



Steven S. Slusher received a choral conducting Master of Music degree from Southern Illinois University and a Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance from Ohio Northern University. During his 25+ years as a performer and educator, he has conducted throughout the United States from the Crystal Cathedral in California to Riverside Church in New York City. He's won numerous vocal competitions and is an active soloist, recently soloing at The Capitol Theatre. Slusher has conducted and sung in many musicals and operas and is currently the Assistant Chorusmaster to the Yakima Symphony Chorus and Associate Professor of Music at Yakima Valley College. He is an active adjudicator and belongs to ACDA, WMEA, and NATS.

CHORAL
Steven Slusher

Jeff Norwood has been playing the bass since age 12. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in double bass performance from the University of Washington. His professional experience covers a wide range of styles, from punk to tango, opera to bebop, bluegrass to salsa, and continues to perform regularly in concert halls and clubs, in the studio and in the pit. He has extensive experience teaching private bass lessons and jazz improvisation and directing jazz and Latin jazz ensembles. At YVC, Dr. Norwood also teaches music history and theory courses.



INSTRUMENTAL
Jeff Norwood



PIANO
Darin Kaschmitter



GUITAR
John Paul Shields



VOICE
Brittany Stahley

Darin Kaschmitter is a native of Yakima and began his career playing in many of the local music groups the valley has to offer. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in piano performance from Central Washington University. Active in the community, he is a collaborator for local theatre companies, private studios, community choirs, school districts, and colleges. He is an active adjudicator and lecturer throughout the state. He has performed at venues across the state and internationally, always bringing back his accumulation of diverse musical styles and sharing these with his students.

John Paul Shields has been performing and teaching guitar for over 20 years. He has played in a variety of settings, from libraries to international festivals, from local television to national Peruvian radio. In 2008 he moved to Peru to study music under renowned artist Raúl García Zárate. In the U.S., Shields continued performing and recording while teaching. He recorded the album "Lonesome Coyote" with artist James Reid. He's currently working on a solo guitar album, which will feature a combination of Peruvian, Venezuelan and Spanish guitar music along with original compositions.

Soprano, Brittany Stahley is a musician and voice instructor who helps singers connect to their bodies and become well-rounded technically skilled vocalists. Brittany graduated from Central Washington University with a M.M. in Voice Pedagogy and B.M. in Vocal Performance. Some of her favorite roles include Marcellina in The Marriage of Figaro and Madame de la Grande Bouche in The Beauty and the Beast. She has served as Vocal Director in many productions throughout Yakima, including The Warehouse Theatre Company and A.C. Davis High School.



MUSIC





About

YVC's Music Department provides students with affordable academic courses and quality performing opportunities in vocal and instrumental music as well as private lessons. The department offers courses designed for students who have an interest in music as a non-major. Students choosing to pursue a degree in music should follow a YVC program leading to an Associate in Arts - Music degree and then audition and transfer to a university to continue their music major.

COURSES INCLUDE

- Music Theory
- Ear Training
- Piano
- Music Appreciation
- History of Rock
- Music Fundamentals
- Guitar
- And more

Running Start

High school juniors and seniors can earn up to two years of tuition-free college credit through YVC's Running Start Program. Learn more at yvcc.edu/runningstart.

learn more: yvcc.edu/music

Private Lessons

Students studying music at YVC also have the opportunity to take private weekly lessons. Concentrations include woodwind, piano, percussion, strings, brass and voice.

Performing Ensembles

Students are encouraged to participate in YVC's performing ensembles.

- **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC** - YVC's Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combos have won numerous awards and are known throughout the Pacific Northwest region for their quality
- **CHORAL MUSIC** - YVC's Concert Choir, Community Choir and Chamber Singers travel throughout the state and possess a tradition of artistic quality and breadth of styles

Careers in Music

Students studying music at YVC will prepare themselves for a wide array of careers including: music educator, studio musician, commercial arranger, composer, piano accompanist, recording artist, church-affiliated music positions, and music research positions at state, regional and national institutions.



Contact Us

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