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Opus September 2019

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Instrument Petting Zoo on Saturday, September 7th from 1 – 3 pm

Bring your entire family to our Discovery Day Open House and play a variety of instruments. Where else can you try out the drums, banjo, cello, guitar, piano, and violin in one afternoon? And, adults can get in on the fun too. Whether you are 4 or 94, the petting zoo enables you to explore many instruments in a hands-on way. CCM faculty will demonstrate how to hold, play, and experience all the instruments.

Attend the Open House and enter the raffle for a chance to win a free CCM Group Class for the 2019 fall semester! Additionally, anyone registering for a group class at the Open House will receive a 15% discount.



Trial Group Classes—[there's still time to sign-up for these!](#)

Explore your musical options and try out a CCM group class. Develop your music skills in a relaxed, collaborative setting with people like you. Learning music in a group setting can be motivating and fun for students of any age and skill level.

For Your Kids!

Beginner Vocals on Friday, September 6 at 4 pm

Group Guitar for Kids on Friday,

September 6 at 4 pm

Girls Chorus on Monday, September 9 at 5 pm

Group Keyboard (ages 5-7) on Saturday, September 7 at 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 1:30 pm, and 2:30 pm

For You!

Beginner and Intermediate Fiddling on Monday, September 30 at 6 pm

Adventures in Group Guitar on Monday, September 9 at 6:30 pm

Old-Time Class on Monday, September 30 at 7 pm

Auditions for Rock Lab & Ensembles

Rock Lab will get kids matched up with their peers with similar ability to form a real rock band. Open call auditions are on Thursday, September 5th from 6 – 7:00 pm. Rock Lab matches students of similar age and ability to rehearse, explore group dynamics, song choices, and soloing. Students should be familiar with chords and the blues scale. Singers

and percussion, guitar, electric bass, saxophone, and trumpet players are all encouraged to join.

Auditions for String Ensemble

String Ensemble provides students an ideal opportunity to participate in their first orchestra and develop their ensemble skills. (*Open to both CCM students and string students who are not currently taking private instruction at CCM*)

To participate, students need note-reading experience and to make a full-year commitment. Student ability will determine which Strings Ensemble is right for the student. Auditions will be held on Monday, September 9 from 6 – 7 pm with Hyunjung Kim and Wednesday, September 11 from 6:15- 6:45 pm with Angel Valchinov. These are not open-call auditions. To schedule a time, please email [Margaret Romero](#), Ensemble and Community Coordinator.

New Group Classes at CCM this Fall



New group classes at CCM this fall include the [Concord Conservatory Girls Chorus](#) which has a challenging, performance-oriented curriculum for talented and dedicated choristers ages 9 - 14. **No experience required, but a love of singing and enthusiasm for music is essential.**

Adults can expand their music skills with [Choral Skills for Adults](#), [Blues Guitar](#), and [Fingerstyle Guitar](#). [Check the class descriptions](#) today and decide which class is right for you.

West Concord PorchFest

It's the first annual grassroots community music festival in West Concord! There will be more than two dozen live acts within walking distance of the West Concord Village. Start at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center at 1276 Main Street and pick up your map.

<https://westconcordporchfest.wordpress.com/>

The Gaab Lab at Boston Children's Hospital Research Study

We are passing along news from a former CCM student who is looking for children ages 9 - 12 to participate in a Boston Children's Hospital research study.

What is the relationship between music and reading? How can research on speech and music help people with developmental dyslexia? They are looking for children ages 9-12 with and without musical training, and with and without dyslexia to help answer such questions. The study involves activities and computer games that can tell us about your child's speech, language, reading, and musical abilities. Your participation will help scientists interested in improving teaching methods and early diagnosis of learning difficulties.

If you are interested in participating or want to know more about our studies, please call 857-218-4629 or email gaablab@childrens.harvard.edu

Your Vocal Health



We exercise to keep our bodies in shape and feel healthy. We brush and floss our teeth to keep unwanted dental visits at bay. The same should go for taking care of our voices and especially so with singers. Learning proper techniques while young helps students sing to the

best of their ability without damaging their vocal cords. Adults too can learn to break bad habits.

Vocal abuse can result in voice-health issues, from stiff and swollen vocal cords to benign growths that form on vocal cords known as nodules. Also, it can happen to anyone, including such celebrities as Mariah Carey, Adele, Sam Smith, Rod Stewart, and John Mayer (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oversinging>). However, there are singing techniques to learn and practice so you can sing appropriately without straining your voice.

Beyond warming up your voice before singing and keeping hydrated, CCM faculty members teach voice techniques to maintain or improve your voice health.

Participants in the new Concord Conservatory of Girls Chorus and Choral Skills for Adults will receive proper vocal training, which applies age-appropriate vocal development and techniques. Everyone will learn to sing beautifully without sacrificing their healthy vocal cords. CCM's Singing With Parkinson's aims at helping those dealing with the disease to strengthen their voices while singing, performing, and experience the joy of making music.

Do you belt out a song and regret it later? Are you using the correct singing techniques? Check-in with CCM. We'll see which voice group class is right for you or if private voice lessons can help.

Ukulele Taster on Tuesday, September 10, No Experience Necessary

Get ready to have fun playing the most accessible instrument to learn! Join us for the Ukulele Taster at Reasons to Be Cheerful in West Concord on Tuesday, September 10th from 7:15 – 8:15 pm. After an hour, you'll fall in love with playing this happy and cool instrument and will probably want to join a class with your new friends. Bring your uke and be prepared to jam. We'll have some ukuleles available to use for the evening, but it is advisable to bring your



own if possible.

All skill levels welcome. Plan to learn a song and then treat yourself to some delicious ice cream! [Sign up today](#) or show up at the door with your ukulele.

CCM faculty member and professional musician Phil Sargent will guide you and have you strumming along in no time. You'll learn how to hold the ukulele and learn some basic chords. You'll end up playing a foot-tapping song by the end of the ukulele taster. Reasons to be Cheerful is located at 110 Commonwealth Avenue, Concord.

CCM 2019 – 2020 Concert Series



CCM's 2019 -2020 Concert Series—*mark your calendars or better yet, purchase your tickets today!*

The Concord Conservatory of Music's 2019-2020 Concert Series brings world-class performers to our local community. Thank you to our generous donors including Middlesex Savings Bank and Cambridge Savings Bank that have helped us bring the Series to our community.

Saturday, October 5 at 11:00 am, Justin Roberts Family Concert (\$25 for premium seating and \$15 for regular admission at 51 Walden, Concord center)

Friday, November 22 at 7:30 pm, Barnes, Gordy, Walsh Trio – *a bluegrass concert* (\$25 for adults, free for students 18 and under)

Friday, February 7 at 7:30 pm, Mile Twelve - Bluegrass (\$25 for adults, free for students 18 and under)

Saturday, February 29 at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm, Brady Rymer and the Little Band that Could (\$20 for all tickets)

Friday, April 17 at 7:30 pm, CCM Jazz (\$25 for adults, free for students 18 and under)

CCM September Dates to Know



- Saturday, September 7, Discovery Day Open House, 1-3 pm
- Monday, September 9, String Ensemble Auditions, 6-7 pm
- Wednesday, September 11, String Ensemble Auditions, 6:15-6:45 pm
- Monday, September 16, Group Classes begin (*some exceptions, please check the CCM website for your class*)
- Saturday, September 21, West Concord PorchFest, 1-5 pm
- Wednesday, September 25, MAP Kick-Off Party/Info Session, 5:30 pm
- Sunday, September 29, CCM Family Dessert, 3 pm at Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Rd, Concord