

Chris Byrd - Brass lessons at all levels (Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba)

Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet, Alto/Tenor Sax), Percussion, Horn, and Guitar (Grades 5-8)

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 at 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, GA. He lives in Athens with his wife Chelsea, an English teacher and oboist, their daughter Maddie and their two dogs Charley and Emma.

Sally Gardner-Wilson - Violin and Viola (Grades 3-8)

Email: sallyis@aol.com

Born and raised in England, violinist Sally Gardner-Wilson has lived and worked in the US 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, plays regularly in the Atlanta Opera Orchestra and other Atlanta area orchestras, plays with Amati Chamber Music for weddings and private events, and is the concertmaster of the newly formed Pullman Pops orchestra. She is also the Orchestra Personnel Manager of the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra. 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.