

Bow River Music Lessons

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Specializing in Online Group lessons.

Introducing the all new Group Online Lessons. I have gathered with a few of Calgary's top musicians/music teachers to offer several fall courses on many different instruments. All of our teachers are extremely experienced at teaching group workshops and are some of **the most in demand teachers visiting numerous schools every year**. Each course will meet once a week for 60 or 90 minutes to focus on improving skills and having fun with music. Due to the nature of internet connections, these lessons will be set up as webinars through the Zoom platform where the student will get to play and interact with their teacher in the course of your choice. During each lesson there will also be some one on one check ups with the teacher to make sure each student is progressing with the group. We will be putting together videos from each student's participation that they can share with friends and family at the end of the workshop.

The cost of these lessons has been set at **\$20/session per student**. Each course will run for 9-10 weeks starting in the middle of October or as soon as we have met our minimum enrolment. There is a minimum of six students per course and we will split the sessions into smaller groups if any class gets too large. Once the course is confirmed we will require the course fees to be paid before the first class starts. No refunds will be issued once the class starts as we won't be able to add new students to each class once it starts. Some courses will require students to purchase music or play along tracks in addition to music provided by the instructor.

We are in the process of adding additional courses and instructors. If you have a request for a program, please contact us at the email below too. Currently we have courses for Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone/Low Brass, Bass and Drums/Percussion.

To register send an email to grouplessons@keithorourke.ca

Online Courses

All classes are held once a week and are \$20/week except where listed.

Beginner Saxophone Ensemble - Geared towards students with 1-3 years of playing experience. In this course we will learn music for a small sax ensemble in many styles from jazz-classical and, if time permits, taking students choices for music selections. **Classes are Wednesday from 5:00-6:30pm**

Intermediate Sax Ensemble - This is similar to the beginner ensemble, but with a greater degree of difficulty. For this class 4-6 years of experience is advised, but exceptions will be made for advanced students with less experience. **Classes are Wednesday from 6:45-8:15pm**

Adult Woodwind Ensemble - This class is specific to all adult woodwind musicians. As one of Calgary's leading doublers, Keith O'Rourke is uniquely skilled to offer a class that can cater to most instruments in the woodwind family. For this class we will also be bringing in specialists on each instrument so that the students will get a few different perspectives on the same music. Repertoire will be chosen to fit the instrumentation and skill levels that enroll in the class. A short audio clip of each student will be required to assess the level of the player and choose repertoire. **Classes are Saturday from 10:00-11:30am**

Clarinet skills level 1 - In this class you will learn all sorts of clarinet skills, tips and tricks to get better at the clarinet! We will work on tone, tonguing, finger speed, squeak prevention, crossing the break and more while playing new songs, exercises and studies. This course is geared towards students that have been playing for 1-2 years. **Classes are Thursday from 5:15-6:45pm**

Clarinet skills level 2 - Similar to level 1, but more advanced, in this class you will learn more advanced clarinet skills, tips and tricks to get better at the clarinet! Improve your range (high notes), finger speed, alternate fingerings and how to cross the break(s) smoothly all while playing brand new songs, exercises and studies. This course is geared towards students that have been playing for 3 or more years. **Classes are Thursday from 7:00-8:30pm**

Flute technique and chamber music level 1 - Geared towards students that have completed grades 7-9, this class will give students the opportunity to improve their skills while also focusing on chamber pieces. **Classes are Tuesday from 6:00-7:30pm**

Flute technique and chamber music level 2 - Geared towards students that have completed grades 10-12, this class will give students the opportunity to improve their skills while also focusing on chamber pieces. **Classes are Tuesday from 7:45-9:15pm**

Trumpet Masterclass (Junior High) - This course is for students that have 1-3 years of experience will cover trumpet fundamentals, breathing, rhythm, tuning etc... Participants will also work on repertoire that will be presented at the end of the course. **Classes are Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30pm**

Trumpet Masterclass (High School) - This course is for students that have 4-6 years of experience will cover trumpet fundamentals, breathing, rhythm, tuning etc... Participants will also work on repertoire that will be presented at the end of the course. **Classes Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm**

Trombone & Low Brass Masterclass (All levels) - This course is for all low brass students looking to get better and explore proper techniques, breathing, rhythm, tuning while preparing a variety of low brass specific repertoire. At the end of the course we will be putting together a video for the students to present their music to friends and family. **Classes are Fridays from 4:00-5:30pm**

Percussion and Drum Set Fundamentals for Junior High - Students will learn a series of drumming, percussion and rhythm fundamentals to help them excel when their school music programs resume. At the end of the course students will film themselves to contribute to some collaborative videos with other workshop groups as well as possibly percussion ensemble repertoire, depending on the instrumentation that the group has. The percussion classes will run for one hour and the cost will be \$15/student/session. **Classes are Mondays from 6:00-7:00pm**

