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**2019 ChamberFest Handbook**

On behalf of WCMS ChamberFest, welcome! In addition to regular faculty members

Rohan, Peter, David, and Ariana, internationally recognized pianist Randall Hodgkinson returns for both sessions. Cellist Jacob MacKay will return as junior faculty in Session 1. Session 1, we are excited to welcome Chris Eastburn to lead a group singing session that will focus on harmony across a variety of styles including world music, classical and contemporary. In Session 2, Crocodile River Music returns to lead all-camper African drumming sessions, helping us to work toward mastery of rhythm.

This year, our faculty concerts will feature masterworks by Brahms, Mozart, and Schumann, as well as gems by Popper, Weir, and Montgomery.

We will also welcome back young musicians from Neighborhood Strings, providing ChamberFest participants the chance to gain experience as mentors. Finally, we welcome adult amateur players to our evening chamber sessions.

Many of our camp traditions will continue, including sports hour, mafia tournaments and evening workshops. This year’s July 4th festivities will feature a bus trip to Rutland State Park for swimming and a cookout for overnight campers. Please find details on pg. 5- 6 of this handbook. Please note, overnight campers stay in Blackstone Hall, which offers apartment-style suites and air conditioning, and is located on Florence Street. Our camp interns Callie, Larissa, and Zoe will be working on many of the behind-the-scenes parts of the camp. Our staff and interns will also post fun facts about camp life on our Facebook page (Worcester Chamber Music Society) to give our online audience a “backstage” view of the camp! Please follow this light-hearted fun if it piques your interest.

See you soon!

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**ChamberFest Coaches and Performers**

**Cello:** Ariana Falk

David Russell

**Piano:** Randall Hodgkinson

Yelena Beriyeva (concerts only)

**Violin/Viola:** Rohan Gregory, Peter Sulski

**Crocodile River Music African Drummers:**

Zachary Combs

Issa Coulibaly

Antoinette A. Mutuyimana

**Group Singing:**  Chris Eastburn

**Junior Faculty:** Jacob MacKay, cello

**Camp Administration**

If you have any question or concerns during camp, please contact Ariana at (203) 464-4924 or at ariana@worcesterchambermusic.org

**WCMS Executive Director:** Tracy Kraus

**Camp Director:** Ariana Falk

**Camp Music Directors:** Rohan Gregory, Peter Sulski

**Operations Assistant Interns:** Callie Ostrowski, Larissa Beecher, Zoe Chakoian

**Girls’ Chaperone:** Callie Ostrowski

**Boys’ Chaperone:** Jacob MacKay

**Arrival procedures**

Overnight campers for each session arrive on the evenings of Sunday, June 30, and Sunday, July 7. Please arrive at **Blackstone Hall** at Clark University **between 5:30-7:00 PM.** We will be there to greet you. Please note that there will be **no dinner** available on campus that evening, so make sure you don’t arrive hungry (except for ice-cream!). ChamberFest and Clark University staff will help you settle into your dorm. All overnight campers will receive a personalized welcome folder containing a keycard, meal card, campus map and handbook. Please use this folder to hold your sheet music during camp. We are all in the same dorm, which has gender segregated wings and one common area to relax in. Everyone will be given key cards for entry into the dorm and **Estabrook Hall**. Please hold on to yours; if you lose it, you will be charged $50 for the replacement. Your meal card will designate your meal plan type and you will need to show it at meals served in the dining hall. Once everyone has settled in, we will gather in the common area to make ice-cream sundaes together.

Day participants need to arrive at **Estabrook Hall, 144 Woodland Street** at Clark University on Monday, July 1, and Monday, July 8, **by 8:45 AM**. We will be there to greet you. All day campers will receive a personalized welcome folder containing a meal card, campus map and handbook. Please use this folder to hold your sheet music during camp. Your meal card will designate your meal plan type and you will need to show it at meals served in the dining hall.

**Monday Meet-and-Greet**

On Monday, July 1, and Monday, July 8, we will begin with a “Meet-and-Greet” on the green outside of **Estabrook Hall** (rain location, Fuller Music Center inside Estabrook Hall). This is mandatory for all campers and staff since this is our first chance to meet each other all together. We will make introductions and go over other important logistics.

