Teachers in Training* (\$100 for 12 lessons):
Mandy Cooper, cello
Sabrina Green, violin
Zoe Kushubar, violin
San-Der Liao, cello

Lawson Strings Ensembles

- Grade 3 and up
- Leveled ensemble instruction for strings students
- Provides ensemble experience to homeschool, public, and private school students
- Twelve rehearsals and one concert per semester
- Placement evaluation required for students new to the program (intermediate and advanced levels)

Beginning Strings: Mondays 3:00 – 4:00pm | Instructor: Mari Hashimoto
No experience required, 3rd grade and up

Intermediate Strings: Mondays 4:00 – 5:00 | Instructor: Theresa Jenkins-Russ
One year experience including note reading

Advanced Strings: Mondays 5:00 – 6:00 | Instructor: Sarah Leonard
Proficiency in 1st and 3rd positions, shifting, & vibrato

Tuition: \$125 per student per semester

Materials Fee: \$25 per family

New Parent Meeting: August 28, 2017 — 6:30pm, Lawson Academy Recital Hall

First Rehearsal: Monday, September 4, 2017

For further information, contact our office or register online at www.converse.edu/lawsonacademy.



Chamber Groups

- Ages 13 and up (or with instructor approval)
- Open to violinists, violists, and cellists
- With at least five years' private instruction and currently enrolled in lessons (or with instructor approval)
- \$140 for 8 60-minute coaching sessions per semester
- Grouping and scheduling will be determined

Instructor: Sarah Leonard

***Inquire about chamber opportunities for other instruments!**



Wind and Brass

Private Lessons

- Elementary through adult (requirements vary by instrument and instructor)
- Costs range from \$22 to \$28 per 30-minute lesson; longer lessons also available
- Register by 16-week semester, or ask about abbreviated semester study for Region/All-State prep
- Lesson days and times vary by instructor
- Some teachers participate in STAR Celebration and other competitions and activities

Instructors:

- Miranda Perry, flute
- Julie Tran, flute
- Karen Hill, clarinet and saxophone
- Jessica King, oboe, clarinet, and saxophone
- Kelsey Leahy, oboe
- Jane Patterson, oboe
- Kelly Vaneman, oboe
- Frank Watson, bassoon
- Katie Smith, trumpet and French horn
- John Holloway, trombone, baritone, and tuba
- *Student Teachers in Training* (\$100 for 12 lessons):
 - Jennings Cavin, flute
 - Kathryn Monroe, clarinet
 - Taylor Sexton, clarinet
 - Tyerra Clayborne, oboe
 - Brianna Reed, French horn

Lawson Band Program

- Grades 3-12
- Leveled ensemble instruction for band students
- Provides ensemble experience to homeschool, public, and private school students
- Twelve rehearsals and one concert per semester
- Placement evaluation required for students new to the program (intermediate and advanced levels)
- Opportunities for homeschooled students to participate in SCBDA events and other activities
- Ask about our referral discount!

Beginning Band: No experience required; Thursdays 3:45 – 5:15pm

Intermediate Band: One year experience; Thursdays 3:45 – 5:45pm

Advanced Band: Audition only; Thursdays 3:45 – 5:45pm

Band Directors: John Holloway Jessica King Miranda Perry
Frank Watson Dan Steadman

Tuition: \$275 per student (full year)

Materials Fee: \$25 per family

New Parent Meeting: August 17, 2016 — 7:00pm, Lawson Academy Recital Hall

First Rehearsal: Thursday, September 7, 2016

For further information, contact our office or register online at www.converse.edu/lawsonacademy.



Vocal Study

Private Lessons

- Students age 6 through adult welcome
- Costs range from \$22 to \$28 per 30-minute lesson; longer lessons also available
- Register by 16-week semester (some offerings vary or offer flexible semesters and prorating)
- Lesson days and times vary by instructor
- Faculty offer a wide variety of styles including classical, musical theatre, and sacred
- Individualized training in vocal technique
- Some teachers participate in NATS, STAR Celebration, and other competitions and activities
- Satellite instruction available in Districts 6 and 7! Contact your school for more information.

