



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 are not 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

As an Advanced player, you have strong knowledge of open and closed chords throughout the ukulele neck in multiple keys, have experience playing lead, and willingness to move quickly through material. If you haven't taken the Advanced class at UkeFest in previous years OR have received approval from Cathy Fink and/or Marcy Marxer, we require you to submit a 2-5-minute video to uke@strathmore.org to be approved to take the class by our Artistic Directors.

HOW CLASSES WORK

CLASSES BY SKILL LEVEL

These are 2 and 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. In past years, you needed to pre-register for classes. This year, you'll just show up to the class you want to take and do not need to register.

Brittini Paiva and James Hill will be switching off, teaching Intermediate and Advanced classes.

As a reminder, 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, like the morning classes, 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

Cathy Fink: 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 will take you to the next level. You'll learn new chords and strumming patterns, and learn to get your playing and singing to work smoothly together. We'll explore right-hand and left-hand techniques as well as tips and tricks to spice up your playing. By the end of the class, you will be a more competent ukulele player with more tools in your ukulele toolbox, and hopefully, be ready for the Intermediate level classes next year!



INTERMEDIATE | 2-DAY CLASSES

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

Marcy Marxer: Chord Melody Magic (Sat-Sun, repeated Mon-Tues)

Chord melody allows one player to simultaneously play rhythm and lead, just like magic! We'll learn the fundamentals of how it works, start with something simple, then progress to a few more complex arrangements. You hear it in both jazz ukulele and jazz guitar. And soon, you'll be playing chord melody on your own!

Lil Rev: Essential Strums 'n Strokes (Sat-Sun, repeated Mon-Tues)

Are you ready to up your strumming game? Learn a wide variety of traditional strum hand techniques like roll strokes, triplets, triple rolls, slides, Voo-doo-dee-O-doo, and Chord Style Tremolo Playing. Combined with a great collection of cool blues, jug band and jazz era standards, we'll learn step by step integration.

Brittini Paiva: Song Session: "Easy" by The Commodores (Sat-Sun ONLY)

In this session, Brittini will guide you through the 70s hit song as she introduces basic rhythm techniques while keeping the melody consistent.

James Hill: Old Wine, New Bottles (Mon-Tues ONLY)

Have you heard C, F and G7 too many times? Like an old, reliable pickup truck these three chords will get the job done... but like an old, reliable pickup truck they could do with a little TLC. A paint job or a new set of tires? In this intermediate-level workshop you'll learn how to breathe fresh life into these beloved workhorse chords. Fall in love with C, F, and G7 all over again!

ADVANCED | 2-DAY CLASSES

This year, rather than a four-day Advanced class, we are presenting 2-two-day classes with Brittini and James.

James Hill: Once More with Feeling (Sat-Sun)

We all fall out of love with the ukulele from time-to-time. That's the easy part. The hard part is re-igniting your four-stringed passion and re-kindling the feeling you had the first time you strummed a C chord! In this class I'll show you every strategy I've used over the years to find my way back into the arms of the ukulele: jazz, Campanella, clawhammer and songwriting.

Brittini Paiva: Song Session: "Europa" (Mon-Tues)

Brittini will guide you through her arrangement of Carlos Santana's "Europa" and share her unique secrets in techniques, dynamics, and more!



WALK-IN CLASSES

SATURDAY - TUESDAY | 2:00PM & 3:15PM (1 hour each)

Lil Rev

The Blues of Robert Johnson for Ukulele (I+)

Learn 6 Robert Johnson songs, intros, endings, 2 solos, how to add boogie notes, and more!

Fingerpicking Triplets (An Arpeggio Class) (I+)

Learn how to integrate triplets into your fingerpicking arsenal for song accompaniment, instrumentals, and improvisation. Open to anyone who's done a little bit of fingerpicking.

Harmonica For the Complete Beginner (All)

A nice alternative to the ukulele, the harmonica is portable, affordable and fits into so many musical jam situations. Let 1996 National Blues Harp Champ Lil Rev show you how to get started on the harmonica. You'll learn how to hold it, lip position, breath work, single notes, major scales, simple folk songs, train sounds, accompaniment/chords, and much more! Bring a 10-hole key of C diatonic or buy one from Lil Rev.

