



# KEEP PLAYING

PRECOLLEGE AND ADULT PROGRAMS 2015-2017



BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY



BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC

PRECOLLEGE AND  
ADULT PROGRAMS

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY 2015–2017

*blair.vanderbilt.edu*

*Contents*

Mission Statement . . . . .	3
General Information. . . . .	4
The Precollege Program . . . . .	5
The Adult Program . . . . .	6
General Policies . . . . .	7
The Precollege Certificate Program. . . . .	11
Certificate Program at a Glance . . . . .	12
Scholarships . . . . .	13
Precollege Instruction . . . . .	17
Ensemble Instruction . . . . .	22
Adult Instruction . . . . .	25
Ensembles . . . . .	28
Faculty . . . . .	29
Administration . . . . .	30
Index . . . . .	31



## MISSION STATEMENT

**T**he Blair School of Music serves as the focal point within Vanderbilt University for the study of music as a human endeavor and as a performing art. Music offers to all persons a medium for the expression of the human spirit. Accordingly, the Blair School of Music addresses music through a broad array of academic, pedagogical, and performing activities. Consistent with the mission of Vanderbilt University, the School maintains and promotes the highest standards in the pursuit of scholarly and creative work, in the delivery of instruction, and in the promotion of professional and public service.

In its scholarly and creative work, the Blair School of Music proposes to advance the discovery of knowledge, to expand the horizons of musical expression, to promote academic excellence, and to sustain an environment supporting these pursuits by faculty and students.

Pedagogically, the Blair School is committed to providing superior musical instruction to precollegiate and adult students in the environs of Nashville, Tennessee; stimulating classroom and studio instruction to collegiate music majors and minors; and, to the students of Vanderbilt University at large, an array of academically rigorous, culturally enriching courses appropriate to one of the nation's leading institutions of higher learning.

In its commitment to professional and public service, the Blair School of Music contributes to the cultural and intellectual life of Vanderbilt University and throughout the region through concerts, lectures, and recitals by faculty members and students, and by providing a forum for visiting artists, scholars, and composers.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## A HISTORY OF THE BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The Blair School has been a vital part of Nashville's musical life from its inception in 1964, and it maintains as its mission excellence in teaching music to persons of all ages, providing the training essential for a performing career or for an enriching and creative avocation. The school was established by the Justin and Valere Potter Foundation through a bequest of Valere Blair Potter in memory of her mother, Myra Jackson Blair. First a division of George Peabody College, Blair School became a private, independent institution and was accredited as a non-degree-granting school by the National Association of Schools of Music in 1977. In 1981, the school merged with Vanderbilt University. Studies leading to the Bachelor of Music degree in performance, composition/theory, and musical arts are available, as are a liberal arts (non-professional) major, three music minors, six concentrations, and a wide variety of courses for the general university student.

## FACULTY

Blair School of Music is home to internationally known faculty members who are highly respected for performance, composition, conducting, and scholarly endeavors, as well as for their dedication to teaching. The faculty has a reputation for personal excellence and for its commitment to students as developing musicians and as human beings. The concept of a precollege "division" is foreign to Blair's philosophy. Many faculty members teach both precollegiate and university students, valuing greatly their involvement with both—a situation unique among music schools in this country. Many faculty members concertize nationally and internationally and have recorded on a variety of labels. For a list of current faculty members and their biographical information, please visit the Blair website at *blair.vanderbilt.edu*.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

Blair School of Music generally follows the academic-year schedule of the university, with fall and spring semesters and a ten-week summer session. Precollege semesters are one week longer than the university semesters, generally beginning one week later in the spring. The precollege brochure describing semester offerings is published three times a year. The adult course brochure is published twice a year. Current offerings are posted on the Precollege and Adult Program area of the Blair website at *blair.vanderbilt.edu*.

## THE PRECOLLEGE PROGRAM

### INSTRUCTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- A precollege student is a child (infant–19 years) who has not graduated from high school or the home-school equivalent.
- Blair offers individual instruction in all orchestral instruments and in piano, organ, harpsichord, guitar, saxophone, euphonium, banjo, dulcimer, fiddle, mandolin, steel drum, a variety of jazz instruments, and voice.
- Kindermusik is a program offered to young children (infants to age 5) with their caregivers.
- Suzuki instruction is available in violin and cello. Suzuki-based instruction is available in piano.
- Group performance instruction is available in piano, fiddle, and dulcimer.
- Class instruction includes music theory, music history and literature, musicianship, Alexander Technique, and accompanying.
- The Blair Children’s Chorus Program, the Nashville Youth Orchestra Program, and the Blair Suzuki Program provide ensemble training.
- Chamber music ensembles provide collaborative music training, contingent upon establishment of a compatible group of adequate size.



- Other ensembles, including steel drum and African drumming, are often open to precollege and/or adult students.
- Academic courses are offered in music history, theory, musicianship, and Alexander Technique.

## THE ADULT PROGRAM

The Blair adult education program offers a wide array of courses in a variety of music disciplines and genres for both the general student and the serious musician. Adult students are defined as students above high school age who are not receiving university credit for courses taken at Blair.

Blair offers instruction in the following:

- **Individual Performance Instruction**—Blair offers individual instruction in all orchestral instruments and in piano, organ, harpsichord, guitar, saxophone, euphonium, banjo, dulcimer, fiddle, mandolin, steel drum, a variety of jazz instruments, voice, and composition.

