

Applied Jazz Lessons Faculty and Staff

APPLIED JAZZ LESSONS: Private jazz instruction is available with the following faculty. Should you be interested in private jazz instruction, contact the appropriate faculty member above to find out what their studio class time is. Discover more information regarding [general music lesson policies](#) in the Music Department.



Greg Byers (Cello). Email: gbyers@carleton.edu



Jay Johnson (Percussion) received the B.F.A. and M.M. degrees in Percussion with an emphasis on Ethnomusicology from the University of Minnesota. He has performed dozens of world premieres at major festivals and concert halls throughout the United States and Europe. He can be heard locally in concert or on recordings with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Minnesota Opera Company, Plymouth Music Series, Dale Warland Singers, and others. Email: jjohnson@carleton.edu.



Laura Caviani (Jazz Piano) received the B.M. in Composition from Lawrence University and the M.M. in Improvisation from the University of Michigan. She also studied with renowned composer JoAnne Brackeen and at the Akiyoshidai International Art Village in Japan. Ms. Caviani has taught at St. John's University, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, the University of St. Thomas, and many middle schools in Minneapolis through the "Harman How to Listen Program," an outreach program co-founded by Wynton Marsalis. Ms. Caviani is a veteran of two decades of performing, recording and composing, including appearances with Toots Thielemans, Bob Mintzer, and Dave Liebman, and touring and recording with star vocalist Karrin Allyson. Now based in

Minneapolis, she has five acclaimed recordings to her credit, and a long list of supporting roles with local musicians. Recent projects include her tributes to Horace Silver, Thelonious Monk, Mary Lou Williams and Alec Wilder. She is regularly featured with Pete Whitman's Xtet, vocalists Lucia Newell and Prudence Johnson, and guitarist Joan Griffith, with whom she released *Sambanova* in 2008. She also appears on the Seattle based Origin Label with vibes player Ben Thomas. As composer, she has created numerous works for jazz ensembles and orchestras. In 2010, Laura was selected to be one of five finalists at the Jazz Piano Competition in Jacksonville, Florida. Her most recent release, *Going There*, was described by music critic Bob Protzman as "piano trio jazz of the highest order." [View Laura Caviani's personal website.](#) Email: lcaviana@gmail.com

Zacc Harris (Jazz Guitar). Email: zharris@carleton.edu.





Greg Keel (Saxophone) has been on the faculty at MacPhail Center for Music since 1995, teaching saxophone, directing community partnership ensembles, and instructing in the jazz combo and summer camp programs. Greg is also on the faculty at Carleton College in Northfield and Hamline University in St. Paul. He has performed with a wide range of entertainment luminaries including Aretha Franklin, Dizzy Gillespie, Mel Torme, The O'Jays, Natalie Cole, Johnny Mathis, The Fifth Dimension, Frankie Valli, Lou Rawls, Doc Severinsen, Bobby Vinton, Bob Hope, The Temptations and the Minnesota Orchestra. Greg's high school and college students have received recognition from Down Beat Magazine's annual Student Jazz Awards, and are frequently selected as members of the Minnesota

All-State Jazz Ensembles, the Dakota Combo, Minnesota Youth Jazz Bands and the Minnesota All-State Concert Band. Greg is a member of the JAZZAX Saxophone Quartet, Synergy, and the 10-piece soul/pop group The Good the Bad and the Funky. He is an artist/clinician for Conn-Selmer, and served as vice-president of the Minnesota chapter of the International Association for Jazz Educators. Greg studied at the University of Wisconsin in Eau Claire and Madison, with additional graduate studies at Concordia University of St. Paul. Email: gkeel@carleton.edu.



Travis Schilling (Bass) can be seen in a multitude of musical settings, including musical theater, jazz, rock and pop country, performing over 200 shows a year on both electric and double bass. Travis was one of the founding members of the Atlantis Quartet. Their first record, *Again Too Soon*, received strong positive reviews on both the local and national level. As an educator, Travis has been teaching bass for over twelve years and has written his own method book, *Bassic Training*. Travis joined the McNally Smith College of Music faculty in 2007. Since then he has helped develop several programs, including a slap bass course and a master class series which have included such artists as Bryan Beller and Gary Willis. Email: tschilling@carleton.edu.

Jazz Performance Groups

Jazz Ensemble – *(MUSC190) Mondays/Wednesdays 6:30-8 p.m. Shackel*

Auditions are held every fall, and by appointment throughout the year. This group focuses on repertoire ranging from classic big-band jazz (like Ellington and Basie) to current tailor made arrangements of funk music (like Snarky Puppy). The Jazz Ensemble often brings in guest artists that join the group. Emphasis is placed on fun and varied repertoire, collaboration and improvisation. There is one final concert every term.

Jazz Chamber – *(MUSC195) rehearsals are one hour per week with coach/one hour on own)*

Just like chamber groups in the Music Department as a whole, anyone can form a jazz chamber group. All you need is 3 registered participants and a willing and ready coach (see above list). The sky's the limit. Jazz chamber groups often perform alongside the Jazz Ensemble on the final concert of the term.

Scattitude – *(MUSC195.01) Tuesdays 5:15-6:15 Shackel + one hour per week on own*

This is a vocal jazz chamber group that has been going strong since 2015, and sings both a cappella and with a rhythm section, depending on the term. Auditions are held every fall, and by appointment throughout the year.

JAZZ WORKSHOP – *(MUSC196) Tuesdays 3:15-4:45 p.m. Shackel*

The newest addition to the Jazz Area in the Music Department, this non-auditioned class is in a lab setting where students explore a wide range of topics in jazz, including but not limited to beginning, intermediate and advanced jazz improvisation techniques, jazz repertoire, jazz theory, and jazz arranging techniques. To date, the focus has largely been determined by student interest. In 2021-22, the game plan is: Beginning Jazz Improv (FA) Beginning Jazz Arranging (WI) and Advanced Arranging (SP). If you have an interest in this class, please contact Laura Caviani.



For more information, or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Laura Caviani, Director of the Jazz Program, at lcaviani@carleton.edu.



Please refer to and read carefully the information on the Music Department website for details regarding [registration policies and protocols](#):

