



Camp at North Charleston, SC

Charleston Southern University

June 1-5, 2026



Administration
Co-Directors: Roy Ernst and Dan Kapp

For information about Charleston Southern University click [**UNIVERSITY**](#)

For information about North Charleston, [**NORTH CHARLESTON**](#)

Large Ensembles

Concert Band - The music will range in difficulty from easy to challenging. Conductors: Dr. Charles Jackson and Dr. Mandi Schlegel.

Orchestra is for all string players and advanced players on flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, trumpet, horn, trombone, tuba and percussion. Wind instrumentation will be limited to one person per part, so you should be comfortable playing an advanced part on your own. Conductors: Charles Jackson, Mandi Schlegel

Smaller Ensembles and Classes

String Ensemble - For all string players. Conductors: Lanni Han, Nicholas Hamilton

All Instrument Jazz Ensemble - This class will provide players with an introduction to playing Big Band music, learning the rhythmic characteristics and performance techniques. All instruments are welcome, including drum kit, bass, guitar, and piano. Instructor: Lauren Meccia

Melodic Creativity - Learn how to play your favorite songs beautifully in your own creative style. Instructor: Roy Ernst

German Band - It's always a good time of year to "Oompah"! The sheet music used in this band/orchestra is for expanded instrumentation which includes all instruments at this camp. We'd also love to see a keyboard player...especially an accordion player! Conductor: Chuck Jackson

Jazz Band - For saxophones, trumpets, trombones, bass or tuba, set drummer, piano, and guitar. Conductor: Lauren Meccia

Fiddling - Learn fiddling technique and fiddling tunes. Instructor: Nicholas Hamilton

Harmonica for Beginners - Learn all the basics and different techniques to master simple and familiar songs. You need to bring any size harmonica in "C". If you need to purchase one, Chuck recommends the Hohner Blues Band Harmonica - [\\$20.99 on Amazon](#) (and available at most music stores). Instructor: Don Stell

Ukulele for Beginners - Learn all about the ukulele including how to tune, strum, and play basic chords. We will play dozens of songs including the 12-bar blues and pop chord progressions. Bring your uke and join us for some fun. If you do not have a uke, there will be a few to borrow. Instructor: Coleen Coble

Our Hosts

Horton School of Music & Performing Arts

Dr. Marshall Forester - Chair

Nicholas Holland - Percussion Professor



Our Teachers'

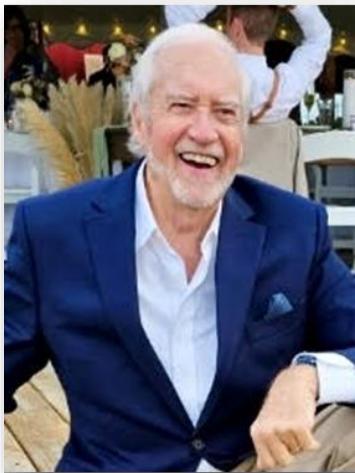


Coleen Coble - Coleen always loved music, but tried and gave up on all her musical endeavors until ... she spotted a little red ukulele on the wall of a hardware store in Bisbee, AZ. That was eleven years ago and hundreds of friendships later.

Coleen co-founded Dunedin (FL) Ukes in 2016, and along the way, started ukulele groups in North Carolina and Washington. Coleen has performed with small groups at senior communities, care facilities, farmers' markets and festivals. She currently teaches beginner ukulele classes at the local community and senior centers, public libraries and anywhere someone even hints at wanting to learn ukulele. As a member of the Tampa

Bay Ukulele Society, Coleen has had the opportunity to meet and learn from many of the great ukulele players across the country.

Coleen has lived in Dunedin, Florida off and on for 20 years. She grew up on a farm in Indiana and then wanderlust set in for the next 50+ years taking her to Colorado, Maine, South Dakota, Arizona, North Carolina, Washington and finally Florida. She met her partner, Don, when he was playing harmonica with a ukulele group in Vancouver, WA. Soon after, COVID hit and he asked her to teach him how to play the ukulele... the beginning of a great musical life journey. Together, they love to spread the joy of music!



Dr. Roy Ernst – Roy is Professor Emeritus at the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, started the first New Horizons Band in 1991 at Eastman. He received grants over a period of several years from NAMM, The International Music Products Association, to start the first New Horizons Band and to assist in starting New Horizons Programs in other locations, causing some people to call him “The Johnny Appleseed of Music for Adults.” He has written articles and books on music education, conducting, and performance.