- **Group Instruction**—Group instruction is available in piano, percussion, guitar, and fiddle. Classes offered include music theory, musicianship, songwriting, music history and literature (a wide variety of offerings), and Alexander Technique.
- **Ensemble Instruction**—Vanderbilt Community Chorus is open to the community. Auditions are held by appointment; contact the ensemble director. Three concerts are held each year, often accompanied by orchestra. For more information, visit the chorus' website at [www.vanderbilt.edu/community-chorus](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/community-chorus).
- **Classroom Instruction**—A variety of classes in music theory, history, songwriting, and musicianship are offered for adults. Additionally, a number of Blair university classes are open to adults if space permits.

## GENERAL POLICIES

### AUDITIONS AND PLACEMENT

All new private lesson students schedule a placement interview with faculty prior to their first registration. Current information regarding interviews is available on the Blair website or by calling the Blair Office of Academic Services at (615) 322-7651.

Requests for specific private teachers are honored whenever feasible. If a teacher change is desired, this must be discussed with the current teacher. Lessons on two instruments concurrently should be discussed with both teachers to determine if there is sufficient time and motivation to sustain study at appropriate levels in both areas. Students enrolling for theory classes are tested for placement. Students enrolling for music history or musicianship classes should contact the instructor.

## REGISTRATION AND FEES

Students must register each term before receiving instruction. Fees are due at the time of registration, but may be paid over the entire semester if a signed deferment form is completed. Fee adjustments are made for students entering late in the semester. Refunds are not made after the first week of classes.

See the current precollege and adult brochures for tuition information. Current offerings may be found online on the Precollege and Adult Program page at *blair.vanderbilt.edu*.

All student account balances must be paid in full before the student may register for subsequent semesters.

## ABSENCES

If a student must miss a lesson, the teacher should be notified as far in advance as possible. Faculty members are not required to reschedule lessons cancelled by students. Lessons or classes cancelled by faculty members will be rescheduled. As a general policy, the school is not closed for inclement weather. A faculty member who is unable to travel will notify students and reschedule lessons or classes.

## LIBRARY PRIVILEGES

All students enrolled in the Precollege and Adult Program at Blair may use materials, equipment, and resources housed in the Anne Potter Wilson Music Library. Materials available for four-week checkout include books, CDs, DVDs, chamber music parts, and scores. Students must fill out an application, available at the library's service desk, in order to obtain a library card. If a student is under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must also sign the library card application.

The Music Library is an academic library that exists for study, listening/viewing, and research purposes. Special events for precollege students are held annually. A library area is devoted to precollege books and materials, and several computers are configured with precollege students in mind.

Music Library staff are available at the service desk to assist students in using the Music Library and with learning about the music research process.

Precollege students are expected to follow library policies and behave in a courteous manner. Young students should be under the supervision of a parent or guardian. Failure to abide by these guidelines can result in the loss of library privileges.

## REPORTS

Performances, examinations, semester reports, and classroom grade reports are an important part of the Blair program. During performance examinations, students perform for a faculty committee. Those exam critiques and semester written reports provide an evaluation of progress, suggestions for improvement, and important communications from the school to students and parents. Precollege classes have regular assignments and examinations as well. Adults and very young children generally do not play performance examinations, and many adult program classes do not give assignments or tests.



## STUDENT CONDUCT

Students of all ages fill the hallways and rooms of the Blair School to practice, perform, and study music. All students are expected to act responsibly and courteously throughout the building, including the hallways, practice rooms, and studios. Students who create excessive disturbance, or who disrupt the school's teaching, performances, studying, or administration, may be dismissed from the school. No refunds will be granted upon dismissal.

## DEFICIENCIES AND PROBATION

A precollege student whose progress is not satisfactory may be placed on probation for half a semester. If at the end of this period the quality of work has not improved to the satisfaction of the teacher, the student may not continue at the school. In the event of a dismissal, no refund will be given. Written notification is made in each case.

## HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

Students in many high schools and home-school students can earn enrichment credit for instruction taken at Blair. Students must fulfill all requirements to the satisfaction of the teacher. Blair instruction for high school credit is coordinated through the Office of Academic Services. The student is responsible for determining his or her eligibility with the individual high school's guidance counselor.

## CUMULATIVE RECORDS

Formal documentation of all student work (the cumulative record) will be provided upon written request from student or guardian. Forms are available from the Office of Academic Services. All student account balances at Blair must be paid in full before records will be released. At least one week's notice is required to process a cumulative record.

Blair School abides by federal policies on student confidentiality. For more information on the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), please refer to the back page of this catalog.

## VANDERBILT PROTECTION OF MINORS PROVISION

Vanderbilt University personnel adhere to Tennessee state law on mandatory child abuse reporting to either the appropriate law enforcement agency or the state hotline operated by the Department of Children's Services. In addition to external reporting, Vanderbilt has a mandatory internal child abuse reporting procedure. If you have reason to believe abuse or inappropriate behavior has occurred concerning a minor participating in a Vanderbilt University program, please consult the program director or Risk Management (615-936-0660) or report via the Vanderbilt hotline at 866-783-2287. The Tennessee Child Abuse reporting hotline number is 877-237-0004.

## PARKING AT BLAIR

The Blair School maintains ten marked permit-only spots in Lot 103 on the west end of the building. These spaces are reserved for our youngest students—those age five and younger. Permits may be obtained in the main office at the time of registration.

Adult student parking is available at Blair only for students with a valid handicap parking sticker.

Precollege and adult student parking is also available after 3:30 p.m. daily at the Harris Hillman School across Blakemore Avenue. After 4:00 p.m. daily and on weekends, free parking is available in the West Garage, directly across Children's Way from the Blair School's main entrance.

## THE PRECOLLEGE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Blair School of Music awards two certificates to high school seniors who have completed formal programs that encourage excellence in performance and knowledge of music theory and history—all essential elements for development of mature musicianship in advanced students. Myra Jackson Blair Scholarship students generally fulfill all or most of the Certificate Program requirements and are especially encouraged to participate in this program.

