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# 2024-2025 Concert Season

#### **Fall Concert**

September 12, 2024, 6:30 PM Lassiter Concert Hall

#### **Winter Concert**

December 12, 2024, 7:00 PM Lassiter Concert Hall

#### **LGPE Preview Concert**

January 28, 2025, 7:00 PM Lassiter Concert Hall

#### **LGPE Performances**

February 10-11, 2025
Walton High School
Specific performance times and dates are TBA

# "A Night at the Movies & More" Spring Concert

April 22, 2025, 7:00 PM Lassiter Concert Hall





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www.lassiterorchestra.org











# **About the Lassiter Orchestra Program**

The orchestra program at Lassiter High School has a long standing tradition of excellence. From 1993 until 2022 the Lassiter High School Orchestra program was under the leadership of Ms. Carol Doemel and gained local, state, and national exposure as a leading high school orchestra program.

The Lassiter Orchestra Program was recognized as a Grammy Signature School in 2000 and quickly became recognized as one of the finest high school orchestra programs in the nation. Orchestras have been repeatedly invited to perform at conferences and competitions across the nation. In 2001 and 2008 respectively, the Lassiter Symphony and Lassiter Chamber Orchestra were selected to perform at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. This is the most prestigious honor a band or orchestra can receive. The Lassiter Symphony was also selected to perform for the 2003, 2006, and 2014 Georgia Music Educator's Conference. In 2007 the Lassiter Chamber Orchestra and Lassiter String Ensemble competed in New York City at the Lincoln Center's National Orchestra Cup. The Lassiter Chamber Orchestra won Grand Champion of the competition and Best String Section and were invited again to perform for the 2016 National Orchestra Cup in New York City.

The orchestra program offers a course for everyone, consisting of four ability-based performing orchestra classes: Concert Orchestra, Philharmonia, Sinfonia, and Chamber Orchestra. Students are placed into the Philharmonia. Sinfonia and Chamber Orchestras based on teacher recommendations and an audition.

- Students form and rehearse their own ensembles to perform at community and school functions
- The Chamber orchestra students combine with members of the LHS band to form a full symphony orchestra
- LHS Music Ensembles are consistently rated superior at festivals, competitions, and GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluations

# **About The Director**



**Dr. Charles Laux** is in his third year as Director of Orchestras at Lassiter High School. He also serves as an Essential Elements clinician, consultant, and contributor for the Hal Leonard Corporation. Dr. Laux holds degrees in music education from Ohio University, the University of Nevada – Las Vegas, and a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.

A full-time string educator since 1996, Dr. Laux has worked with diverse student populations from elementary school through the collegiate level. Previously, he served as Director of Orchestras at Alpharetta High School where his duties included directing five levels of orchestra, including the nationally recognized AHS Symphony Orchestra. He also served as Assistant Professor of String Music Education at Kennesaw State University and directed award-winning school orchestra programs in Nevada, Florida, and Ohio.

Endorsed as an artist-educator by D'Addario Orchestral and Eastman Stringed Instruments, Dr. Laux has presented nearly 200 educational sessions for organizations such as the Midwest Clinic, American String Teachers Association, and at music conferences spanning 28 states. He regularly presents professional development inservices for school districts across the country and has presented internationally in

Canada and Ecuador. His performing experience includes seasons with the Las Vegas Philharmonic, the Nevada Chamber Symphony, the Columbus String Quartet, and a collaborative solo performance with several members of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Laux is currently serving a two-year term as a Member at Large on the national board of ASTA and remains in frequent demand across the nation as an orchestra clinician, guest conductor, and adjudicator.

In his spare time, Dr. Laux enjoys giving back to the string and orchestra community through "The Orchestra Teacher" website, podcast, and YouTube channel that can be accessed at www.orchestrateacher.net. His community service includes coaching baseball for Sandy Plains Baseball Association, supporting Sources of Strength, and fundraising for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Dr. Laux also enjoys running, yoga, cycling, camping, cooking, watching sports, and boating. Most of all, he loves spending time with his wife, Stacy, an interior architect at Georgia Tech, and two sons, Charlie (15), and Andy (13).