**Daily Schedule**

7:30-9:00 AM Breakfast

9:30-10:45 AM Chamber Music Session 1

11:00-12:15 PM Chamber Music Session 2/practice time

12:15-1:00 PM Lunch

1:00-1:30 PM Practice, free time

1:30-2:45 PM Neighborhood Strings/Chamber Music Session 3/practice time

3:00-4:00 PM Group Singing (Week 1)/African Drumming (Week 2)

**4:00 PM Official pick-up time for day students**

4:00-5:00 PM Sports, practice, free time (4:30 July 4: Bus to Rutland State Park)

5:00-6:30 PM Dinner

5:30-6:45 PM Swimming (pending pool availability) or Faculty concert preparation

6:30-9:30 PM Off-site ice cream walk (Week 2: T)

8:15-9:00 PM Evening workshops (Week 1: M/T, Week 2: M/W)

8:00-10:00 PM Faculty concert (Week 1, W; Week 2, TH)

11:00 PM Campus Curfew

**Please note**, July 4 is a regular camp day, but after coaching will feature a special field trip to Rutland State Park for swimming and a cookout. Day campers are encouraged to come along on this trip for a $20 fee and parental permission. Due to the holiday, the campus dining hall will be closed on Thursday, July 4. ChamberFest will be providing breakfast, lunch and dinner in the dorms on that day to students staying over in the dorms as well as lunch for day students on the lunch plan.

You are responsible for checking the camp announcement board every morning to see if there have been any changes in scheduling or any new announcements. It is also **expected that you will arrive on time with your instrument out and be ready to play for each chamber music session to maximize coaching time for all participants.** Please call Ariana if you are sick and cannot make it to a session so that we can plan accordingly.

**Day Camper Drop-Off/Pick-Up Times & Protocol**

Day campers need to arrive on the first day of camp at 8:45 AM. For the rest of the week (T-F), you need to arrive by 9:15 AM in order to be ready for your first coaching at 9:30 AM.

Day campers are to be picked up at 4:00 PM at Estabrook Hall. If you want to stay longer than 4:00 PM, to play sports, eat dinner with us or take part in our evening workshops, extracurriculars and swimming hour, you MUST make arrangements between your parents and Ariana or Callie/Larissa ahead of time. There are extra fees for eating dinner with us and participating in our off-site State Park trip but no extra fees for the workshops or for swimming.

In order to keep our campers safe, we require daily sign-in and sign-out for day campers. If you stay later than 4:00 PM, you must make arrangements with Ariana in order to sign out.

**Adult Amateur Evening Sessions**

We have always invited adult amateur sessions to participate in the all-ages full-day sessions. During Session 1, we also offer evening coaching sessions to adult amateur performers. These coachings take place with faculty from 6:30-7:45 in Estabrook Hall (144 Woodland St.). We offer you a campus ID card and the additional opportunity to attend camp workshops and other after-hours activities.

**Evening Workshops**

Among the unique features of ChamberFest are our informal evening workshops, which focus on many aspects of musicianship. These talks are not simply technical; they focus on ideas, ruminations and fun topics we may not have time for during our daily coaching sessions. This year’s workshops will take place from 8:15-9:00 PM. These are free for overnight campers, day campers, and evening participants. Day camper sign-up sheets will be available once camp starts.

**Camp Extracurricular Activities/Traditions**

One of the best things about ChamberFest is playing together after a hard day’s work. We encourage all participants to join in the extracurricular activities. Over the years, we have evolved some unique traditions that enhance the culture of the festival.

1. **Sports hour:** Held from 4:00-5:00 PM daily in the in the field next to Estabrook, including our traditional soccer, ultimate Frisbee, and kickball games. We may also have the opportunity to use the campus pool between 5:30 and 6:45 PM on weekday nights. The swimming pool has a certified lifeguard. There is no extra fee for sports or swimming for overnight campers or day campers. **Please bring a bathing suit and towel for this activity.**
2. **Rutland State Park:** To celebrate the 4th of July, we’ll take a bus trip to Rutland State Park and enjoy a picnic dinner and lifeguarded swimming in the pond in a beautiful setting. This activity is free for overnight campers. Day campers can join this activity for a fee of $20, which includes bus transportation and dinner. Day camper sign-up sheets will be available once camp starts.
3. **Skit-night and dance-off**: Held after the Thursday night faculty concert in the dorm. Day campers can participate if they make arrangements for pick-up with parents and in advance. If you feel a need to bring props or costumes, please do so. If you have another creative idea that needs support, please discuss it with our chaperones so they can help you!
4. **Faculty Concert Dress-Up:** Our campers love to bring their creative spirit to everything they do, including the faculty concerts, which is reflected in their self-imposed dress code! Our Thursday concerts have evolved to “fancy with shades”. While none of this is mandatory, this tradition seems to stick year after year!