## CERTIFICATE PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Activity	Requirement	Certificate of Merit	Certificate of Distinction
<b>Achievement in Lessons and Performance Class</b>	Instrumental or Vocal study at Blair	Two years minimum (four semesters)	Three years minimum (six semesters)
	Audition ranking	Intermediate rank	Achievement of "Advanced Level" rank by May of the junior year
	Performance Class participation (if offered)	Each semester enrolled in lessons	Each semester enrolled in lessons
<b>Solo Performance</b>	Studio recital performance	Each semester	Each semester
	Pre-recital hearing	Successful completion required	Successful completion required
	Certificate recital	Minimum 20-minute public performance	Minimum 30-minute public performance
<b>Ensembles</b>	Large ensemble participation	As qualified	As qualified
	Chamber Music	N/A	One year minimum (two semesters) <i>and</i> participation in a recital
<b>Coursework</b>	Precollege Music Theory	Successful completion of Level 4/Level 6*	Successful completion of Level 4/Level 6*
	Music History	Year 1 (Two semesters)/Year 2*	Year 1 (Two semesters)/Year 2*
	Recital attendance	Two faculty or large ensemble concerts per semester	Two faculty or large ensemble concerts per semester
<b>Standards</b>	Grade standards	Minimum B+ in class work and performance	Minimum B+ in class work and performance

### \*Certificates with Honors

Students that successfully complete at least Level 6 of precollege theory and two years of history are eligible to receive either the Certificate of Merit with Honors or the Certificate of Distinction with Honors.

Formal admission to the program is contingent upon a performance audition that meets departmental standards for the “Intermediate” or “Advanced” level. The private teacher’s recommendation is required for a student to audition. Auditions are held in May and are adjudicated by members of the Certificate Program Council.

**Responsibilities.** Students are responsible for knowing and fulfilling all requirements. The student should keep a personal record of study and accomplishment to supplement similar records being maintained by the private teacher and Certificate Program staff. The student’s private teacher is the primary adviser throughout the program, selecting repertoire suitable for study, ensuring that all major periods and styles are covered, and determining when a student is qualified for the intermediate and/or advanced audition. The Certificate Program Council determines policies and standards, working closely with the entire faculty in matters affecting the program.

**Financial cost.** There is no fee for participation. Total cost to the student will be the regular tuition for lessons, classes, and other regular fees.

**Requirements.** An overview of each certificate is outlined on the previous page. More detailed information (including departmental standards; faculty, student, and council responsibilities; progress record forms; and current dates) is available from the certificate coordinator in the Office of Academic Services and on the Blair Precollege and Adult Program Web page.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The Blair School of Music is privileged to award a number of merit and need-based scholarships to precollege students. All awards are for one year only and are based on a number of factors including performance at the scholarship audition, teacher recommendations, and financial need. Consequently, awards will vary from year to year. All students are expected to maintain at least a B average in their studies and must audition each year for scholarship consideration. Scholarship auditions are held each spring and are adjudicated by faculty committees. Scholarship applications are available in the main office at Blair and on the Blair website. Check the current application for deadline dates.



*Honor Scholars, 2014/2015*

**Myra Jackson Blair Senior Scholarships.** These honor scholarships are awarded annually by Blair School of Music to outstanding students in grades 8–12 who have been recommended by their teachers and who may aspire to careers in music. Auditions, held each spring, are adjudicated by faculty committees. Scholarships cover academic-year tuition for 45-minute private instruction, classes in music theory and music history, accompanying and/or participation in chamber music. Optional classes in musicianship and Alexander Technique may be covered by this scholarship. Myra Jackson Blair Senior Scholars must maintain at least a B average in each subject, perform in one MJB Honor Scholars Recital each semester, perform in one outreach concert annually, and attend at least two professional or large ensemble concerts each semester. These students are encouraged to participate in the Certificate Program. Eligible instrumentalists are required to audition for the Nashville Youth Orchestra Program, and pianists are expected to take accompanying class or participate in chamber music each semester.

**Myra Jackson Blair Junior Scholarships.** These honor scholarships are awarded annually by Blair School of Music to outstanding students in grades 5–7 who have been recommended by their teachers and are serious about their music and musical study. Auditions, held each spring, are adjudicated by faculty committees. Scholarships cover academic-year tuition for 45-minute private instruction. MJB Junior Scholars must maintain at least a B average in their lessons, attend one MJB Honor Scholars Recital each semester, perform in an outreach concert annually, and attend at least two professional or large ensemble concerts each semester. Students entering grade 8 and older are not eligible for this award. Additionally, one MJB Scholarship award is made in honor of Roland Schneller and is presented annually to an outstanding young pianist in grades 4–6 who has been recommended by a Blair teacher. This scholarship covers partial tuition for private instruction.

**Blair Guild Scholarships.** High-achieving students who do not qualify for Myra Jackson Blair Scholarships but have demonstrated significant growth and skill in their performance and qualify for financial assistance may be awarded Blair Guild Scholarships in addition to other awards.

**Blair Folk Instrument Scholarships.** Awarded following auditions in the spring, these need-based scholarships provide financial assistance for private instruction tuition charges.

**Potter Precollege Scholarships.** Established in 1994 by the Potter Foundation, these scholarships are based on demonstrated financial need and significant talent and accomplishment. They provide partial tuition for private instruction and may be awarded on the basis of an audition with Blair faculty or, in some cases, on the recommendation of an outside teacher. Potter Precollege Scholarships may only be awarded for a total of two years. Some Potter awards are made to members of the Blair Children's Chorus Program, the Suzuki Program, and the Nashville Youth Orchestra Program, at the recommendation of the faculty.