## **Administration**

Dr. Chris Richie - Principal
Joseph Horton - Assistant Principal
Julie Huffman - Assistant Principal
Scott Kelly - Assistant Principal / Athletic Director
Meredith Koester - Assistant Principal
Dr. Angelo Ruggiero - Assistant Principal
Matt Allen - SSA

# Fine Arts Faculty

Katherine Daniels - Visual Arts Teacher
Chelsea Green - Choral Director
Jeff Harper - Assistant Director of Bands
Dr. Charles Laux - Orchestra Director
Kim Snyder - Assistant Director of Bands,
Fine Arts Department Chair
Suzette Spinelli - Visual Arts Teacher
James Thompson - Director of Bands

# **String Unit Directors**



**Nicole Thompson** 



#### **Dana Tindall & Susan Abell**

The Lassiter Orchestra program is extremely grateful for the amazing middle school orchestra programs at Mabry Middle School and Simpson Middle School. We all appreciate your hard work, your dedication, and your support of the Lassiter program. Thank you for all that you do to create such a meaningful and unique experience for your students!

# A message from our principal...

Dear Lassiter Orchestra Friends and Families,

Welcome back to all of our extremely talented orchestra members. I know I speak for all the staff at Lassiter in saying that we are all looking forward to an exciting year of musical performances! I know how much time, energy, and effort you all put into perfecting your performances and upholding the Lassiter traditions that has made our orchestra program well known throughout the country. You all have a reputation of excellence and a tremendous sense of pride as our program has performed at some of the best venues in the country.

Throughout the year, I know that you all will benefit tremendously from being in Lassiter's orchestra. I love that the program instills beneficial values of constant motivation to practice and improve. It's always great to see our students develop new friendships with students who you share a common interest, and I always appreciate the musical teamwork that orchestra teaches as you sharpen your skills.

I am looking forward to hearing about the experiences that you will have this year and I am always extremely proud of our musicians who give their best efforts at every practice, rehearsal, and performance.

Enjoy the performance!

*Dr. Chris Richie*Principal, Lassiter High School



# **Sponsorship Recognition**

Many thanks to the businesses and individuals that become members of the LHSOA or donated to our "Friends of the Orchestra" campaign via direct monetary donation or advertisement purchase. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! This list is current as of December 1, 2024. Future donors will be listed on our website (QR code below) and on concert program inserts.

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The Dunphy Family

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The Lassiter Orchestra sincerely appreciates your generosity! We could not be the orchestra we are without your incredible support!



# Lassiter HS Orchestra Association

The Lassiter High School Orchestra Association (LHSOA) is a non-profit 501c3 organization. Together with the orchestra director and the student leadership, the mission of the organization is to guide the LHS Orchestra Program in terms of facilitating excellence in student educational experience; provide for opportunity for special performance opportunities, including travel; aiding to administer fundraising opportunities benefiting both the organization and students; attend to financial decisions based on program and budgetary needs, serving as fiduciary guardians.

#### **LHSOA Board 2024-2025**

Co-Presidents - Alec & Laura Davidson
Treasurers - Caroline Randall & Shelly Wines
Secretary & Communications - Marc Tartaro
Fundraising Chairs - Mary George & Stacey Dunphy
Travel Coordinator/Photography - Galina Stoll
Socials & Banquet Chair - Melanie Smith
Program Book Chairs - Gerard Delaney & Lisa Gilmore

# With gratitude...

Dr. Laux would like to sincerely thank the LHSOA board for their continued hard work and dedication to the Lassiter Orchestra program. The board's support and guidance are greatly appreciated by everyone. The students of the Lassiter Orchestra are extremely fortunate to have such supportive parents and community members who value the arts and, in particular, a quality education in music.

## Interested in volunteering?

We would like to invite parents to volunteer to chaperone an event or field trip, head up a committee, or serve as board member. There are current openings and more open every year. We could not do what we do without your help! Scan the QR code...

