



SKILL LEVELS

CONFIDENT BEGINNER

You know C-F-G, G-C-D, and A-D-E7 chords and can do a simple strum while changing these chords and keeping a steady, slow beat. *We will not be hosting novice or total beginner classes this year. However, if you are not at the Confident Beginner level but want to join this class, you can learn from many sources in advance, including a free month of lessons at <https://pegheadnation.com/string-school/instructors/marcy-marxer>*

Use the code: MarcyM

INTERMEDIATE

You are comfortable playing 3-4 chords in 3-4 keys (C, G, F, A). You play a variety of basic chords (for example: A, Am, B7, C, C7, D, Dm, E7, Em, G, and G7) and understand simple chord progressions (such as I, IV, V chords). You can sing and strum at the same time and can learn chords to simple tunes fairly quickly. You're ready for some jazz chords, some snazzier right-hand techniques, and ready to explore a variety of repertoire on the uke.

ADVANCED

Prerequisite: Submission of a 2-5-minute video to uke@strathmore.org and approval by the Artistic Directors. Strong knowledge of open and closed chords throughout the ukulele neck in multiple keys. Experience playing lead and willingness to move quickly through material.

HOW CLASSES WORK

Classes by Skill Level

These are 2-4-day classes from 10am–12pm EST Saturday through Tuesday. These are continuous classes based on skill level, which means you will choose a class and stay with it for either two (2) or four (4) days. There will be pre-registration for these classes, and you must sign up for one of them. If you are an advanced player, you must send in your 2–5-minute video to uke@strathmore.org and receive approval by the Artist Directors to be placed in that class. If you find you are not suited for a class during the first day, you can switch classes within the first 15 minutes by leaving the class and joining another one.

Walk-In Classes

These classes are one-hour choice classes and do not require pre-registration. Feel free to hop around as you wish.



Baritone Friendly

Baritone Friendly classes are often taught on tenor ukuleles, but baritone chord charts or tabs are provided, and the instructor will have a baritone ukulele handy for answering any questions. For other classes, baritone players should either play a tenor/concert/soprano Ukulele or use a Capo on the 5th fret.

KEY/LEGEND

CB	Confident Beginner
I	Intermediate
A	Advanced
CB+	Confident Beginner and up
I+	Intermediate and up
BF	Baritone Friendly
ALL	All levels

CLASSES BY SKILL LEVEL

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY & TUESDAY | 10:00AM – 12:00PM

CONFIDENT BEGINNER | 4-DAY CLASS

Eve Goldberg: Confident Beginner (CB)

You know some chords (C-F-G, G-C-D, and A-D-E7) and you can play a few songs with a simple strum. This class takes will take you to the next level. Using a range of material, we'll learn new chords and strumming patterns, and look at how to get our playing and singing to work smoothly together, all with the goal of increasing our "Ukulele Joy Quotient" (UJQ). We'll explore right-hand and left-hand techniques that will improve our playing and learn some tips and tricks to spice up our playing. By the end of the class, we will all be more competent ukulele players with more tools in our ukulele toolbox, and our UJQ will be off the scale!

INTERMEDIATE | 2-DAY CLASSES

CHOOSE ONE FOR SATURDAY & SUNDAY, CHOOSE ANOTHER FOR MONDAY & TUESDAY

Cathy Fink: The Versatile Ukulele Player (I)



Sing and play new repertoire in various styles, adding to your ukulele toolbox new chords and right-hand techniques to build fluency and versatility. We will also address your ukulele challenges, paying attention to tone, technique, and timing. And, like Eve Goldberg, we'll be working towards increasing our "Ukulele Joy Quotient" with greater skill.

Marcy Marxer: Duke for Uke (I)

Two glorious days of the music of Duke Ellington for Ukulele. We'll learn chords and lead to Satin Doll, Caravan, In A Mellow Tone, Mood Indigo and if time, more. Charts and links provided in advance.

Daniel Ward: Flamenco Sevillanas (I)

We'll learn two short traditional songs in the flamenco style that is named after the town they came from: Sevilla. There are hundreds of these songs that all share the same form. They are easy to learn and combine a tasty right-hand strum with Spanish melodies. They can be played solo or as a duet or group as well and will lead to hours of fun long after the class is over.

ADVANCED | 4-DAY CLASS

Master Class with Herb Ohta Jr. (A)

Note: Students must send an audition video or audio for the advanced class unless they have previously taken a Strathmore advanced class. Send videos to uke@strathmore.org.

