

MSU MUSIC SEASON 2026-27



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC



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MSU DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

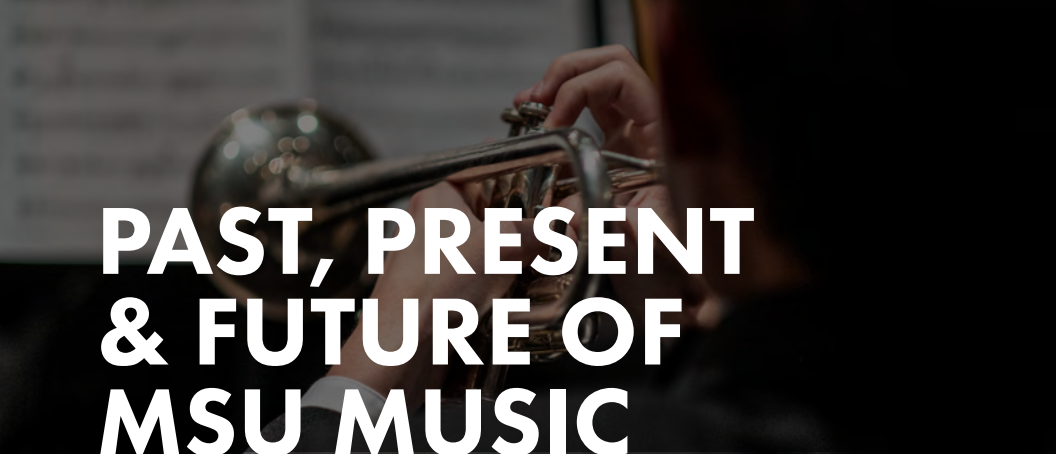
Welcome to the Department of Music at Mississippi State University!

We are excited to share another great year of excellence in the musical arts with you. Our programs and facilities have grown, and the future of our department is bright, thanks to loyal alumni and friends like you.

You will find news about our accomplishments, ways you can help us grow, information about upcoming events, and course offerings and updates for prospective and returning students.

Thank you for being part of the music. We hope to see you on campus or out in the community.





PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE OF MSU MUSIC

The value of the arts to our communities cannot be overstated, and we are honored to do our part. Thanks to your generosity, we can take a stronger role in music education and enrich our communities through your giving and loyal support.

See below what we have achieved together.

- **NEW FACILITY**

The completion of our brand-new music facility next to Sills Band Hall. The spacious complex provides us with ample room for additional classrooms, a choral rehearsal hall, faculty offices, soundproof practice rooms, a recording studio, a recital hall, a student lounge, and an administrative suite.

- **ALL-STEINWAY SCHOOL STATUS**

We achieved this prestigious status thanks to your generous support.

- **RESEARCH RECOGNITION**

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching ranks our comprehensive land-grant institution as a Very High Research Activity University.

- **PRESTIGIOUS MEMBERSHIP.**

Our Department of Music, part of the College of Education, is now an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

These are a small portion of what we have accomplished together thanks to your generosity. Though we have achieved much, we need your help to maximize our potential.

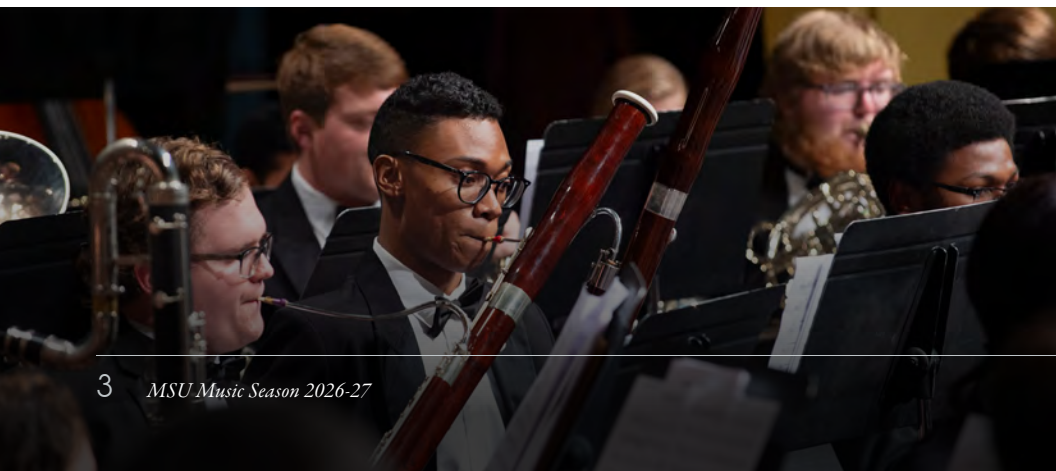
Performance Support

Help our performers by supporting the practical elements that make performances possible. Your gift will help us build our music library, provide concert technology, create engaging print media, and provide quality instruments on stage. You can direct your gift toward a solo artist recital, a studio concert, or an ensemble.

Annual Giving

Help train tomorrow's music educators and performers by supporting our studios and ensembles through annual giving. These gifts provide our department with flexible support to meet immediate priorities, strengthen opportunities for students and faculty, and sustain the quality of performances and programs throughout the year. Specific areas of need include:

- World Music Guest Artist sponsorships
- Famous Maroon Band sousaphones
- Recording Studio Technology
- Community Music School lesson scholarships
- Opera props and costumes
- Music education teaching materials and methods instruments
- Large ensemble travel



Student Scholarships

Your scholarship gifts help us attract and retain gifted musicians and have a direct impact on our nearly 150 music majors. Scholarship support makes travel feasible for their presentations at national conferences and performances and provides performance opportunities for our more than 1,000 student musicians who are part of our ensembles on campus.

Faculty and Program Endowments

These types of gifts secure the longevity of the MSU Music program by helping us provide market-competitive salaries for tenure-track faculty, supporting recurring applied studio and ensemble needs, and funding the care of our musical facilities.

Naming Opportunities

As our music program grows, we envision growing into an endowed and named School of Music, which would align us with our SEC neighbors and cement MSU as a leader in music education. Your cornerstone commitment to the Department of Music could have a transformational impact for generations and can bring with it prestigious naming opportunities.

Opportunities also exist for naming our new music building or its studio and rehearsal spaces. You can name featured areas in honor or memory of family members, friends or mentors.

There are many ways to support the growth of our program! For gift assistance, please contact Kristi Swift, krs81@msstate.edu, 662-325-6762, or Georgia Banes, gcarter@foundation.msstate.edu, 662-341-6715, or visit educ.msstate.edu/development.



PERFORMANCE VENUES



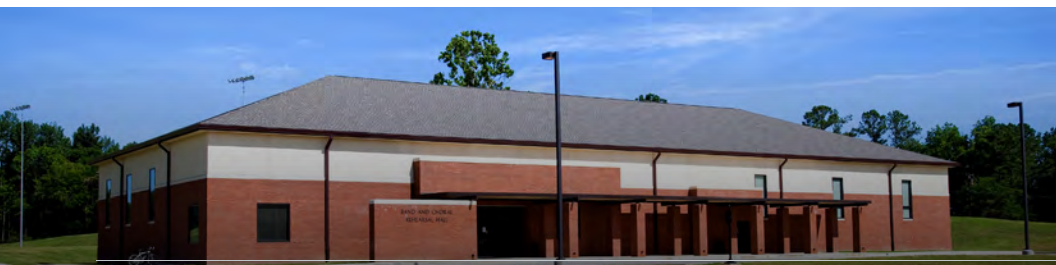
Music Building

124 Hardy Road,
Mississippi State, MS 39762



Kent Sills Band Hall

72 Hardy Road,
Mississippi State, MS 39762





McComas Hall

**216 Presidents Circle,
Mississippi State, MS 39762**



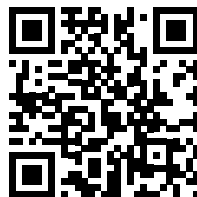
Bettersworth Auditorium

**262 Lee Boulevard,
Mississippi State, MS 39762**



First Baptist Church of Starkville

**106 East Lampkin Street,
Starkville, MS 39759**



For directions to each of these performance locations,
visit [*tinyurl.com/msmusicvenues*](https://tinyurl.com/msmusicvenues).



TICKETING

The MSU Department of Music offers a complete season with ticketed and free concerts during the upcoming academic year. We invite students and local audiences alike to experience a diverse offering of events including large and small ensembles and faculty or guest artist recitals.

Ticketed events—featuring MSU's choirs, opera and orchestras—provide much-needed resources for creative programming, guest artist honorariums, technical and academic support services and sheet music.

Enjoy free performances by the MSU Department of Music Student Bands, Jazz Band, Community Music School, World Music Artists and Applied Studios, as well as recitals by faculty and guest artists.

Box office information is posted with each event's calendar listing at music.msstate.edu/events.

Box Office

The Box Office is located in the main office of the new MSU Music Building at 124 Hardy Road, Mississippi State MS, 39762.

A Box Office within each respective performance venue opens one hour prior to each concert.

For any questions or issues with tickets, contact the Box Office at musicevents@colled.msstate.edu or 662-325-5000.





