

TRIDAC 2026 MUSIC STAFF BIOS

Tri-DAC MUSIC COORDINATOR



Camille Jones, MUSIC COORDINATOR

Camille Jones, aka, Ms. Cornmeal, graduated from the University of South Carolina in Columbia with her Bachelor's of Music (1986) and Master's in Music Education (1997). She has attained her National Board Certification and Recertification. Camille has re-retired for the 3rd and final time after 36 years of teaching in Lexington One: 2 years at Indian Land (Lancaster County), 31 at Gilbert Middle and High, 1.5 at Red Bank Elementary and Rocky Creek Elementary teaching general music and 1 at Beechwood Middle Choirs in Lexington One. She co-directed the Lexington One Children's Honor Choir until her first retirement in 2020. She serves as musical director and/or accompanist for many shows in the Lexington and Columbia area community theaters and is music director at Cayce United Methodist Church. Her most recent adventure is directing the Still Hopes Singers at Still Hopes in Cayce! It goes to show you singing is FOREVER! She also serves as Music Coordinator for Tri-DAC arts consortium. She has served as Lead Teacher for Lexington One choral directors as well as R & S Chair for South Carolina ACDA for Middle School and Chairperson for the SCMEA Middle School CPA and Solo & Ensemble events.



Collin Richardson, ASSISTANT MUSIC COORDINATOR

Collin Richardson serves as the Director of Orchestras at White Knoll High School, where he leads the orchestra and guitar programs. A proud alumnus of White Knoll, Mr. Richardson is honored to return to his alma mater to continue its legacy of musical excellence. Before his appointment at WKHS, he taught at Airport High School for nine years and served as the District Strings Lead Teacher for Lexington Two. He holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in Music Education from the University of South Carolina, graduating *summa cum laude*.

An active performer, educator, and arts advocate, Mr. Richardson served on the Board of Directors for the Lake Murray Symphony Orchestra, where he also performed as principal violist. He has appeared with the Florence Masterworks Choir and Spoleto Festival USA and frequently serves as a clinician, adjudicator, and mentor for young musicians across South Carolina. His ensembles consistently earn Superior ratings at Concert Performance Assessment, and his students regularly achieve placement in All-Region and All-State Orchestras. He is excited to begin his first year as Assistant Music Coordinator with TRI-DAC and looks forward to supporting outstanding musical experiences for students across the region.

Tri-DAC BAND DIRECTORS



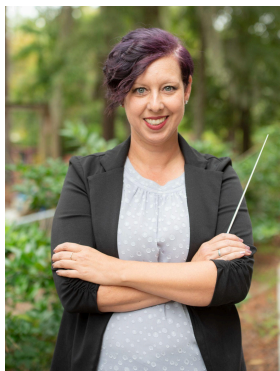
Lorrie Turner, SYMPHONIC BAND Director

Lorrie Miller Turner is currently serving her 11th year as the Director of Bands at Irmo Middle School in Columbia, SC. Prior to this appointment, she served 14 years as Director of Bands at CrossRoads Middle and 11 years as the Director of Bands at Gilbert Middle School. Her bands have received consistent Superior Ratings at SCBDA events throughout her career. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Music Education with a Performance Certificate in Flute from the University of South Carolina in 1988. She completed her Master's Degree in Music Education from the University of South Carolina in 1990 where she served as a Graduate Assistant with the Carolina Band under James Copenhaver. A former student of Constance Lane, she was the 1986 winner of the USC Concerto-Aria competition. In addition to her duties as a full-time band director, she maintains a private flute studio of at least ten students per year. Her students have qualified for the SCBDA Region and All-State Bands as well as The Bands of America National Honor Band. Her students have won competitions such as the South Carolina Youth Philharmonic Concerto Competition, the Lake Murray Symphony Concerto Competition, and Piccolo Spoleto Rising Stars. Ms Turner is the Symphonic Band director of the Tri-District Arts Consortium. She performs with The Carolina Wind Symphony as well as many freelance gigs in the Columbia area.