# Did you know?



All donations to the LHSOA can be tax-deductible and many corporations match donations to non-profits such as ours.





# **Concert Orchestra**



The Concert Orchestra is the orchestra that continues instruction after middle school and meets daily during second period. The content of this course includes instruction in performance techniques with emphasis placed on technical and musical skills through the study of rudimentary exercises and mainly grade 3 string orchestra repertoire. Individual practice outside of class time is necessary for successful mastery of performance standards.

#### **Violin**

Claire Cararo Phoenix Carroll Belen Cecilio Efrain Deza Sadhana Dinesh **Zachary Durgin** Madison Fox Allison Lemmon Natalia London Lily Mapes Camila Mendoza Keira O'Brien Grace Qian **Ellen Saunders Charlotte Scheving** Giovanna Silva **Anwita Singh** Haili Wang Lillian Young

#### Viola

Penelope Carr
Claire Heinrich
Caden Hughes
Sara Jones
Ella Lach
Rocha Martinez
Michael Meadows
Raw Muallem
Esther Ronemous
Violet Shewchuk
Chantel Tucker
Genecis Wences-Liborio



#### Cello

Joel Banos Elaina Burrock Ava Hardy Sangyethia Joseph Isadora Lima Erin O'Brien

#### **Double Bass**

Cressa Nickels Boris Sudakov



Concert Orchestra working with our October Artist-in-Residence, Maestro Christopher Thibdeau

# Philharmonia Orchestra



The Philharmonia Orchestra is the intermediate level ensemble and meets daily during third period. The content of this course includes instruction in performance techniques with emphasis placed on technical and musical skills through the study of rudimentary exercises and mainly grade 4 string orchestra repertoire. Individual practice outside of class time is necessary for successful mastery of performance standards.

#### **Violin**

Caroline Beam
Michaela Breh
Lydia Callard
Bruno Chipatecua
Audrey Cogbill
Stephanie Cordova
Abigail Creed
Neah Darnell
Joseph Delaney
Sanchez Diaz
Ria Dinavahi
Sophia Fabian
Molly Gamez

Alexandra Green
Olivia Hammack
Olivia Howard
Bailey Jones
David Kim
Halyn Kim
Claire Kopriva
Sabrina Kullar
Mars Lana
Christopher Nier
Addison Parker
Kendall Washington

#### Viola

Priyanka Bhandarkar
Sophia Cain
Jack Conway
Ariana Fleshler
Benjamin Gilmore
Cole Hoffmann
Akshita Parasuram
Isabella Rudd
Lokharakshitha Sathyanarayanan
Charlotte Zimmerman

#### Cello

Elianah Catanzaro Kourosh Jarrahi Ian Kim William Lindgren Christina Magdusian Asher Quigg Zoe Ramsey Mary Randall

#### **Double Bass**

Caden Chiodi Amber Culley Kimora James Daniel Uyesugi



Philharmonia working hard at fall camp with guest conductor, Dr. David Doke

# Sinfonia Orchestra



The Sinfonia Orchestra is an advanced-level orchestra and meets daily during fourth period. This course includes advanced instruction in performance techniques with emphasis placed on technical and musical skills through the study of mainly grade 5 string orchestra repertoire.

#### **Violin**

Alyssa Alvarez Isabella Cain **Emma Carrier** Ethan Chang Shannon Cox Sally Dawood Ksenia Epstein Nicole Freda Kanav Ganguly Shayla Intriago Sarthak Kesavarapu Faith Lee Sophia Martin Ian Mason Matthew Mayo Ann Ndege **Catherine Nichols** Jack Pace Hannah Phillips **Lasso Torres** Kaimi Trevison Elizabeth Vo

#### Viola

Davis Barnes
Caroline Davidson
Ja'lah Hall
David Hester
Anna Hoover
Lexi Kahle
Ryley Kelley
Caroline Miller
Ethan Silver

#### Cello

Jude Beaver Claire Dunphy Christina Edwards Sophia Joya Isaac Mesarvey Melika Mohazab Chloe Riser Elena West

