

Summer 2023

Dear Prospective Music Ensemble Member:

Congratulations on being accepted to Scripps College! Please accept our best wishes as you embark on this important time of study and preparation for the future.

One of the hallmarks of the Claremont Colleges is a strong commitment to music and the performing arts. The **Joint Music Program of Claremont McKenna, Harvey Mudd, Pitzer, and Scripps Colleges** provides exciting performing opportunities in ensembles of critically recognized quality and musicianship. While these ensembles are comprised of a number of music majors, the majority of our students come from a variety of interests and majors, from science and math to the social sciences, arts, and humanities. Many Scripps students participate in an ensemble. The following Joint Music ensembles are 0.5 CR courses:

The **Claremont Concert Choir** (<http://www.jointmusicprogram.org/choirs> MUS 173JM, 0.5 CR) is an auditioned chorus performing *a cappella* and piano-accompanied literature from the renaissance to the present as well as major works of the 18<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> centuries with symphony orchestra. It regularly rehearses Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

The **Claremont Treble Singers** (<http://www.jointmusicprogram.org/choirs> MUS 176JM, 0.5 CR) is an auditioned ensemble specializing in music for soprano and alto voices from the middle ages to the present, including contemporary compositions. The Treble Singers regularly rehearse Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30-6:45 p.m.

The **Claremont Concert Orchestra** (<http://www.jointmusicprogram.org/orchestra> MUS 175JM, 1 CR) is a 50-70 member auditioned symphony orchestra specializing in major orchestral works of the 18<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Besides having its own concert series, it annually performs with the Choirs. The Claremont Concert Orchestra regularly rehearses Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The preparation process for each concert includes frequent sectionals with expert coaches from the greater Los Angeles area.

Plans for the concert season are well underway. In November, the **Claremont Concert Choir** and **Claremont Treble Singers** will perform a concert together with guest conductor Anna Nora from Finland. In December, the choirs and orchestra will join forces to present the monumental Ninth Symphony (“Choral Symphony”) by Beethoven. Other works to be performed by the **Claremont Concert Orchestra** in 2023-24 include Dvorak’s Eighth Symphony and Brahms’ Violin Concerto featuring one of our own students. The accomplishments of these ensembles are many, and we want you to join with us and your student colleagues from your own and other colleges in these highly regarded groups to create these magnificent works of musical art.

Joint Music Program ensemble **auditions** are held in late August. To find out more about auditions, orchestral players may visit <http://www.jointmusicprogram.org/orchestra/auditions> while choristers can follow the following link: <http://www.jointmusicprogram.org/choirs/auditions-choir>.

**Instrumental and voice lessons** are available at Scripps and Pomona Colleges. Lessons are free of charge.

We invite you to please **tell us of your interests** in Joint Music Program and Scripps College music offerings before arriving on campus by completing this survey: (<https://tinyurl.com/MusInfoSurvey2023-24>).

We have included all links you might refer to for music studies on the next page of this letter. We look forward to meeting you when you arrive on campus, and we hope you can become a part of these incredible musical experiences.

Sincerely,

David Cubek, director  
The Claremont Concert Orchestra  
[dcubek@scrippscollege.edu](mailto:dcubek@scrippscollege.edu)

Charles W. Kamm, director  
The Claremont Concert Choir and Claremont Treble Singers  
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**Music lessons and ensembles audition information  
And other academic music information  
Joint Music Program and Others, Fall 2023**

**Choirs:** the Claremont Concert Choir (a mixed choir) and the Claremont Treble Singers (sopranos and altos) are open by audition to students from all the colleges. Singers in the ensemble range from more advanced beginners through advanced students. Choir membership requires a successful audition. For more information, visit

<http://www.jointmusicprogram.org/choirs/auditions-choir>

**Orchestra:** the Claremont Concert Orchestra (a symphonic orchestra) is open by audition to students from all the colleges. For more information, visit <http://www.jointmusicprogram.org/orchestra/auditions>

**Chamber music ensembles:** a limited number of chamber music ensembles (classical style) are coached by the faculty at Scripps College, intended for intermediate and advanced students. Chamber music coachings are arranged by audition with the violin faculty member. For more information, visit <https://www.scrippscollege.edu/departments/music/violin-and-chamber-music-auditions>

**Ensembles of other types:**

Harvey Mudd College offers Early Music Ensemble and American Gamelan in various semesters—contact Professor Alves ([alves@hmc.edu](mailto:alves@hmc.edu)) for more information.

Pomona College offers a number of other ensembles including the Pomona College Band, the Jazz Ensemble, Balinese Gamelan, and percussion ensembles. More information is at

<https://www.pomona.edu/academics/departments/music/courses-requirements/music-courses-first-year-students>

**Piano lessons:** piano lessons available at Scripps College for beginners through advanced students. Piano lesson auditions are arranged by audition with the piano faculty. For more information, visit

<https://www.scrippscollege.edu/departments/music/piano-auditions>

**Violin lessons:** violin lessons are available at Scripps College, primarily for intermediate and advanced students. Violin lessons are arranged by audition with the violin faculty member. For more information, visit

<https://www.scrippscollege.edu/departments/music/violin-and-chamber-music-auditions>

**Voice lessons:** voice lessons are available at Scripps College in classical and musical theater styles for beginners through advanced students. Voice lesson auditions are arranged by audition with the voice faculty. For more information, visit

<https://www.scrippscollege.edu/departments/music/voice-auditions>

**Lessons on other instruments:** lessons on most other instruments are available through Pomona College. More information can be found at <https://www.pomona.edu/academics/departments/music/courses-requirements/private-music-lessons>

**Scripps College Music Major and Minor:** for information on the Music Major and the Music Minor, follow links at <https://www.scrippscollege.edu/departments/music>

**Scripps music classes** this semester include MUS 3 Fundamentals of Music, MUS 101 Music Theory 1, MUS 110a Music in Western Civilization: Antiquity to 1750s, MUS 119 Women and Gender in Music, and MUS 130 Rhythm and the Latina Body Politic.