Courtney Vance, SYMPHONIC BAND Assistant Director

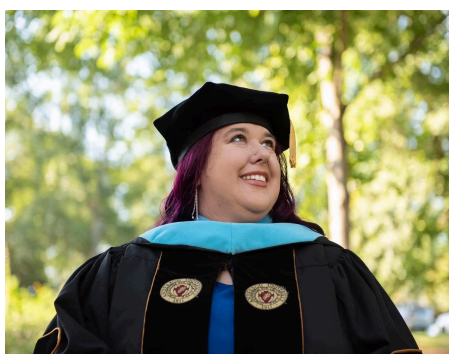
Courtney Vance is a native of Irmo, South Carolina. She currently teaches in Spartanburg School District One. She serves as the Music Teacher/Choral Teacher at Inman Intermediate School and Director of Bands at Campobello Gramling School. Ms. Vance earned her Bachelor's in Music Education with a Flute Performance certificate and a minor in Theater from Newberry College in 2018. Ms. Vance recently finished her Master's in Music Education from the University of Florida in the spring of 2023. Currently, she is working on her Master of Education in Trauma Informed Education at Columbia College. Her goal is to gain a doctoral degree in Traumatology to help students and educators through traumatic experiences. Ms. Vance's goal is to provide music educators with tools to teach resilience in their classrooms. Outside of the classroom, Ms. Vance enjoys reading, meditating, hanging out with friends and family, and spending time with her "fur" children.



Christina Randall, CONCERT BAND Director

Christina J. Randall earned her Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Charleston Southern University. She is in her 23rd year of teaching and is currently the band director at Sandhills Middle School in the Lexington 4 School District in South Carolina. She is a member of National Association for Music Education, South Carolina Music Educators Association, South Carolina Band Directors Association, Phi Beta Mu and Women Band Directors International. Christina was the 2008-2009 Jasper County School District Teacher of the Year and was a quarterfinalist for the Grammy Music Educator Award in 2020. She was recently named the Sandhills Middle School Teacher of the Year for 2024-2025. Ms. Randall currently serves on the Board of

Directors for the Junior Jazz Foundation in Hilton Head, SC and is a member of several professional organizations including National Association for Music Educators, South Carolina Music Educators Association, South Carolina Band Directors Association and Phi Beta Mu.



Dr. Elizabeth DeBessonnet, CONCERT BAND Asst. Director

Dr. Elizabeth DeBessonnet has been a teacher for 11 years. She originally hails from Chesterfield, South Carolina, where she attended Chesterfield High School and graduated in 2011. After high school, she attended Furman University from 2011 to 2015, when she graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education and graduated with her teacher certification. After graduating, she became the Newberry Middle School Band Director for four years before moving to Frances Mack Intermediate in Lexington 4. She completed an online Masters program through the

University of Nebraska at Kearney to earn a Masters of Arts Education in Music, which she earned in December 2019. Dr. Elizabeth DeBessonnet is the current band director at Frances Mack Intermediate School. While teaching at Frances Mack, Elizabeth earned her Doctorate in Education: Curriculum Instruction Leadership from Anderson University in August 2024. In the 6 years she has been part of the Lexington 4 community, she has advocated for appropriate instrumental music education. Under her direction, the FMIS band program has grown from 65 members to over 200. When she first arrived at Frances Mack, the program was only for 6th grade students. During her time with the program, she was able to start a fifth grade band program as well as a Cadet Colorguard program for Lexington 4. Participation in Solo and Ensemble has grown and over the past 6 years, FMIS band students have received over 80 superior ratings and 35 excellent ratings during the solo and ensemble event. FMIS also participated in Concert Performance Assessment for the first time in school history in the 2024-25 school year and received an Excellent rating. She is a member of many professional organizations. These organizations include NafME (National Association of Music Education), SCMEA (South Carolina Music Educators Association), SCBDA (South Carolina Band Directors Association), WBDI (Women Band Directors International), Sigma Alpha Iota (Theta Lambda chapter at Furman and now currently in the alumni chapter). She was a recipient for the Sword of Honor award from Sigma Alpha Iota due to her dedication to the chapter while at Furman. She also serves as a member of the leadership team for FMIS and serves as the social activities chair for FMIS as well. She performs in semi-professional ensembles across the Columbia area, including the Palmetto Concert Band and Carolina Winds. Outside of school, Elizabeth is happily married to Andrew DeBessonnet since July 2, 2022. They have two cats, Haru and Makoto, which they lovingly call their children and enjoy gaming together on multiple platforms, watching movies, and spending time with each other. She also enjoys spending time with her friends and family. Her hobbies also include painting, crafting, crocheting, and journaling."