Super Easy Blues Solos in The Key of C (I+)

We'll explore 4-5 blues solos in the key of C as well as how to integrate strum hand technique into them, chord fragment soloing, boogie, and much more. Open to anyone who plays melody already.

The Songs of Woody Guthrie & Lead Belly (All)

A repertoire class dedicated to the music of two of America's iconic songsters, songwriters, and champions of the common man and woman. Learn some cool strum patterns and some fascinating music history all rolled into one fabulous hour of uke study!

Melodic Tremolo (I+)

Learn how to use tremolo for single string melody playing in this hands-on, easy to follow tutorial, taught by strum hand uke master Lil Rev. Open to anyone already playing melody.



Eve Goldberg

Vocal Warmup (All)

Explore your voice, learn some basic singing tips & techniques, and get a little more comfortable with your vocal instrument! Based on the belief that everyone can sing, this workshop uses simple songs to work on building confidence singing in a group. We'll look at the different ways we can use our voices and work on improving our pitch, timbre, and rhythm.

An Introduction to Harmony Singing (All)

This workshop will introduce you to the basics of singing in harmony. Using exercises and songs, we'll look at some of the tricks to finding simple harmonies and we'll practice holding on to our parts while listening to other parts. We'll be working by ear, so there is no need to know how to read music. Suitable for any level of experience, but participants should be able to sing the scale (do-re-mi-fa-sol-la-ti-do).

Chord Chemistry and The Circle of Fifths (All)

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.

Carter Family-Style Ukulele (CB/I)

The Carter Family were one of the most influential music groups in North American country music, recording hundreds of classic songs that are still heard at folk, country and bluegrass jams and song circles everywhere. Mother Maybelle Carter's pioneering guitar style anchored their sound and paved the way for generations of guitar players to come. In this workshop, we'll look at how to adapt Mother Maybelle's style to the ukulele and learn a Carter Family song.

Paperless Jam (All)

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.

Beatles Ukulele (CB/I)

In this workshop we'll learn a song from the Fab Four. Starting with a basic introduction to strumming and singing the song, we'll work on adding a fun strumming or fingerpicking pattern,

15TH ANNUAL UKEFEST



look at chord variations and voicings that bring the song to life, and explore some instrumental fills and licks that will add that extra zing to your rendition.

Singing With the Ukulele (All) (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. Confident Beginner to Intermediate.

James Hill

The Mighty Minor 7 Chord (I/A)

If you learn one new thing this year, let it be the four inversions of the minor 7 chord. If you're always putting off learning chords up the fretboard, this is the gentle kick-in-the-@\$\$ you need. James takes you step-by-step through the magic of minor 7s and shows you why it's the only chord you really need to know.

1-800-JAZZ-UKE (I/A)

"Hello, this is your personal ukulele jazz hotline." *Ukulele Jazz* author James Hill is here to answer your jazz ukulele questions. What do you *really* want to know? Harmony, improvisation, form, picking, strumming? It's your call. Operators are standing by.

Write A Song. Right Now. (All)

Curious about songwriting? Intimidated by songwriting? Already a songwriting pro? Whatever your level, James shows you how to smash writer's block and unlock new ideas using nothing but a deck of playing cards. By the end of the workshop, you will have written (at very least) a new chord progression and a melody to match.

BOOSTER UKE! (CB/I)

Based on James' book of the same name, BOOSTER UKE takes you from "ho-hum" to "big fun" in a relaxed, stress-free way! The secret: Chord Twins, a simple technique that will change the way you play. (Note: even if you bought the book or have taken James' online BOOSTER UKE course, don't miss this workshop as James will teach great songs that aren't included in the book.)

A.M.A. (Ask Me Anything) (All)

The title says it all: ask me anything! Preferably about music and ukulele, not the universe in general. Bring your uke, bring your questions!



Cathy Fink

4 Songs, 3 Keys Each! (CB+)

We'll take 4 songs that have 3-5 chords each and play each of them in 3 keys. Practice, sing, laugh, and play. You might even learn a new chord or two.