Percussion and Drum Set Fundamentals for High School- Students will learn a series of drumming, percussion and rhythm fundamentals to help them excel in their school music program. At the end of the course students will film themselves to contribute to some collaborative videos with other workshop groups as well as possibly percussion ensemble repertoire, depending on the instrumentation that the group has. The percussion classes will run for one hour and the cost will be \$15/student/session. **Classes are Fridays from 5:30-6:30pm**

Bass Masterclass (All levels) - Join award winning upright and electric bassist Kodi Hutchinson for a weekly masterclass series aimed at Junior High and High School bassists primarily involved in band programs. Kodi will take students through technique, reading, learning how to move freely on the bass and performing. The program will end with students performing an online recital via Zoom for their family and peers in the final week. **Classes are Thursdays from 5:00-6:30pm**

Online Drop-in Classes

For these classes, please register no later than 10pm the day before the class. Classes can be purchased at \$15 per class or you can buy a five class pass for \$60.

Jazz Improvisation class (all instruments and all levels) - Every week **Keith O'Rourke** will lead students through learning of a different jazz standard. We will learn the chord changes, strategies for playing over them, standard vocabulary and vocabulary from great artists. We will also do some improvisation games, call and response, trading solos with the instructor and more. There will be a handout for each session, so please specify what instrument you play, so that your handout is in the correct key. If you can play some or most of your major scales, you can join these drop in sessions, with your microphone off this is a risk free way to get an introduction to jazz improvisation. **Classes are Thursday from 8:00-9:00pm**

Flute Masterclass - We're offering a flute masterclass every second Wednesday, with the first one being on Wednesday October 7. This class is a wonderful opportunity to ask **Rachael Flatt** any specific questions on how to play the flute, especially for students that were unable to enrol in the Flute Chamber music class. This is also an opportunity to perform a solo work for a group of students, or to meet Rachael if you were thinking of taking private lessons. The length of this session is dependant on how many students register each week. **Classes are Wednesday starting at 6:30pm**

Clarinet Masterclass - We're offering a clarinet masterclass every second Saturday, with the first one being on Saturday October 10. This class is a wonderful opportunity to ask **Cedric Blary** any specific questions on how to play the clarinet, such as "is there an easier way to play this passage?" or "why am I squeaking on this note?" This class is a great opportunity for all levels of clarinetists, especially for students that were unable to enrol in the Clarinet Skills music class. This is a perfect place to perform a solo work for a group of students, or to meet Cedric if you were thinking of taking private lessons. The length of this session is dependant on how many students register each week. **Classes are Saturday starting at 1:00pm**

Saxophone Masterclass - We're offering a saxophone masterclass every second Saturday, with the first one being on Saturday October 3. This class is a wonderful opportunity to ask **Keith O'Rourke** any saxophone questions, such as how to improve tone, play low notes better, tonguing, finding easier ways to play awkward repertoire, etc.... This class is open to all levels of saxophonists, especially for students that were unable to enrol in the Saxophone Ensemble classes. This is a perfect place to perform a solo work for a group of students, or to meet Keith if you were thinking of taking private lessons. The length of this session is dependant on how many students register each week. **Classes are Saturday starting at 1:00pm**

Drop-in class dates

Flute Masterclass

Oct 7 , 21, Nov 4, 18, Dec 2, 16

Clarinet Masterclass

Oct 10, 24, Nov 7, 21, Dec 5, 19

Saxophone Masterclass

Oct 3, 17, 31, Nov 14, 28, Dec 12

Jazz Improvisation

Oct 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec 3, 10



Rachael Flatt

Flute Masterclass

Flute Technique & Chamber Music level 1

Tuesdays 6:00-7:30pm

Flute Technique & Chamber Music level 2

Tuesdays 7:45-9:45pm

Based in Calgary, Rachael Flatt's range of performing experience encompasses genres ranging from orchestral and chamber music, to jazz, pop, and world music. She is regularly called upon to tour and perform in Alberta's prestigious venues including the Banff Centre as the principal flautist of the and the Bow Valley Chorus Orchestra and the Rocky Mountain Symphony Orchestra, and has performed to Spain and France for solo and chamber music engagements.

Beyond her Studio Teaching studies during her undergraduate degree at the University of Calgary, Rachael furthered her education through masterclass programmes including In Search Of Inspiration and the Aria Summer Music Academy. Her critically acclaimed private and clinical teaching skills have fostered the education of thousands of students across Western Canada over the course of her 23 year career.