Tri-DAC STRINGS DIRECTORS



Brent Wilson, Director of STRINGS II

Brent Wilson is currently the Director of Strings for the Tri-District Arts Consortium, a highly recognized program for the musically gifted. Mr. Wilson, a native of Lima, Ohio, earned his Bachelor of Music Education and a Masters in String Instrument Pedagogy from The Ohio State University. He was a middle and high school orchestra instructor with Richland School District Two in Columbia, SC. Prior to moving to Columbia, Mr. Wilson taught in the West Carrollton, Ohio public schools. Brent Wilson has performed as a cellist in many orchestras, including the South Carolina Philharmonic Orchestra, Augusta Symphony, Middletown Symphony, Springfield Symphony, Dayton Philharmonic, Richmond Symphony (Indiana), Whitewater Opera, Ohio Light Opera, and Lima Symphony. He has also performed with the well-known artists Henry Mancini and Johnny Mathis. Mr. Wilson has performed as conductor of the South Carolina Philharmonic Repertory and Youth Orchestras, Columbus Symphony (Ohio) Jr. String Orchestra, and the Richland Two District Orchestra (including four performances in Carnegie Hall – New York, NY), and frequent regional clinic orchestras. Currently Mr. Wilson is a member of the American String Teachers Association and the South Carolina Music Educators Association. With SCMEA he has served as Orchestra Division committee Member “At Large.” He is a former member of the Ohio Music Educators Association and served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Southwest Region Brent Wilson’s writing is published by the American String Teachers Association.



Haley Calore, Director of STRINGS I

Haley Calore currently serves as Orchestra Director at River Bluff High School in Lexington County School District One. A dedicated music educator with more than twenty years of teaching experience, she has worked extensively within School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties, primarily teaching orchestra students in grades 5–8, including many years at Irmo Middle School. She earned a Bachelor’s degree in Music Education from Converse University and a Master’s degree in Music Education from University of South Carolina. Growing up in District Five, she began her musical studies through the USC String Project. In addition to her work in public education, she has maintained a private violin studio and serves as an Orchestra Director for the Tri-District Arts Consortium summer program. Mrs. Calore has been selected as a guest conductor and adjudicator for several regional music events, including the Richland One District Middle School Honors Orchestra, the Aiken All County Orchestra Festival, and the SCMEA Concert Performance Assessment events in Charleston, Spartanburg, and Anderson. As a violinist, she has performed with ensembles including the Spartanburg Philharmonic and the South Carolina Philharmonic. Her performance experience spans orchestral, chamber, and bluegrass settings, including appearances with the local bluegrass group Carolina Hayride and collaborations with string quartets throughout the Midlands.



Alex Lopez Arrocha, Assistant Director of STRINGS

Born and raised in Columbia, SC, **Alex Lopez Arrocha** (they/them) has lived a life filled with musical expression and artistic exploration. At a young age, Alex displayed a natural talent for the artistic world, their medium being the violin. At 16, Alex decided to audition for South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, an art residential high school in downtown Greenville, SC. In addition to greater musicality and technique work under the direction of Jennifer John, SCGSAH offered Alex a philosophical approach in understanding what it truly means to be an artist and a human. Afterward, they attended the University of South Carolina and graduated with a Bachelor's of Arts in Music, along with a Violin Performance Certificate and a Cognate in Education. They studied performance and chamber music with Dr. Ari Streisfeld, Assistant

Professor of Violin and Violin & Viola Pedagogy at UofSC as well as taught private lessons and classes of first and second-year students at UofSC's String Project, under the direction of Dr. Gail Barnes. Alex recently spent their summers in Leicester, Vermont being a cabin counselor at Point Counterpoint, under the executive direction of Jenny Beck. Their days are filled with activity planning, camper counseling, and musical enrichment for over 200 campers over 10 weeks. Alex currently teaches at Dent Middle School (their alma mater). Alex aims to create a curriculum where art, identity, and interdisciplinary studies are used to enhance musical knowledge and engagement. When Alex is not being an educator, they spend their time singing to themselves and wondering how reality, in all its complexity, exists without a second thought.

