



2025-2026



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Lassiter

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2025-2026 Concert Season

Fall Concert

September 16, 2025, 7:30 PM
Lassiter Concert Hall

Winter Concert

November 13, 2025, 7:00 PM
Lassiter Concert Hall

LGPE Preview Concert

January 27, 2026, 7:00 PM
Lassiter Concert Hall

LGPE Performances

February 9-10, 2026
Walton High School
Specific performance times and dates are TBA

"A Night at the Movies & More" Spring Concert

April 21, 2026, 7:00 PM
Lassiter Concert Hall



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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. Concert Orchestra is a non-auditioned freshman orchestra, and Philharmonia is the non-auditioned ensemble for students in grades 10-12. Sinfonia and Chamber Orchestra are the two auditioned orchestral ensembles at Lassiter.

- 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 Our Director

Dr. Charles Laux is a "senior," in his fourth 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. He holds degrees in music education from Ohio University and the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, as well as a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.

Now in his 30th year as a full-time string educator, Dr. Laux has worked with diverse student populations ranging from elementary through collegiate levels. Before joining Lassiter High School, he served as Director of Orchestras at Alpharetta High School, where he led five levels of orchestra, including the nationally recognized AHS Symphony Orchestra. He has 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.

An endorsed artist-educator with D'Addario Orchestral and Eastman Stringed Instruments, Dr. Laux has presented more than 200 educational sessions for organizations such as the Midwest Clinic, the American String Teachers Association (ASTA), and at conferences in 28 states. He frequently provides professional development workshops for school districts nationwide and has presented internationally in Canada and Ecuador. This year he will present at conferences in Chicago, San Francisco, Columbus, Ohio, and Cody, Wyoming.

As a performer, Dr. Laux has appeared with the Las Vegas Philharmonic, Nevada Chamber Symphony, and the Columbus String Quartet, and has collaborated in solo performance with members of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. He recently completed a two-year term as Member-at-Large on the ASTA national board and continues to be in high demand as a clinician, guest conductor, and adjudicator across the United States. This year he will conduct Spivey Hall's High School Honor Chamber Orchestra, the Virginia Music Educators Association District 12 Junior Orchestra, and the South Carolina 9-10 All-State Orchestra.

In addition to teaching, Dr. Laux gives back to the string and orchestra community through his educational platform, "The Orchestra Teacher" — featuring a website, podcast, and YouTube channel (www.orchestrateteacher.net). His community involvement includes coaching baseball for the Sandy Plains Baseball, supporting Lassiter Sources of Strength, and fundraising for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

In his free time, Dr. Laux enjoys running, yoga, cycling, camping, cooking, watching sports, and spending time on the lake. Most of all, he loves spending time with his wife, Stacy, an interior architect at Georgia Tech, and their two sons, Charlie (16) and Andy (14).



Dr. Laux showing LHSO spirit wearing a polo with our new logo!

Administration

Dr. Chris Richie - Principal
Natasha Beemon - 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 November 5, 2025. Future donors will be listed on our website (QR code below) and on concert program inserts.

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



Dr. Laux leading the Philharmonia Orchestra in a performance of "Wood Splitter Fanfare" at the Fall Concert.

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 special performance opportunities, including travel; aiding to administer fundraising benefiting both the organization and students; attend to financial decisions based on program and budgetary needs, serving as fiduciary guardians.

LHSOA Board & Committee Chairs 2025-2026

Presidents - Shelly Wines & Caroline Randall

Vice Presidents - Sonya Feitell & Mandy Pace

Treasurers - Karen Glenny & Joseph Duke

Secretary - Susan Baker

Hospitality & Banquet Chairs - Lisa Gilmore & Ashley Saunders

Trip Coordinator - Galina Stoll

Program Book Chair - Gerard Delaney

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.

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...



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Concert Orchestra



The Concert Orchestra is a freshman-only, non-auditioned 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.

Violin

Isla Campbell
Neala Clark
Zoe Cortez
Hannah Daly
Olivia Glenny
Destinee Goins
Mehak Gupta
Emily Im
Paige Kilimnik
Athena Le
Arad Moghim
Scarlett Partain
Miles Phanthavong
Presley Price
River Simonson
Aaron Solomon

Viola

Maxine Aarons
Peyton Arnold
Abby Davidson
Yaneth Giron Santos
Ashlynn Hall
Ju Kim
Reagan Smith



Cello

Nolen Barkwell
Anay Deorukhkar
Danny Dulevski
Nikhil Harjani
Nyla Hayes
Tony Intriago
Connor Karamitas
Sahiti Machavolu
Cate Marshburn
Anniston McCoy
Marley Mickler
Niyah Moxley
Miley Overton
Levi Pettersson

Double Bass

Bennett Cobb



Guest conductor David Metrio working with students at our fall camp.