Roy earned a Ph. D. from The University of Michigan and has received honors from MENC, Delta Omicron, Wayne State University, The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and The Eastman School of Music. He was recognized as a “Grand Master of Music Education” by the Music Teachers National Association (formerly MENC). Roy was awarded an honorary doctorate from Western University in Ontario. In addition to teaching at Eastman, he has taught at Livonia Public Schools in Michigan, Wayne State University, Georgia State University and The New South Wales Conservatorium of Music in Sydney, Australia. His hobbies include learning to play new instruments, bike riding, walking, travel, and doing lots of dishes for his wife, Pat, a chef.



Dr. Lani M. Hamilton - Lani is a musician, educator, and researcher whose work bridges vibrant classroom and community music-making with internationally recognized research in music learning. She is Associate Professor of Music Education at the University of South Carolina and Director of the USC String Project.

An experienced teacher, Hamilton has taught elementary and middle school strings in Lee County, Florida, and Austin, Texas; worked with the Southwest Florida Youth Symphony; and coached chamber music with the Austin Chamber Music Center. An active violinist, she has played with the Miami Symphony Orchestra, Austin Symphony Orchestra, and served as principal second violin of Opera Naples.

She has also appeared as a chamber music fellow at the Brevard Music Center and the Sunflower Chamber Music Festival.

Lani’s research, grounded in her extensive experience as both a teacher and performer, investigates how musicians develop expertise and refine complex motor skills through intentional, goal-directed practice—particularly by examining how they perceive and respond to discrepancies between intended and achieved performance outcomes. She has published in leading journals, including the *Journal of Research in Music Education* and the *American Suzuki Journal*, and has presented her research at major national and international conferences such as the International Symposium on Performance Science, the Neurosciences and Music Conference at Harvard Medical School, the American String Teachers Association Conference, and the National Association for Music Education Conference.



Nicholas Han - Born and raised in Seattle, WA, Nicholas made his conducting debut with The Music & More SummerFest Music Festival in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He earned his undergraduate degree in Violin Performance at Central Washington University in 2020, and his Masters in Orchestral Conducting at Oklahoma State University in 2023. In 2022, he obtained the position as assistant conductor for the Oklahoma Chamber Symphony and was the Apprentice Conductor for the Oklahoma City Philharmonic in May 2023. He is currently pursuing his Doctoral of Music Arts degree at University of Georgia Athens. Nicholas also held a position as Cover Conductor for the Gwinnett Symphony Orchestra from fall 2023 to Spring 2025. His recent conducting engagements include guest conducting LA Conducting Workshop and Competition Orchestra and Gwinnett Symphony Orchestra.

In 2022, Nicholas was selected as one of 3 winners for the International Conducting Workshop and Competition in Atlanta, GA. He was also selected as a 1st place winner and received the Audience Prize in the LA Conducting Workshop and Competition in Garden Grove, CA. Nicholas will participate as a Conducting Fellow at the Aspen Music Festival in the summer of 2026, studying with renowned conductors such as Robert Spano, Jane Glover, Leonard Slatkin, and Mark Stringer. His principal mentors include Nikolas Caoile, Thomas Dickey, Alexander Mickelthwate, and Mark Cedel.



Dr. Charles R. Jackson - Chuck is in his 47th year as a professional music educator and his fourth year serving as a full-time lecturer in Music Education at Georgia State University's School of Music in Atlanta, GA. In addition to his teaching responsibilities at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, he serves as Associate Director of the School of Music, Coordinator of Student Teaching, and Faculty Advisor for the GSU Collegiate Chapter of the National Association for Music Education.

He enjoyed a distinguished 34-year career as a Director of Bands in the public schools before retiring in June 2013 from the Cobb County School District. He joined the Kennesaw State University School of Music as a part-time Assistant Professor where he served for nine years. At KSU, he supervised student teachers, taught all woodwind and brass techniques courses for Music Education majors; taught instrumental methods, curriculum, and materials for band education majors; and instructed the Music in Society course for non-majors.

Dr. Jackson began his collegiate music studies in 1969 at Miami-Dade Junior College (FL) before earning his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Southern Mississippi (1979) his Master of Music Education degree from the University

of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, his Education Specialist degree from Georgia State University, and his Doctor of Musical Arts in Music Education from Shenandoah Conservatory, with cognates in conducting and trumpet performance.