#### **Double Bass**

Ian Cooper Oluwaseyi Lawal-Solarin Rylee Lum Pepper Peace





Sinfonia learning about physical and mental wellness from Dr. Cathie Hudnall at fall camp

# **Chamber Orchestra**



The Chamber Orchestra is the mastery level string performing ensemble at LHS and meets daily during fifth period. The ensemble focuses on level 6 string orchestra repertoire and will combine with members of the LHS band to form the Lassiter Symphony Orchestra. Members of this ensemble have performed in the GMEA All-State Orchestra, the North Georgia Honor Orchestra, GMEA District 12 Honor Orchestra and local youth orchestras.

#### **Violin**

Elizabeth Ballenger Luis Barrera Piper Bowling Kevy Chen Maite Chipatecua Lucy Conway Elizabeth George Chloe Hua Raliyah Joseph Ethan Lawson Bruno Miranda Ferreira Sophia Rocha Martinez Emily Mroz Kaitlyn Murray Bryn Phaengsook Rosales Rosas Vidhu Shrivastava Andre Silva Hailey Tartaro Jaydon Waid **Quintus Wang** Mary Yarger

#### Viola

Zoe Dragon
Jonas Evans
Olivia Hardy
Kaylah Hester
Leyna Le
Veronica Levy
Tyler Thompson
Bethany Yarger

#### Cello

Jade Boscoe
Nicholas Davidson
Dayton Davis
Andrea Joya
Tanay Kulkarni
Ridley Simmons
McKenna Stockwell
Isabelle Stoll
Henry Wines

#### **Double Bass**

Jillian Dunphy Kylie Feitell Juan Orduz-Zuniga William Smith



Sophia Martinez leads the Chamber Orchestra in a rehearsal of "Plink, Plank, Plunk!"

# **Student Leadership Team**



The LHS Orchestra program has a unique and active student leadership team that helps manage some of the day-to-day operations of the orchestra program and assist with special events like camps, socials, holiday gift exchanges, and other orchestra activities. The orchestra also has a variety of additional student-led committees and teams to assist with various duties.

#### **Presidents**

Raliyah Joseph Jaydon Waid

#### **Vice-Presidents**

Sophia Martinez Rocha Ridley Simmons

#### **Secretaries**

Vidhu Shrivastava Isabelle Stoll

#### **Inventory Specialists**

Ian Cooper Ann Ndege

#### **Music Librarians**

Emma Carrier
Ria Dinavahi
Jillian Dunphy
Nicole Freda
Anna Hoover
Mars Lana
Hannah Phillips \*
Mary Kate Randall
Elena West

#### **Student Services**

Sally Dawood Erin O'Brien Akshita Parasuram Andre Silva Lucy Conway

#### **Media Team**

Kevy Chen Neah Darnell Olivia Hammack Sophia Joya Katie Murray Tyler Thompson

#### **Logistics Team**

Elizabeth Ballenger Shannon Cox Sophia Martin Elizabeth Vo

# Senior Class of 2025



Congratulations to the orchestra's senior class of 2025! You all have been through so much over the years and I want congratulate you on making it through with bravery, integrity, and excellence. Each of you bring something special to the orchestra program and everyone appreciates the time, energy, and service you gave to the Lassiter Orchestra program. You will be greatly missed next year! Dr. Laux and the rest of the orchestras wish you nothing but the very best in your future endeavors!

