

2022 Directors and Conductors

Margaret Garriss

Margaret Garriss is a professional violinist, teacher and freelance musician who enjoys teaching both traditional and Suzuki students in private and group settings. While a student, Margaret was a scholarship recipient for the Paul Rolland International String Workshop held in Salzburg, Austria, and the Agnes Cooper Memorial Award from Meredith College. She was also selected as Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges and was chosen as a member of The Outstanding Young Women of America. Garriss holds professional memberships with the American String Teacher's Association, The Musician's Association Local 500, The Music Teachers National Association, Music Educators National Conference, The Suzuki Association of the Americas, The Raleigh Music Club, Sigma Alpha Iota, and Pi Kappa Lambda. Since 1982, Garriss has served as an Associate Director, and eventually Executive Director for the Lamar Stringfield Music Camp held annually in Raleigh. In 2018 she started the Lamar Stringfield Music Institute, a nonprofit that sponsors the camp. She is also a certified non-practicing member of the Feldenkrais Method and she traveled internationally for two years as a musical missionary with the Celebrant Singers organization based in California.

Phyllis Garriss

Phyllis Garriss - is founding director of the Lamar Stringfield Music Camp. She started the camp in 1979. Garriss felt strongly that music in the Wake County schools should be given full support by the community and wanted to work with the school teachers to build on the progress made in their school-year programs. It is still a primary mission of LSMC, whose faculty has included Wake County music educators, professional musicians and members of the North Carolina Symphony. The camp also provides scholarships every summer to those in need. Previous teaching positions include Meredith College, DePauw University and Ball State University. A former National Secretary of the American String Teachers Association, Garriss is a member of the Music Educators National Conference, the Music Teachers National Association, the American String Teachers Association, Local 500 of the Musicians Association, and past-president of the Raleigh Music Club. She has performed with the Raleigh Symphony Orchestra and the Capital String Ensemble.

Dr. Rebecca MacLeod- Honors Conductor

Dr. Rebecca MacLeod is Professor of Music Education at the University of North Carolina Greensboro, where she directs the string education program and conducts the UNCG Sinfonia. She is the author of Teaching Strings in Today's Classroom and is published in Journal of Research in Music Education, International Journal of Music Education, Bulletin for the Council of Research in Music Education, Update: Applications of Research in Music Education, Journal of Music Teacher Education, String Research Journal, Psychology of Music, The Strad, American String Teachers Journal, and various state music education journals. She has served on the editorial boards of the Journal of Research in Music Education, the String Research Journal, and

as guest reviewer for the International Journal of Research in Music Education. She is the recipient of the UNCG School of Music, Theatre and Dance Outstanding Teaching Award, the American String Teacher Association National Researcher Award, and the UNCG Junior Research Excellence Award.

A passionate advocate for increasing access to string education to all students, Dr. MacLeod directs two community partnership programs that provide string instruction to underserved students: the Lillian Rauch Beginning Strings Program and the Peck Alumni Leadership Program. Students of these programs have performed for Dr. Maya Angelou, Dr. Gloria Ladsen-Billings, and the Sphinx Virtuosi. Her research on working with underserved populations, vibrato technique, music teacher education, and music perception has been presented at the International Conference of Music Perception and Cognition (Thessaloniki, Greece), Music Research and Human Behavior International Conference (Barcelona, Spain), International Society for Music Education (Glasgow, Scotland), Music Educators National Conference, National Association for Music Education National Conference, American String Teachers National Conference, Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, Society for Music Teacher Education, and music educators state conferences.

Prior to joining the UNCG faculty, she taught elementary, middle, and high school orchestra in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania and was orchestra director and chair of music activities in Beaver, Pennsylvania. She was the assistant artistic director and conductor of the Tallahassee Symphony Youth Chamber Orchestra and Philharmonia Orchestra in Tallahassee, Florida. She has served on the American String Teachers Association National Board and is past president of the North Carolina ASTA chapter. She was a guest lecturer at Xi'an University and Shaoguan University (China) in summer 2016 and 2017.

Dr. MacLeod received her undergraduate degree from Duquesne University and her MME and PhD from Florida State University. She is a frequent guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States and abroad.

Matt Stutzman- Haydn orchestra conductor

Matthew Stutzman grew up in Indianapolis, IN and in 2004 received his bachelor of arts in music education from Vandercook College of Music in Chicago, IL. Currently, he is the Intermediate String Orchestra conductor at the DUSS where he also teaches Music Theory.

Stutzman has 10 years of orchestral teaching experience in the North Carolina Public Schools. Though he specializes in string education, he also composes, arranges, and produces music professionally. He runs an independent recording studio where he engineers, mixes, and masters audio, as well as performs as a studio session musician. In 2017 Matt founded American Home Studio, a company dedicated to quality yet affordable instrument retail and educating musicians on building and using home studio equipment.

Christina Wholford Mozart Orchestra Conductor

Christina Wohlford has been teaching and performing professionally both violin and viola for over 10 years. She began playing the violin at age 7 in a Suzuki program at a public magnet elementary school she attended and soon decided to become a music teacher. Christina Wohlford received her Bachelor of Music Education degree and Master of Music in Performance from East Carolina University in Greenville, NC. While at ECU, Wohlford studied under teachers Ara Gregorian and Hye-Jin Kim while also completed long term teacher training in the Suzuki method under teacher trainer, Joanne Bath. She has had a wide range of experience in teaching violin and viola in the Suzuki approach including private and group lessons for children ages 4 and older. Christina continues to broaden her education skills by becoming certified in programs such as Every Child Can!, Suzuki Principles in Action, Music Mind Games, and Suzuki Early Childhood Education.