PIANO

Guest Artist Masterclass ... FREE

Vanessa Muen Wei, piano

Sept. 18, 2026 | Noon

Music Building Recital Hall

Steinway Artist Vanessa Muen Wei has performed internationally as a soloist and chamber musician. Her playing has been praised for its “delicate” tone and “admirable virtuosic skills” by *The News-Gazette*. Her newest album on Toccata Classics received strong critical acclaim and was nominated for the International Classical Music Awards 2026 in the Premier Recordings category. Pizzicato noted, “Wei avoids pathos without losing expressiveness” and praised the elegance and lightness of her sound. Wei has appeared with conductors Ian Hobson, Donald Schleicher and Xiaoying Zheng, and she has collaborated with Lynn Harrell, Peter Lloyd, Ko Iwasaki and Joel Smirnoff. She has performed at the Gilmore Keyboard Festival and the United States Department of State. Wei is assistant professor of piano at Lee University.

Fall Musicale FREE

Oct. 3, 2026 | 9 a.m.

**Fire Station Park of Starkville
503 E. Lampkin Street**

Enjoy shopping at the Starkville Farmer’s Market while listening to performances from MSU Community Music School students, MSU piano majors and faculty members. This recital offers a welcoming and inclusive platform for young musicians to showcase their talent in a non-competitive environment. It is designed to encourage musical growth and confidence while engaging with the Starkville community.

Piano Studio Recital FREE

Nov. 22, 2026 | 5:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

The MSU Piano Area is dedicated to providing an array of performance opportunities for students, both as soloists and as chamber musicians. These experiences are thoughtfully designed to enhance students' musical development, stage presence and artistic expression. Throughout each semester, students can participate in recitals that serve as a platform to present a wide range of repertoire. These performances showcase works from various musical periods and styles, encouraging students to explore and interpret diverse genres.

Piano Masterclass FREE

Victor Rosenbaum, piano

Jan. 20, 2027 | 5:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Internationally known American pianist Victor Rosenbaum has concertized widely as a soloist and chamber music performer in the United States, Europe, Israel, Brazil, Russia and Asia in such prestigious halls as Tully Hall in New York and the Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Russia. He collaborated with Leonard Rose, Paul Katz, Arnold Steinhardt, Robert Mann, Joseph Silverstein, James Buswell and Malcolm Lowe and the Brentano, Borromeo and Cleveland String Quartets. Recently retired from the faculty of New England Conservatory in Boston, where he taught for more than 50 years, he chaired its piano department for over a decade, and he was also chair of chamber music.

MSU Piano Retreat FREE

Jan. 23, 2027 | 9 a.m.

Music Building

The MSU Piano Retreat is a unique opportunity designed for young pianists entering grades 6 through 12, who have committed at least two years to piano study. This enriching experience combines music education with community building and personal growth in a welcoming and supportive environment.

Starkville, Columbus, Tupelo and West Point MMTA

District Evaluations FREE

Community Music School and Golden Triangle Music Forum, local affiliates of Mississippi Music Teachers Association

April 10, 2027 | 8 a.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

This event serves as an opportunity for pre-college students to refine their musical talents under the expert guidance of professional musicians and dedicated educators. By participating, students can immerse themselves in a comprehensive learning experience tailored to foster their growth and deepen their appreciation for the art of music. The evaluation provides technical training and also cultivates a sense of artistic expression and discipline, building a well-rounded musician.

Honors Piano Retreat FREE

April 24, 2027 | 10 a.m.

Music Building

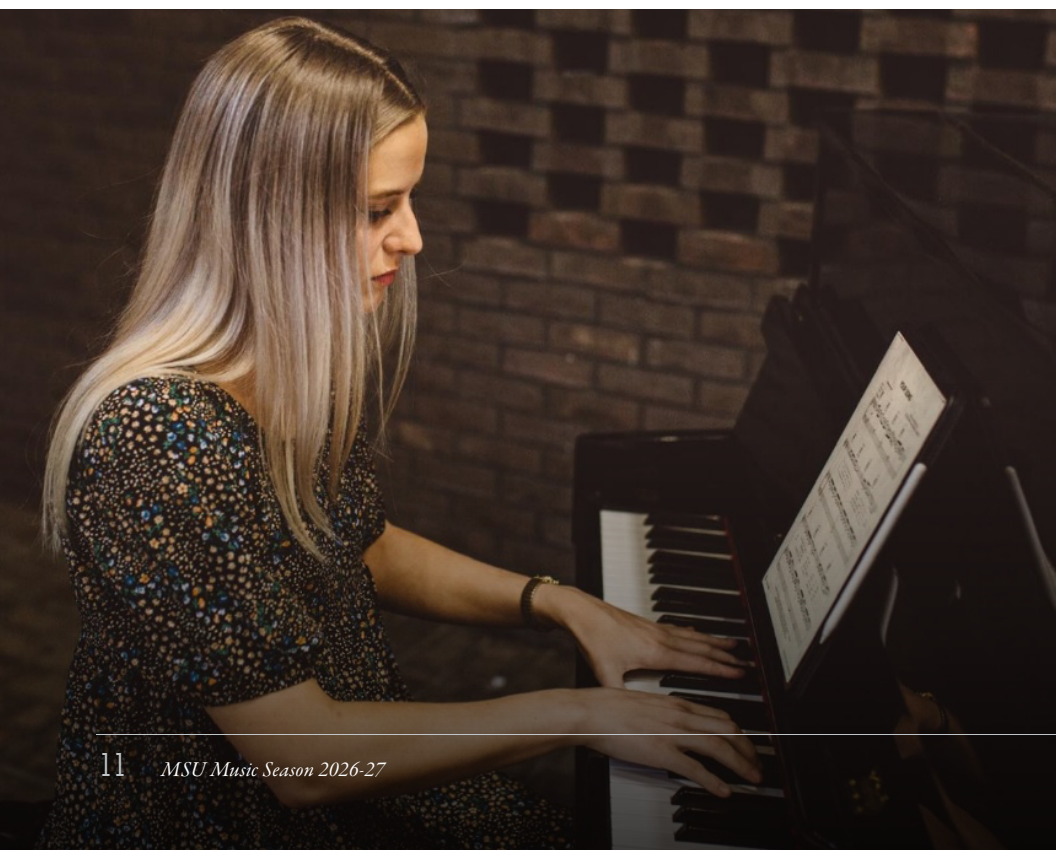
This program serves as a platform for students to explore and express their creativity through performance. By fostering a spirit of healthy competition, it motivates participants to refine their skills and strive for excellence, while also promoting camaraderie and collaboration among students. Additionally, it offers a valuable opportunity for performers to gain experience and confidence on stage, effectively preparing them for the prestigious MMTA State Finals competition. The program contributes significantly to the growth and development of young musicians in the region.

Piano Studios Recital FREE

April 24, 2027 | 2 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

The MSU Piano Area is dedicated to providing an array of performance opportunities for students, both as soloists and as chamber musicians. These experiences are thoughtfully designed to enhance students' musical development, stage presence and artistic expression. Throughout each semester, students can participate in recitals that serve as a platform to present a wide range of repertoire. These performances showcase works from various musical periods and styles, encouraging students to explore and interpret diverse genres.







State Sings Concert FREE

Sept. 13, 2026 | 7 p.m.

**First Baptist Church
of Starkville**

Join us for the first choral performance of the year as State Singers perform an eclectic variety of choral music for members of the State Sings honor choirs and their families.

State Sings Concert FREE

Jr. High and High School Honor Choirs

Sept. 14, 2026 | 3 p.m.

**First Baptist Church
of Starkville**

This concert is the culmination of MSU State Sings. Join us for a performance by the Jr. High Honor Choir and the High School Honor Choir.

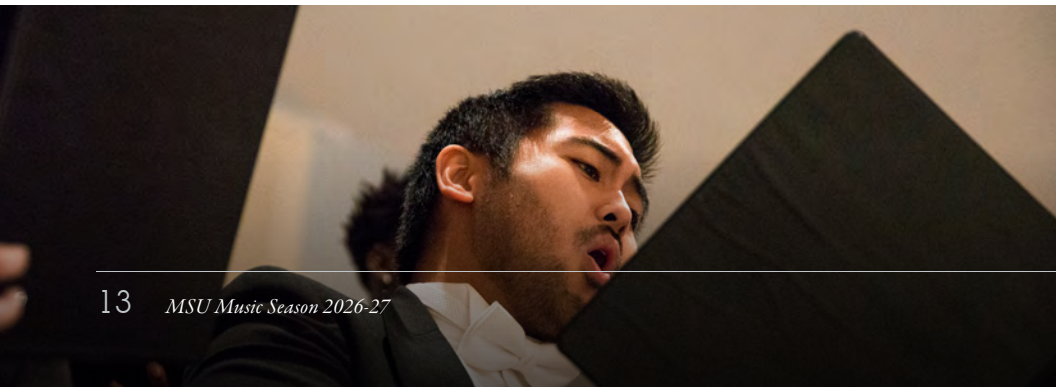
in my song..... \$

Schola Cantorum and State Singers

Oct. 22, 2026 | 7 p.m.

**First Baptist Church
of Starkville**

Our first major concert of the year features the Mississippi State University Singers and Schola Cantorum. This program showcases a diverse selection of choral works spanning multiple languages and musical styles, including repertoire the State Singers are preparing for their international competition in Germany in May 2027. The concert will also include the Southeastern premiere of "I Touched God in My Song" by composer Ivo Antognini.



New Beginnings..... \$

Lyrica and Cantaré

Nov. 3, 2026 | 7 p.m.

**First Baptist Church
of Starkville**

Join the Mississippi State University Cantaré and Lyrica for their fall concert. The program will feature a vibrant selection of choral works spanning a variety of styles, time periods and expressive traditions, highlighting both ensembles' unique voices and musical versatility. As their inaugural performance, Lyrica's appearance represents an important new chapter for treble singers at Mississippi State, bringing fresh energy and sound to the stage.

