

AMGuSS Schedule – June 24-29, 2019

Class descriptions, exercises to be studied, and workshop descriptions are on the attached page.

- Monday:** 12:30 – 1:30 **Registration** – Whitecap Dorms – *ask directions at the guard booth at the campus entrance.*
2:00 **Introductions** – Bready Sailing Center
2:30 – 4:30 **All-School Orchestra** – Sailing Center
5:30 – 6:30 *dinner* – Student Center, upper level
7:30 **Faculty & Enigmatica Concert** – Performing Arts Center (*aka “The Barn”*)
following... Welcome reception – Sailing Center
- Tuesday:** 7:30 – 8:30 *breakfast*
8:15 – 8:45 Mandolin Yoga with Charlie – Sailing Center
9:00 – 9:50 MM-RC-CM – **Mandolin Family Technique Assessment** – Sailing Center
RNM – **Guitar Technique** – PAA 103
10:10 – 11:00 **Section Rehearsals:** MM – 1st mandolins – Sailing Center
RC – 2nd mandolins/interpreting the notes – PAA 107
CM – 2nd mandolins/finding the notes – PAA 106
RNM – guitar, mandola, mandocello – PAA 103
11:20 – 12:10 **Small Ensembles:** MM – Choro – Sailing Center (w/ PaulD)
CH – Baroque – Whitecap Dorm 353
RC – Variations on a Ground – PAA 107
CM – Classical Ensemble – PAA 103
RNM – Renaissance Band – PAA 106
12:30 – 2:30 *lunch (served until 1:20), then break for study or sitting in the sun.*
2:45 – 4:00 **Workshop 1: Sight-Reading for the Nearly Illiterate** – Catherine - Sailing Center
Workshop 2: Integrating Tremolo and Ornaments – Marilynn – PAA 107
4:15 – 5:15 **Student Showcase 1** – Sailing Center – Ralph will MC – Sign up for a 5-minute slot.
5:30 – 6:30 *dinner*
7:00 – 9:30 **All-School Orchestra Rehearsal** – Sailing Center
following... After-Hours Jam: Round-robin jam, open to all - Sailing Center
3-chord learn-to-jam with Fran & Charlie – Whitecap Dorm 353
- Wednesday:** 7:30 – 8:30 *breakfast*
8:15 – 8:45 Mandolin Yoga with Charlie – Sailing Center
9:00 – 9:50 MM – **Right-hand: Moving between strings; expressive tremolo** – Sailing Center
RC – **Right-hand: Arpeggios Across the Strings** – PAA 107
CM – **Right-hand: Developing pick velocity and fluidity** – PAA 106
RNM – **Right-hand Guitar technique** – PAA 103
10:10 – 11:00 **Section Rehearsals:** as above
11:20 – 12:10 **Small Ensembles:** as above
12:30 – 2:30 *lunch (served until 1:20), then break for study or taking a walk.*
2:45 – 4:00 **Workshop 3: Chords for Classical Mandolin/Mandola** – Charlie -- PAA 107
Workshop 4: Intro to the Roda da Choro – Marilynn, Bob, PaulD – Sailing Center
4:15 – 5:15 **Student Showcase 2** – Sailing Center – Ralph will MC – Sign up for a 5-minute slot.
5:30 – 6:30 *dinner*
7:00 – 9:30 **All-School Orchestra Rehearsal** – Sailing Center
following... After-Hours Jams (as Tuesday)