Instructors:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---|
| - Wendi Arms | - Natalie Longobardo | - <i>Student Teachers in Training</i> (\$100 for 12 lessons): |
| - Leala Blakeley | - Shannon Longobardo | Caroline Bosworth |
| - Suzanne Brown | - Valerie MacPhail | Erin Bradley |
| - Anne Denbow | - David Mosely | Sharami Harris |
| - Aimée Gans | - Cathy Siarris | Lisa Louw |
| - Eranga Goonetilleke | - Laura Thomason | |

Group Voice Classes

- \$200 for 16 45-minute classes
- Learn a variety of age-appropriate vocal music
- Practice with both solos and ensembles
- Perform for peers in a nurturing environment
- At least one recital performance per semester

Young Beginners: 5K-1st grade; Tuesdays 3:00-3:45pm

Beginners: 2nd-4th grade; Tuesdays 4:00-4:45pm

Intermediate: 5th-7th grade; Tuesdays 5:00-5:45pm

Instructor: Suzanne Brown



One-Day Vocal Workshops

- Ages 13 – 18 currently enrolled in voice lessons or with 2-3 years of vocal experience
- \$20 per student
- Learn to bring characters to life onstage with movement, expression, character study, and energy

Acting for Singers Workshop:

Saturday, October 14, 9:00am-12:00pm
(registration deadline September 30)

Art Song & Aria Workshop:

Saturday, February 10, 9:00am-12:00pm

Instructor: Aimée Gans

Hub City Vocal Institute

- Week-long summer workshop presented by the Petrie School of Music and the Lawson Academy
- Concentrate on performance issues and audition preparation
- Individual lessons and coaching from faculty plus topical group sessions for the serious singer
- Visit www.converse.edu/lawsonacademy for full schedule

Instructors: Arlene Shrut, Valerie MacPhail, Rebecca Turner, Mildred Roche, and guests

World Dance

Dance is an art form that crosses the boundaries of culture. The Lawson Academy is excited to offer a unique dance program to the Upstate, bringing exciting and widely diverse dance styles which share the movement and musical experiences of other cultures with students of all ages.

Our dance classes feature experienced and dedicated teachers from around the world and are designed to be affordable and accessible. Ask about our referral and multi-class discounts!

Class Fee: \$120 for 12 60-minute classes (exceptions noted)

Rhythms of India

- Ages 7 and up
- Mondays 5:00-6:00pm
- An introduction to Bharathnatyam (Classical) and Bollywood (Modern) Indian dance forms
- Experience both high-energy and graceful movement and a taste of Indian culture and heritage

Instructor: Sunitha Raj, star of over 50 Indian films and teacher here and abroad for over 25 years



Afro-Haitian Dance

- Ages 7 and up
- Tuesdays 6:00-7:00pm
- Energetic, percussive music and movement
- Immersion in a rich cultural art form, building focus and confidence

Instructor: Cathy Jager, teacher of African, Haitian folkloric, and liturgical dance

Hawaiian Hula Classes

Girls' Class: Thursdays 4:00-5:00pm, grades 4-8

Adult Beginner Class: Thursdays 6:00-7:00pm, age 18+

- Ancient cultural storytelling art
- Understand the importance of family harmony and appreciation of nature in Hawaiian culture
- Learn to "talk story" through descriptive gestures, rhythmic movements, song, dance, and language

Instructor: Kaleo Wheeler, musical storyteller



One-Day Argentine Tango Workshop

- Saturday, October 14, 1:00-4:00pm
- Ages 15 through adult
- \$20 per person
- Learn about the importance of communication in partner dancing
- Singles and couples of all levels welcome!

Instructor: Karen Jaffe, worldwide tango performer and instructor

Musikgarten

- Age 14 months-5 years
- \$175 for 14 classes, plus \$30 materials fee
- Saturday mornings (full class schedule TBA)
- Nurturing music curriculum for preschoolers
- Enjoy singing, chanting, games, stories, and instruments
- Build a solid foundation for any child to pursue singing, playing an instrument, or dancing!

Instructors: Leala Blakeley and Jessica King

Register online at www.converse.edu/lawsonacademy.



Instrumental Petting Zoo

Saturday, October 28, 10:00am

Blackman Music Building

- Free, interactive event for children of all ages
- Children have opportunities to try out all instruments, hands-on
- Presented by the Delta Omicron Music Fraternity of Converse College's Petrie School of Music
- Costumes are encouraged!

Fine Arts Day Camp

- Age 3 through rising 6th grade
- All-day summer care provided by Converse students
- Daily classes in art, creative writing, dance, music, acting, and theatre skills
- Varying themes provide something new each session
- Creative alternative to traditional daycare at daycare-comparable cost
- Sessions culminate in performance showcases for family members
- Volunteer programs available for middle and high school students



For further information, contact FADC Director Janae O'Shields at 864.596.9607 or janae.oshields@converse.edu, or visit www.converse.edu/FADC to register.