**Jerome "Butch" Baldassari Scholarship.** Established by Lelia Sinclair Baldassari in 2010 in honor of her husband, Jerome "Butch" Baldassari, Blair School of Music adjunct professor of mandolin from 1996 until his death in 2009, this scholarship provides partial tuition for precollege and adult students studying mandolin, fiddle, or dulcimer.

**Blair Woodwind Scholarships.** Awarded to woodwind students who demonstrate interest and ability, the need-based scholarships provide financial assistance for private instruction tuition.

**Gilbert Memorial Scholarship.** Established in 1998 in memory of Douglas A. Gilbert, former Blair clarinet student, and his father, Robert J. Gilbert, a lifetime clarinet player and Blair supporter, this scholarship provides partial tuition for a clarinet student with at least one year of study at the Blair School.

**Mary McClure Hotchkiss Scholarship.** Established in 1987 by the will of Coleman A. Harwell in memory of his aunt, a distinguished pianist and teacher and a native of Lewisburg, Tennessee, this scholarship provides a partial tuition award each semester. Preference is given to a piano student.

**David Mazanec Memorial Scholarship.** Established in memory of David Mazanec, former Suzuki student, this need-based scholarship provides partial tuition for Suzuki violin and cello students in Book 4 or above. Students are eligible to apply after one year of participation in the Suzuki program at Blair.

**William H. Moennig Memorial Scholarship.** Established in 1986 by the family and friends of Mr. Moennig, this scholarship provides partial tuition for private instruction to talented precollege string students.

**Samuel E. Stumpf Sr. Trumpet Scholarship.** Established in 1998 in memory of Dr. Samuel E. Stumpf, Sr., by his family and friends, this endowed scholarship provides partial tuition for a student who is serious about his or her musical endeavors.

**Amelie Throne Scholarship.** Established in 1989 through a bequest from Elizabeth Binford Bergner, this scholarship provides partial tuition each semester for a piano student.

**Jacqueline and Morris Wachs Scholarship for Piano and Strings.** Established in 2001 by Morris Wachs and family, this scholarship is awarded annually to deserving piano and string students for study at Blair. Scholarships cover partial tuition for private instruction during the academic year.

## PRECOLLEGE INSTRUCTION

*Please check the current interview schedule, which provides faculty contacts for placement interviews, available at [blair.vanderbilt.edu](http://blair.vanderbilt.edu).*

*For a current listing of all Blair faculty, visit the website at [blair.vanderbilt.edu](http://blair.vanderbilt.edu).*

## INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE INSTRUCTION

The Blair School of Music provides a programmed course of study in individual instruction. Students must register for a full semester of study. Individual instruction focuses on the art and practice of an instrument or voice, with emphasis on tone quality, technique, rhythm, interpretation, and literature.



## GROUP INSTRUCTION/CLASSES

**Kindermusik (Ages 0–5).** This nationally acclaimed music program is designed for children from infancy to five years of age and their caregivers. Participants enjoy singing, listening, dancing, interacting socially, and playing simple instruments. The program offers a variety of classes which focus on the child's emotional development as confidence, curiosity, self-control, and communication begin to take shape. See the Kindermusik information on the Blair website for a complete schedule of classes.

### *Suzuki String Instruction*

**(Ages 4 and up).** Instruction using the Suzuki method is available in violin and cello for children. Children develop musical ability and sensitivity, using the same process of listening and imitation by which they learn their native language. Suzuki students gain the poise necessary for performance and learn to read music notation as they progress. It is essential that parents attend each lesson and supervise home practice.

**Suzuki Strings I.** Beginning students receive one 30-minute private lesson and one 30-minute weekly group lesson.

**Suzuki Strings II.** One 30-minute private lesson weekly and one 60-minute biweekly group lesson.

**Suzuki Strings III.** One 45-minute private lesson weekly and one 60-minute biweekly group lesson.

**Suzuki Strings IV.** One 60-minute private lesson weekly and one 60-minute biweekly group lesson.

In addition to individual and group lessons, the Blair Suzuki Violin and Cello Program offers motivated students several group performing opportunities:

**The Blair Children's Cello Choir** is a select group of advanced students from the Blair Suzuki Cello Program. Rehearsals are held weekly to learn a variety of works for cello ensemble and to polish Suzuki repertoire to a high level of performance. Students who are studying at the Suzuki Book 4 level are eligible to audition for the Cello Choir. The Childrens Cello Choir performs several times each semester.

**The Blair Violin Performing Group** is open to motivated students currently in Suzuki Book 4 and beyond. Auditions are held early in the fall semester. Weekly rehearsals prepare students for performances at Blair and at various prominent venues in the Nashville area, including the Frist Center for the Visual Arts and Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art.

Late in the spring semester, the Blair Children's Cello Choir and the Blair Violin Performing Group join forces to present the Suzuki Program's annual concert in the Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall at Blair.

*Group Piano: Suzuki-based and Traditional Partner Piano (Ages 3 and up).*

The Blair School offers several introductory piano classes geared to different age levels. Both the Suzuki-based and traditional method classes combine small peer group lessons with one-on-one instruction. In group, children learn rhythm, pitch, musical terms, and notation using a variety of auditory, visual, and kinesthetic activities.

Throughout the program, parents attend lessons and supervise home practice.

**Partner Piano I (Age 4 beginners).** Includes 30-minute private lesson, and a 30-minute weekly group.

Students begin with a variety of singing and pre-reading activities. Parental involvement is essential to beginner lessons; parents normally attend all lessons and practice sessions. At the conclusion of the first year, students should progress to Partner Piano II, III, or IV.

