

# 2025 Music Placement Information

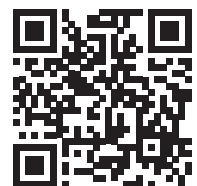
*All performing groups are open to all Furman students, regardless of major!*



## 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—Wed/Fri from 4-6 p.m.—and performs at home football games and select exhibition, away game, and parade performances. The Symphonic Band rehearses on Mondays from 4-6 p.m. in the fall semester; Mon/Wed from 4-6 p.m. in the spring. Fall Symphonic Band placement auditions will be held the afternoons of Aug 25-26. Students should register for MUS 161-Furman Bands. All Furman Band members are also eligible for other exciting travel performance opportunities. Contact [sue.samuels@furman.edu](mailto:sue.samuels@furman.edu) for more information. To receive more details and placement audition information, please complete the member information and intent form using the QR code:



### ◆ Furman Jazz Ensemble and Combos

Horn auditions will occur between 6:30-9 p.m. on Wednesday, August 27, and between 2:30-3:45 p.m. on Thursday, August 28. Sign up for a time on Straw Poll using this link: <https://strawpoll.com/XOgOV9vj4n3>. Rhythm section auditions will occur in the Daniel Music Building Room D13 (“band room”) between 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 26. Sign up for a time on Straw Poll using this link: <https://strawpoll.com/LVyK23G0kZ0>. Audition results will be emailed to each student who auditioned by Monday, September 1. The Furman Jazz Ensemble will rehearse each Monday and Thursday from 2:30-3:45 p.m. beginning Thursday, September 4. 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 1-5. If you have ANY QUESTIONS regarding auditions, please email Dr. Matt Olson at [matt.olson@furman.edu](mailto:matt.olson@furman.edu).

# 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
- ◇ Bluegrass Ensemble
- ◇ 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

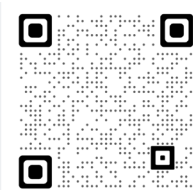
The Furman Choirs are comprised of the Furman Singers, Chamber Choir, and Belle Voci (treble chorus) and are open to all students by audition, regardless of major. Auditions held in the Music Building on Sunday & Monday, August 24 & 25 from 6-9 p.m.; Tuesday, August 26 from 3:30-6 p.m. Additional times are by appointment. 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).

## ◇ Furman Symphony Orchestra

The Furman Symphony Orchestra (FSO) performs a diverse range of orchestral repertoire, from classical symphonies to contemporary works. With over 60 musicians, the FSO presents four to five concerts annually, including collaborations with the Oratorio Chorus and winners of the annual Concerto Competition. In addition, the orchestra regularly performs in pit productions for the Sarah Reese Lyric Theatre’s opera and musical theatre performances. The FSO rehearses on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-6 p.m. Credit is now offered for participation in the FSO. Contact [stephan.fillare@furman.edu](mailto:stephan.fillare@furman.edu) for more information, and please scan the QR here:



## 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.





## Music Theory at Furman

Music Theory study (which we call Basic Musicianship) consists of three semesters of written, aural, and keyboard theory, and an additional advanced theory course of your choosing (for Bachelor of Music students). Intended music majors will be pre-registered for either the 8:30 am, 10:30 am, or 11:30 am section of MUS 111 (Basic Musicianship I), which meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Students will also be pre-registered for an additional piano lab (MUS 111-L) component (two additional days each week, varying times).

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

## AP Theory Credit

Furman University accepts AP credit for music theory. For those who scored a 5 on the exam, credit can be awarded for MUS 111. Furman highly recommends that students who scored a 5 on the AP exam in their junior year or earlier enroll in MUS 111. MUS 111 addresses topics not covered by the AP exam including counterpoint, harmonic function, popular music analysis, and phrase form. Students should consider rescinding their AP credit to ensure they are prepared for subsequent semesters of the theory sequence.

Furman accepts no other form of credit (other than transfer credit as governed by university policy for equivalent courses). Furman does not do internal testing nor allows students to test out of half of MUS 111 (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.

Any questions regarding the piano lab component of the course should be addressed to Dr. Derek Parsons ([derek.parsons@furman.edu](mailto:derek.parsons@furman.edu)). Questions about the written and aural components of theory at Furman should be addressed to Dr. Benjamin Dobbs ([benjamin.dobbs@furman.edu](mailto:benjamin.dobbs@furman.edu)) and Dr. Megan Lyons ([megan.lyons2@furman.edu](mailto:megan.lyons2@furman.edu)).

# Contact Us

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*

