

Why UNM String Lab School?

In the UNM String Lab School, students are offered opportunities to learn and grow from professional educators and college interns. Tuition for the String Lab School is an incredible value—similar programs in other cities cost three to four times as much. In addition, waivers and partial waivers are available to families in need. String Lab School students and families learn, have fun, and become part of the Albuquerque music community in a supportive environment. New parents take a seminar designed especially for their needs in guiding home practice, managing schedules, and helping to create interest and enthusiasm in their children.



Crazy hat concert with the UNM String Lab School

Structure

The UNM String Lab School offers a unique learning experience that develops the musical abilities of each child. Children are taught by String Pedagogy college students (interns), who work under the supervision of professional music educators (coordinators). Students in violin, viola, and cello participate in weekly repertoire groups, weekly private lessons and reading classes. Enrichment classes such as fiddling, ensemble, music inventions, improvisation and Mad About Music are also available. The UNM String Lab School meets 25 weeks between August and May.



Musical Success

Children who have come through the UNM String Lab School have participated in the Albuquerque Youth Symphony Program; performed in the New Mexico All-State Music Festival; have won concerto competitions; have attended Suzuki institutes; have won opportunities to attend prestigious summer festivals such as Tanglewood, Sewanee and Kinhaven; and have gone on to perform with professional symphonies around the world. The advanced touring group, Mad About Music, has travelled to Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Washington D.C., Maryland, Florida, Texas, Mexico and Ireland. Many lab school students have returned as college students to formally study String Pedagogy at UNM.



June 2016—Mad About Music in St. Mary's Church, Killarney, Ireland

For more information

Questions about the UNM String Lab School or Mad about Music can be directed to Laurie Lopez.



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music.unm.edu/community/lab-school/



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University of New Mexico String Lab School

Working in collaboration with the UNM String Pedagogy program to support the development of discipline, enthusiasm for learning, and an appreciation for music as an integral part of education and culture.



Teaching music is not my main purpose. I want to make good citizens. If children hear fine music from the day of their birth and learn to play it, they develop sensitivity, discipline and endurance. They get a beautiful heart.
—Shinichi Suzuki



String Lab School Performances



Semester gala concerts showcase the knowledge and skills students have gained. Additional fun recitals are scheduled throughout the year—costumes, crazy hats and themed concerts increase student participation in and enjoyment of concerts.

Saturday noon recitals are an opportunity for students to perform before a small audiences in a group or alone with a professional accompanist. These recitals are safe spaces for students to perform in a friendly, non-competitive environment. Regular performances help develop self-confidence, poise, concentration and cooperative skills. Many of these recitals are in Keller Hall in the UNM Fine Arts Center, giving students access to performance in a professional space.



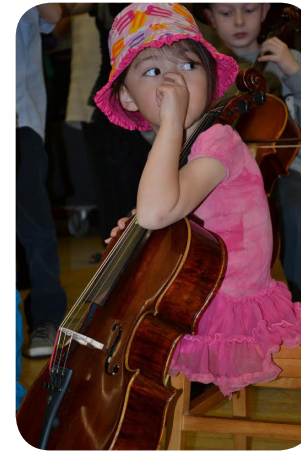
Levels of Instruction

Graduated classes in violin, viola, and cello begin with beginning classes to introduce students to instruments and the Suzuki method. Violin students learn basic techniques on a box before instruction on an instrument begins. Concurrent with the beginning class, parents are enrolled in a parent education course to prepare for the parent-teacher-student triangle of Suzuki music instruction. Musical literacy begins with Music Mind Games in early Suzuki book 1 and continues with introductory reading in late book 1.



Why Suzuki?

The **Suzuki Method** embraces the philosophy “every child can learn.” The method is carefully designed for step-by-step mastery, with children progressing at their own pace. Listening, repetition and encouragement are cornerstones of the Suzuki method. After an introductory course, parents serve as home teachers, which gives parents practical guidance in their children’s musical education. Research suggests that learning to play an instrument at an early age affects brain structure associated with motor and auditory improvements, and an increased ability to adapt. The Suzuki method nurtures these traits and strengthens the bond between parent and child.



Special Interest and Advanced Groups



Introduction to Chamber Music gives students the opportunity to rehearse and perform in small groups. Chamber music is offered for students in Suzuki book 3 and above.

Mad About Music is the advanced repertoire class and touring group of the UNM String Lab School, for students studying beyond book 5. Students attend rehearsals to learn the required skills and repertoire. Advancement to performance and tour occurs as pieces become polished.



Quality of Instruction

The coordinators at the UNM String Lab School are professional music educators. Here is a quick look at the qualifications of our lead group:



Laurie Lopez grew up in Albuquerque and was one of the first students to receive a Bachelor of Music in String Pedagogy at UNM. Laurie is currently the UNM String Lab School program director and is the director of Mad About Music. She also maintains a private violin studio and has played professionally throughout New Mexico with the NM Philharmonic, Santa Fe Symphony, San Juan Symphony, Musical Theatre Southwest and Landmark Musicals.

Lisa Collins is a cellist from Albuquerque, New Mexico. She teaches a wonderful studio of enthusiastic young cellists, as well as music theory at the University of New Mexico. She is the coordinator of cello in the UNM String Lab School, leading a thriving community of cellists and college interns. Lisa is a member of the Suzuki Association of the Americas and the American String Teachers Association, and completed her certification with Tanya Carey. Lisa is a member of the New Mexico Philharmonic and the Santa Fe Symphony, and she performs often with various ensembles in and around Albuquerque.



Anne Karlstrom has lived in Albuquerque since 1991. She has a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance from Northern Arizona University where she received her Suzuki Long Term Teacher Training. She maintains an active private studio and is a member of the New Mexico chapter of American String Teachers Association. Anne has been a member of the Santa Fe Symphony since 1993. She has also been a member of the San Antonio Symphony in Texas, and the Tucson Symphony and Flagstaff Symphony in Arizona.

Daven Quelle has taken exactly one violin lesson. She has been a Suzuki parent for more than 15 years, and is the parent manager of Mad About Music. Daven is the director of UNM Student Publication, which includes the Daily Lobo. She has been coordinating parent education at the String Lab School since 2016.

