



2026 Music Placement Information

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



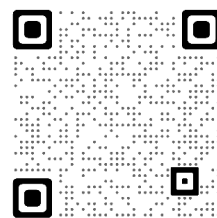
◆ Furman Bands

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 24-25. Students should register for MUS 061-Furman Bands (zero credit option) or MUS 161-Furman Bands (1 credit option). All Furman Band members are also eligible for other exciting travel performance opportunities. Contact 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 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 for more information, and please scan the QR here:



◆ Furman Jazz Ensemble and Combos

Horn auditions will occur between 6:30-9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26, and between 2:30-4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 27. Audition requirements by instrument can be found on our website: <https://www.furman.edu/academics/music/ensembles/jazz-studies/>. Sign up for a time on Straw Poll using this link: <https://strawpoll.com/GPgVYvpDAna>. Rhythm section auditions will occur in the Daniel Music Building Room D13 ("band room") between 6:30-9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25. Sign up for a time on Straw Poll using this link: <https://strawpoll.com/40Zm4LBB4ga>. Audition results will be emailed to each student who auditioned by Monday, August 31. The Furman Jazz Ensemble will rehearse each Monday and Thursday from 2:30-3:45 p.m. beginning Thursday, September 3. 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 August 31-September 4. If you have ANY QUESTIONS regarding auditions, please email Dr. Matt Olson at matt.olson@furman.edu.

◆ 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 23 & 24 from 6-9 p.m.; Tuesday, August 25 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.



Who Should I Contact?

- ◆ **Strings, Guitar, and Harp:** Dr. Christopher Hutton (christopher.hutton@furman.edu). Students enrolled in lessons are required to participate in Furman Symphony Orchestra.
- ◆ **Woodwinds and Brass:** Dr. Sue Samuels (sue.samuels@furman.edu)
- ◆ **Percussion:** Dr. Omar Carmenates (omar.carmenates@furman.edu)
- ◆ **Voice and Opera:** Dr. Grant Knox (grant.knox@furman.edu)
- ◆ **Piano and Organ:** Dr. Derek Parsons (derek.parsons@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!

Chamber Groups and Ensembles

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

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.



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Offering five degree programs for passionate performers, composers, theorists and music educators, Furman's Department of Music is recognized as one of the best and most comprehensive in the nation among liberal arts colleges. Furman University has been accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music since 1938. Our music program excels in pre-college youth events, in current student training with extensive performance opportunities, and in the success of our alumni world-wide.

The Department of Music presents more than 260 public concerts and events each year, from solo recitals, to small chamber ensembles, to fully-staged lyric theatre productions, to a full all-undergrad symphony orchestra. As one of the nation's top-ranked liberal arts universities, Furman offers opportunities for students to excel in any academic area of their choice while still participating in a high caliber music program. Non-majors welcome!