Third Annual Festival of Carols..... \$

Lyrica, Cantaré, Schola Cantorum
and State Singers

Dec. 1, 2026 | 7 p.m.

**First Baptist Church
of Starkville**

Celebrate the season with our Third Annual Festival of Carols. This festive concert includes cherished holiday favorites and new seasonal selections, sure to warm hearts and lift spirits. Join us for an evening of joyful music and community celebration.

The Quiet Heart \$

Schola Cantorum and State Singers

March 18, 2027 | 7 p.m.

**First Baptist Church
of Starkville**

Mississippi State University Singers and Schola Cantorum will showcase a diverse selection of choral works for this spring concert. State Singers will be presenting their competition repertoire for the 14th International Johannes Brahms Choral Competition. Schola Cantorum will sing a vibrant selection of choral works spanning a variety of styles, time periods and expressive traditions, highlighting both ensembles' unique voices and musical versatility.

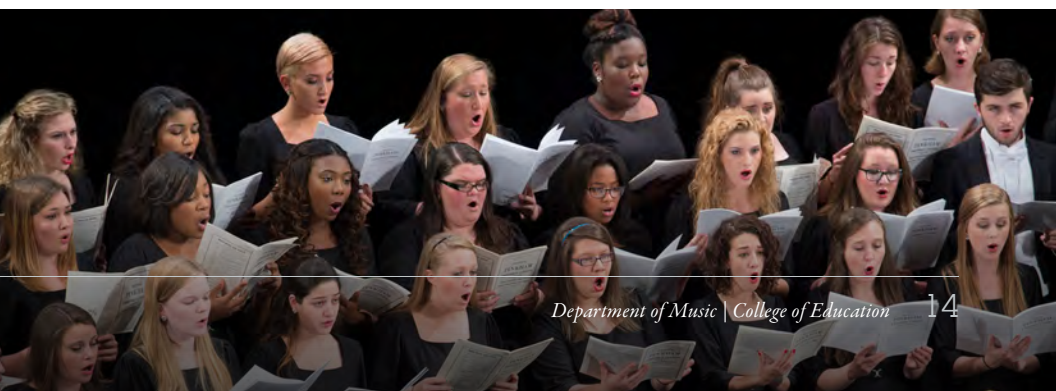
Spring Showcase..... \$

Lyrica, Cantaré, Schola Cantorum
and State Singers

April 8, 2027 | 7 p.m.

**First Baptist Church
of Starkville**

Join us for a vibrant Spring Choral Showcase featuring performances by Lyrica, Schola Cantorum, Cantaré and State Singers. This concert celebrates the season with a diverse selection of choral works, highlighting the talent and artistry of all four ensembles. It promises to be an inspiring evening of harmony, expression and musical excellence.





OPERA & MUSICAL THEATRE

'The Enchanted Forest: A Trial of Love'

\$

Nov. 10 & 12, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

MSU Opera Production proudly presents "The Enchanted Forest: A Trial of Love," an original opera pastiche inspired by beloved fairy tales and some of opera's most iconic music. Featuring scenes and melodies adapted from works by Mozart, Bizet, Bellini, Puccini and Verdi, this imaginative production brings together characters from different stories as they journey through a mysterious enchanted forest in search of the meaning of love. Combining humor, fantasy and heartfelt moments, the production showcases the creativity and artistry of Mississippi State University student performers in a unique evening of opera and storytelling.

Aria Night.....

\$

Nov. 16, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Join Mississippi State University voice students for a magical evening of song at Aria Night, featuring a showcase of their vocal talents through selections from a variety of musical genres and styles. From opera and art song to musical theatre and beyond, this special performance celebrates the artistry, versatility and hard work of our young performers.

Aria Night.....

\$

April 20, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Join Mississippi State University voice students for a magical evening of song at Aria Night, featuring a showcase of their vocal talents through selections from a variety of musical genres and styles. From opera and art song to musical theatre and beyond, this special performance celebrates the artistry, versatility and hard work of our young performers.

'Gianni Schicchi' \$

featuring MSU Symphony Orchestra
and Philharmonia

April 30, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

May 1, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

May 2, 2027 | 2 p.m.

McComas Hall

If you think family drama over inheritance is a modern invention, think again! "Gianni Schicchi" brings scheming relatives, fake deathbed confessions, outrageous disguises and enough chaos to make reality TV look tame. Presented by the Mississippi State University Opera Production and Theater MSU, this fast-paced comedy follows the clever Gianni Schicchi as he turns a greedy family's plans completely upside down. Packed with Puccini's glorious music, larger-than-life characters, and the famous "O mio babbino caro," this production promises laughter, drama and proof that opera has been roasting dysfunctional families for over 100 years.





WORLD MUSIC

Echoes from the Delta FREE

Jesse Robinson and The Hip Waders Band

Sept. 3, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Jesse Robinson, a true legend of blues guitar, was the winner of the 2026 Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement. Through his decades-long career as a performing artist, educator and community ambassador, Robinson has profoundly enriched our state's cultural landscape and inspired generations to embrace the power and soul of the blues. Known as "the Mayor of Jackson's Blues Scene," Robinson has been a fixture in the state's music landscape since the 1960s. His mastery of the guitar places him among the finest blues musicians in the world.

Roots and Resonance FREE

Sule Greg Wilson

Feb. 11, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Join acclaimed master music and storyteller Sule Greg Wilson for an evening of celebrating the rich traditions of African American folk music. From spirituals and work songs to blues, dance tunes and oral traditions, this dynamic concert invites audiences to experience the deep cultural roots and enduring spirit of African American folk heritage.



Smithsonian Folk Ways Recordings: World Music Pedagogy Five-Day Certification Workshop FREE

June 1-5, 2027

Music Building

Join us for an immersive and hands-on five-day workshop designed to deepen your understanding of world music expressions from global and local communities, and how best to facilitate the learning of students in ways that are respectful of the music and musicians and culturally responsive teaching to student interests and needs. This World Music Pedagogy course encompasses a diversity of musical practices from Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe with special emphasis on the music, dance and cultural histories of The MS Band of Choctaw Indians, Mississippi Blues and West African Songs & Drumming.

Participants will engage in singing, dancing, drumming, listening, creative activity and reflective discussion while gaining tools to authentically teach these traditions in K-12 and community settings. This course emphasizes the teaching of global-local music that lead to the development of intercultural understanding as it pertains to music education practices. Featured resources in the course are from the Smithsonian Folkways Recordings.



Smithsonian
Institution





BANDS

Celebrations FREE **Visions in Sound** FREE

Wind Ensemble and State Singers

Sept. 24, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

Join us for an evening of artistry and musical excellence as the Wind Ensemble presents a dynamic program of masterworks and contemporary compositions for winds and percussion. Comprised of the university's premier instrumental musicians, the ensemble is dedicated to the highest standards of performance and musical expression. While showcasing a diverse selection of repertoire highlighting the precision, power and versatility of the modern wind ensemble, the concert will also celebrate the rich history of the band program as they receive the 2026 Sudler Award and the 2026 Hall of Fame designees for the Department of Music. Audiences can expect an engaging performance that reflects both the rich tradition of the wind band medium and the innovative voices shaping its future.

Fall Wind Ensemble

Nov. 5, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

This performance will capture the diverse qualities of the concert band and will highlight the wide palette of options found in scoring for the contemporary wind band. The concert will showcase a wide range of musical styles and traditions, from classical transcriptions and contemporary works to marches, and culturally inspired compositions.

Honor Band Concert FREE

**featuring Germantown High
School Wind Symphony**

Jan. 28, 2027 | 6 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

The Germantown High School Wind Symphony will be featured in performance as we open our annual Honor Band Clinic. The invitation to perform recognizes the talents of these outstanding students and conductors who consistently distinguish themselves as one of the most outstanding band programs in our region.

Wind Ensemble Concert ... FREE

Jan. 29, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

The annual Honor Band Clinic activities include a concert by the Wind Ensemble, the top student ensemble in the MSU band program. Repertoire will showcase a wide range of musical styles and traditions, emphasizing musical artistry, technical precision and expressive communication.

Honor Band Clinic

Finale Concert FREE

Honor Band Clinic Maroon, White and Wind Symphony

Jan. 30, 2027 | 12:30 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

The high school participants of the 2027 Honor Band Clinic are featured in a finale concert that includes performances by the Maroon, White and Wind Symphony clinic ensembles, conducted by guest clinicians from across the country.

Voices of the Ensemble FREE

Concert Bands

Feb. 14, 2027 | 2 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

Join us for a performance of the Symphonic, Concert and Campus Bands comprised of musicians representing almost every major on the MSU campus. The concert includes repertoire spanning the ages of the symphonic wind band.

Bold Sounds FREE

Wind Ensemble

April 1, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

This concert will feature the technical skill, creativity, communication and emotional expression of the members of the Wind Ensemble. Beyond the notes on the page, this performance reflects collaboration, preparation, artistry and presentation of the subtle dynamic colors and dramatic rhythms found in the literature of the modern wind band, and it intends to create a shared experience that will inspire, entertain, and connect performers and listeners alike.



Tradition in Motion FREE

Concert Bands

April 18, 2027 | 2 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

Programming includes a comprehensive mix of wind repertoire including orchestral transcriptions, classic works for band, contemporary concert works and “pops” arrangements.