Full fees: \$375 per two-week session

**Ask about our discounts for multiple children, multiple sessions, and more!*

Hours: Weekdays 8:30am-4:30pm

**Extended care available 7:30am-5:30pm for an additional \$15 per week*

2018 Schedule:

Session 1: "Curtain Up!" June 4-15

Session 2: "Adventures in Oceania" June 18-29

Session 3: "Tall Tales and Folk Legends" July 9-20

Session 4: "Welcome to the Jungle" July 23-August 3

Session 5: "European Expedition" August 6-17

2017-2018 Lawson Academy Calendar

Fall Semester: August 23 - December 19, 2017

Fall Registration

- **Online registration** opens August 1 at www.converse.edu/lawsonacademy
- **Onsite registration** opens August 14, 8:30am - 5:30pm weekdays (or by appointment)

Labor Day Holiday

September 4, 2017 (no lessons or classes)

Thanksgiving Break

November 21 - 24, 2017 (no lessons or classes)

Hearings for Current Scholarship Recipients

December 11 - 14, 2017

Winter Break

December 20, 2017 - January 15, 2018 *Individual teachers' schedules may vary

Spring Semester: January 16 - May 14, 2018

Spring Registration

- **Online registration** opens December 11 at www.converse.edu/lawsonacademy
- **Onsite registration** January 8-12 8:30 am - 5:30 pm (or by appointment)

STAR Celebration (formerly Festival)

- **Registrations Due:** February 1, 2018
- **STAR Celebration:** March 24, 2018
- **Showcase Recital:** March 31, 2018

Spring Break

April 2 - 6, 2018

Scholarship Auditions

April 12 - 13, 2018

Summer Registration

- **Online registration** May 1-25
- **Onsite registration** May 1-11

Scholarships and Financial Aid

We are grateful for the endowments and scholarships provided to our students by many generous individuals and organizations who help us continue the legacy of arts education in Spartanburg. All required forms are available on our website and at our office.

Competitive Scholarships: Applications due March 12, 2018
Auditions April 12-13, 2018

Financial Aid: Applications due August 11, 2017
Recommendation required

2017-2018 Lawson Series

“No One Is Alone”

Aimée Gans, mezzo-soprano, and Eranga Goonetilleke, soprano

We share some of the most beautiful, painful, hilarious, and precious moments of life with our families. Join us for a recital celebrating these relationships, with songs to make you laugh, cry, and remember that, truly, no one is alone.

Sunday, September 16, 2017, 4:00pm

“From Screen to Stage”

Featuring Trilogia

Lawson’s faculty trio presents a program of movie music and themes in their own signature style.

Jennifer Peters, violin and viola

Mindy Burgin, cello

Julia Eldred, piano

Saturday, October 14, 2017, 7:30pm

“Wizard, Wiz, & Wicked”

Featuring the Vocal Studio of Wendi Arms

The vocal studio of Wendi Arms presents a variety of selections from Oz-inspired productions old and new.

Sunday, November 19, 2017, 3:00pm

Lawson Band Fall Concert

Monday, December 4, 2017, 7:00pm

Lawson Strings Fall Concert

Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 7:00pm

Silent Movie Night

Join us for an evening of silent film, accompanied by acclaimed theatre organist Scott Foppiano. Co-sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, Spartanburg Chapter.

Monday, March 23, 2018, 7:00pm, Twichell Auditorium

“Piano Mania”

Lisa Dillard and Erica Pauly, pianists

Pianists Lisa Dillard and Erica Pauly present a spectacular concert of piano duets and duos, featuring works by Mozart, Borodin, Liszt, and Five Days From the Life of a Manic Depressive by Paul Schoenfield.

Saturday, March 24, 2018, 7:00pm

“Pop Rocks”

Featuring Trilogia

Trilogia returns with a special guest, putting a unique spin on a blend of classical and pop/rock pieces.

Jennifer Peters, violin and viola

Mindy Burgin, cello

Julia Eldred, piano

Chris McGowan, percussion

Saturday, March 24, 2018, 7:30pm

Shining Stars Concert

The Lawson Academy’s annual formal student showcase, benefitting our Lawson Series events.

\$10 for adults, \$5 for 18 and under

Saturday, April 14, 2018, 7:00pm

Lawson Band Spring Concert

Monday, April 30, 2018, 7:00pm

Lawson Strings Spring Concert

Tuesday, May 1, 2018, 7:00pm

World Dance Concert

Saturday, May 12, 2018, 7:00pm

Free admission to all events except Shining Stars. Donations benefit the Lawson Series. All events held in Daniel Recital Hall unless otherwise indicated.



**LAWSON ACADEMY
OF THE ARTS**

580 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302
www.converse.edu/lawsonacademy

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