His publications include co-authoring *Teaching Music Through Performance in Middle School Band* (GIA), contributing to *In Tune Magazine*, and authoring *The Band Director's Book of Secrets* (Barnhouse Publishing). Since 2016, he has served as conductor of the Cobb New Horizons Symphonic Band, a 98-member adult community ensemble based in Cobb County, GA.

Chuck's honors include recognition as a Nationally Registered and Nationally Certified Music Educator (MENC), multiple listings in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* and being named Teacher of the Year at Garrett Middle School and Dodgen Middle School. In 2003, the State of Georgia honored him with a Congressional Proclamation as a Georgia STAR Teacher. In 2019, he received the Olin G. Parker Leadership Award from Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Georgia Province 33.

Chuck and his wife, Jane, reside in Acworth, GA, and recently celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary. They are the proud parents of four children—Mary, Vince, Stephen, and Angela—and grandparents to their grandson, Kasper.



Lauren Meccia - Lauren is Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies at The University of South Carolina. She directs the Carolina Alive - a vocal jazz ensemble, the Jazz Lab Band, jazz theory and improvisation as well as saxophone and voice at the University of South Carolina. She serves as Director of the USC Essentially Ellington Regional and is project manager for the national USC Jazz Girls Day program.

An alum of USC, Meccia is a founding member of the South Carolina Jazz Masterworks Ensemble and a member of the Charleston Jazz Orchestra. Her ensemble, Duo Correntes, gave its debut performance at the 2023 NASA Biennial Conference in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and was featured at the World Saxophone Congress XIX in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain. She most recently performed with the Left Bank Big Band, USC's premier jazz ensemble, at the Umbria Jazz Festival in Perugia, Italy in 2025.

Meccia has been a featured soloist with symphony orchestras and concert bands throughout the US and has appeared in concert with Kurt Elling, Camille Thurman, Joe Lovano, Veronica Swift, Jon Faddis, Kenny Barron, Chris Potter, Jeff Coffin, Wyycliffe Gordon, Tommy Igoe, Mike Steinel, Wayne Bergeron, the New York Voices, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, the Temptations, Maurice Williams and the Zodiacs and Jesse Colin Young. Her debut vocal album, *Inside Your Eyes*, was released in 2015 and received positive reviews in jazz publications throughout the United States, Russia, and Japan.



Dr. Mandi Schlegel - Originally hailing from Pennsylvania, Amanda Schlegel is Assistant Professor of Music Education at the University of South Carolina. Before coming to USC, Amanda was Associate Professor and Chair of Music Education at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Amanda taught middle and high school band and orchestra in the public schools of western Pennsylvania, along with secondary vocal music, elementary general music, drama, theory, and has directed several musical theater productions.

Amanda holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Grove City College, a Master of Music from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, and a Ph.D. from Louisiana State University. At USC, Amanda teaches introduction to music education, methods for middle and high school students music through bands, measurement and evaluation, psychology of music, supervises student teachers, advises theses and doctoral dissertations, and directs the Congaree New Horizons Band program. Amanda has also completed two levels of the Modern Band fellowship and recently formed the New Horizons Jam Band, a group that utilizes informal music learning approaches, playing by ear, flexible musicianship, and the incorporation of many music genres. In Fall 2023, Amanda worked with Roy Ernst and Chief William Brazier to form the Armed Services Veterans Band, providing a community music experience exclusively for veterans and their families.

Her research interests surround music perception and cognition as a function of instrumental music teacher/conductor effectiveness, music teacher education, affective and emotional responses to music, and community music. Her research has been presented at regional, national, and international conferences, most notably the National Biennial In-Service Conference of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), the Annual Music Education Week in Washington D. C., International Symposium for Research in Music Behavior, Society for Music Teacher Education, International Society for Music Education, Society for Music Perception and Cognition, and the International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition.

Her scholarly work has been published in the Journal of Research in Music Education, Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education, Psychology of Music, and International Journal of Music Education. She is a member of NAfME, College Music Society, Society for Music Perception and Cognition, Society for Music Teacher Education, Society for Research in Music Education, and National Band Association. She has served as chair of the NAfME Perception and Cognition, Affective Response (Emotion, Expressivity, and Engagement), and Adult and Community Music Education Special Research Interest Groups.



Don Stell - Don started playing harmonica when he was six years old when his dad taught his Cub Scout den to play. In his twenties, Don started playing in his father's harmonica band, The Vagabonds. He also helped his dad teach harmonica through the school district. When his dad passed away in 2013 at the age of 91, Don stopped playing.