Cédric Blary

Clarinet Masterclasses

Clarinet Skills Level 1

Thursdays 5:15-6:45pm

Clarinet Skills Level 2

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

Cédric Blary is a seasoned music educator and performer based in Calgary, Alberta. He has taught thousands of clarinet and bass clarinet clinics in and around Calgary over the past 20 years well as private students of all ages and levels. In recent years, he has also found much joy directing high school clarinet choirs and running full woodwind sectionals. Select performance credits include the CPO, RDSO, Theatre Calgary, Tim Williams, Steve Pineo, Heather Blush, Diana Krall, not to mention over 20 years singing bass with The Heebie-jeebees a cappella group. In 2019, Cédric was featured in the Calgary Stampede Grandstand Show performing alongside the Polyjesters He has completed a BMUS (UofC) and a diploma (MRU) in classical clarinet performance. As a music teacher, Cédric strives to share the tips and tricks he's discovered and developed over the years to make clarinet playing less difficult and more fun, with the occasional bad pun for good measure.



Keith O'Rourke

Saxophone & Improvisation Masterclasses

Beginner Saxophone Ensemble

Wednesdays 5:00-6:30pm

Intermediate Sax Ensemble

Wednesdays 6:45-8:15pm

Adult Woodwind Ensemble

Saturdays 10:00-11:30am

Jazz Improvisation

Thursdays 8:00-9:00pm

Explore the saxophone and jazz improvisation with Keith O'Rourke. These programs will address fundamental aspects to the saxophone while either learning to play jazz and improvise, or play saxophone trio or quartet repertoire. Students will record themselves on a video during the course and we'll produce a group video by putting together all of the individual parts.

Keith O'Rourke is an experienced saxophonist and educator. Since moving back to Calgary in 2008, he has taught thousands of clinics to students of all ages. Keith's 2019 recording "Baritone Madness" spent three consecutive months at #1 on the Canadian jazz charts.



André Wickenheiser

Trumpet Masterclasses

Junior High Trumpet Masterclass

Tuesdays 7:00-8:30pm

High School Trumpet Masterclass

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

Calgary based trumpeter André Wickenheiser began his musical studies at Mount Royal University where he completed an Artist Diploma in jazz performance. From there, he went on to finish both a Bachelors Degree, and Masters Degree in jazz performance at McGill University in Montreal.

André is an active freelance teacher and has taught hundreds of clinics, masterclasses, and private lessons. He is a member of the music faculty at Ambrose University, as well as the Mount Royal Conservatory.



Paul Toutant

Trombone & Low Brass Masterclass

Low Brass Masterclass (all levels)

Fridays 4:00-5:30pm

Develop your trombone, euphonium and tuba skills in a relaxed atmosphere with Paul Toutant. Proper techniques and breathing are a mainstay of any brass performance which will be explored with a variety of low brass specific repertoire. Experience low brass in all its glory!

Paul Toutant has more than 30 years experience as both a performer and educator. He is sought after as a clinician and teacher throughout Western Canada. Originally from the West Coast, he has performed in countless ensembles of all variety. He currently offers instruction on trombone as well as euphonium & tuba.



Celene Yohemas

Percussion & Drum Set Masterclasses

Percussion and Drum Set Fundamentals for Junior High
Mondays 6:00-7:00pm

Percussion and Drum Set Fundamentals for High School
Fridays 5:30-6:30pm

Join Betty Award winning composer, percussionist, drummer and educator Celene Yohemas for a series of drumming, percussion and rhythm fundamentals masterclasses to help you excel at Junior High and High School band. Celene Yohemas has been teaching beginners through advanced students for 20+ years. She has toured with bands such as bluesmyth, Y Brothers, and violinist Sophie Armstrong, internationally with orchestras, wind bands and small ensembles, and continues to play a wide selection of styles on drum set and percussion. Her classical percussion performance degree through the University of Calgary has given her many tools to help with developing school band education programs. Students will learn a variety of exercises, pieces, and techniques to suit what instrumentation each group has. Rhythm is the foundation, technique is the mortar, and music is the result.



Kodi Hutchinson

Bass Masterclass

**Bass fundamentals for Junior High and High School Players
for Upright & Electric Bass**

Thursdays 5:00-6:30pm

Join award-winning upright and electric bassist Kodi Hutchinson for a masterclass series aimed at Junior High and High School bassists primarily involved in band programs. Kodi will take students through technique, reading, learning how to move more freely on the bass and performing. Bassist for the Calgary Philharmonic (Pops Orchestra), Calgary Jazz Orchestra and touring artist with a variety of musicians, Kodi is classically trained with a career spanning a wide range of musical styles. He brings a fun approach to the bass to keep students engaged while guiding young players through the variety of techniques required for them to succeed in any type of ensemble. The program will end with students performing an online recital via zoom for their family and peers in the final week.

Private Instruction

All of our teachers are also available for online private lessons. For a referral, please contact **grouplessons@keithorourke.ca**