**Partner Piano II (Children 4 and up).** One 30-minute private and 30-minute weekly group.

**Partner Piano III.** One 45-minute private and 30-minute weekly group.

**Partner Piano IV.** One 60-minute private and 30-minute weekly group.

Elementary to intermediate students will develop a conceptual understanding of the fundamentals of music: ear training, improvisation, reading, singing, and technical training. Students will be invited to participate in formal recitals at the conclusion of each term.

More advanced students will continue to learn solo repertoire and to develop performance skills, including technique, sight-reading, keyboard improvisation, theory, and composition.



## AMERICAN FOLK INSTRUMENTS

**Fiddle.** Individual instruction available for all kinds of players, ages 5 and up. Instruction includes tunes and techniques of various historical folk styles including old-time, bluegrass, Irish, Scottish, Texas swing, and other world styles. Ear training, harmonization, and introductory improvisation are also included in weekly lessons, as well as the development of the student's own style. Beginner instruction places emphasis on correct violin training and technique, using fiddle and violin repertoire. The precollege program includes semester recitals as well as the opportunity to play and learn in a group setting with peers of a similar age. This "fiddle frenzy" experience meets every second Tuesday and includes community performance opportunities.

**Appalachian Dulcimer.** Individual instruction for all levels and ages. The appropriate skill level of the student is determined by the instructor. No musical background required. Historical playing styles are taught, with an emphasis on ear training. Students will build a repertoire of traditional tunes played on this unique American folk instrument. Advanced students will explore additional styles based on interest. The precollege program offers specialized group experience.

**Mandolin.** Individual instruction includes learning the use of tablature and standard notation and the study of the basics of mandolin technique. Emphasis is placed on playing together and developing a repertoire of old-time tunes. Advanced students expand on old-time tunes as a repertoire base and develop other mandolin styles including bluegrass, Celtic, and original music.

## OTHER CLASSES

**Precollege Accompanying.** This course introduces high school pianists to the basics of collaborative techniques. Emphasis on sight-reading and learning to play with woodwinds, strings, brass, and vocalists. Weekly individual and group coaching. Open to pianists grade 8 and older. Classes meet 45 minutes weekly, fall and spring semesters.

**Music History.** Music history is designed to introduce students (grade 7 and up and adults) to the history of Western art music, including its historical development, styles, genres, major figures, and socio-cultural contexts. The curriculum also focuses on developing critical thinking, writing, and research skills. The study consists of two successive yearlong courses, beginning each fall. Music History 1 is a general survey of Western music history, while Music History 2 explores selected topics in depth.

**Music Theory.** The Music Theory Program is a unique, integrated theory experience, offering students an exciting range and depth of individualized instruction. The curriculum is designed to address the needs of all students, from total beginners to advanced students who are already working at or near college level. Personal interaction with theory faculty and regular assessment through testing are integral to each student's academic development and understanding of course material. Children and adults ages 12 and older are welcome after completing an initial placement test.

**Alexander Technique for Musicians.** Dedicated musicians practice a lot, which can lead to strain, pain, and injury. Alexander Technique teaches students to unite the body and mind in effective, healthy ways.

**Musicianship, Level I.** Using the Ploger Method®, students learn to identify and perform rhythms, intervals, and scale degrees by ear and eye in real time while becoming acquainted with aspects of the traditional classic French ear-training/sight training systems used throughout the world. Music students of all types and genres welcome. The class is limited to students ages 13 and older.

**Musicianship, Level II.** While continuing to develop the foundational pitch and rhythm skills acquired in Level I, using the Ploger Method®, students learn to aurally recognize, read, write, play, improvise, and harmonize diatonic tonal and modal melodies. The class is limited to students ages 14 and older. Prerequisite: Level I

# ENSEMBLE INSTRUCTION

## BLAIR CHILDREN'S CHORUS PROGRAM

This classically based, tiered choral program is designed for children grades 1–12. The program develops vocal, listening, and music reading skills in an enriching ensemble environment. Admission to each choir is determined through open auditions that are held during fall and spring registration periods. For audition information, check the Prospective Members page at [blair.vanderbilt.edu/bcc](http://blair.vanderbilt.edu/bcc).

**Girl's Concert Choir.** This touring choir of girls in grades 8–12 performs repertoire from many genres and in multiple languages. The choir gives numerous concerts per year, tours each summer, and attends a weekend fall choral camp. Concert Choir has performed many times with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra and other prominent arts organizations in the area. Recent concert tours and festivals have taken the choir to England, Canada, Germany, the Czech Republic, and Costa Rica. A high level of musicianship and commitment is required. Students are admitted into the Girl's Concert Choir in the fall only.

**Young Men's Chorus.** Boys whose voices have changed or are changing are eligible for this chorus. The choir stresses strong music fundamentals and healthy singing through the vocal change, and emphasizes the cultural importance of young men singing together. They sing music in many styles and languages and tour biennially to domestic and international locations.

**Nashville Boychoir at Blair.** Boys in this choir enjoy exploring their vocal talents and learning how to read music together. They perform several times each year in collaboration with other arts organizations, for community and civic events and at Blair. A pleasant, unforced vocal quality and a love of singing are the most important attributes sought in new singers.

**Blair Choristers.** This intermediate-level choir for girls in grades 5–8 performs regularly in the Nashville area. This choir stresses vocal development, music reading, ensemble singing, and performance skills. Students explore music in other languages and singing in two and three parts. They often combine with other program choirs for concert pieces.

**Training Choir.** This beginning choral ensemble is open to boys and girls in grades 1–5. This choir is split between two rooms and two instructors during the rehearsal time where students develop their young voices, begin music reading, and learn musicianship skills through part singing, rounds, games, and activities. The result is a fun introduction to singing that is supportive and structured. This choir performs with the other BCC ensembles in the concerts at the end of each semester.