**Group Singing**

New this year, all participants in Week 1 will participate in a daily group singing session led by Chris Eastburn. The sessions will focus on harmony singing across a variety of styles including world music, classical and contemporary.  Participants will also build vocal technique and gain sight singing experience.

**Crocodile River Music**

Crocodile River African Drummers Zachary Combs and Issa Coulibaly return us this year. We are excited for their expertise in helping us all to improve our sense of rhythm in a fun, fresh group setting and to share the musical traditions of African culture.

**Neighborhood Strings**

Neighborhood Strings is a free year-round music program that connects WCMS artists with inner-city youth from Worcester and provides intensive lessons and ensemble. Neighborhood Strings youth attend a daily ChamberFest ensemble session during Period 3. ChamberFest participants will have the optional opportunity to work and play with these youth, develop skills as mentors and teachers, and give back to the community through music.

.**Faculty Concert Nights**

This year, our faculty concerts will feature masterworks by Brahms, Mozart, and Schumann, as well as gems by Popper, Weir, and Montgomery.

Wednesday, July 3rd – Music of Popper, Weir, and Brahms

Thursday, July 11th – Music of Mozart, Montgomery, and Schumann

8:00 PM with pre-concert talk at 7:30 in Razzo Hall | Traina Center for the Performing Arts

Tickets are available at the door for $32/adult, $10/ students, children under 17/free, $5/EBT card holders (show card at door). Tickets can also be purchased online at www.worcesterchambermusic.org.

These concerts are free to all campers and are **mandatory for all overnight campers.** It is **expected that all day campers** will make every effort to attend these concerts. Hearing teachers perform is another way of “studying” and it is part of participating in the supportive environment we try to create at camp.

Our concert managers will ask you to help them with the variety of tasks that need to be done to run a smooth concert. You will be asked to wear a nametag that identifies you as a camper. At these moments, remember that you are the public face of ChamberFest, so please be proud and act accordingly around other concert patrons.

**Friday Concert Day for All Campers**

This is your big day! The day begins early so that you can have one final brush-up coaching on all of your pieces. If you are an overnight camper departing camp, please note that you will need to have all of your belongings packed by lunch time, since you need to **check out directly after the final concert**. Please return your keycards and keys to Callie, Larissa, and Jacob. For returning overnight campers, you may leave your items in the dorm for the few days you have off between sessions.

8:00-9:30 AM Breakfast/Pack out

9:30-10:15 AM Chamber Music Session 1

10:20-11:05 AM Chamber Music Session 2

11:10-11:55 AM Chamber Music Session 3

12:00-12:30 PM Singing/African Drumming

12:30-1:00 PM Lunch

1:00-2:30 PM Final packing/prep and change clothes for concert

2:30 PM Warmup and tuning for concert

3:00 PM CONCERT

**Concert attire** **is black pants, white shirts or white/black skirt or dress and black dress shoes**. Ladies, if you wear a skirt or dress, make sure it is long enough to provide appropriate coverage, especially when you sit down! If you are a day camper, please bring your concert clothes with you in the morning, as there will be no time to go home and change. If you are an overnight camper, pack them in the top of your suitcase or in a place that is easy to find. All campers need to be changed and ready to play by 2:30 PM. There will be a reception after the concert before your good-byes.

**What to bring**

Day Campers

- Your instrument

- Your music

- Pencils, pencil sharpeners and eraser

- Small fan for music practice rooms (*optional)*

- Sports clothing (sneakers, no cleats) *(optional)*

- Pocket money for snacks

Overnight Campers

- Your instrument

- Your music

- A music stand with your name on it

- Pencils, pencil sharpeners and erasers

- Bedding for a XL twin bed, including bottom/top sheet, pillow and blankets

\*Please note, the beds are XL twin, and regular twin sheets will not fit. Full/queen sheets would fit better.

- Towels

- Soap/shampoo/hairdryer

- Pocket money for snacks

- Sports clothing (sneakers but not cleats) *(optional)*

*-* Bathing suit/swim towel

- Concert clothes: black trousers, white shirts, or white/black skirt or dress and black shoes

- Nice clothes if you want to wear them to faculty concerts

Free laundry machines are in the dorm. There are a few vending machines to purchase snacks on the campus. There is also wireless access on campus, so if you want to use the internet, bring your own tablet or computer - use it to post festival pictures up on the WCMS ChamberFest page on Facebook!