Philharmonia Orchestra



The Philharmonia Orchestra is a non-auditioned, intermediate level ensemble for students in grades 10-12 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 3-4 string orchestra repertoire.

Violin

Ady Camacho
Ari Camacho
Claire Cararo
Belen Cecilio
Audrey Cogbill
Stephanie Cordova
Abigail Creed
Joseph Delaney
Efrain Deza
Sadhana Dinesh
Zachary Durgin
Sophia Fabian
Madison Fox
Olivia Howard

Bailey Jones
Claire Kopriva
Natalia London
Lily Mapes
Camila Mendoza
Christopher Nier
Keira O'Brien
Grace Qian
EK Saunders
Charlie Scheving
Giovanna Silva
Anwita Singh
Elizabeth Vo
Kendall Washington

Viola

Penelope Carr
Jack Conway
Cole Hoffmann
Caden Hughes
Sara Jones
Alishbah Khan
Ella Lach
Yarezi Martinez Rocha
Michael Meadows
Rawi Muallem
Isabella Rudd
Violet Shewchuk
Chantel Tucker
Genecis Wences-Liborio

Cello

Joel Banos
Elaina Burrock
Ava Hardy
Sangyethia Joseph
Tanay Kulkarni
Christina Magdusian
Erin O'Brien

Double Bass

Landon Loftin



Guest clinician, David Eccles of the Lovett School, teaches memorization strategies at fall camp.

Sinfonia Orchestra



The Sinfonia Orchestra is an auditioned, 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

Caroline Beam
Luke Brooks
Emma Carrier
Bruno Chipatecua
Andre Da Silva
Eve Danielson
Neah Darnell
Sally Dawood
Abril Diaz Sanchez
Ria Dinavahi
Katie Dunphy
Olivia Hammack
Shayla Intriago
David Kim
Ethan Lawson
Faith Lee
Ian Mason
Addison Parker
Santiago Torres-Lasso
Haili Wang
Lilly Young

Viola

Davis Barnes
Priyanka Bhandarkar
Sophia Cain
Joshua Carrier
Ariana Fleshler
Benjamin Gilmore
Claire Heinrich
Savannah Hurthault
Esther Ronemous
Rakshitha Sathyanarayanan
Ethan Silver
Charlie Zimmerman

Cello

David Barry
Claire Dunphy
Christina Edwards
Murilo Ferreira Miranda
Grant Irgang
Kourosh Jarrahi
Ian Kim
William Lindgren
Isaac Mesarvey
Mary Randall
Elena West

Double Bass

Ian Cooper
Amber Culley
Pepper Peace
Daniel Uyesugi



Seniors Ian Kim and Isaac Mesarvey leading the cello section in "Waltz of the Wicked" by Kirt Mosier

Chamber Orchestra



The Chamber Orchestra is an audition-based, 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

Ethan Chang
Keyv Chen
Maite Chipatecua
Lucy Conway
Andre Da Sliva
Ksenia Epstein
Bruno Ferreira Miranda
Nicole Freda
Kanav Ganguly
Yula Heo
Chloe Hua
Mars Lana
Annie McGinnis
Emily Mroz
Claire Naranjo
Ann Ndege
Jack Pace
Bryn Phaengsook
Olivia Powers
Hailey Tartaro
Kaimi Trevison

Viola

Caroline Davidson
Jonas Evans
Nathan Hester
Anna Hoover
Veronica Levy
Caroline Miller
Tyler Thompson

Cello

Jude Beaver
Jade Boscoe
Eliannah Catanzaro
Nico Davidson
Mackenna Duke
Tanay Kulkarni
McKenna Stockwell
Isabelle Stoll
Henry Wines

Double Bass

Michael Baker
Kylie Feitell
Oluwaseyi Lawal-Solarin
Juan Orduz-Zuniga
William Smith
Boris Sudakov



*Getting ready for our annual Homecoming parade!
This year's theme was Rio Carnival and the orchestra performed the song "Real in Rio."*



Izzy Stoll focuses on watching the conductor at the Fall Concert.

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, like helping manage concerts for our middle school orchestras.

Leadership Team Members

Emma Carrier
Maité Chipatecua
Lucy Conway *
Ian Cooper
Amber Culley
Neah Darnell
Caroline Davidson
Sally Dawood
Abril Diaz-Sanchez
Ria Dinavahi
Ksenia Epstein
Jonas Evans
Kylie Feitell
Nicole Freda
Kanav Ganguly

Benjamin Gilmore
Faith Lee
Anniston McCoy
Emily Mroz
Ann Ndege
Mary Kate Randall
Isabelle Stoll
Boris Sudakov
Tyler Thompson *
Kaimi Trevison
Daniel Uyesugi
Elizabeth Vo
Elena West *
Henry Wines



* *Orchestra Presidents*

Abril Sanchez-Diaz performing with Sinfonia at the Fall Concert.