Learn every aspect of Herb's playing. Herb's "style" is heavily borrowed from his father Ohta-San, but distinctly his own. This style is a chord melody technique meant for solo playing.

Example Videos:

<https://youtu.be/cqN00iywtrc> https://youtu.be/WBhGr-HK_5Q

Herb will cover:

- Arpeggios: Different picking patterns his father taught him. After, we will try to use some of them in a song.
- Hawaiian Turnarounds: Different picking phrases used while playing a Hawaiian song.
- Introduction to Herb's method of improvising a solo.
- Strumming: Different basic strumming patterns and learn how to create your own.
- Q & A Session



WALK-IN CLASSES

SATURDAY – TUESDAY | 2:00PM & 3:15PM

Cathy Fink

Harmony Singing 101 (ALL)

Harmony singing begins with learning and singing the melody confidently. Then using the simple 1-3 and 5 in a major chord, we will work on easy ways to look for and sing the harmony above or below the melody. There will be singing, ear training and a methodology that will help you practice singing harmony on your own.

Song Arranging (ALL)

Learn how to create a full arrangement of a song complete with introduction, different styles of backing up the verses and choruses, “turnarounds” for space between verses and “outro”, yup, the opposite of introduction. We’ll learn how to create backup that speaks to the lyrics of a song, emphasizes an important word or phrase, and how to glue it all together in an arrangement.

Ukercise (ALL)

Between 4 classes, lunch, jam session and concerts, we spend a lot of time sitting during Ukefest. So, let’s stretch, move, twist a bit, and breathe. This will be for all levels - you can move around or do some exercises in a chair if you want, all to great ukulele music. AND, bonus, we’ll explore the ergonomics of how YOU hold your ukulele to find the most comfortable position that doesn’t create stress or strain on hands, shoulders, or back. Speaking of shoulders and back, let’s stretch them out a bit!

Take the Stage (ALL)

PERFORMANCE TIPS AND PRACTICE AT PERFORMANCE

Are you nervous about your first open mic? Do you get stage fright? Or do you simply want to improve your performances in front of others. We’ll create a trusting and positive environment to learn some performance tips and give them a try with each other.

Easy Sing Alongs for the Kids in Your Life (ALL)

Got a grandchild, young neighbor, niece, or nephew you want to sing with? Want to make them feel special by adding their names to songs? We’ll use easy 3-4 chord songs to build your



repertoire for the children you love and learn a bit about how to improvise those songs into true personal experiences that will bring joy and great memories.

Practice Makes Perfect, Or At Least Better! (ALL)

How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practice! But how do you practice efficiently to really make progress. James Hill, Jake Shimabukuro, Daniel Ho, Marcy Marxer, Taimane all know the answer, and so does Cathy Fink. So, if you find you are not making the progress you'd like, or that you have trouble structuring practice time, this class is for you! Learn simple steps to "Practice Smarter and Play Better!"

Where's the Beat? (ALL)

Music is the sound(s) you make and the space between those sounds. In most of Western music, that space is even and countable. We'll learn how to listen for the beat, clap or tap along with it and develop the skills to play in time with a metronome or click to train ourselves towards playing "in time" at various tempos.

Eve Goldberg

Fingerpicking for the Ukulele (CB/I)

Most of us start our ukulele careers strumming everything in sight but fingerpicking your ukulele can open up a whole new way of accompanying a song. In this workshop we will explore basic fingerpicking technique and learn several fingerpicking patterns that you can use to accompany songs.

Ukulele Orchestra (CB/I+), offered 2X with 2 different songs

In this workshop we will take a well-known song and work up a fun arrangement for a group to play together, no matter what your skill level. There will be easy parts for those just getting started, and there will be challenging parts for those who already have a lot of playing experience. By the end we'll all be singing, strumming, and picking together in a multi-layered extravaganza.

Chord Chemistry and The Circle of Fifths (CB/I)

In this participatory workshop we'll explore how chords fit together in songs, starting with simple two-chord songs, and building up to songs with five, six, or seven chords. Students will be introduced to the Nashville numbering system and the magical Circle of Fifths. Along the way we'll talk about transposing, songwriting, and being able to play along with others in a jam situation.



Singing With the Ukulele (CB/I, BF)

If you struggle to sing at the same time as you play ukulele, this workshop is for you! We'll explore the idea of the "singing rhythm" of songs and how that matches up with the "playing rhythm." We'll learn some tips and tricks for putting the two together and practice with some well-known songs.

Paperless Jam (CB/I)

We all rely on paper song sheets or charts sometimes, but are you totally lost without your paper? Being able to play without paper can improve your listening and playing skills and help you connect to the music at a deeper level. In addition to playing through some songs with no paper, we'll look at tricks and tips for remembering chord progressions and how to listen for chord changes in a song.