Stories in Sound FREE

Wind Ensemble

April 22, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

The concert highlights the ensemble’s musical versatility and expressive depth, showcasing both individual virtuosity and collaborative performance. Audiences can expect a rich palette of sound colors, dramatic contrasts and engaging interpretations that celebrate the timeless beauty and evolving spirit of wind band music as the Wind Ensemble closes its 2027 performance series.



Jazz Ensemble

The Jazz Ensemble is descended from the MSU Stage Band founded by Dr. Kent Sills in 1967. The group plays big-band jazz in a wide variety of styles including swing, blues, hard bop, cool, Latin, funk and fusion.

Fall Concert FREE

Nov. 20, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Spring Concert FREE

April 23, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall





Famous Maroon Band

Since 1902, the Mississippi State University Famous Maroon Band has provided support and entertainment for Bulldog fans everywhere. With over 400 students representing every college and school on campus, the band is at the heart of the Mississippi State family. During the past century, thousands of students have developed their leadership and musicianship skills through membership in the Famous Maroon Band. This long-standing tradition continues each year as the Famous Maroon Band takes the field. From the pregame activities around campus to the victorious sounds of "Hail State" at game's end, the Famous Maroon Band always ignites the crowd in support of the Bulldogs.

Pregame Dawg Walk and Drumline Junction Show FREE

Join members of the Famous Maroon Band in the Junction approximately two hours before every home game to help welcome the football team to Davis Wade Stadium. Immediately following, be sure to stay and catch the MSU Drumline's Junction show, and you'll be ready for some Bulldog football.

Football Game Tickets \$

Visit hailstate.com for ticket information.

University of Louisiana at Monroe vs. MSU

Featuring High School Honor Band
Sept. 5, Davis Wade Stadium

MSU vs. University of Minnesota
Sept. 12, Minneapolis, Minnesota

MSU vs. University of South Carolina
Sept. 19, Columbia, South Carolina

University of Missouri vs. MSU
Sudler Trophy Presentation
Sept. 26, Davis Wade Stadium

University of Alabama vs. MSU
Oct. 3, Davis Wade Stadium

MSU vs. Louisiana State University
Oct. 17, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

University of Oklahoma vs. MSU
Oct. 24, Davis Wade Stadium

MSU vs. University of Texas
Oct. 31, Austin, Texas

Vanderbilt University vs. MSU
Nov. 7, Davis Wade Stadium

Auburn University vs. MSU
Patriotic Show
Nov. 14, Davis Wade Stadium

Tennessee Tech University vs. MSU
Nov. 21, Davis Wade Stadium

MSU vs. Ole Miss
Egg Bowl
Nov. 27, Oxford, Mississippi

Starkville Christmas Parade FREE
Nov. 30, Main Street, Starkville



Community Band

The Starkville/MSU Community Band is a mix of community members from throughout the Golden Triangle, and it rehearses on Monday evenings. The performances include a variety of contemporary and traditional band literature, as well as marches, patriotic music, Broadway show tunes and other “pops” literature.

Fall Concert FREE

Oct. 18, 2026 | 2 p.m.

Kent Sills Band Hall

Winter Concert FREE

Nov. 22, 2026 | 2 p.m.

Kent Sills Band Hall

Midwinter Concert FREE

Feb. 28, 2027 | 2 p.m.

Kent Sills Band Hall

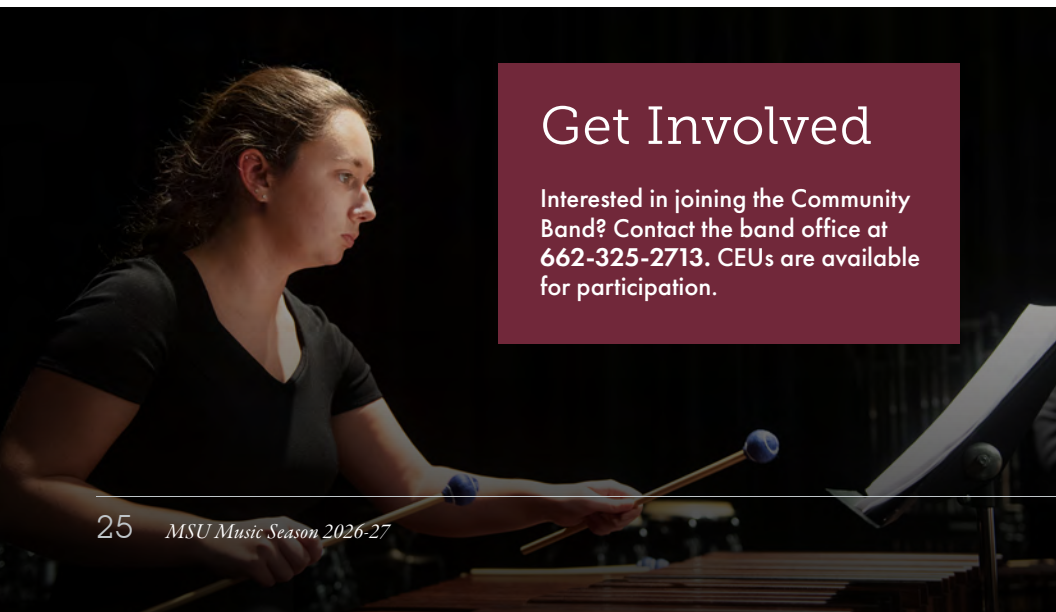
Spring Concert FREE

April 25, 2027 | 2 p.m.

Kent Sills Band Hall

Get Involved

Interested in joining the Community Band? Contact the band office at 662-325-2713. CEUs are available for participation.





ORCHESTRAS

Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra

**Baroque Splendor:
An Evening with J.S. Bach \$**
Sept. 10, 2026 | 6 & 7:30 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall

Experience the brilliance of Johann Sebastian Bach in "Baroque Splendor: An Evening with J.S. Bach." This vibrant program features the lively "Orchestral Suite No. 1," the energetic "Brandenburg Concerto No. 3," the elegant "Wedding Cantata (BWV 202)," and the radiant Sinfonia from "Cantata BWV 42." From graceful dances to lyrical arias, join us for an evening of Baroque beauty and boundless joy.

Jazz at Renasant FREE
Oct. 15, 2026 | 6:30 p.m.
Renasant Bank Plaza
500 East Lampkin
Street, Starkville

An annual favorite and gift back to the Starkville community, the musicians of the Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra present an evening of jazz on the Renasant Bank Plaza.

Community Chorus and Friends..... \$

Sara Horan and Peter Infanger

Oct. 26, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church of Starkville

This program features "Mass of the Children," by John Rutter, presented by the Community Chorus and treble choirs of the Starkville Oktibbeha County School District's Partnership School; led by Peter Infanger and Sara Horan. The traditional Latin mass text is augmented with British poetry by Thomas Ken, William Blake and John Rutter himself. Each choir will also present selections on their own to round out the program making a lovely evening of beautiful choral music to be enjoyed by all.

Christmas Fanfares..... \$

Starkville Symphony Chorus

Dec. 5, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church of Starkville

Experience the brilliance of the season with Christmas Fanfares, an exhilarating holiday celebration featuring the majestic sounds of brass, organ and choir. From triumphant fanfares and timeless sacred carols to beloved Christmas favorites, this festive program shines with warmth, joy and holiday spirit. Rich choral harmonies join dazzling brass quintets and soaring organ in stirring renditions of "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," and "O Holy Night," while spirited arrangements of "Jingle Bell Rock," "The Christmas Song," "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," and "Frosty the Snow Man" add sparkle and fun for audiences of all ages. Whether proclaiming the wonder of the season or inviting everyone to sing along in celebration, Christmas Fanfares is a joyful musical tradition that will fill your heart with Christmas cheer and leave you ringing in the holidays with a smile.



**The Composer's
Living Room..... \$**

**Feb. 4, 2026 | 6 & 7:30 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall**

Step into The Composer's Living Room, an intimate evening of chamber music that invites audiences to experience the warmth, conversation, and artistry of music as it was first imagined. Antonín Dvořák's charming "Terzetto in C Major" opens the program with lyrical melodies and spirited folk-inspired rhythms, followed by Gerald Finzi's beloved "Five Bagatelles" for clarinet and chamber strings, a collection of elegant miniatures filled with wit, nostalgia and expressive beauty. The evening culminates in Felix Mendelssohn's extraordinary "Octet in E-flat Major," a youthful masterpiece whose soaring melodies, dazzling virtuosity and joyful exuberance have captivated audiences for nearly two centuries. Rich in intimacy and brilliance, this concert offers a rare opportunity to hear chamber music at its most personal—and most exhilarating.

**Starkville-MSU
Symphony Gala..... \$**

**Feb. 27, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.
Location to be announced**

Join us for an inspiring evening that celebrates the enduring power of the symphony to enrich lives and connect our community through music. The Symphony Gala is our signature event honoring the musicians, patrons, volunteers and friends whose generosity makes each season possible. Throughout the evening, guests will enjoy exceptional hospitality while investing in a future filled with outstanding performances, educational opportunities and meaningful outreach across our region. Every gift strengthens the orchestra's ability to inspire young musicians, engage new audiences and present transformative artistic experiences that elevate our community. Together, we ensure that the music continues to resonate far beyond the concert hall, creating a lasting legacy of excellence, opportunity and shared community pride.



