



FINE ARTS: PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS

Debbie Schab, Fine Arts Department Director

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[Fine Arts Calendar](#)

January 7, 2021

Virtual Private Music Lessons

Athens Academy is offering virtual private instruction in band, orchestral stringed instruments, mandolin, ukulele, beginning guitar, and music theory. Students will meet once a week for 14 weeks for a 30-minute private lesson. The virtual lesson fee is \$560.00 for the 14 private sessions. Lessons will run the week of January 18 through the week of April 26.

Please contact the individual instructor to arrange your 30-minute time slot.

For your convenience, we will charge your student account once you have arranged your weekly virtual lesson time with the instructor.

Instructors

Chris Byrd: Brass lessons at all levels (Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba); Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet, Alto/Tenor Sax), Percussion, and Horn (Grades 5-12)

Email: cbyrd@athensacademy.org

Christopher Byrd joined the Athens Academy Faculty in the 2016-2017 school year. He received his Bachelor's Degree at Valdosta State University, where he studied Trombone under Dr. Douglas Farwell and Wind Band Conducting under Dr. Joseph H. Brashier. He received his master's degree in music education from the University of Georgia, where he studied pedagogy under Dr. Mary Leglar and wind band conducting under Dr. John Lynch. Mr. Byrd also serves as a bass trombonist for the Classic City Band and Classic City Swing Band in Athens, where he lives with his wife Chelsea, an English teacher and oboist, daughter Maddie, and their two dogs, Charley and Emma.

Sally Gardner-Wilson: Violin and Viola (Grades 3-12)

Email: sallyis@aol.com

Born and raised in England, violinist Sally Gardner-Wilson has lived and worked in the U.S. since 1995. Sally started playing the violin at age 6 and went on to also learn the piano and viola, winning music scholarships to both of the schools she attended. She won a place in the Junior Department of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London at age 13. She received her Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance in 1995 from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Participating in the Banff Summer Music Program led her to move to the United States in 1995 to continue her studies, gaining a Master of Music degree in Violin Performance from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. Sally is the associate concertmaster of the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra, and also plays regularly in the Atlanta Opera Orchestra. She is an active freelancer and teacher in the Atlanta area and keeps very busy playing with various orchestras and chamber groups. Sally has held teaching positions at Spelman College, Agnes Scott College, The Lovett School, Holy Innocents Episcopal School, and currently teaches violin and viola in the Athens Academy Enrichment Program.

Rob Sutherland: Cello, Mandolin, Ukulele, Beginning Guitar and Music Theory (Grades 3-12)

E-mail: info.gooddirt@gmail.com; Phone/text at 404-697-1491

Rob Sutherland started playing the cello at age 8 in the New Orleans public schools. He studied under Dr. David Starkweather at UGA and continued to play and perform as a grad student at Oxford University (Oxford University Orchestra, Oxford Philharmonia, River String Quartet, and several other chamber groups). Rob is the current assistant principal cellist in the Athens Symphony and performs with various classical and non-classical groups in Athens. Rob maintains a teaching practice not only for cello but also for mandolin and guitar out of Good Dirt Clay Studio, his family business. Rob is looking forward to helping Athens Academy students build technical proficiency, but more importantly to nurture their passion for music in all its forms for a lifetime of enjoyment.