Thursday: 7:30 – 8:30 *breakfast*
8:15 – 8:45 Mandolin Yoga with Charlie – Sailing Center
9:00 – 9:50 MM – **Left-hand: Connecting and separating notes** – Sailing Center
RC – **Left-hand: Simple chord forms, arpeggios and strummed** – PAA 107
CM – **Left-hand: Playing in Positions** – PAA 106
RNM – **Left-hand Guitar technique**– PAA 103
10:10 – 11:00 **Section Rehearsals:** as above
11:20 – 12:10 **Small Ensembles:** as above
12:30 – 1:20 *lunch ~ no break today! Head over to...*
1:30 – 2:30 **Workshop 5: Mandocello Petting Zoo– Mitch Nelin** – Sailing Center
2:45 – 4:45 **Workshop 6: Fiddle Tunes and Improvisation - Matt Flinner** – Sailing Center
4:45 – 5:15 **Questions for Matt**
5:30 – 6:30 *dinner*
7:00 – 9:30 **All-School Orchestra rehearsal** – Sailing Center
following... After-Hours Jam – led by Matt Flinner – Sailing Center

Friday: 7:30 – 8:30 *breakfast*
8:15 – 8:45 Mandolin Yoga with Charlie – Sailing Center
9:00 – 9:50 MM – **Coordination: Aligning left- and right-hand speed** – Sailing Center
RC – **Coordination: Grouping notes into phrases** – PAA 107
CM – **Coordination: Technique meets music – making it flow** – PAA 106
RNM – **Coordination: Guitar technique** – PAA 103
10:10 – 11:00 **Section Rehearsals:** as above
11:20 – 12:10 **Small Ensembles:** as above
12:30 – 2:30 *lunch (served until 1:20), then break for study or airing out your concert clothes.*
3:00 – 5:00 **Orchestra dress rehearsal** – Sailing Center
5:30 – 6:30 *dinner*
7:00 **Official AMGuSS photo** – steps of the library
7:30 **Matt Flinner & AMGuSS Orchestra concert** – Library, Mary Tefft White Center
following... After-Hours Hang & Jam – Sailing Center

Saturday: 7:30 – 8:30 *breakfast*
9:00 – 10:00 **Workshop 7: Ask the Faculty** – Sailing Center
10:15 **Unofficial AMGuSS photo** – deck of Sailing Center
10:45 **Stage Presence demo**
11:00 **Small Ensemble In-House Recital** – Sailing Center
12:30 – 1:20 *lunch*
1:30 Fond Farewells

2nd and simplified-2nd mandolin Section Rehearsals ~ daily 10:10 – 11:00

This year we are dividing up the 2nd mandolins for sectionals. Charlie will take players who need work on reading/playing the notes. Ralph will take players confident with their reading, to work on interpretation.

Workshop choices for Tuesday 2:45 – 4:00

Workshop 1: Sight-Reading for the Nearly Illiterate – Catherine – Sailing Center

If you describe yourself as a terrible sight-reader, Catherine is here to help with tips for approaching new pieces, speeding up your reading, and getting through difficult passages without being left in the dust by the side of the road.

Workshop 2: Integrating tremolo and ornaments into a musical phrase – Marilynn – PAA 107

After you've learned your notes and coordinated all the parts in your ensemble, it's time to create your group's musical interpretation. We'll look at phrasing, decisions on how to play long notes, what sort of tremolo is appropriate (yes, there are types), and how ornaments will affect your decisions on tremolo. For those who read well and want guidance on interpretation.

Workshop choices for Wednesday 2:45 – 4:00

Workshop 3: Chords & double stops for Classical Mandolin/Mandola Players – Charlie – PAA 107

Are chords a foreign language to you? Are you finding yourself frustrated when you are limited to playing melody? This workshop will focus on learning to connect the written chord to hand positions or shapes. Thinking in blocks rather than individual notes.

Workshop 4: An introduction to the *Roda da Choro* – Marilynn, Bob, PaulD – Sailing Center

After a description of how the *Roda* has functioned in *Choro* for 150+ years, we'll take a look at 2 or 3 *Choro* in leadsheet form (*treble-clef melody, chord symbols*). Marilynn will introduce performance practice for those playing melody, and Bob and Paul will coordinate "the kitchen," the rhythm section playing chords. And then we will play. This is a brief hands-on overview of *Choro*, open to all levels.

