



Live the
Music
at Lander University

Music Scholarship
Auditions
2025-2026

About the Department of Music

Fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music, the **Lander University Department of Music** offers a comprehensive program of music study designed to promote musical literacy and artistry.

Conceived within the tradition of a liberal arts education, the Bachelor of Science degree in music (instrumental, keyboard and vocal) combines a strong music component with a broad menu of elective courses, while the Bachelor of Science in music, K-12 teacher certification (choral, instrumental and keyboard) curriculum prepares students for the organization and administration of public and private school music programs.

Music students receive one-on-one studio instruction and are afforded valuable performing opportunities with the Brass, Guitar, Keyboard, Percussion, String and Woodwind ensembles; Jazz Combo, the University and Old Main Singers, Opera Workshop, the Lander Chamber Strings, the Lander Jazz Ensemble, the Lander Wind Ensemble, and Pep Band.

At Lander University, you will find teachers, performers, parents, doctors, politicians, lawyers, music ministers, conductors, composers, recording artists, retailers, rockers, master's and doctoral students, and many more among those who have passed through our studio and classroom doors.

Music Scholarships

Lander's Department of Music offers scholarships to freshmen and transfer students who wish to pursue a degree program as music majors. Prospective majors must audition before the music faculty to demonstrate performing abilities and musical potential, as well as knowledge of music fundamentals.

Ranging from \$500 to \$2,500 per academic year, music scholarships are awarded to students in these applied areas:

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| • euphonium | • oboe | • trombone |
| • bassoon | • organ | • trumpet |
| • clarinet | • percussion | • tuba |
| • flute | • piano | • voice |
| • French horn | • saxophone | |
| • guitar | • strings | |

A limited number of scholarships are available each year to music minors and to ensemble participants. The Brookside Housing Grant (up to \$2,000 per year) is open, while funds are available, to qualifying musicians who perform in the Lander University Pep Band, the Lander University Singers and the Lander University Wind Ensemble.

Students must be officially accepted to the University prior to the awarding of scholarships.

See a complete listing of scholarships at lander.edu/music.

Questions and Information

For information about Lander University's music degree programs, instrumentalist workshops and concerts, or the scholarship application/audition process, please contact Dr. Reed Gallo, Chair, Department of Music, at 864-388-8345 or rgallo@lander.edu.



Application and Audition Registration

Application for admission to Lander University may be made at lander.edu/apply, or by contacting the Office of Admissions at 864-388-8307. Music scholarship auditions coincide with Admissions Open Houses, during which you may speak with music faculty and representatives from Admissions, Financial Aid and Student Life, as well as tour the campus.

The 2025-2026 Admissions Open House dates are:

- **October 11, 2025**
- **February 21, 2026**
- **November 15, 2025**
- **March 21, 2026**

To be considered for music scholarships, at least one week prior to your chosen audition date you will need to:

- Complete the Lander Music Scholarship Application and Audition Registration Form, accessible through this QR code, or online at lander.edu/music-scholarships.
- Submit one letter of recommendation from a music professional to ablackwood@lander.edu, or via U.S. mail to: Amy Blackwood, Audition Coordinator, Lander University, 320 Stanley Ave., Greenwood, SC 29649.



At auditions, students are expected to perform two selections in contrasting styles. Musicians may also be required to execute scales and sight-read. A university accompanist will be available. Alternate audition dates may be arranged by contacting a music faculty member.

Experience the Opportunities

Lakelands Honor Band

High school instrumentalists from Abbeville, Clinton, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Ninety Six, Saluda and surrounding areas who are nominated by their band directors are invited to participate in Lander's All-Lakelands Honor Band, **Nov. 21-22, 2025**. The event includes chair auditions, sectionals, rehearsals and a concert — it's a great opportunity to visit campus and interact with music faculty and students.

Experience MUSICMANIA

Enjoy a free afternoon of music at Lander on **Nov. 15, 2025**! Explore conducting techniques with Wind Ensemble director Reed Gallo. Sing along with University Singers choral conductor Keith Jameson. Compose a tune with theorist/composer Robert Kelley. Explore clefs with Chamber Strings director Amy Blackwood.

Lander University Choral Festival

Lander is excited to welcome outstanding high school choirs from across South Carolina for the University's annual choral festival on **Feb. 17, 2026**. For information about this event, contact Amy Blackwood at ablackwood@lander.edu.

Brass and Woodwind Day

Join us **Feb. 28, 2026**, for Brass and Woodwind Day! Take part in engaging workshops, perform with our expert faculty and connect with fellow student musicians. You'll grow as a musician and experience the energy of a college music program, all in one exciting day!





Be Mentored by Masters

At Lander, you will work closely with experienced and nationally recognized faculty, all of whom are more than just skilled educators. They are also performing musicians and scholars. Our faculty includes instrumentalists who have appeared with critically acclaimed bands and symphonies; conductors who have premiered works on artist recordings; and vocalists who have sung in professional choirs and opera and musical theatre companies. Lander's highly motivated and talented music faculty is eager to teach and advise, to engage and encourage you in your musical journey, and, above all, to prepare you for the successful pursuit of a career in music, music education or graduate study.

Allen, Terri

[M.M., Grand Canyon]
Music Education

Blackwood, Amy [M.M., UNC-Greensboro]
Collaborative Pianist, Chamber Orchestra
864-388-8662; ablackwood@lander.edu

Bracchitta, Ian

[B.M., Massachusetts]
Double Bass

Cleveland, Rodney

[M.M., Emory]
Piano

Diaz, Lauren

[Ed.D., Columbia]
French Horn, Jazz Ensemble
864-388-8236; ldiaz@lander.edu

Gallo, Reed

[D.M.A., Illinois]
Chair, Department of Music
Wind Ensemble, Trumpet, Brass Ensemble
864-388-8345; rgallo@lander.edu

Gardner, Becky

[M.M.E., Kent State]
Oboe

Hazan, Catherine

[M.M., Catholic University]
Violin, Viola

Hilley, Byron

[M.M., Northeast Louisiana]
Guitar

Hoover, Shannon

[M.Ed., Anderson]
Electric Bass, Jazz Piano

Jameson, Keith

[M.M., Eastman]
Director, Choral Ensembles
864-388-8410; music@lander.edu

Jones, Matthew

[B.M., South Carolina]
Percussion, Percussion Ensemble

Kelley, Robert

[Ph.D., Florida State]
Music Theory, Piano, World Music
864-388-8774; rkelly@lander.edu

Newell, Michael

[B.M., Berklee College of Music]
Guitar

Ruth, Jeremy

[D.M.A., Arizona State]
Clarinet, Music History, Woodwind Ensemble
864-388-8349; jruth@lander.edu

Thomas, Richard

[D.M.A., South Carolina]
Cello

Turner, Todd

[D.M.A., Memphis]
Voice

Usherwood, Jessica

[D.M., Indiana]
Voice

Wilson, Leah

[M.M., Western Carolina]
Flute



Greenwood, S.C. | lander.edu/music