Tri-DAC VOCAL DIRECTORS



Heather Wilcox, VOCAL Director

Heather Wilcox holds a Bachelor of Music Education and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Winthrop University. She currently serves as Director of Choirs at River Bluff High School in Lexington, South Carolina, where she leads five distinct choral ensembles. Under her direction, these choirs have earned consistent Superior ratings at state, regional, and national festivals and have performed in prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Her ensembles have been featured at state conferences hosted by the South Carolina Music Educators Association (SCMEA) and the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). Most recently, in February 2024, her women's choir was honored as a featured ensemble at the ACDA Southern Division Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. This summer, her choirs will perform Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria* with the New England Symphonic Ensemble under Ms. Wilcox's direction. Ms. Wilcox is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda, Delta Omicron, and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). She also serves at the Vocal Jazz/Contemporary Commercial Repertoire and Resources Chair for the South Carolina chapter of ACDA. Beyond her work in education, she performs professionally with several accomplished vocal ensembles, including King's Counterpoint, Cantores Charleston, and Vox Regis, based in Charleston, as well as Inspirar, based in Rock Hill.

Matthew Chesnutt, ASSISTANT VOCAL Director

TRIDAC 2026 GUEST PERFORMER BIOS

DICK GOODWIN & his Jazzy Friends! OPENING ACT - Monday, June 8 - 9:00 AM



GORDON (DICK) GOODWIN holds a doctorate in composition from the University of Texas where he taught theory and composition and ran the jazz program (which he initiated) for nine years. In 1973 he moved to the University of South Carolina to head the Theory-Composition-History area, conduct the University Orchestra, and write music for the USC athletic bands (half-time shows, etc.). His compositions in virtually every idiom from jingle to opera, jazz band to orchestra, have been performed across the United States and abroad. Dr. Goodwin is active as a performer (fifteen foreign and numerous domestic concerts and tours with his jazz quintet and big band) and as a recording studio composer-performer-producer, and he is a Yamaha Trumpet Artist. Goodwin was the recipient of

the 2001 Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Individual Artist Award, the highest honor given in the arts by the State of South Carolina. He is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at USC.

Eric Gilfus & Category V Brass Friday, June 12 - 9:00 AM



Founded in 2017, **Category V Brass** (Category 5 Brass) is a brass quintet based in the Columbia, South Carolina area. Members of Category V Brass are active musicians in orchestras across the Southeastern United States, including the Augusta Symphony, South Carolina Philharmonic, Greenville Symphony, Charlotte Symphony, and Charleston Symphony. The quintet performs music from a wide range of styles and repertoire, from standard

classical works and polkas to jazz, Broadway music, and more. Category V Brass has performed at a wide variety of venues across South Carolina, from the South Carolina State House and appearances with the Hilton Head Choral Society to local Oktoberfest and Wintermarkt celebrations at the Bierkeller. The group's name has a story that's as memorable as their sound. During one of their first rehearsals, the musicians gathered on a weekend as Hurricane Irma was forecast to sweep through South Carolina and reach Category 5 strength. Inspired by the storm's intensity, the ensemble adopted the name Category V Brass. Since then, Category V Brass Quintet has lived up to its name, delivering performances with the power of a storm and the warmth of a favorite melody. Whether performing classical favorites, popular tunes, or lively arrangements, the group aims to leave audiences energized, smiling, and maybe even a little blown away.



CiCi the Violinist

Wednesday, June 17 - 9:00 AM



As a native of Columbia, South Carolina, **CiCi The Violinist** embarked on her musical journey at the age of nine when she first cradled a violin in her hands. Growing up in a family deeply immersed in music, CiCi's prodigious talent quickly became apparent, earning her a solo at the age of 10 at the Koger Center in Columbia, SC. CiCi's insatiable thirst for knowledge led her to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Music Performance at Converse College, where she immersed herself in both traditional and contemporary repertoire. Her academic journey was marked by numerous accolades, including participating in The Gateways Music Festival and The Color of Music Festival both honoring and acknowledging classical musicians of African descent. Armed