Two Workshops for Thursday 1:30 – 2:30 & 2:45 – 4:45

Workshop 5: Mandocello Petting Zoo – Mitch Nelin – Sailing Center at 1:30

You are cordially invited to examine and play a variety of unusual instruments including: the Tom Mix (the world's loudest mandocello), a Swedish l tmandola, The Behemoth, an experimental gut-string mandocello, several octave-strung mandocellos (think 12-string guitar), several 5-course mandocellos, a 5-course mandola... and more!

Workshop 6: Fiddle Tunes and Improvisation – Matt Flinner – Sailing Center at 2:45

In this workshop, we'll look at a couple of old-time and bluegrass fiddle tunes and talk about ways of 1) getting the old-time and bluegrass sound with "driving" rhythm and big, full tone and 2) creating variations and/or improvising on the tunes. We'll look at octave variations, adding double stops and using various chord tones as "target" notes as we create variations on the tunes and work our way toward improvisation. Picking exercises, double-stop exercises and arpeggio exercises will be given to supplement these discussions. Handouts will be provided and refreshments will be imagined.

Final Workshop for Saturday 9:00 – 10:00

Workshop 7: Ask the Faculty: Marilynn, Bob, Ralph, Catherine, Charlie, Matt – Sailing Center

Last chance to get expert answers to music's little questions.

Mandolin Technique Classes

All exercises used for technique classes are from Marilyn's method books: TCM = The Complete Mandolinist, and T100 = The 100. Marilyn has transposed the exercises into alto, transposed-treble, and bass clefs to be accessible to all. Bring Marilyn's methods if you have them. Or email if you'd like to buy one, or need a xerox for class. Please look at the exercises before you decide on a class, to make sure they are within your playing ability.

Tuesday - Overview/Technique Self-Assessment

All mando-family instruments will meet together for an informal assessment with Marilyn, Ralph, and Charlie. This will help you decide what technique classes will aid your personal improvement goals.

Wednesday – Right Hand – please choose the class that works best for your progress

Ralph – **Arpeggios Across the Strings**

TCM: p. 146: Arpeggios across the strings

Using the glide technique to play arpeggiated chords across all 4 strings

Marilynn – **Moving Between Strings; Developing an Expressive Tremolo**

T100: p. 8-9 Playing Across the Neck, Skipping String. TCM: p. 191 Celeste Aida.

Working on right-hand mobility, and treating a tremolo melody like a sustained line.

Charlie – **Developing pick velocity and fluidity, fast and smooth downstrokes.**

TCM: p. 178-9 Velocity Study. TCM: p. 107-8 tremolo prep exercises

Working on regulating your right and, and how to make it work faster.

Thursday – Left Hand – please choose the class that works best for your progress

Ralph – **Simple chord forms as arpeggios and strummed chords**

TCM: p. 91 Chords & the glide stroke.

Left hand finger placement for playing multiple notes simultaneously.

Marilynn – **Connecting and Separating Notes**

T100: p. 18-19: Which notes to connect. TCM: p. 84-5 Branzoli: Shifting, phrasing w/ tremolo

Using your left hand to end each note to create phrasing and expressive lines. Finding musical shifting options.

Charlie – **Playing in Positions**

TCM: p. 75 Playing in Positions. TCM: 79 Combining positions

Using scales to understand positions; choosing when to shift and when to stay in position.

Friday – Coordination of Right and Left – please choose the class that works best for your progress

Ralph – **Grouping notes into phrases**

TCM: p. 160 Corelli-Exercise in A

Identifying and connecting musical gestures.

Marilynn – **Coordinating your left-hand and right-hand speeds**

TCM: p. 168-9 String-crossing and Speed-matching.

Matching left-hand speed to right hand, no matter the difficulty of the written line.

Charlie – **Technique meets music--making it flow**

TCM: p. 180-1 Beethoven Sonatina in C major

Playing with speed, fluidity and musicality.