



2023 ChamberFest Handbook

On behalf of WCMS ChamberFest, welcome! We are thrilled to celebrate 2023 with chamber music-making for all. We welcome back our known and distinguished faculty members Rohan, Peter, David, Randy, Mark, Ariana. We are excited to welcome back Mark Mummert, Music Director of Trinity Lutheran Church, to lead a daily group singing session that will focus on harmony across a variety of styles.

This year, WCMS offers three concerts surrounding the festival, including masterworks by Britten, Brahms, and Schumann, as well as gems by Bonis, Bach, Dvorak, and Shostakovich.

We will also welcome back young musicians from Neighborhood Strings, providing ChamberFest participants the chance to gain experience as mentors.

This year's camp takes place entirely at Trinity Lutheran Church. All of our camp traditions will continue, including sports hour and wide-ranging workshops, which we're happy to present daily during the afternoon. Look out for the return of "Mafia," the popular game of deception and personality, during the lunch hour...

To all musicians, see you soon!

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ChamberFest Coaches and Performers

Cello:	Ariana Falk David Russell
Piano:	Randall Hodgkinson
Violin/Viola:	Rohan Gregory Peter Sulski Mark Berger
Group Singing:	Mark Mummert

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

Participants need to arrive at **Trinity Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster Street** on Monday, July 10 **by 8:45 AM**. We will be there to greet you. All campers will receive a personalized welcome folder containing a room map and welcome letter. Please use this folder to hold your sheet music during camp.

Monday Meet-and-Greet

On Monday, July 10, we will begin with a “Meet-and-Greet” on the green outside of **Trinity Lutheran Church** (rain location, Jeppson Hall inside TLC). 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

9:30-10:40 AM	Chamber Music Session 1/practice time
10:50-11:35 AM	Group Singing
11:45-12:55 PM	Chamber Music Session 2/practice time
1:00-1:45 PM	Lunch, practice, free time
1:45-2:55	Neighborhood Strings/Chamber Music Session 3/practice time
3:00-3:45 PM	Workshop
4:00-5:00 PM	Sports, practice, free time
5:00 PM	Official pick-up time
8:00-9:00 PM	Faculty concert (TH)

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 the Camp Director if you are sick and cannot make it to a session so that we can plan accordingly.

Drop-Off/Pick-Up Times & Protocol

Participants need to arrive on the first day of camp at 8:45 AM. Tuesday-Thursday, you need to arrive by 9:15 AM in order to be ready for your first coaching at 9:30 AM. **Friday again begins at 9AM to accommodate the dress rehearsal schedule.** Participants are to be picked up at 5:00 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church.

In order to keep our campers safe, we require daily sign-in and sign-out for campers. If any participant under 18 needs to leave the campus for any reason, you must make arrangements with the Camp Director in order to sign out.

Workshops

Among the unique features of ChamberFest are our informal 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 M-TH from 3:00-3:45pm.

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 at Institute Park, including our traditional soccer and ultimate Frisbee games. Participants who wish to play should bring appropriate footwear and water bottles
2. **Lunch Mafia:** Join faculty rabble-rouser Rohan Gregory in our ever-popular, mysterious game of personality and deception. An optional lunchtime activity.
3. **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!
4. **Evening Activities:** Our staff will coordinate some evening activities for campers staying over, including dinners and a walk for ice cream.

Group Singing

All participants will participate in a daily group singing session led by Mark Mummert, Music Director of Trinity Luther Church. The sessions will focus on harmony singing across a variety of styles. Participants will also build vocal technique and gain sight singing experience.

Neighborhood Strings

Neighborhood Strings is a free year-round music program that connects WCMS artists with 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 Britten, Brahms, and Schumann, as well as gems by Bonis, Bach, Dvorak, and Shostakovich.

