

Dear **Instrumental Music** Students,

Congratulations on being selected to attend the 2023 Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts (GSA). We are looking forward to working with you this summer. **Please read the following letter carefully and share it with your parents and private teacher, as there is a great deal of information in this letter for which you are responsible.**

GSA is different from traditional music camps. Our program will **1)** offer instruction in the specific discipline for which you have been selected and **2)** introduce and integrate all the art disciplines represented at the school.

You will be involved daily with students and activities from other disciplines at the school, which include **Architecture + Design, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Film + Photography, Musical Theatre, Visual Art, and Vocal Music.** It is very important that you come with an open mind, a readiness to work, a positive attitude, and a willingness to participate in the artistic community.

The GSA faculty and staff have planned an intensive program of activities and events for the summer. We will be located at the **University of Kentucky** in Lexington, which offers a beautiful campus setting as well as access to many cultural and recreational opportunities in the area.

Instructional activities in the instrumental music discipline are varied and include the following:

- coaching sessions on chamber music
- guest artist masterclasses by instrument area (woodwinds, brass, strings, percussion, piano)
- instruction with GSA residential or adjunct faculty who are professionally trained on the instrument for which you have been selected
- classes in music theory and music history
- seminar presentations on practice techniques, college selection and preparation, auditions, careers in music, résumé preparation, and competitions and summer programs
- guest artist presentations and clinics (e.g., composition, music therapy, conducting, etc.)
- music performances
- interdisciplinary collaborations

Since you will be rehearsing and practicing many hours each day, you must come to GSA rested and in good shape. You will work on your technique while at GSA – however, you will be expected to dedicate your time and attention specifically to GSA assignments and repertoire.

GSA PREPARATION FOR INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

First – we'd like your name to be clearly marked on your personal belongings before you come to GSA. This goes *especially* for your metronome, tuner, and folding music stand! Percussionists will also need to mark their instruments, sticks, mallets, and stands.

ALL STUDENTS will be assigned **ensemble piece(s)** in advance of the program. It is expected that these pieces are **fully prepared and performance-ready** before you arrive this summer. In addition, we need you to **carefully number all the measures in your music** (if not already done for you). We will distribute your ensemble piece(s) via email, so we ask that you **please check the emails you provided to GSA periodically.** Additionally, **you may receive a phone call from a GSA faculty member** to discuss your music and the instruments you're bringing to the program.

PIANISTS will perform a **solo recital piece** (in addition to the ensemble piece), so we ask that these students select and prepare one from the **standard piano repertoire** (you may use your audition piece for this). In all, your piece must be approximately **5 minutes long** (with no cuts), **memorized**, and **performance-ready** before you arrive this summer. We'd also like you to bring a **hard-copy printout of the original score.**

ITEMS TO BRING TO GSA

- **your instrument(s) in good working order!** (*please have these checked before you come*)
- GSA is not currently planning to require **face masks or coverings**, but if a student would like to wear one at any time, they are welcome to do so. If you would prefer to wear masks while at the program, please pack enough masks for general use to last all three weeks, as well as **performance masks** for any rehearsals and concerts.
- **spending money** – though housing, meals, room, and board are covered by GSA, you might want a little extra money for GSA merch on-campus or souvenirs during field trips
- **folding music stand—EVERYONE** (except for pianists) **needs to bring their own folding stand!**
- **pencils with erasers, music staff paper, notepaper, and a 1” three-ring binder**
- a **metronome and tuner** (*that are not on your phone, since no phones allowed in studio*)
- **tote bag, book bag, or backpack**
- **padlock or combination lock** for your instrument (*not all instruments will have lockers*)
- **refillable water bottle** for daily hydration (*with name clearly marked*)
- **umbrella, poncho, and/or raincoat** (*it rains A LOT!*)
- **walking shoes and rain boots/shoes** (*at least one pair of each*)
- a **one-page, hard-copy printout** of your **updated résumé** (*music résumé—not general résumé*)
- **clothes for final day performances** should be **dressy but comfortable** (*No jeans, shorts, t-shirts, flip-flops, sneakers, or caps/hats allowed for final day performances*)
- **hard-copy printout of the assigned ensemble piece(s) you will receive before the program.** (*electronic tablets will not be allowed for music*)
- **WOODWIND** players should bring plenty of good **reeds or reed-making materials/equipment**
- **BRASS** players should bring plenty of **valve oil, slide grease and all your required mutes**
- **STRING** players should bring **rosin, extra strings, shoulder rests, mutes, cello/bass rock stops, and a cleaning cloth**
- **PERCUSSIONISTS** should bring your **stick bag** (with all your **sticks and mallets**). (*You may also be asked by the GSA percussion instructor to bring extra percussion instruments if feasible*)
- **PIANISTS** should bring an **additional black 1” three-ring binder** (*for final day music*)

NOTE – If you are unable to purchase any items above due to financial reasons, please send GSA your detailed request **IMMEDIATELY** to gsainfo@kentuckyperformingarts.org. We're happy to help!

INSTRUMENT LOAD-IN INSTRUCTIONS

Students with **LARGE INSTRUMENTS** must load these in on **Sunday, June 11th** from **12pm-1pm EST** in **Band Room 22** at the **Fine Arts Building** (a campus map will be provided to you at move-in). **We ask that you do not arrive later than 1pm EST, as no GSA faculty or staff will be available to accommodate you.**

LARGE INSTRUMENTS include **all percussion, double basses, cellos, guitars, banjo, tubas, euphoniums, bass trombones, tenor trombones, french horns, baritone saxophones, tenor saxophones, and bassoons**, or anyone who is bringing multiple instruments. Someone will help you load-in your instruments and **provide direction on where to place them.**

Students with **SMALL INSTRUMENTS** (piccolos, flutes, clarinets, oboes, alto saxophones, trumpets, violins, violas) must bring these with them to the first day of class on **Monday, June 12th**.

Best wishes, and we look forward to seeing you at UK this summer!

Sincerely,

Dr. Rich Byrd (*brass*), *Discipline Chair* – rich.byrd@eku.edu

Mrs. Nancy Campbell (*strings*) – njcviola@icloud.com

Mr. Jim Corcoran (*percussion*) – kygsapercussion@gmail.com

Dr. Doug Drewek (*woodwinds*) – drewekd@berea.edu

Dr. Donald Speer (*piano*) – donald.speer@wku.edu