



LIAOSA

Long Island chapter of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association



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Contact Us:

<https://www.liaosa.org/home>
longislandaosa@gmail.com

**Follow LIAOSA on Social Media for
more photos, important dates, and
exciting new information!**

A Letter From the Chapter President

Dear LIAOSA Members and Fellow Music Educators,

Welcome to another exciting year of music-making, learning, and collaboration!

I hope your summer was filled with rest, joy, and inspiration. It is my pleasure to invite you to LIAOSA's 2026-2027 Classroom Music Workshop Series—a collection of six engaging, hands-on workshops hosted at Hofstra University.

This year's series continues our tradition of bringing music educators together to learn, create, and grow. Each workshop is designed to provide practical, classroom-ready ideas that you can immediately implement to inspire creativity, strengthen musicianship, and foster joyful musical experiences for your students.

We are excited to welcome another outstanding lineup of clinicians who will share innovative teaching strategies, fresh perspectives, and inspiring ideas from a variety of educational settings. Their expertise and enthusiasm promise an enriching year of professional learning and meaningful collaboration.

Whether you're looking to expand your teaching toolbox, connect with fellow music educators, or rekindle your own musical creativity, this workshop series offers something for everyone.

Thank you for your continued dedication to music education and to the students whose lives you enrich each day. I look forward to seeing you throughout the year as we learn, collaborate, and celebrate the joy of making music together.

Warm regards,
Jessica Marks
President, LIAOSA



2026-27 LIAOSA Workshops

[CLICK HERE](#) for a full list of workshop dates, descriptions, and clinician bios!

September 19, 2026:

Ani Silva-Berrios

¡Vamos a Jugar!

October 17, 2026:

Jessica Marks

President's Workshop: Joyful Music Making in the Elementary Classroom

November 21, 2026:

Matthew Shea

Playing-A-Round

February 6, 2027:

Anna Upston

Puppets! Continuing Narratives with Imaginary Friends in the Music Classroom

March 6, 2027:

Chapter Sharing Session

Singing, Saying, Dancing, Playing

April 10, 2027:

Brian Wagner-Yueng

Music for All: Engaging All Learners in the Accessible Music Classroom

Visit our [Membership Page](#) to register and learn more!

Saturday workshops take place from 9am to 2pm at Joseph G. Shapiro Family Hall at Hofstra University.

2026-2027 Workshop Descriptions

September 19, 2026

Ani Silva-Berrios

¡Vamos a Jugar!

¡Vamos a jugar with different Latin American music genres, songs, and games! We'll discover, explore, and experience through playful twists while singing, saying, playing, moving, and creating. These activities and lesson ideas are flexible and can be easily adapted with many possibilities into any curriculum, while providing and bringing diversity into your music repertoire.

October 17, 2026

Jessica Marks

President's Workshop: Joyful Music Making in the Elementary Classroom

Get ready to sing, move, play, create, and laugh! This high-energy, hands-on workshop is packed with engaging elementary music lessons that inspire joyful music-making while building confident, expressive young musicians. Through movement, barred instruments, recorder gamification, storytelling, creative play, and vocal exploration, you'll discover practical, classroom-ready activities that maximize every minute of your instructional time.

Don't expect to sit and watch—this session is all about active participation! Experience firsthand how joyful learning strengthens musicianship, improves performance skills, and creates a classroom where every child feels successful and excited to make music. You'll leave with fresh ideas, ready-to-use lessons, and renewed inspiration to bring more energy, creativity, and joy to your music classroom.

November 21, 2026

Matthew Shea

Playing-A-Round

Come sing, create, move, and play with all things 'ROUND'. This workshop will explore singing in the round, moving with circular and round pathways, creating art to inspire movement, and incorporating children's literature and instrumental play as we cycle through the workshop. Teachers will gain new perspectives on incorporating Orff Schulwerk in the classroom.



LIAOSA Membership Benefits

Did you know that becoming a package member of LIAOSA comes with a number of exciting benefits?

- Network and learn from master teachers, music specialists and colleagues.
- Provided notes and related resources for all workshops - even if you are unable to attend.
- Scholarships are available for Orff level and FAME courses at Hofstra University.
- Barred and percussion instrument rentals are available between workshops.
- Entry into exciting raffles at workshops!
- Membership Directory and Job Postings on the LIAOSA website (coming soon!)

In-Service Credit

All LIAOSA workshops are worth 5 In-Service Credit Hours! Be sure to sign in and out of each workshop to receive the full credit for hours attended! After the last session of the school year, the Membership Chairperson will issue an in-service certificate for you to present to your school district, or to the state for professional development requirements.

Graduate Credit

One graduate credit is available per semester (3 workshops per semester, not including the sharing session). Interested members must register before the start of each semester. In addition, there is a \$40 fee for LIAOSA members wishing to receive graduate credit who are not full-time Hofstra students.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit:
<https://www.liaosa.org/membership>

February 6, 2027

Anna Upston

Puppets! Continuing Narratives with Imaginary Friends in the Music Classroom

Let's build a puppet character together! Discover just how many ways there are to unlock the creativity of your students, and your own imagination, when you establish a family of wild, fun and fantastical puppets into your Orff curriculum. Reinvigorate your songs, explore movement, "mess" with the instruments, and find your own storytelling expertise as we sing, say, dance and play- with puppets.