Triumph to Transcendence..... \$

Phillip Stockton, Starkville Symphony
Chorus and MSU Choirs

April 17, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

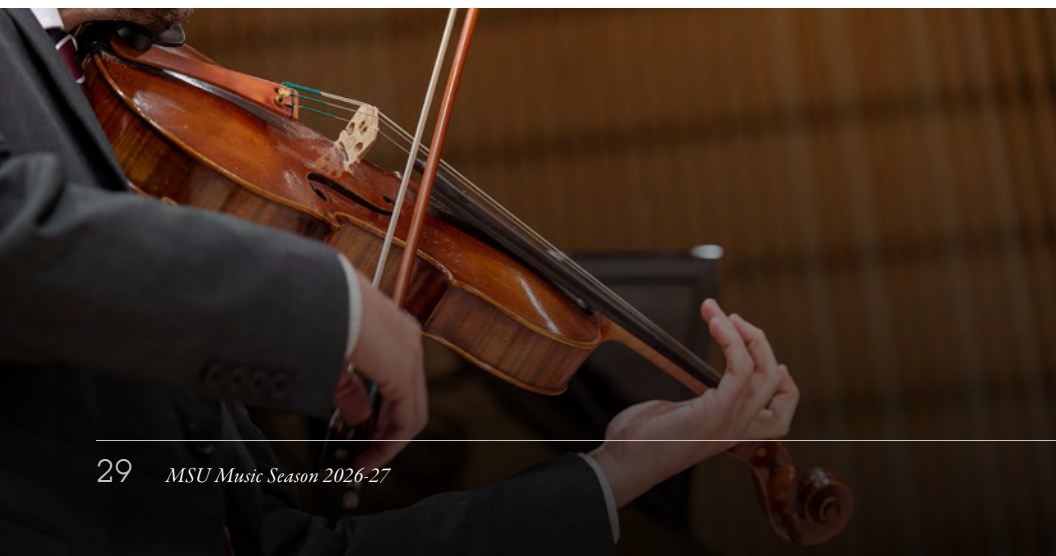
This remarkable evening traces an extraordinary musical journey—from brilliance and virtuosity to reflection and transcendence. "Overture 'Ruy Blas', Op. 95" opens the concert with sparkling energy and dramatic flair before showcasing the exceptional artistry of the winner(s) of the Mississippi State University Solo Artist Competition. Following intermission, the Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra and chorus unite for "Requiem in D minor, K.626," one of the most revered works ever composed. Filled with moments of breathtaking power, profound sorrow, radiant hope and transcendent beauty, Mozart's final masterpiece continues to captivate audiences with its timeless exploration of humanity, faith and the enduring power of music. Whether experiencing this iconic work for the first time or returning to it once again, this unforgettable performance promises an evening of inspiration and artistic excellence.

Echoes & Resonance..... \$

April 29, 2027 | 6 & 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Experience an evening where rhythm, melody and orchestral color come vividly to life. The concert opens with the sparkling wit of Domenico Cimarosa's "Il Matrimonio Segreto" Overture before showcasing the thunderous brilliance and astonishing agility of six timpani in Georg Druschetzky's remarkable concerto. Aaron Copland's haunting "Quiet City" offers a moment of quiet reflection with its unforgettable dialogue between trumpet and English horn, creating one of America's most poignant musical landscapes. The program concludes with Emmanuel Séjourné Soar's exhilarating "Concerto No. 1 for Marimba and String Orchestra," a dazzling contemporary work that blends lyrical beauty with breathtaking rhythmic energy. From playful elegance to powerful resonance, this concert celebrates the orchestra's remarkable palette of sound.



Wingo Pops: The American Tapestry \$

May 27, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

From majestic fanfares and beloved folk melodies to sweeping portraits of the American landscape, Wingo Pops: The American Tapestry celebrates the rich traditions, enduring ideals and diverse musical heritage of the United States. Featuring iconic works by John Williams, Aaron Copland, Morton Gould and Carmen Dragon, this inspiring program traces the nation's story through music that reflects courage, innovation, faith and the beauty of the American spirit. Audience favorites including "Apollo 13," "Shenandoah," "Simple Gifts," and "Battle Hymn of the Republic" lead to a rousing finale with Bagley's "National Emblem March." Joined by special guest speakers, the Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra invites audiences to experience an unforgettable evening honoring the people, places and shared traditions that weave together America's musical tapestry.



MSU Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonia

Origins and Storytelling\$

Oct. 4, 2026 | 2 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

This program will transform the concert hall into a living celebration of cultural memory and tradition.

The Water Remembers\$

Nov. 15, 2026 | 2 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

Every landscape carries a memory, and for this concert, music will guide our journey through it.

Machines Dream of Spring\$

Feb. 21, 2027 | 2 p.m.

Bettersworth Auditorium

Join us as we take you through an immersive spring concert to celebrate minimalist music and its connection to human movement.

'Gianni Schicchi'\$

featuring MSU Symphony Orchestra
and Philharmonia

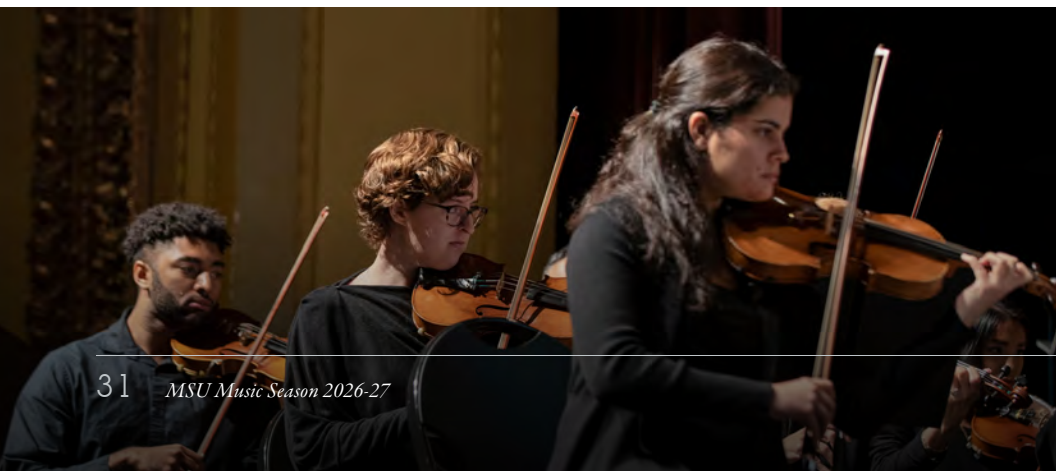
April 30, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

May 1, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

May 2, 2027 | 2 p.m.

McComas Hall

If you think family drama over inheritance is a modern invention, think again! "Gianni Schicchi" brings scheming relatives, fake deathbed confessions, outrageous disguises and enough chaos to make reality TV look tame. Presented by the Mississippi State University Opera Production and Theater MSU, this fast-paced comedy follows the clever Gianni Schicchi as he turns a greedy family's plans completely upside down. Packed with Puccini's glorious music, larger-than-life characters and the famous "O mio babbino caro," this production promises laughter, drama and proof that opera has been roasting dysfunctional families for over 100 years.





STUDIO EVENTS

Danse Macabre: An Evening of Flute and Percussion FREE

Percussion Club and Flute Studio

Oct. 29, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Join the Flute and Percussion Clubs for an evening of spooky sounds and collaboration to prepare for the excitement of the Halloween season. A \$5 suggested donation at the door will benefit the Percussion Club and Flute Studio student organizations.

Brass Ensembles Concert FREE

Nov. 15, 2026 | 4 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Join the chamber music ensembles of the MSU Brass Area for a festive concert featuring holiday favorites. MSU Horn Choir and Student Brass Quintets will be featured on this concert that is sure to be a treat for audiences young and old.

Double Reed Ensembles Concert FREE

Nov. 17, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Join the MSU Double Reed Ensembles for a celebratory evening of holiday music and traditional favorites.

Clarinet and Saxophone Ensembles FREE

Nov. 18, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Come enjoy an evening of chamber music featuring the Clarinet Ensemble and Saxophone Ensemble. These expressive reed instruments are equally at home in settings from classical to jazz. Hear bold new works and adaptations of familiar classic presented by these ensembles in back-to-back performances.

Percussion Ensemble FREE

Nov. 22, 2026 | 3 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

The MSU Percussion Ensemble will be performing a concert of contemporary chamber works.

Christmas Benefit Recital... FREE

Dec. 5, 2026 | 2 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Bring the whole family and come celebrate the Christmas spirit with the Department of Music as they present a Christmas concert. The concert will feature familiar favorites and beautiful carols and is sure to leave you feeling the peace and joy of the season. This event serves as a fundraiser to help support MSU Music Teachers National Association Collegiate Chapter members travel for student performance and presentation opportunities. Donations accepted.

Legacies: A Concert Tribute for Women's History Month FREE

March 20, 2027 | 2 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Join us for an inspiring afternoon celebrating Women's History Month through performances by MSU music faculty and department students. This concert celebrates women composers' contributions and highlights their timeless voices in classical and contemporary music. This event serves as a fundraiser to help support MSU MTNA Collegiate Chapter members travel for student performance and presentation opportunities.

Flutes in Bloom FREE

Flute Studio

April 12, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Celebrate the beauty, energy and renewal of the spring season through an evening of music with the Flute Studio. Selections will feature solo flute, chamber ensembles and the Flute Choir.