with a virtuosic skill set and a deep understanding of the nuances of the violin and viola, CiCi continued her studies at DePaul University in Chicago, IL where she obtained her Master's degree in Music Performance. Known for her unparalleled ability to infuse emotion into every note, CiCi is not merely a technical violinist, but a storyteller with her violin. Her interpretations of music hail from her classical foundation while creating a fusion of other genres such as gospel, pop, hip-hop, and rhythm and blues. Recognizing the importance of passing on her knowledge and passion, CiCi has devoted time to teaching and giving back to the community. She's a former educator in Richland School District Two where her commitment to nurturing the next generation of musicians has earned her admiration and her masterclasses are sought after for the unique insights she imparts. As a torchbearer of classical tradition and innovator in her own right, CiCi continues to inspire and captivate audiences around the country. Her unwavering commitment to excellence and her ability to bridge the past and the present through her music makes CiCi incomparable.

KATRINA GARVIN & Friends

Monday, June 22 - 9:00 AM

Katrina Garvin is a native of Columbia, SC. Katrina has a heart for God and His people. Her mission is to bring Christ to others and to show people that He is real. She has a desire to let the world to know all about God's compassion, goodness, and love. Katrina has shared the stage with Babyface, Vashawn Mitchell, Jason Nelson, Blanche McAllister, Tamela Mann, and many more. She also is an accomplished and anointed singer and composer having written and produced the soundtrack for and acted in the nationally distributed stage play DVD "Yesterday is Still Gone". Katrina has played roles in several productions including Hairspray, Ragtime, Deloris Van Cartier in Sister Act and as Shug Avery in The Color Purple at some of Columbia's most critically acclaimed theatres. Katrina backed her theatre minor with a major in business marketing from Queens University. Katrina is the proud mother of two BRILLIANT and GIFTED children, Madison (8) and James (17).



Taylor McCullough is a 2025 graduate of the University of South Carolina with degrees in Musical Theatre and Music Industry Studies. During her time at UofSC, Taylor appeared in numerous productions with the Musical Theatre program, most notably playing a leading role in a new musical workshopped at the university, composed by Tony Award-winner Mark Hollmann and pianist Steven Gross, in collaboration with Kia and Cooper Kofron. Alongside her theatrical work, Taylor is passionate about the music industry, with particular interests in A&R and marketing. You can follow her creative journey on Instagram at @tay.lor_tot. She extends her heartfelt thanks to God, and her family and friends for their unwavering encouragement and support. **Collins McBeth** is a Musical Theatre Major at the University of South Carolina. His most recent roles include Bobby in Company, and Jack in Into the Woods. His dream is to perform full time and explore all realms of entertainment. **Kristin M. Claiborne** is the Assistant Principal for Curriculum & Instruction at Spring Valley High School in Richland School District Two in Columbia, South Carolina. Before this appointment, she served as a choral director at Blythewood High School where she directed four levels of choir and the acaBengals, a premier pop/jazz a cappella group. In her spare time, Claiborne serves as a clinician & adjudicator for various choral festivals & competitions throughout the US. Claiborne is a company member of Trustus Theatre in Columbia, SC, where she has performed the following roles: Deena Jones in *Dreamgirls*, Crystal in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Mrs. Greene in *The Prom*, Depression in *Dandelion*, Nehebka in *Aida*, & Rapunzel in *Into the Woods*. Offstage at Trustus, Claiborne served as musical director for *Choir Boy*, *Into the Woods*, & *Cabaret*.

The Pat-a-Pans

Tuesday, June 23

The Pat-a-Pans include members **Matthew Jones** and **Davin Lail** as well as **Joseph Byron**. Davin has a Music Education Degree from USC Columbia and teaches at Conder Elementary in Richland Two where he is a music teacher just completing his 21st year. Look how young he looks! Holy cow! He also performs across the region with steel drums. Matthew has a Music Performance Degree from USC in Columbia and performs with orchestras from across the region including Augusta, Columbia and Florence. He also performs with shows in theaters in Lexington and Columbia and teaches private lessons to high school and college students. He is Camille's OLDER BROTHER. Matthew works with TriDAC percussion students and has for many years and you can also catch him performing with the TriDAC Drama Showcase! Joseph is an acupuncturist and has been playing bass since 16 years of age! Please welcome the Pat-A-Pans!