

ABOUT US

The COA provides music education and performance opportunities in small ensembles to students in the Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo metropolitan area.

OUR VISION

Students who participate in the COA become thoughtful musicians and well-rounded contributors to the arts and to society as a whole. By performing music at a high level of artistic excellence, our students inspire audiences to appreciate and understand the compelling and powerful position music holds in our community and in our lives.

OUR PURPOSE

The COA offers professional, comprehensive music education for students while enriching the arts in the Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo area. Students achieve their potential as thoughtful and informed musicians who effectively share their passion for music with others.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Jean Hellner, PhD
COA cofounder, musicologist,
theorist, pianist, and organist

Chuck Hendrickson, MBA
Moorhead City Council Member,
vocalist

Dr. Amy Mercer, DMA
Assistant professor of piano, MSUM

Mary Osterlund, BME
COA cofounder, cello instructor, and
performer

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Community Orchestra Academy



*Providing high-quality performances
and comprehensive music education
to support aspiring performers and
area music programs.*



www.communityorchestraacademy.org

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WHAT IS THE COA AND WHO CAN JOIN?

At the COA, aspiring orchestral students learn how to play stringed instruments. Students as young as kindergarteners can learn to play violin, viola, or cello, and beginning in third grade, students can learn how to play bass.

WHAT ARE COA CLASSES LIKE?

In COA classes, students learn how to play their instrument with other students so that they learn how to play in ensembles at an early age. Each class has its own professional music teacher who is also an active performing musician in the Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo community.

WHAT KIND OF PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES DOES THE COA OFFER?

Throughout each session, students will play together in small ensembles and as soloists for each other. Family and friends are always invited to the COA concerts on the last day of each session.

WHEN DOES THE COA MEET?

The home page on our COA website (www.communityorchestraacademy.org) contains information about dates and times for each of our sessions.

WHAT IS THE COST TO BE A MEMBER?

- ♪ Each class costs \$20 per student (\$200 per 10-week session).
- ♪ There is a \$25 registration fee per family for each session (This fee includes educational materials, music workbook, pencil, stickers, certificates, and incentives.)



THE COA INSPIRES STUDENTS TO

- ♪ Discover their abilities and talents as musicians
- ♪ Hone their leadership and team building skills
- ♪ Advance their sense of commitment to themselves, to others, and to the arts
- ♪ Develop skills that meet challenges
- ♪ Foster a sense of achievement
- ♪ Share and express their gift of music
- ♪ Cultivate their life-long love of music
- ♪ Understand and appreciate the power and influences that the arts hold in society

THE COA OFFERS STUDENTS

- ♪ Chamber music playing
- ♪ Opportunities to play solos
- ♪ A unique, graduated curriculum that combines the best of many different teaching methods, including Suzuki
- ♪ A comprehensive, well-rounded music education that emphasizes artistry, technique, music theory, and music history

THE COA OFFERS AUDIENCES

- ♪ A creative means to bond with children through orchestral music
- ♪ A venue for furthering a sense of community
- ♪ A place for children to share their musical accomplishments
- ♪ Opportunities to experience ways in which the fine arts relate to each other