He picked up the harmonica again in 2020 when he hooked up with some crazy ukulele players. His harmonica accompaniments received a lot of attention and soon the ukulele players were lining up to learn how to play

harmonica. Since then, he has taught over 100 people in Portland, OR, Vancouver, WA and Dunedin, FL. He is often invited to sit in with local and regional bands and performers.

Don was born and raised in Portland, Oregon. He now lives on the sunny Gulf Coast in Dunedin, Florida with his partner and ukulele player Coleen Coble.

Don also plays ukulele, drums and enjoys all kinds of dancing. He loves his '68 Chevy truck and his MacDonald kilt and Scottish regalia. If you take Don's harmonica class, he has only two rules: 1. Do not eat before you play, and 2. Have fun!

Camp Schedule

Monday, June 1:

Check in to your motel, dinner on your own,
6:30-8:00 PM: Band and String Orchestra practices

Daily Schedule: Tuesday thru Thursday

	Band Room	Chorus Room	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3
9-10:00	Concert Band Jackson Schlegel	String Orchestra Han Hamilton			
10-10:30	Break. Refreshments Provided				
10:30-11:30	Orchestra Han Hamilton	All Instrument Jazz Ensemble Meccia	Ukulele for Beginners Coble	German Band Jackson	Harmonica for Beginners Stell
11:30-1:00	Lunch in the College Cafeteria (included)				
1-2:00	Concert Band Jackson Schlegel	String Ensemble Han Hamilton			
2-2:30	Break. Refreshments Provided				
2:30-3:30	Jazz Band Meccia	Fiddling Hamilton	Ukulele for Beginners Coble	Melodic Creativity Ernst	Harmonica for Beginners Stell
3:30 on...	Recreation, touring, and dinner on your own				

Thursday Afternoon: 3:30-5:00 pm - Small group performances

Friday Morning: 9:30-11:00 - Jazz band, Concert Band, Orchestra
11:00 Camp Ends. Happy Trails

Food

Breakfast will be at your hotel. Lunch is included in your fee and will be at the University Cafeteria. Morning and afternoon snacks will be provided and are covered by your fee. Dinners are on your own. You may want to have dinner as part of an evening in North Charleston.

Hotel

The Holiday Inn adjoins the campus at 2435 Elms Center Road, North Charleston, South Carolina but it would be a long walk to music facilities. The discount rate for the camp is \$119 (\$137.86 with taxes and fees) for a queen or king room) . Book on-line by clicking [**HOLIDAY INN**](#) or phone 1-877-666-3234

The Hampton Inn is just a little farther away at 2688 Ferwood Drive, North Charleston, SC. The discount rate for the camp is \$119 (\$137.86 with taxes and fees for a queen or king bedroom). Phone 843-735-7500 or book on-line by clicking [**HAMPTON INN**](#)

Registration

On-line registration begins on February 1 for subscribers to The Roy Ernst Music Institute (REMI). To become a free subscriber, go to royernstmusic.com. Subscribers will also receive a \$40 discount. Non-subscribers can register beginning on February 10.

The first step is to register. That will reserve a place for your instrument in the large ensemble and classes you select. It is possible that there will be wait-lists for some instruments and choices. The first fifty people to register will be accepted regardless of instrumentation. After that, instrumentation will be a factor. Register early to avoid disappointment.

After registration, you will receive an invoice. Payment will be made at this time. Once your payment is received your registration is complete and your seat is guaranteed.

[**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!**](#)

Cost

The instructional fee covers the cost of teachers, rental of rehearsal rooms and classrooms, and rental of percussion and other equipment.(Fees are in US Dollars)

Instructional Fee, REMI subscribers	\$400
Instructional Fee, Non subscribers*	\$440

*Become a REMI subscriber for free and receive the \$40 discount.
It's quick and easy at <https://royernstmusic.com/>

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations made on or before **March 31** will receive a 100% refund.

Cancellations made between **April 1** and **April 30** will receive a 100% refund less a service charge of \$50.00 per person.

There will be **NO REFUNDS** after **April 30**.

Note:

Send cancellation requests directly to royernst@aol.com.

NOTE: There is always a remote chance that the camp will be cancelled. Before buying non-refundable airline tickets, confirm that the camp will happen by writing to royernst@aol.com.

REGISTER NOW BY CLICKING HERE!

Presented by