Marcy Marxer

Chord Confidence (CB)

Songs, drills, and fun practice will help you build your confidence changing chords. Add to that some fun ways to practice so you keep your skills up and add new ones.

I've Got Rhythm (A)

This popular song also inspired the term "rhythm changes", referring to swing chord changes that are used in a wide repertoire of swing music. Using the song "I've Got Rhythm", we'll learn those changes in two different positions - C positions and F positions. That gives you EVERY key when you move those chords up the fingerboard! So, let's get rhythm!

7 Strums in 60 Minutes (I) (BF)

We'll learn **1**-Accented Strums **2**-Calypso Strum **3**-Swing Strum **4**-Waltz Strum **5**-The Flam **6**- The Triple Strum **7**-The Circle Strum – Your right hand will be so happy to have an expanded repertoire of strums and sample of the kinds of songs they might be used for.

Closed Chord Magic (I)

We'll combine a little theory, a few chord positions, and a little effort to give you a BIG repertoire of chords. Closed chords are MOVEABLE chords and they can lead you to being able to play in every key.

Song Leader's Toolbox (ALL)

A song leader's job is to make the song accessible for others to join in, both instrumentally and vocally. We will learn some of the basic skills that work well in song leading, and then, we'll have the opportunity to try those skills with each other.



Practice with Marcy (I/A) 2X

Marcy loves to practice, and you can join her in warm ups, scales, chord changes, melody lines and a tune or two.

Daniel Ward

Arpeggio Meditations for Ukulele (ALL) offered 2X

In this workshop, Daniel Ward will share several easy-to-learn, fun-to-play, short songs and warm-ups that you can “loop” over and over. It’s a great way to build even rhythm, tone, and chord changing chops while you float in a warm tub of beautiful, repeating patterns that make you a better player as you soak them in. You’ll come away with productive tools to practice with whenever you pick up your uke and become a much more expressive player in the process. If you’re a beginner, these are great tools to start out with. If you’re more advanced, it’s a great way to break out of whatever rut you may have fallen into.

Smartphone Blues (CB/I+)

Here’s a really fun and useful way to learn the blues by putting your phone to work for you! Just park it in airplane mode and Daniel will teach you a simple Chicago 12 bar blues progression, show you how to solo over it with the easy pentatonic scale, and then show you how lay down your own rhythm track to jam with using your phone as a helpful music companion. It’s really fun and really works...

Holding Down the Groove (CB)

Saddle up and get ready to turn simple strumming into the very thing that drives the song and rhythm. Whatever style of music you play, the rhythm is the magic spell that keeps the music afloat. A strong but simple strum done with the right bounce will make any song vibrant and alive. In this workshop we will explore a few different styles of strumming and find the common things that make them really work. This workshop is all about taking what you do already and turning it into what you do BEST.

Melodic Meditations for Ukulele (A)

In this workshop, we will visit the first few studies from my new book. Just like the arpeggios from the first book, this music is easy to learn and meant to loop over and over as you improve. Each short melody piece concentrates on helping with a new skill like the C major scale or playing a melody in 3rds and 6ths. The focus is to learn to play melodically and smoothly in a way that makes good music and good fun.



Herb Ohta, Jr.

Will be teaching a Hawaiian song each day using the “Ohta Style” picking melody with chords.

Pua Lilihua (I)

Famous Hawaiian hula song.

E Ku‘u Morning Dew (I+)

Well known Hawaiian song written by my Father’s ‘ukulele teacher, Eddie Kamae

Hawaiian Sky (I/A)

Original song composed by Herb Ohta, Jr.

Makee ‘Ailana (I/A)

Song written about a place before it became Kapi‘olani Park on O‘ahu.

Sanoe (CB)

Song written by Queen Lili‘uokalani

Maureen Andary

Vocal Production (ALL) 2X

Vocal health and sound production is key to singing for a long time. Maureen will give you instruction in posture, warmups, breathing and overall good ways to make wonderful sounds with your voice. Come to one or both of these classes.

Pablo Regis

Ukulele and Cavaquinho- Introduction to Brazilian Music (ALL) 2X

Cavaquinho is a predecessor to the ukulele, and a close relative. With the Ukulele’s Portuguese roots, it’s no surprise that we can musically connect the dots. Part history, part listening to recordings, part learning some rhythms of this music on ukes, Pablo will introduce you to this beautiful music. Come once or twice!

This program is subject to change.