March 6, 2027

Chapter Sharing Session

Singing, Saying, Dancing, Playing

Come, watch, learn, and share some of your most tried and true, favorite lessons with fellow teachers and music education students! Do you have any ideas or lesson plans that you would like to share with fellow LIAOSA members? We welcome anyone to sign up! Please let us know if you're interested in contributing during this workshop by February 20, 2027 so we can secure a spot for you. You're welcome to email us with inquiries about how to sign up to present at longislandaosa@gmail.com. We look forward to this fun and supportive workshop, complete with "garage sale" and raffles as we "sing, say, dance and play"!

April 10, 2027

Brian Wagner-Yueng

Music for All: Engaging All Learners in the Accessible Music Classroom

The music classroom can easily be an environment that provides multiple ways for all students to access high-quality music-making. While focusing on engaging students with higher support needs, the same strategies can be used to enhance learning for everyone simultaneously. By incorporating Universal Design for Learning (UDL), task analysis, assistive technology, conceptual learning, multisensory learning, and a strength-based model - participants will see how ALL students can find musical success. Examples will include: music literacy, singing, playing instruments, ensemble/musical theatre, musical listening, and developing independence and lifelong learning.

Other Organizations

Please take a look at some of the other wonderful opportunities and events sponsored by our friends at the following organizations.

Click on the logos to visit their websites for more information!



NASSAU MUSIC
EDUCATORS
ASSOCIATION



AOSA Membership and 2026 Conference!

The 2026 AOSA National Conference is being held November 4-7, 2026 in Richmond, Virginia.

Pre-registration for the event is open from now until October 12th. You can visit the AOSA Conference [WEBSITE](#) to learn more about safety measures as well as the exciting sessions being offered at this in-person event, including sessions and performances by Drue Bullington and Elisa Seppanen.

For those interested in attending on-site registration begins Wednesday, November 3rd at 5 p.m.

Registration Information

Pre-Registration

\$339 - AOSA Member full registration

\$239 - AOSA Retired Member full registration

\$239 - AOSA Student Member full registration

Not a member of AOSA?

Join AOSA to form associations with other talented arts educators who continue to seek professional renewal and growth in the same atmosphere of playful spontaneity and musical discovery that your students will experience in the Orff Schulwerk classroom.

Benefits of membership include:

- Exclusive Web Access to the AOSA Resource Library!
- Professional Development and discounts on registration for the National Conference!
- Digital mentorship program!
- Grants and Scholarships!
- Networking opportunities!
- Professional Publications: AOSA Journal, The Orff Echo · publishing opportunities: articles, research, book reviews!

Visit the [AOSA Membership Page](#) for rates and to learn more!

SCMEA Eugene Reichenenthal Recorder Festival

DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2027

TIME: 10am-3pm

LOCATION: BRENTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

This event is a wonderful opportunity for your avid recorder players, providing them with an enjoyable and unpressured festival experience. In order to facilitate participation, there are three levels of difficulty: Novice, Elemental and Recorder Jam. PARTICIPANTS DO NOT NEED TO PREPARE MUSIC PRIOR TO THE FESTIVAL. In the Novice group, participants will need to be proficient in the notes BAG. The Elemental and Recorder Jam groups are open to students that are proficient with the notes C'BAGE. The Recorder Jam group also provides opportunities for improvisation and for playing alto and tenor recorder. This year, the festival will be directed by Jennifer Fischer, Giselle Castillo, and Susan Rudnicki. A typical Recorder Day includes rehearsals, a guest artist, magic show, vendors and a culminating concert.

This festival is also open to schools outside of Suffolk and to private teachers.

For further information go to www.scmea.org/recorderday or email recorderday@scmea.org

Our Sponsors

We thank these organizations for sponsoring our 2024-2025 workshops.

Click on the logos to visit their websites for more information!

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The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York

The MYO is a local organization that LIAOSA has partnered with for workshops and performance opportunities for our students.

The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York (MYO) is committed to fostering a community of talented young musicians from Long Island and providing them with an opportunity to rehearse and perform choral and orchestral masterworks at the highest possible level with recognized leaders in music education and performance.

The MYO provides students with excellent choral and orchestral ensemble experiences, and offers a number of exciting workshops throughout the academic year.

The MYO Choral program is in need of members for their Treble choirs, especially for students located in Nassau County.

For more information about the MYO and its programs, please visit the links below!

MYO Homepage
<http://www.myo.org/>

Audition Information
<http://www.myo.org/auditions/>

MYO Testimonials and Stories
<http://www.myo.org/category/myo-stories/>

The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York

AUDITION FOR

MYO

CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL PROGRAMS



Openings in our MYO Choirs and Orchestras for all voice types and instruments

New member auditions

Upload your video audition today for 2021-2022!

For more information and audition submission

www.myo.org/auditions

Did You Know...

That the LIAOSA website has a special section to highlight job listings?

If you have any information regarding permanent teaching positions or leave replacement opportunities, or any other music education job offerings, please contact us using the form on the website with all relevant information!

On our [website](http://www.liaosa.org) (www.liaosa.org), you can also find information about upcoming [workshops](#), our [instrumental lending program](#) and more!

Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions or ideas on how to improve content on our website or in our newsletters! Send an email to longislandaosa@gmail.com or fill out the [contact form](#) on the website.

Our Executive Board will also be looking for general member participation on a number of exciting committees. If you are interested in helping out at our workshops or increasing involvement in chapter events and planning, please keep an eye out!

Committees include:

- Instruments (Purchase, care, lending)
- Hospitality (Off-campus events)

Thank you for your consideration in lending a hand!