Senior Class of 2026



Congratulations to the orchestra's senior class of 2026! I want congratulate you on making it through your schooling 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. I feel special for having started my time at Lassiter with you all and it has been fun being Lassiter "seniors" together this year! Best wishes and good luck!

-Dr. Laux

Lucy Conway
Ian Cooper
Stephanie Cordova
Amber Culley
Andre Da Silva
Nico Davidson
Sally Dawood
Ria Dinavahi
Ksenia Epstein
Bruno Ferreira Miranda
Nicole Freda
Olivia Howard
Ian Kim



Tanay Kulkarni
Ethan Lawson
Veronica Levy
Isaac Mesarvey
Emily Mroz
Ann Ndege
Christopher Nier
Erin O'Brien

Juan Orduz-Zuniga
Addison Parker
Pepper Peace
Bryn Phaengsook
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Dear Ethan, we could not be prouder seeing you grow these past 4 years. You are proof that perseverance wins in the end, and we hope you always keep that spirit. Never give up, never lose hope, and always push forward. There is unlimited greatness in you and all that you do, and most importantly, you are a terrific, kind person. As you move onto the next chapters of your journey, we look with great excitement at the amazing accomplishments you will achieve and the successes that you truly deserve. We will be there right alongside to support you and cheer you on.

Love, Daddy, Mommy, Sophie, Indi, Sheldon, Teddy



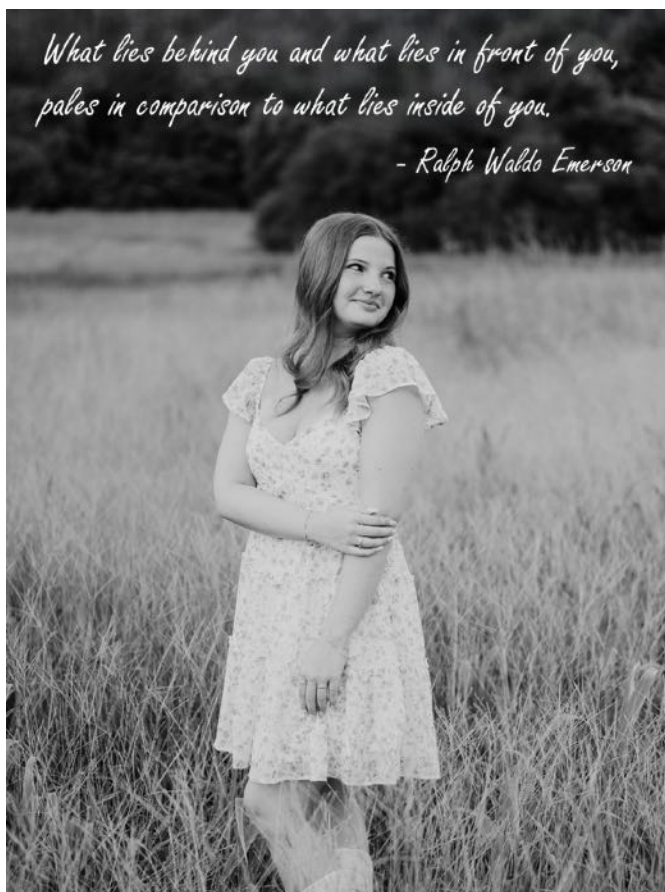
Congratulations Tyler!

From the first note years ago to the final bow here in your Senior year, you've filled the stage and our lives with music, entertainment, laughs and a big personality! Your talent and energy light up your relationships and every room you enter. We are so proud of you and the dedication you've brought to orchestra and everything you do. Keep dreaming big, living loud, and shining bright. The world is your stage!

With love and pride,
Mom, Dad and Teagan

*What lies behind you and what lies in front of you,
pales in comparison to what lies inside of you.*

- Ralph Waldo Emerson



We love you, Lucy! - Mom, Dad, Jack & Kate



Isabelle Stoll

*They say "Music is the strongest form of Magic!"
You've definitely brought that magic into our lives
singing, dancing, and playing instruments. Your future is
one grand symphony, and we'll be right here, listening to
every beat and cheering you on!*

-Love Always,

Daddy, Mommy, and Nathan



Dedication - Hailey, it is incredible to think how far your musical journey has come. So many years of dedication and hard work, culminating in two amazing years in Chamber. It has been a joy to watch you excel as a musician and listen to you play. We are so very proud of all your academic, athletic, and musical accomplishments.

Love, Mom and Dad



Congratulations Erin! It has been a true joy watching your love of music grow over the years. We are proud of your hard work. Keep fueling your soul and creating beauty through your music and love of the arts. We love you forever!

Dad, Mom, Keira, and Bella



Bravo, Sally! The world is waiting for your next movement. We are your biggest fans!

Love always,
Mom, Dad, and Layan



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Congratulations, Christopher ! Your hard work has composed a beautiful masterpiece. Wishing you a future filled with even more harmony and success.

- Vyrna, Michael, Valerie and Rita



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