**Chorale.** Chorale is an auditioned ensemble of girls and boys in other BCC choirs who can comfortably sing treble music. Entry into Chorale is based on musicianship skills, vocal quality, attendance record, and citizenship. Chorale is the primary performing children’s choir for the Nashville Symphony Orchestra. Any student in Chorale must also participate in his or her primary Blair choir.

## NASHVILLE YOUTH ORCHESTRA PROGRAM

The Nashville Youth Orchestra Program encompasses eight student orchestras: the Curb Youth Symphony, the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Nashville Youth Repertory Orchestra, the Nashville Youth Strings Orchestras (I, II, and III), the Nashville Reading Orchestra, and the Nashville Beginning Reading Orchestra. All orchestras are open by audition; auditions are scheduled in August. Students accepted for membership are encouraged to be in good standing in their school music organizations. The Nashville Youth Orchestra Program provides unique opportunities to experience masterpieces of orchestral literature and work with professional coaches and conductors. Audition information is online at *blair.vanderbilt.edu/ensembles*.

**Curb Youth Symphony.** Curb Youth Symphony is the most advanced ensemble of the Nashville Youth Orchestra Program. It performs masterpieces of standard orchestral literature and features winners of the CYS Concerto Competition on each concert. Students have the opportunity to work with both Nashville Symphony Orchestra members and Blair School of Music faculty members in section rehearsals and master classes. An annual CYS/NSO Side-By-Side Concert is performed at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center. Membership is open to students in grades 8–12. The Curb Youth Symphony is sponsored jointly by the Nashville Symphony and Blair School of Music. The orchestra rehearses Monday evenings.

**Philharmonia Orchestra.** The Philharmonia is a full orchestra of middle school and high school musicians. It performs masterpieces of standard orchestral literature and provides leadership opportunities for young musicians. Students have the opportunity to work with both Nashville Symphony Orchestra members and Blair School of Music faculty members in section rehearsals and master classes. Membership is open to students in grades 7–12. The orchestra rehearses Sunday afternoons.

**Nashville Youth Repertory Orchestra.** The Repertory Orchestra is a full orchestra of middle and high school students. They perform orchestral repertoire, and students learn how to provide leadership in an orchestra section. Membership is open to students in grades 7–12. The orchestra presents several concerts each season. The orchestra rehearses on Tuesday evenings.

**Nashville Youth Strings Orchestras (I, II, and III).** The Youth Strings Orchestras provide training for young string students and prepare them for admission into the Repertory Orchestra. Students must be able to read at least level-one music. These groups give two or three concerts each season and meet for one 60-minute session weekly. Tuesday evenings.

**Nashville Reading Orchestra.** The Reading Orchestra focuses on strengthening string students' music-reading skills. This class also introduces fundamentals of orchestral playing and music theory. This ensemble gives two or three concerts each season and meets for one weekly 60-minute session weekly. Thursday evenings.

**Nashville Beginning Reading Orchestra.** The Beginning Reading Orchestra introduces fundamentals of orchestral playing and music theory and develops music-reading skills. Thursday evenings.

## CHAMBER MUSIC PROGRAM

This course involves the study and performance of chamber music. Mixed ensembles including woodwind, brass, percussion, string, and piano are available. Includes weekly one-hour coaching, rehearsal, and end-of-semester concert. Open to students by audition or upon recommendation of their private instructors.

# ADULT INSTRUCTION

## INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE INSTRUCTION

Individual instruction focuses on the art and practice of an instrument or voice, with emphasis on tone quality, technique, rhythm, interpretation, and literature. Schedules are arranged between teacher and student at registration.

## GROUP PERFORMANCE INSTRUCTION

Group performance courses are designed primarily for beginning and intermediate students. Group instruction emphasizes basic technique, rhythm, tone, and musical interpretation. Students must interview with faculty member for approval to enroll. Enrollment information is available from the Office of Academic Services.

## AMERICAN FOLK INSTRUMENTS

### *Fiddle Program*

**Beginning and Intermediate Fiddle.** Private lessons for all levels of players. Instruction includes an introduction to various styles, such as Old Time, Bluegrass, Celtic, and Texas Swing. Students also have opportunities to play and learn in a group setting, with others at a similar level. Ear training and work with harmonization is included.

**Advanced Fiddle.** Designed for advanced players. Various styles of fiddle, from traditional Texas style to the recording session experience, are presented. Emphasis is placed on ear training, improvisation, and developing one's own style.

### *Appalachian Dulcimer*

**Group and individual instruction for all levels.** No musical background required. Historical playing styles are taught with an emphasis on ear training. Students will build a repertoire of traditional tunes played on this unique American folk instrument. Advanced students will explore additional styles based on interest.

### *Mandolin Instruction*

**Beginning Mandolin.** Students learn to read music and study the basics of mandolin technique. Emphasis is placed on playing together and developing a repertoire of old-time tunes. Advanced students expand on old-time tunes as a repertoire base and develop other styles of mandolin including bluegrass, Celtic, and original music.

### *Jazz Performance Instruction*

Individual jazz performance instruction is offered in voice, guitar, saxophone, drumset, double bass, and piano. Prerequisite: A personal interview and an audition with the instructor.

### *Steel Drum*

Group and individual instruction for all levels. Caribbean song styles (Calypso, Soca, Reggae), history and development of the Steel Band art form, and cultural awareness are emphasized.

## CLASS INSTRUCTION

Blair Adult Classes may be offered on a rotating basis. Blair university courses may also be available to adult students. Check current offerings brochure or call the Office of Academic Services at (615) 322-7651.