Clawhammer Ukulele 101 (All)

The classic banjo style adapts beautifully to ukuleles tuned with a high G. (That's a uke with a high G on top.) Learn the basic right-hand technique and how it works with the left hand for a whole different sound. Think Pete Seeger or Grandpa Jones on ukulele! In this class we're going to focus almost entirely on the right-hand technique. Brush-pop, brush-pop. Example:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCnrTdEtIWM>

Clawhammer Ukulele 201 (I+)

For those who have worked on Clawhammer Ukulele style and want to take it to the next level. We'll work on incorporating melodies and changing tunings. Example:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OUzMO90f91w>

Practice Smarter, Play Better (All)

Learn to organize your practice time so that you improve your playing systematically. We bring tons of information home from camp, but sometimes we're overwhelmed and don't know how to approach learning one new thing at a time. We'll discuss the tangible and intangible tools for good practice as well as learning to schedule "manageable bites" of music to learn in manageable time frames.

Beginning Fingerpicking (All)

Learn how to hold the uke and right-hand patterns for fingerpicking with 2, 3 and 4 fingers. We'll apply this to a few songs to get you started.

Brittini Paiva

Intro to Music Theory and Improvisation (CB/I)

In this class, you will learn the basics to music theory, why chords are named what they are, how to transpose, and how to improvise and take a solo!

Christmas in August (CB)

Let's bring our ukes out for some early holiday festivities! We will be learning three easy Christmas songs: *Silent Night*, *O Christmas Tree*, and *Auld Lang Syne*.

15TH ANNUAL UKEFEST



Master Class Song Session: “Europa” (A)

Brittini will guide you through her arrangement of Carlos Santana’s “Europa” and share her unique secrets in techniques, dynamics, etc.

Performance Tips/Tricks/Q&A Discussion (I+)

If you’ve been interested in doing live performances but are unsure of how to start or what to do, this class is for you! Brittini will discuss the ins and outs of performing, crowd interaction, performance time management, and even looping.

Upgrade Your Arrangement (I+)

Do you have an original piece or a cover arrangement that you’d like professional input on? In this session, Brittini will provide tips and advice to take your piece to the next level. Bring your uke!

Marcy Marxer

Feel The Groove (CB)(BF)

There’s no better feeling than playing in the pocket! Playing in time and finding the center of the groove is what we call the “pocket”. The Groove brings the joy of playing into quick focus. Timing is what makes music come together, across all genres from folk and jazz to rock and pop. more.

Getting Into Melody (CB/I)

Finding melodies is fun! We’ll take some basic steps into finding the notes you need through the chords of the song. Songs will include: *The Water Is Wide*, *Blue Monk*, *Blue Moon*, *Edelweiss*, and *I Can’t Help Falling in Love with You*.

Classic Soul and R&B (All)

Play and sing the songs of artists like Stevie Wonder, BB King, and Aretha Franklin. There will be separate folders for Confident Beginners, Intermediate, and Advanced level players. We all play together! Check out the folders and take your pick.

Songs of Pete Seeger & Social Music Conducting (All)(BF)

Play and sing the songs of Pete Seeger. Pete was a genius at building community through music. He knew how to get an audience completely engaged and singing along. We’ll not only play the songs but talk about community singing and engaging your audience or community of singers. There will be two folders available, one for Confident Beginners with basic chords and one for Intermediate/Advanced players with riffs and turnarounds.

15TH ANNUAL UKEFEST

The logo for UkeFest features the text "15TH ANNUAL" in a simple sans-serif font above the word "UKEFEST" in a larger, bold, sans-serif font. The letters "UKE" are filled with a green-to-yellow gradient, while "FEST" is solid black. Below the text is a black silhouette of a ukulele, with the headstock on the left and the body on the right.

Jazz Chord Workshop (I/A)

If you haven't played jazz chords yet, this is the workshop for you! We'll play chord positions and recognizable progressions. Then we'll put them into some classic jazz charts. These chords can be used to enhance country, blues, and other genres of music.

Pablo Regis

Put A Little Brazil in Your Uke Playing (A)

Song: One Note Samba (Samba de Uma Nota Só)

Let's add the samba to our game! Learn to play this infectious Brazilian rhythm on the ukulele. We'll learn the chord progression, right hand techniques, and play along to a lead track. Explore and understand the percussive nature and Afro-Brazilian origins of Brazil's national music.

Put A Little Brazil in Your Uke Playing (I)

Song: Jazz 'n' Samba (Só Danço Samba)

Let's add the samba to our game! Learn to play this infectious Brazilian rhythm on the ukulele. We'll learn the chord progression, right hand techniques, and play along to a lead track. Explore and understand the percussive nature and Afro-Brazilian origins of Brazil's national music.

This program is subject to change.