Alyssa Alvarez
Elizabeth Ballenger
Luis Barrera
Piper Bowling
Isabella Cain
Shannon Cox
Zoe Dragon
Jillian Dunphy
Elizabeth George
Olivia Hardy
Kaylah Hester
Raliyah Joseph

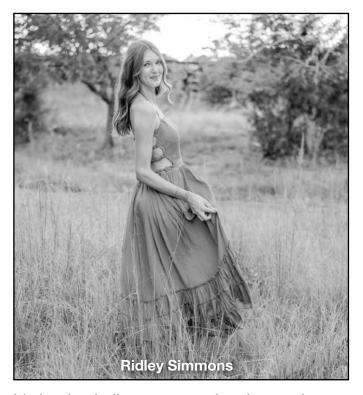


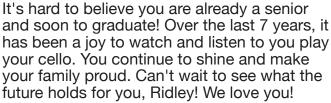
Andrea Joya
Sophia Joya
Lexi Kahle
Rylee Lum
Sophia Martin
Sophia Rocha Martinez

Matthew Mayo
Melika Mohazab
Kaitlyn Murray
Catherine Nichols
Hannah Phillips
Chloe Riser
Vidhu Shrivastava
Ridley Simmons
Jaydon Waid
Quintus Wang
Bethany Yarger
Mary Yarger









- Mom, Dad, Connor and Rhett



Music is such an enrichment to life and it has been one of our greatest joys to experience beautiful music with you over the past 13 years of violin lessons and school orchestra. It hasn't always come easy, but it was worth it to learn patience and resilience that only mastering an instrument can teach. We are so proud of what a beautiful musician and leader you have become over the years! Happy Senior Year, Elizabeth! We love you!

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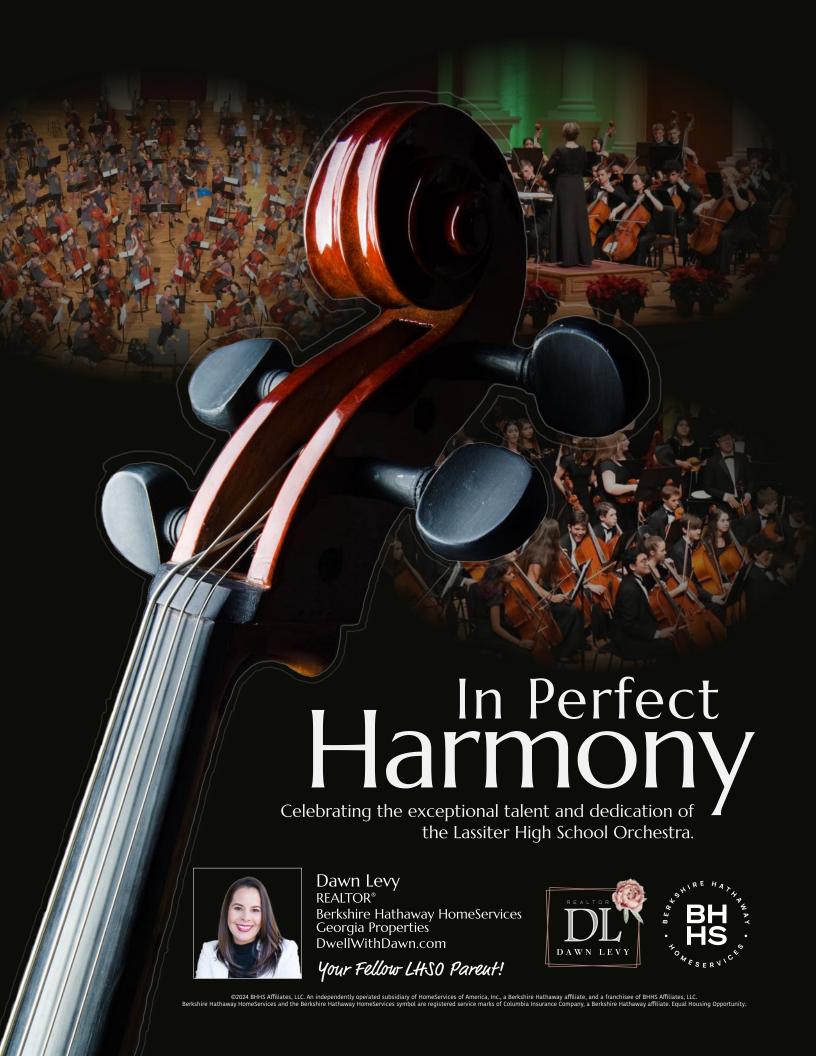
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