Brass Ensembles

Concert FREE

April 13, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

The MSU Brass Area will present a recital of exciting original compositions and fun arrangements for brass chamber music ensembles. The showcase event is always a blast for performers and audiences alike.

Double Reed Ensembles Concert and Studio Recital FREE

April 18, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

The MSU oboe studio, bassoon studio and double reed ensembles present a concert of solo and chamber ensemble music for double reeds.

**Saxophone and
Clarinet Ensembles** FREE

April 21, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall

Celebrate spring with a vibrant evening of chamber music by the Saxophone and Clarinet Ensembles. From timeless classics to adventurous contemporary pieces, these versatile groups showcase their talents in an engaging joint concert.

**MSU Percussion
Symposium** FREE

Percussion Studio

April 24, 2027 | Noon
Music Building Choral Hall

The Percussion Studio will host a symposium with guest performers and clinicians.





FACULTY & GUEST ARTIST SERIES

Color Contrast: Exploring the Soundscapes of the Flute and Piano FREE

Olivia Boatman, flute
Anne Katherine Ragsdale, piano

Aug. 23, 2026 | 2 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall

Experience a recital of musical color and imagination, featuring pieces for piccolo, flute, alto flute, bass flute and piano. This program explores the striking contrasts in tonal color and texture.

Wood, Wind and Wires..... FREE

Bret Pimentel,
woodwinds and electronics

Aug. 27, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall

Multi-instrumentalist Bret Pimentel performs a program of 21st-century music that combines traditional woodwind playing with modern digital tools. By using electronic effects to expand the natural sound of the instruments, this performance showcases the intersection between new technology and classical performance in contemporary music.

Backpack Meals Benefit Concert FREE

Jason Baker, percussion

Aug. 30, 2026 | 3 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall

Jason Baker will be joined by guest artists for a concert to benefit the Backpack Meals Charity of Starkville. Admission is free and monetary donations will be accepted.

The Complete Beethoven Works for Cello and Piano, Series II FREE

Amy Catron, cello
Vanessa Muen Wei, piano

Sept. 19, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall

The Department of Music will present Vanessa Wei, assistant professor of piano at Lee University, and Mississippi State University Cello Professor Amy Catron in a recital featuring Beethoven's "Cello Sonata No. 2 in G minor," "Cello Sonata No. 4 in C major," "Cello Sonata No. 5 in D major," as well as "Variations for Cello and Piano" from "The Magic Flute."

These cello sonatas reveal a different side of Beethoven—intimate, conversational and deeply human. Performing the complete cycle allows us to share not only masterworks of the repertoire but also the remarkable artistic dialogue between piano and cello that Beethoven helped define. Wei is an assistant professor of piano with a record of distinction and acclaim in solo piano performance and in collaboration with musicians of note. At Lee University, she teaches courses such as applied piano, piano seminars and piano for ministry. Before Lee University, Wei served as a guest professor at China West Normal University, piano faculty at New Tampa Piano and Pedagogy Academy, and worked in various piano teaching assistant instructional roles at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She earned a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Illinois at Urbana, a Master of Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music, and a Bachelor of Music from the China Conservatory of Music.

**Poetry Transfigured:
Seven Romances on
Poems by Alexander Blok,
Op. 127** FREE

Roza Tulyaganova, soprano
Anne Gaëlle Ravetto, violin
Amy Catron, cello
Sophie Wang, piano

**Sept. 21, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall**

In this deeply introspective cycle, Dmitri Shostakovich transforms the mystical poetry of Alexander Blok into an otherworldly sonic experience. The result is a profound fusion in which poetry is not merely set to music, but transfigured—elevated into a realm of heightened emotional and spiritual intensity.

**Fantasy and Fire:
Piano Music of
Alexander Scriabin**..... FREE

Sophie Wang, piano

**Oct. 4, 2026 | 5 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall**

This program explores the richly expressive piano music of Alexander Scriabin, moving from the lyrical charm of his early preludes to the heightened drama of his études. "The Fantasy in B minor," a dramatic tour de force, serves as a powerful centerpiece, full of sweeping gestures and emotional intensity. The recital culminates in the "Sonata No. 4," a work that builds from quiet mystery to a brilliant, exhilarating close. Together, these pieces offer a vivid glimpse into Scriabin's unique musical voice—at once poetic, passionate and boldly imaginative.

Come Dance with Me!..... FREE

Sophie Wang, piano
Nielsen Chen, piano
Anne Katherine Ragsdale, piano

**Oct. 19, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall**

The MSU collaborative pianists and their colleagues warmly invite you to an engaging recital celebrating the rich tradition of dance music through the centuries. The program will feature a variety of dance styles and works by composers from different musical eras, showcasing the evolution of rhythm, culture, and artistic expression in an entertaining and diverse performance. Come dance the night away!

Faculty Marimba Recital... FREE

Jason Baker, marimba

Oct. 25, 2026 | 5 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Jason Baker will perform a program of works for solo marimba he commissioned by Mark Ford, Patricia Islas, C.J. Kemp, Jason Bahr and others.

The World of

Double Bass FREE

Marcos Machado, double bass
Ellen Elder, piano

Oct. 27, 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

We welcome Marcos Machado and Ellen Elder from the University of Southern Mississippi for a guest performance. This virtuosic recital will feature a selection of transcriptions and original works for double bass and piano, exploring a wide range of styles and sound worlds, including works by Boccherini, Oswald, Shostakovich, Musumeci and Proto.

Two Pianos -

One Sound FREE

Adoniz Gonzalez, piano
Rosângela Sebba, piano

Oct. 31, 2026 | 2 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

This recital will feature music for two pianos from different periods showcasing works with rich melodies and harmonies, inviting the performers to shape sound for the audience's delight. Featured composers will take the instrument's technical and coloristic possibilities on a journey to a poetic storytelling and virtuosic display.

Faculty Cello Recital FREE

Amy Catron, cello
Sophie Wang, piano
Anne Katherine Ragsdale, piano

Nov. 1, 2026 | 4 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

This program features a world premiere of Elezovic's "Eclipse of Lyric" and two cornerstone works of the 20th-century Russian cello repertoire: "Dmitri Shostakovich's Cello Sonata in D minor," "Op. 40 (1934)" and Sergei Prokofiev's "Cello Sonata in C major, Op. 119 (1949)." Though both composers worked under the pressures of Soviet artistic policy, their musical voices are strikingly different. Shostakovich's sonata blends Romantic lyricism and Beethovenian structure with emotional intensity shaped by a deeply personal period in his life. Prokofiev's sonata, written near the end of his life after his return to the Soviet Union, was composed at a time when many of his works were banned from performance. Approved for public premiere, the first movement bears the epigraph, "Mankind—that has a proud sound."

85th Birthday Recital Tour— Last Words, Last Works: The Final Solo Piano Pieces of Beethoven, Brahms and Schubert FREE

Victor Rosenbaum, piano

Jan. 19, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Internationally known American pianist Victor Rosenbaum has concertized widely as soloist and chamber music performer in the United States, Europe, Israel, Brazil, Russia and Asia in such prestigious halls as Tully Hall in New York and the Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Russia. He collaborated with Leonard Rose, Paul Katz, Arnold Steinhardt, Robert Mann, Joseph Silverstein, James Buswell and Malcolm Lowe and the Brentano, Borromeo and Cleveland String Quartets. Recently retired from the faculty of New England Conservatory in Boston, where he taught for more than 50 years, he chaired its piano department for over a decade and was also chair of chamber music.

Piano Passion: A Valentine Gala..... FREE

Neilson Chen, piano
Thomas Jenkins, piano
Katherine Johnson, piano
Jenna Klein, piano
Anne Katherine Ragsdale, piano
Rosângela Sebba, piano
Sophie Wang, piano

Feb. 13, 2027 | 4 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

This special Valentine's Day recital brings together the piano faculty in a celebration of music, collaboration and community. Featuring works for two pianos and one piano four-, six- and eight-hand. The program features the beauty of partnership in music and in life. It is a celebration of love and music, bringing people together. This recital invites the audience to experience the piano as a vibrant instrument that shared emotions and expressions.

A Journey Through 300 Years of Piano Music..... FREE

Jeremy Samolesky

Feb. 17, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Jeremy Samolesky, professor of piano at Auburn University, presents an engaging exploration of the piano's remarkable artistic heritage. Featuring works from across three centuries, this recital will illuminate the instrument's evolution while celebrating the beauty, innovation, and expressive power that continue to inspire performers and audiences alike.

Faculty Cello Recital FREE

Amy Catron, cello

Feb. 20, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Until the early 20th century, there was almost nothing written for solo cello except etudes and pedagogical studies. This program features a collection of Amy's Catron's favorite unusual and romantic works for solo cello.

From Cradle to Grave: The Nursery & Songs and Dances of Death by Modest Mussorgsky FREE

Roza Tulyaganova, soprano

Jeanette Fontaine, mezzo-soprano

Anne Katherine Ragsdale, piano

March 15, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Cradle to Grave traces the arc of human life through the vivid imagination of Modest Mussorgsky, pairing the innocence and humor of "The Nursery" with the haunting inevitability of "Songs and Dances of Death." These two cycles present sharply contrasting musical worlds: one defined by playful simplicity, the other by a sense of ominous foreboding. Together, these cycles reveal Mussorgsky's profound ability to capture both the tender moments and stark truths of the human experience.

Voice Extraordinary FREE

Nathanael Fleming, tenor

Neilson Chen, piano

March 22, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Tenor Nathanael Fleming and Pianist Neilson Chen will present an evening of music from the song literatures in classical era to selections of Musical/Broadway favorites.