### *Music Theory*

**Precollege and Adult Music Theory.** The Blair Precollege and Adult Music Theory Program is a unique, integrated theory experience offering students an exciting range and depth of theory options. The curriculum is designed to address the needs of all students, from total beginners to advanced students working at or near college level. Personal interaction with theory faculty and regular assessment through testing are integral to each student's academic development and understanding of course material. Adults and children ages 12 and older are welcome after an initial placement test.

**The Nashville Number System for Songwriters and Performers.** Designed for adults and teenagers ages 15 and older who write songs, sing, or play an instrument but may not read traditional music. Aspects of music notation, theory, chords, and charting original songs and classic hits will be explained. The Nashville Number System is explored. Students will observe and discuss studio work.

**Hit Songwriters Seminar.** Guest artists visit every week, listening to student compositions and offering advice and suggestions. Guests include Music Row's finest producers, songwriters, and performers.

*Music Literature and History*

**Symphony 101: Hear More, Enjoy More with New Ears.** Engaging, participatory discussion focused on listening skills, each composer's personal and artistic thinking, social and cultural factors, and the enjoyment of music. Music and discussions timed to correlate with upcoming Nashville Symphony programs.



## ADULT ENSEMBLES

**Vanderbilt Community Chorus.** Open by audition to faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of Vanderbilt who love to sing the best of choral music. Three performances are given each year. The repertoire includes classical literature from all periods as well as major works with orchestra. Auditions are held in August and January. One two-hour rehearsal weekly.

**Steel Drum/Pan Ensemble—MUSE 1200.** Open to all members of the community, a laboratory and performance experience drawing on Caribbean steel drums/pans with emphasis on the music and dance repertoires of the island of Trinidad. Lecture-demonstrations and rehearsals in one weekly two-hour session. At least one public performance each semester. No previous experience required.

**Sankofa African Performing Ensemble—MUSE 1230.** A laboratory and performance experience drawing on traditional African musical instruments—drums, percussion, winds—with emphasis on West African (Ghana) and East African (Uganda) music and dance repertoires. Lecture-demonstrations and rehearsals in one weekly two-hour session. At least one public performance each semester. No previous experience required.

For the availability of participation in any other university ensemble, please contact the ensemble director for eligibility and audition information. For a full listing of Blair ensembles, visit the school website at [blair.vanderbilt.edu](http://blair.vanderbilt.edu).



## BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY

*For a complete and current listing of all Blair/Vanderbilt University and Precollege and Adult faculty with contact information, please visit the Blair website at [blair.vanderbilt.edu](http://blair.vanderbilt.edu).*

## BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC ADMINISTRATION

### *Mailing Address:*

Blair School of Music  
Vanderbilt University  
2400 Blakemore Avenue  
Nashville, TN 37212-3499

### *Blair Main Office*

Jenny Simpkins, Receptionist  
[virginia.t.simpkins@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:virginia.t.simpkins@vanderbilt.edu)  
Telephone: (615) 322-7651—Main Desk  
Fax: (615) 343-0324

Website: *[blair.vanderbilt.edu](http://blair.vanderbilt.edu)*

## OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Mark Wait, Dean  
Melissa Rose, Associate Dean, Collegiate Program  
Pamela Schneller, Associate Dean, Precollege and Adult Program  
Thomas Crespo, Director of Admissions  
Molly Jewell, Assistant Director of Admissions  
Norma Gandy, Operations Officer

## FINANCIAL OFFICE

Robert Halliburton, Business Officer  
*[robert.halliburton@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:robert.halliburton@vanderbilt.edu)*  
Darlene Bethke, Accounting Assistant  
*[darlene.bethke@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:darlene.bethke@vanderbilt.edu)*

## PRECOLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

Pamela Schneller, Associate Dean, Precollege and Adult Program  
*pam.schneller@vanderbilt.edu*  
(615) 343-5614

Kirsten Cassel Greer, Certificate Program Coordinator  
*kirsten.cassel@vanderbilt.edu*  
(615) 322-4921

## OFFICE OF ACADEMIC SERVICES

Tom Langmesser  
PCA and Collegiate Office of Academic Services  
*tom.langmesser@vanderbilt.edu*

## COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

Kristin Whittlesey, Director of External Relations  
*kristin.whittlesey@vanderbilt.edu*

Christine Claffey, Scheduling Coordinator  
*christine.claffey@vanderbilt.edu*

## TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

Joe DeBusk, Technical Director  
*joe.debusk@vanderbilt.edu*

## DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Virginia Payne, Associate Dean for Development  
and Alumni Relations  
*virginia.payne@vanderbilt.edu*

## *Index*

Absences	8	American folk instruments,	
Accompanying, precollege	21	precollege program	20
Administration,		Fiddle	20
Blair School of Music	29	Appalachian dulcimer	20
Community and public		Mandolin	20
relations	30	Anne Potter Wilson Music	
Dean's office	29	Library, Blair School	8
Development office	30	Appalachian dulcimer,	
Financial office	29	adult program	25
Mailing address	29	Appalachian dulcimer,	
Main office	29	precollege program	20
Office of Academic Services	30	Audition, precollege	
Precollege administration	30	certificate program	13
Technical department	30	Auditions	7, 13
Adult program	6		
Adult instruction	25	Beginning Reading Orchestra,	
Alexander Technique	9, 21	Nashville	24
American folk instruments,		Blair Children's Cello Choir	18
adult program	25	Blair Children's Chorus Program	22
Fiddle	25	Girl's Concert Choir	22
Appalachian dulcimer	25	Young Men's Chorus	22
Mandolin	26	Nashville Boychoir at Blair	22
Jazz performance	26	Blair Choristers	22
Steel drum	26	Training Choir	23
		Chorale	23