Saturday, July 8th – Music of Britten, Bach, Fauré, and Dvorak

Thursday, July 13th – Music of Schumann and Brahms

Saturday, July 15th - music of Shostakovich, Bonis, O'Connor, Mozart, and Shaw.

8:00 PM with pre-concert talk at 7:30 in Gordon Hall | First Baptist Church.

Tickets are available at the door for \$34/adult, all camp participants and children under 17/free, \$5/EBT card holders (show card at door). Tickets can also be purchased online at www.worcesterchambermusic.org. ChamberFest friends & family may receive discounted tickets for \$25 by using the discount code ChamberFestFamily23.

These concerts are free to all campers. **However, campers need to reserve free tickets to the show/s by using the discount code ChamberFest23.** It is expected that all 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 may ask you to help them with the variety of tasks that need to be done to run a smooth concert.

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.

Before 9:00 AM	Hotel residents bring belongings to Church
9:00-9:40 AM	Chamber Music Session 1
9:45-10:25 AM	Chamber Music Session 2
10:30-11:10 AM	Chamber Music Session 3
11:15-12:00 PM	Group singing
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch
12:30-2:30	Warmup rehearsals/change clothes
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! Please bring your concert clothes with you in the morning, as there will be no time to go home and change. 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

- Your instrument
- Your music
- Pencils, pencil sharpeners and eraser
- Small fan for music practice rooms (*optional*)
- Sports clothing (sneakers, no cleats) (*optional*)
- snacks and lunch
- 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

Lunch

You may bring your own lunch or purchase lunch that we will have delivered from a local café for a cost of \$13/day (\$65/week). We prefer that you let us know in advance if you wish to order lunch, but you may also add an order during the week. Payment is by cash or check and can be made at morning check-in.

Hotel Accommodation

Overnight participants will stay in the nearby Hilton Garden Inn at a discounted rate. Guests in the group reservation will include staff, youth participants, and adult participants in the program. We can ensure that anyone staying at the hotel have an adult-led group to walk with to all program activities. A faculty chaperone staying at the hotel will help to coordinate meals and evening activities. Parking is readily available at both the hotel and the church. The hotel has a pool so anyone staying over may want to bring a bathing suit and towel. A full breakfast buffet is available for purchase at the hotel for a cost of \$12.95 per person. Please note, dinner will be on your own, although our staff will help facilitate group meal options.

Health and Safety/Covid Protocols

Many of our ChamberFest participants, including all faculty and staff members, are fully vaccinated and boosted. Regardless, we will be abiding by the EEC and Department of Public Health's "Minimum Requirements for Health and Safety" and are requiring that you and your child(ren) also follow the requirements. Please note that these protocols are subject to change as conditions shift.

SCREENING PROCESS

Please take a Covid test at home if you have any signs of illness including sore throat, cough, or gastrointestinal symptoms. In addition, take a test if you have had any potential exposure to any person with a confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19. Participants will not be penalized for missing any days due to illness. Failure to follow these requirements so may result in suspension from the program. Staff and volunteers are subject to the same requirements.

COOPERATION, RESPECT AND APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

We ask that participants in our program follow the Code of Conduct:

- Screen yourself or your child for signs of illness at home and test promptly with any symptoms, even if you do not suspect a case of COVID-19.
- Follow directions of teachers to ensure all youth participate in programs in a way that will help minimize the potential spread of COVID-19 and keep all of the participants safe and healthy.
- If a participant feels ill, he/she is to immediately inform his/her teacher so he/she can receive treatment.

The Camp Director is Red Cross certified in Adult/Pediatric CPR/AED. There are several first aid kits at camp. 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 ensemble is not allowed.

3. No one under the age of 18 may leave the Trinity Lutheran Church complex 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.
4. 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.
5. Participants 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.
6. 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.
7. Trinity Lutheran Church and WCMS are not responsible for instruments, personal items or electronics you bring to camp.
8. 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.
9. 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 Trinity Lutheran Church 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 the Camp Director. 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.