**Extra Meals/Staying Over**

If you have forgotten your lunch, wish to purchase lunch or stay for dinner so that you can attend our faculty concerts or evening workshops, we can provide this service for you. Please speak to Ariana, Larissa or Callie to purchase a meal ticket for the day you need it.

Lunch: $13.50/day

Dinner: $15/day

Occasionally, day campers find that they want to stay over on Thursday to experience our skit night and dance off. We can make arrangements for you to do this on single night basis if you let us know in advance and have parental permission to do so. You will need to provide your own bedding and towels.

One-night stay, including breakfast: $40/night

**Health Services Protocol**

There is no Health Services Center on the Clark campus during the summer. The Camp Director is Red Cross certified in Adult/Pediatric CPR/AED, as are all Clark University police. There are three first aid kits at camp (dorm, rehearsal space and concert hall). The camp has a health service protocol manual in place, which will be followed under any emergency and a health issue record log is kept on site. The Camp Director reserves the right to make the call to emergency services if need be to ensure the safety of the camper and others, even if the parents cannot be reached in a timely fashion.

**Camp Guidelines**

ChamberFest is based on the idea that even though campers may be young, they are responsible people who choose to apply themselves to their work and as their play. Although adults will be involved with all your activities, it is not possible for chaperones to be with you every minute of the day and night. We trust you to conduct yourself in accordance with camp guidelines.

1. Alcoholic beverages, illicit drugs or any other illegal substance are not allowed at camp. An illegal substance is defined as a drug that cannot be purchased “over the counter”. If you are found using any of these substances, you will be asked to leave camp immediately with no monetary refund.
2. Computer/ phone use is to be kept to a minimum. Smartphone use during your coaching/drumming ensemble is not allowed.
3. The dorms are gender-segregated. Boys are not allowed in the girls’ rooms and girls are not allowed in the boys’ rooms. The dormitory has a co-ed public common area in which you may socialize. The campus curfew is 11:00 PM.
4. No guests under the age of 18 are allowed to stay overnight during camp, other than children of faculty members. If you are found violating this rule, you will be asked to leave camp immediately with no monetary refund.
5. No one under the age of 18 may leave the Clark University Campus during camp at any time, unless on a specific off-site trip pre-arranged by camp. Anyone over 18 who needs to leave the campus must sign a waiver absolving WCMS of responsibility. If you leave campus without a signed waiver, you are tacitly absolving WCMS of responsibility for yourself. Failure to abide by this policy will result in disciplinary action and you may be asked to leave camp immediately with no monetary refund.
6. No one under the age of 18 is to get in a moving vehicle driven by a faculty member or other fellow camper at any time without prior consent from parents/guardian. Camp must have confirmation of this permission in writing. Failure to abide by this policy will result in disciplinary action.
7. Day campers can only be picked up by a parent or legal guardian. Exceptions will be allowed only when arrangements are made in advance with the Camp Director/Operations Assistant by the parent or legal guardian. A permission note stating the name of the person who will be picking up the camper must be submitted, and that person must provide proper ID.
8. You are expected to show respect to all campers, staff and faculty members. You are expected to take directions from faculty and staff, refrain from the use of abusive and foul language, refrain from causing bodily harm to yourself, other campers, faculty and staff, and to respect the camp’s equipment, instruments, supplies and the facilities that have been provided by Clark University.
9. Clark University and WCMS are not responsible for instruments, personal items or electronics you bring to camp.
10. Fireworks, matches or lighters, items of incendiary nature, explosives, gunpowder, firearms, ammunition, knives (with the exception of reed knives for woodwind instruments), or weapons of any kind (including toy weapons) are not allowed at camp.
11. If you are injured or experiencing other health issues, you are responsible for notifying a faculty or staff member immediately. When the Camp Director is given this information, he/she will instruct the camper how to proceed on the matter.

We would like to thank Clark University for their support of our camp and for the use of their beautiful facilities. We hope this handbook has answered most of your questions about camp. If you have any thoughts or concerns prior to camp, please contact Ariana. The better informed and prepared you are in advance, the more your time can be focused on enjoying making great music with your old friends, creating fun memories with your new friends and giving a spectacular performance at the end of week.