Blair Choristers	22	Dean's office, Blair School	29
Blair School of Music history	4	Deficiencies	10
Blair Violin Performing Group	18	Development office, Blair School	30
Calendar	4	Ensemble instruction,	
Certificate program, precollege	11	adult program	7
Chamber Music Program	24	Ensemble instruction,	
Chorale	23	precollege program	22
Class instruction, adult program	26	Ensembles, adult	28
Music theory	26	Vanderbilt Community Chorus	28
Music literature and		Steel Drum/Pan Ensemble	28
history	27	Sankofa African	
Classes, precollege	17	Performing Ensemble	28
Precollege Accompanying	21	Ensembles, precollege	22
Music History	21	Blair Choristers	22
Music Theory	21	Chamber Music Program	24
Musicianship	21	Chorale	23
Alexander Technique		Curb Youth Symphony	23
for Musicians	21	Girl's Concert Choir	22
Classroom instruction,		Nashville Beginning	
adult program	7	Reading Orchestra	24
Community and public relations,		Nashville Boychoir at Blair	22
Blair School	30	Nashville Reading Orchestra	24
Cumulative records	10	Nashville Youth	
Curb Youth Symphony	23	Repertory Orchestra	24

Nashville Youth		High school credit	10
Strings Orchestras	24	History, Blair School of Music	4
Philharmonia Orchestra	24		
Training Choir	23	Individual performance	
Young Men’s Chorus	22	instruction, adult program	6, 25
		Individual performance	
Faculty	4	instruction, precollege program	17
Faculty, Blair School of Music	29	Fiddle	20
Fees	8	Appalachian dulcimer	20
Fiddle, adult program	25	Mandolin	20
Fiddle, precollege program	20	Instructional opportunities,	
Financial office, Blair School	29	precollege program	5
Girl’s Concert Choir	22	Jazz performance, adult program	26
Group instruction, adult program	7		
Group instruction,		Keyboard instruction,	
precollege program	17	adult program	25
Kindermusik	17	Kindermusik	17
Suzuki string instruction	18		
Group piano	19	Library privileges	8
Group performance instruction,			
adult program	25	Mailing address, Blair School	29
Group piano, precollege program	19	Main office, Blair School	29
		Mandolin, adult program	26
		Mandolin, precollege program	20

Mission statement	3	Parking at Blair	11
Music history, precollege program	21	Partner piano, traditional	19
Music literature and history, adult program	27	Philharmonia Orchestra	24
Music theory, adult program	26	Placement	7
Music theory, precollege program	21	Ploger Method®	21
Musicianship, precollege program	21	Precollege administration	30
		Precollege certificate program	11
		Precollege certificate program requirements	12
Nashville Boychoir at Blair	22	Precollege instruction	17
Nashville number system	26	Precollege program	5
Nashville Youth Orchestra Program	23	Probation	10
Curb Youth Symphony	23	Protection of minors	11
Nashville Beginning Reading Orchestra	24		
Nashville Reading Orchestra	24	Reading Orchestra, Nashville	24
Nashville Youth Repertory Orchestra	24	Registration	8
Nashville Youth Strings Orchestra	24	Reports	9
Philharmonia Orchestra	24	Responsibilities, student	13
		Sankofa African Performing Ensemble	28
Office of Academic Services	30	Scholarships	13
		Myra Jackson Blair Senior Scholarships	15

Myra Jackson Blair		Songwriting	27
Junior Scholarships	15	Steel drum, adult program	26
Blair Guild Scholarships	15	Steel Drum/Pan Ensemble	28
Blair Folk Intrument		Student conduct	10
Scholarships	15	Suzuki string instruction	18
Potter Precollege		Suzuki-based group piano	19
Scholarships	15		
Jerome “Butch”		Technical department, Blair School	30
Baldassari Scholarship	16	Traditional partner piano	19
Blair Woodwind		Training Choir	23
Scholarships	16		
Gilbert Memorial		Vanderbilt Community Chorus	28
Scholarship	16		
Mary McClure		Young Men’s Chorus	22
Hotchkiss Scholarship	16	Youth Repertory Orchestra,	
David Mazanec		Nashville	24
Memorial Scholarship	16	Youth Strings Orchestras,	
William H. Moennig		Nashville	24
Memorial Scholarship	16		
Samuel E. Stumpf Sr.			
Trumpet Scholarship	16		
Amelie Throne Scholarship	17		
Jacqueline and Morris Wachs			
Scholarship for Piano			
and Strings	17		



## NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the School receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the Blair Pre-College and Adult program Registrar or Associate Dean for Pre-College and Adult program a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The Registrar or Associate Dean will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate.

Parents or eligible students may ask the School to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate. They should write the School principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

## FAMILY POLICY COMPLIANCE OFFICE

U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-5901

© 2015 Vanderbilt University. All rights reserved.

## NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In compliance with federal law, including the provisions of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, Executive Order 11246, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, as amended, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, Vanderbilt University does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, military service, or genetic information in its administration of educational policies, programs, or activities; admissions policies; scholarship and loan programs; athletic or other university-administered programs; or employment. In addition, the university does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression consistent with the University's nondiscrimination policy. Inquiries or complaints should be directed to the Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services Department, Baker Building, PMB 401809, Nashville, TN 37240-1809. Telephone (615) 322-4705 (V/TDD); Fax (615) 343-4969.

"Vanderbilt" and the Vanderbilt logo are registered trademarks and service marks of Vanderbilt University. Produced by Vanderbilt University Creative Services and Vanderbilt Printing Services, 2015. Printed on paper with 10 percent post-consumer recycled content with ink made from renewable resources, as part of the university's commitment to environmental stewardship and natural resource protection. This publication is recyclable. Please recycle it. ♻️



