**2025–2026 CNHB Membership Information   
Fall 2025**

**ENSEMBLE/CLASS OFFERINGS**

**Soda City Concert Band: (Monday @ String Project, 5:30–6:45 – Zoom participation is possible)**Concert band for players with at least 2 years of experience on their instrument.

**Soda City Explorer Band (Monday @ String Project, 5:30–6:45 – Zoom participation is possible)**Concert band for players with 1–2 years of experience on their instrument

**Soda City Beginning Band: (Monday @ String Project 5:30–6:45 – Zoom participation is possible)**Concert band for players with no prior musical experience or those seeking a refresher class. Members who enroll in this class will also have ten 30-minute private lessons with a member of the CNHB staff or USC School of Music student.

**Crescent Moon Jazz Band: (Monday @ String Project, 7–8 PM – Zoom participation is possible when at String Project)**Jazz band for players with at least 2 years of experience on their instrument

**Beginning Jazz Band: (Monday @ String Project, 7–8 PM – Zoom participation is possible)**Jazz band for players with at least 1 year of experience on their instruments but no prior experience playing jazz. Members of the beginning concert band would need to consult with instructors about their readiness for the beginning jazz band.

**United Sound: (Monday @String Project, 7–8)**

This is a new intergenerational ensemble intentionally designed for adults with disabilities. USC music students and community music ensemble members are invited to serve as mentors to adult members of the local disabled community. Complete [this form](https://forms.office.com/r/Q3SmS8nFmR?origin=lprLink) if you are interested in being a mentor. You can also learn more about United Sound at this [link](https://youtu.be/abo1hMTp4HQ?si=BtzfDYgYLsyU7b3o). Mandi Schlegel is organizing this initiative.

**Jam Band (The Jamateurs): (Tuesday @ School of Music, Room 107, 6:30–7:30)**For all levels of playing. Instrumentation is flexible, with an emphasis on guitar (electric and acoustic), bass, drum set, keyboards, vocals, ukulele, and technology. We typically perform music genres that are not represented by the current CNH offerings. Members choose the songs/pieces to be performed. We emphasize playing by ear, instrumentation flexibility, rotation of instruments, arranging, and improvisation. Interested members should contact Greyson Smallen ([esmallen@email.sc.edu](mailto:esmallen@email.sc.edu)) or Mandi Schlegel ([aschlegel@mozart.sc.edu](mailto:aschlegel@mozart.sc.edu))

**Loose Canon Recorder ensemble (Tuesdays, 10:00–11:30 AM; St. Paul’s Lutheran Church – 1715 Bull Street, Columbia)**Small groups playing authentic recorder music. For information, contact Adolfo Reparaz, [loosecanonrecorders@gmail.com](mailto:loosecanonrecorders@gmail.com)

**Clarinet Ensemble: (Wednesday @ School of Music, Room 022, 5:30–6:30)**Chamber music ensemble focused on clarinet repertoire.

**Jazz Combos (Junior Varsity and Varsity) (Thursday @ School of Music, Room 022, 6:30–7:30/7:40–8:40)**Small performing groups emphasizing solo improvisation.

**Armed Services Veterans Band (ASVB) AND Armed Services Veterans Beginning Band (ASVBB) Saturday morning @ String Project, 9:30 AM–11:45 AM)**

“For veterans; By Veterans”

Concert band for veterans of ANY age and ANY skill level. These groups exist at no cost to members. All instructional and performing personnel are current and former Armed Services members. Spouses of current and former Armed Services members are also eligible for all benefits. Membership in ASVB/ASVBB qualifies for a waiver of all other registration fees, **except for parking fees, jazz combos, and the clarinet ensemble**.

**Flute Loops (TBD)**Chamber music ensemble focused on flute repertoire. Contact Ziqing Guan ([ziqingg@email.sc.edu](mailto:ziqingg@email.sc.edu)) if interested!

**Music Theory/Appreciation (TBD)**Offered intermittently based on the interest of group members, usually in the summer.

**\*\*We are contemplating new offerings for this year. Please complete this form:**[**Congaree New Horizons Band Program - New Offerings Interest Survey**](https://forms.office.com/r/RmXD13gzBk?origin=lprLink)

**Fall 25 and Spring 26 Costs**

Beginner Concert Band: $160 per semester (includes 10 private lessons)

Intermediate and Advanced Bands/Jazz Bands: $115 per semester for one band; $155 for 2+;

Jazz Improv Groups: $160 per semester

Chamber Groups: Cost varies across groups. Contact specific staff

Jam Band: $75

Discovery Parking pass: $50.00 for the fall and spring semesters

**\*\*NO ONE SHOULD EVER MISS OUT ON PLAYING DUE TO MONEY. TALK TO MANDI SCHLEGEL SHOULD YOU NEED FLEXIBILITY OR ASSISTANCE.\*\***

*Membership in the Armed Services Veterans Band (ASVB) and (ASVBB) is free. ASVB members can enroll in any other CNH music program for free, with isolated exceptions. Contact Mandi Schlegel for details.*

**Fall 25: NEW INSTRUMENT DEMONSTRATION DAY  
BEGINNER GROUP OVERVIEWS**

Instrument Demonstration days: Saturday, October 4th at String Project at 10AM.

Please register for this event here: [Fall 25 New Instrument Demo Session Registration](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=GUsqSzXRDkKLsrHNI4mYzMMHKsyqK7NBm-Th7F0xmT1URTNVQTNBV1JLM0xLS1hXVUQwUUdJQkxDTy4u)

Please email Mandi Schlegel ([aschlegel@mozart.sc.edu](mailto:aschlegel@mozart.sc.edu)) by October 1st to register for these demonstration sessions.

The following music stores are in the Midlands and have instrument rental programs:

* Pecknel Music, 930 N. Lake Drive, Lexington, SC, 29072 (803) 799-6860
* Musical Innovations, 630-12 Promenade Place, Columbia, SC 29229
* Star Music Company, 1322 Assembly Street, Columbia, SC 29201
* Music and Arts, 4611 Hard Scrabble Rd, Suite 112, Columbia, SC 29229

Used, pre-owned, or USC School of Music instruments are also an option; please discuss with CNHB staff.

When buying an instrument or renting through a store, please make certain that the store is a member of the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM). You will know by a large blue and silver NAMM sticker on the store door or window.

**Private Lessons**

**For Beginner Concert Band Members**Each person will receive 10, 30-minute lessons per semester as part of their primary instruction. Lessons are included in registration fees. This total of 300 minutes can be scheduled at the convenience of the CNHB member and teacher.

**Questions? Contact:**

Amanda (Mandi) Schlegel: 803-777-1793 (office) or [aschegel@mozart.sc.edu](mailto:aschegel@mozart.sc.edu) (any CNH questions, concert bands, jam band)

Drew Connolly: [connolam@email.sc.edu](mailto:connolam@email.sc.edu) (any CNH questions, concert bands)

Greyson Smallen: [esmallen@email.sc.edu](mailto:esmallen@email.sc.edu) (Crescent Moon, Jam Band)

Ray Dunovant: [rbd712@gmail.com](mailto:rbd712@gmail.com) (Beginning and intermediate concert and jazz bands, clarinet ensemble)

Evan Reed: [ereed8335@gmail.com](mailto:ereed8335@gmail.com) (Dixieland)

John Valerio: [jvalerio@mozart.sc.edu](mailto:jvalerio@mozart.sc.edu) (Jazz improvisation combos)

Paul Northen: [northenph@gmail.com](mailto:northenph@gmail.com) (Armed Services Veterans Bands)