Romantic Era Cello Recital FREE

Amy Catron, cello

Rosângela Sebba, piano

April 2, 2027 | 7:30 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

This program will feature some of the major works from the Romantic era for cello and piano, showcasing demanding virtuosity, melodic intimacy, and a conversational, balanced partnership between the cello and piano, evocative of the energy and promise of spring.



COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

About Us

The MSU Community Music School strives to enhance the Starkville and Northeast Mississippi communities by providing outstanding, affordable music education for people of all ages. Additionally, it offers performance opportunities that enrich the cultural vibrancy of the communities it serves. This mission is rooted in the belief that music is a vital element of a thriving community, and every individual possesses the potential for musical learning and expression. We provide high quality music instruction in piano, guitar, voice, woodwinds, brass, percussion and strings. Lessons and classes are scheduled with MSU faculty or undergraduate students on a semester fee basis, and they are available to students of all ages and skills. For more information, call Ms. Jennifer Winter at **662-325-3070** or email music@colled.msstate.edu.

Community Music School Recitals

Dec. 5, 2026 FREE
**10–11 a.m. and
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**
Music Building Recital Hall

May 1, 2027 FREE
**10–11 a.m. and
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**
Music Building Recital Hall



PERFORMANCE CALENDAR INDEX

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|-----------------------|--|
| Aug. 23, 2026 | Olivia Boatman (flute) and Anne Katherine Ragsdale (piano) — Color Contrast: Exploring the Soundscapes of the Flute and Piano, 2 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free |
| Aug. 27, 2026 | Bret Pimentel (woodwinds and electronics) — Wood, Wind and Wires, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free |
| Aug. 30, 2026 | Jason Baker (percussion) — Backpack Meals Benefit Concert, 3 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free |
| Sept. 3, 2026 | Jesse Robinson and The Hip Waders Band — Echoes from the Delta, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free |
| Sept. 5, 2026 | Famous Maroon Band — University of Louisiana at Monroe vs. MSU Featuring High School Honor Band, Davis Wade Stadium |
| Sept. 10, 2026 | Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra — Baroque Splendor: An Evening with J.S. Bach, 6 & 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, \$ |
| Sept. 12, 2026 | Famous Maroon Band — MSU vs. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota |
| Sept. 13, 2026 | Choirs — State Sings Concert, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church of Starkville, Free |
| Sept. 14, 2026 | Choirs — State Sings Concert, 3 p.m., First Baptist Church of Starkville, Free |
| Sept. 18, 2026 | Piano — Guest Artist Masterclass featuring Dr. Vanessa Muen Wei, The Complete Beethoven Works for Cello and Piano, Series II, Noon, Music Building Recital Hall, Free |
| Sept. 19, 2026 | Amy Catron (cello) and Vanessa Muen Wei (piano) — In the Silence of the Night: The Final Songs of Rachmaninoff, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free |

Sept. 19, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — MSU vs. University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina
Sept. 21, 2026	Roza Tulyaganova (soprano), Anne Gaëlle Ravetto (violin), Amy Catron (cello), Sophie Wang (piano) — Poetry Transfigured: Seven Romances on Poems by Alexander Blok, Op. 127, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Sept. 24, 2026	Wind Ensemble and State Singers — Celebrations, 7:30 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, Free
Sept. 26, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — University of Missouri vs. MSU featuring Sudler Trophy Presentation, Davis Wade Stadium
Oct. 3, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — Univeristy of Alabama vs. MSU, Davis Wade Stadium
Oct. 3, 2026	Piano — Fall Musicale, 9 a.m., Firestation Park of Starkville, Free
Oct. 4, 2026	MSU Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonia — Origins and Storytelling, 2 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, \$
Oct. 4, 2026	Sophie Wang (piano) — Fantasy and Fire: Piano Music of Alexander Scriabin, 5 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Oct. 15, 2026	Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra — Jazz at Renasant, 6:30 p.m., Renasant Bank Plaza, 500 E Lampkin Street, Starkville, Free
Oct. 17, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — MSU vs. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Oct. 18, 2026	Community Band — Fall Concert, 2 p.m., Kent Sills Band Hall, Free
Oct. 19, 2026	Sophie Wang (piano), Nielsen Chen (piano) and Anne Katherine Ragsdale (piano) — Come Dance with Me, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Oct. 22, 2026	Choirs — in my song featuring Schola Cantorum and State Singers, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church of Starkville, \$



Many events are free to the public.
For latest ticket info, visit www.music.msstate.edu.

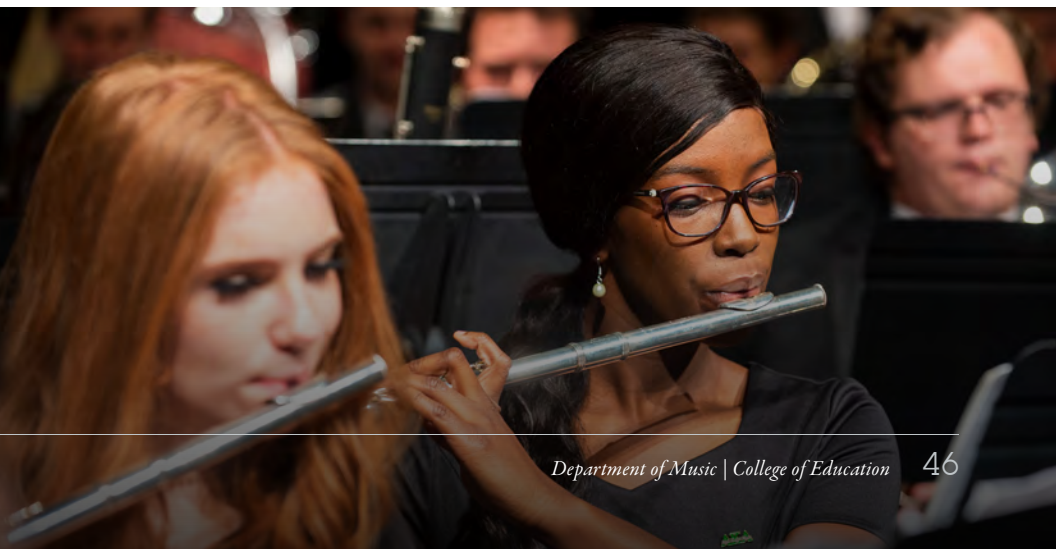
Oct. 24, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — University of Oklahoma vs. MSU, Davis Wade Stadium
Oct. 25, 2026	Jason Baker (marimba) — Faculty Marimba Recital, 5 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Oct. 26, 2026	Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra — Community Chorus and Friends featuring Sara Horan and Peter Infanger, 7:30 p.m., First Baptist Church of Starkville, \$
Oct. 27, 2026	Marcos Machado (double bass) and Ellen Elder (piano) — The World of Double Bass, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Oct. 29, 2026	Percussion Club and Flute Studio — Danse Macabre: An Evening of Flute and Percussion, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Oct. 31, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — MSU vs. University of Texas, Austin, Texas
Oct. 31, 2026	Mr. Adoniz Gonzalez (piano) and Dr. Rosângela Sebba (piano) — Two Pianos - One Sound, 2 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Nov. 1, 2026	Amy Catron (cello), Sophie Wang (piano) and Anne Katherine Ragsdale (piano) — Faculty Cello Recital, 4 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Nov. 3, 2026	Choirs — New Beginnings featuring Lyrica and Cantaré, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church of Starkville, \$
Nov. 5, 2026	Fall Wind Ensemble — Visions in Sound, 7:30 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, Free
Nov. 7, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — Vanderbilt University vs. MSU, Davis Wade Stadium
Nov. 9, 2026	Department of Music — Music Discovery Day, Music Building, Free
Nov. 10, 2026	Opera — The Enchanted Forest: A Trial of Love, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, \$
Nov. 12, 2026	Opera — The Enchanted Forest: A Trial of Love, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, \$
Nov. 14, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — Auburn University vs. MSU featuring Patriotic Show, Davis Wade Stadium
Nov. 15, 2026	MSU Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonia — The Water Remembers, 2 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, \$
Nov. 15, 2026	Studio — Brass Ensembles Concert, 4 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free



Nov. 16, 2026	Opera — Aria Night, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, \$
Nov. 17, 2026	Studio — Double Reed Ensembles Concert, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, <i>Free</i>
Nov. 18, 2026	Studio — Saxophone and Clarinet Ensembles Concert, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, <i>Free</i>
Nov. 20, 2026	Jazz Ensemble — Fall Concert, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, <i>Free</i>
Nov. 21, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — Tennessee Tech University vs. MSU, Davis Wade Stadium
Nov. 22, 2026	Community Band — Winter Concert, 2 p.m., Kent Sills Band Hall, <i>Free</i>
Nov. 22, 2026	Studio — Percussion Ensemble, 3 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, <i>Free</i>
Nov. 22, 2026	Piano — Piano Studio Recital, 5:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, <i>Free</i>
Nov. 27, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — Egg Bowl, MSU vs. Ole Miss, Oxford, Mississippi
Nov. 30, 2026	Famous Maroon Band — Starkville Christmas Parade, Main Street, Starkville, <i>Free</i>
Dec. 1, 2026	Choirs — Festival of Carols featuring Lyrica, Cantaré, Schola Cantorum and State Singers, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church of Starkville, \$
Dec. 5, 2026	Community Music School — Recital, 10–11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, <i>Free</i>
Dec. 5, 2026	Studio — Christmas Benefit Recital, 2 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, <i>Free</i>
Dec. 5, 2026	Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra — Christmas Fanfares featuring Starkville Symphony Chorus, 7:30 p.m., First Baptist Church of Starkville, \$
Jan. 19, 2027	Victor Rosenbaum, piano — 85th Birthday Recital Tour—Last Words, Last Works: The Final Solo Piano Pieces of Beethoven, Brahms and Schubert, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, <i>Free</i>
Jan. 20, 2027	Victor Rosenbaum — Piano Masterclass, 5:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, <i>Free</i>
Jan. 23, 2027	Piano — MSU Piano Retreat, 9 a.m., Music Building, <i>Free</i>

Jan. 25, 2027	Department of Music — String Day, 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Jan. 28, 2027	Concert Bands — Honor Band Concert featuring Germantown High School Wind Symphony, 6 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, Free
Jan. 29, 2027	Wind Ensemble — Honor Band Concert, 7:30 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, Free
Jan. 30, 2027	MSU Honor Band — Honor Band Clinic Finale Concert, 12:30 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, Free
Feb. 4, 2027	Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra — The Composer's Living Room, 6 & 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, \$
Feb. 11, 2027	Sule Greg Wilson — Roots and Resonance, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Feb. 13, 2027	Neilson Chen (piano), Thomas Jenkins (piano), Katherine Johnson (piano), Jenna Klein (piano), Anne Katherine Ragsdale (piano), Rosângela Sebba (piano) and Sophie Wang (piano) — Piano Passion: A Valentine Gala, 4 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Feb. 14, 2027	Concert Bands — Voices of the Ensemble, 2 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, Free
Feb. 17, 2027	Jeremy Samolesky — A Journey Through 300 Years of Piano Music, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Feb. 19, 2027	Department of Music — Brass Day, 4 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
Feb. 20, 2027	Amy Catron (cello) — Faculty Cello Recital, 7:30 p.m., Music Building, Free
Feb. 21, 2027	MSU Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonia — Machines Dream of Spring, 2 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, \$
Feb. 27, 2027	Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra — Starkville-MSU Symphony Gala, 7:30 p.m., TBD, \$
Feb. 28, 2027	Community Band — Midwinter Concert, 2 p.m., Kent Sills Band Hall, Free
March 15, 2027	Roza Tulyaganova (soprano), Jeanette Fontaine (mezzo-soprano) and Anne Katherine Ragsdale (piano) — From Cradle to Grave: The Nursery & Songs and Dances of Death by Modest Mussorgsky, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free

March 18, 2027	Choirs — The Quiet Heart featuring Schola Cantorum and State Singers, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church of Starkville, \$
March 20, 2027	Studio — Legacies: A Concert Tribute for Women's History Month, 2 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
March 22, 2027	Nathanael Fleming (tenor) and Neilson Chen (piano) — Voice Extraordinary, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 1, 2027	Wind Ensemble — Bold Sounds, 7:30 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, Free
April 2, 2027	Amy Catron (cello) and Rosângela Sebba (piano) — Romantic Era Cello Recital, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 3, 2027	Department of Music — Solo and Ensemble Festival, 8 a.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 3, 2027	Department of Music — Double Reed Day, 1 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 8, 2027	Choirs — Spring Showcase featuring Lyrica, Cantaré, Schola Cantorum and State Singers, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church of Starkville, \$
April 10, 2027	Piano — MMTA District Evaluations, Starkville, Columbus, Tupelo and West Point, 8 a.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 12, 2027	Flute Studio — Flutes in Bloom, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 13, 2027	Studio — Brass Ensembles Concert, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free



April 17, 2027	Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra — Triumph to Transcendence featuring Phillip Stockton, Starkville Symphony Chorus and MSU Choirs, 7:30 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, \$
April 18, 2027	Concert Bands — Tradition in Motion, 2 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, Free
April 18, 2027	Studio — Double Reed Ensembles Concert and Studio Recital, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 20, 2027	Opera — Aria Night, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, \$
April 21, 2027	Studio — Saxophone and Clarinet Ensembles Concert, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 22, 2027	Wind Ensemble — Stories in Sound, 7:30 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, Free
April 23, 2027	Jazz Ensemble — Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 24, 2027	Piano — Honors Piano Retreat, 10 a.m., Music Building, Free
April 24, 2027	Percussion Studio — MSU Percussion Symposium, Noon, Music Building Choral Hall, Free
April 24, 2027	Piano — Piano Studios Recital, 2 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
April 25, 2027	Community Band — Spring Concert, 2 p.m., Kent Sills Band Hall, Free
April 29, 2027	Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra — Echoes & Resonance, 6 & 7:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, \$
April 30, 2027	Opera — "Gianni Schicchi" featuring MSU Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonia, 7:30 p.m., McComas Hall, \$
May 1, 2027	Community Music School — Recital, 10–11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Music Building Recital Hall, Free
May 1, 2027	Opera — "Gianni Schicchi" featuring MSU Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonia, 7:30 p.m., McComas Hall, \$
May 2, 2027	Opera — "Gianni Schicchi" featuring MSU Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonia, 2 p.m., McComas Hall, \$
May 27, 2027	Starkville-MSU Symphony Orchestra — Wingo Pops: The American Tapestry, 7:30 p.m., Bettersworth Auditorium, \$
June 1-5, 2027	World Music — Smithsonian Folk Ways Recordings: World Music Pedagogy Five-Day Certification Workshop, Music Building, Free





PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Music Discovery Day FREE

Nov. 9, 2026 | 9 a.m.

Music Building

Prospective music and music education majors and families: come experience the MSU Music Department through a day of recitals, presentations, Q&A, masterclasses and more.

String Day FREE

Jan. 25, 2027

10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

This free event showcases string players from high school who join the department for a day of music and learning experience. The String Faculty complete the program with chamber music performance.

Brass Day FREE

Feb. 19, 2027 | 4 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

The MSU Brass Area invites all junior high school, high school and community college brass students to attend our 2027 MSU Brass Day. The event will feature masterclasses, faculty and student performances and a large brass choir performance involving all participants at the end of the day. Admission is free.

2027 MSU Solo and Ensemble Festival FREE

April 3, 2027 | 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Mississippi State University welcomes your participation in our 2026 MSU Solo and Ensemble Festival! This festival is open to voice and instrumental students grades 8 through 12 and community college students. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to expand their musicianship skills by performing a solo or in a chamber music ensemble with their friends for feedback from professional musicians and teachers.



Double Reed Day **FREE**

April 3, 2027 | 1 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

The MSU Double Reed Studios invite pre-college oboe and bassoon students to join us for a day filled with music-making, reed making and more!

Open Audition Dates

Jan. 29, 2027

Music Building and Kent Sills Band Hall

Feb. 19, 2027

Music Building and Kent Sills Band Hall

Feb. 20, 2027

Music Building and Kent Sills Band Hall

March 19, 2027

Music Building and Kent Sills Band Hall

March 20, 2027

Music Building and Kent Sills Band Hall

Scan the QR codes below for Major and Non-Major Audition Requests:



For Woodwind, Brass and
Percussion Auditions



For Strings, Piano and
Guitar Auditions



For Vocal Auditions

Degree Options

Bachelor of Music Education

College of Education

The Bachelor of Music Education is a 126-hour professional degree program that leads to licensure to teach music in the state of Mississippi. The Department of Music offers four concentrations of the Bachelor of Music in Education:

- **Instrumental**
- **Vocal**
- **Piano**
- **Guitar**

Bachelor of Music Performance

College of Education

Our Bachelor of Music in performance is a 121-hour professional degree program that prepares students to work independently toward performance at the highest possible level; possess knowledge of applicable solo and ensemble literature; and to gain experience with the fundamentals of music pedagogy. The Department of Music offers four concentrations of the Bachelor of Music in performance:

- **Instrumental**
- **Vocal**
- **Keyboard**
- **Guitar**

Bachelor of Arts in Music

College of Arts and Sciences

The Bachelor of Arts in music is a 122-hour degree in a liberal arts tradition of music study. This degree is designed to provide foundation coursework to apply to a variety of interdisciplinary careers including music, in preparation for graduate study or for self-improvement. The curriculum is flexible and designed to offer maximum opportunity to pursue a degree program aligned with students' interests and future goals. The provided sequence is one of many possible configurations of the Bachelor of Arts in music.

Master of Music Education

College of Education

The Master of Music Education is a 32-hour program that is both unique and practical. It is designed to fit into the busy lives of current music teachers and is a hybrid program—a combination of summer and online courses—designed to support music professionals in the advancement of both their pedagogical and musical skills. Included in the degree is performance practice, conducting, pedagogy, curriculum, music theory, history and the essentials of research in music education.

Minor in Music

College of Education

The general music minor is a comprehensive 18/19-hour program designed to increase student musicianship and knowledge.

Minor in Music and Culture

College of Education

The minor in music and culture is an 18-hour program intended for students with an interest in non-Western music, especially the music of Africa and the African Diaspora. The program offers students from any major the opportunity to study the ways in which human cultural diversity is represented through music.

Minor in Audio Production

College of Education

The audio production minor is a 19-hour program designed to equip students with essential skills for careers in music production, live sound and audio engineering. Through hands-on courses, students will gain proficiency in cutting-edge technology and industry-standard practices, preparing them for diverse roles in the ever-evolving field of audio production.



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

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