The Brooklyn Conservatory of Music aims to transform lives and build community through the expressive, educational and therapeutic powers of music. Our four programs include The Community Music School, the Suzuki Program, Music Therapy and the Music Partners program. Our on-site private lessons, group classes, ensembles and music therapy take place in our Park Slope headquarters, a stately Victorian mansion with 19 Steinway Pianos and a 105-seat, state of the art recital hall. Seven days a week, our building brims with the sounds of learning, love and laughter. Outside our walls BKCM brings music education and music therapy to over 7000 students and clients city-wide.

COME — BE A PART OF OUR COMMUNITY!
Community Music School (CMS)

More than 800 students partake in CMS’s robust curriculum offerings including private lessons, group classes, ensembles and workshops. Our students represent a wide array of backgrounds and abilities, from budding musicians to virtuosos. Students are enriched, challenged, and inspired by one another and by our world-class educators, making for a dynamic and interconnected music community. CMS has created a rich, varied curriculum with fun, engaging classes that enable multiple pathways to musical enrichment and mastery.

CMS Core Values

**Community**
We strive to be a welcoming, inclusive and a safe environment rooted in mutual respect, collaboration and mentorship.

**Joy**
Our students are excited, curious and open to new experiences.

**Creativity**
Our faculty and students are encouraged to experiment, take risks, and develop independence through musical enrichment. Students cultivate personal expression and are empowered to find their individual voice.

**Quality**
We support both students and teachers in their goals for musical development and artistic achievement. Faculty and students embrace new challenges and develop tools to reflect and assess their progress.

**Perseverance**
Students, faculty and caregivers model supportive behavior, resilience and patience.
Sing and Play
BABIES (6 - 18 MONTHS) WITH CAREGIVER
TODDLERS (18 - 2.5 YEARS) WITH CAREGIVER
Sing and Play will have you bouncing and singing with your little one all day long. Our repertoire promotes motor skill development, singing, listening and playing small percussion instruments. Come sing our songs and take them with you wherever you go.

Music Adventures
3 YEARS OLD WITH CAREGIVER
Children experience music as a group through stories, songs and movement from different cultures. They play tuned and non-pitched instruments, sing songs and form kinesthetic connections while learning rhythms, patterns, shapes and textures. Caregivers benefit from learning music skills that support musical learning at home.

Instrument Adventures
4 YEARS OLD (DROP-OFF ONLY)
A popular offering at BKCM, students discover music from various parts of the world and explore a range of instruments from the wind, brass, string and percussion families. Students learn how instruments work through hands-on demonstrations, instrument-building activities and guest musicians. Singing, moving and drumming to global music is part of each weekly meeting, as students actively engage with rhythmic notation, composition, conducting and improvisation.

Ukulele Adventures
5+ YEARS OLD (DROP-OFF ONLY)
This class is for the child that is ready to learn basic chords and accompany themselves. An extension to our popular Instrument Adventures program, this class features music that students will be familiar with and are fun to learn and sing along to. The class size is purposely small so that each student gets the individual attention needed at this age. Students are required to purchase a Ukulele. We recommend the Makala MK-S Soprano Ukulele for this class.

Early Childhood Music
AGES 6 MONTHS TO 5 YEARS OLD
Music is inherent in every child, and active participation in a group setting fosters the awareness of music within us all. BKCM’s Early Childhood offerings are designed to set every young learner on a lifelong musical journey. Our teachers are supported by our on-site early childhood specialist(s) and are committed to best practices in early childhood music and development.

All classes take place in our beautiful, light-filled concert hall with plenty of space for movement and wonderful acoustics. After class, we welcome parents/caregivers and little ones to enjoy our lovely community garden. Bring a snack and enjoy a stroller-nap! On cold days, linger in the concert hall for a few minutes to say hello and connect with other grown-ups. When toddlers age out of their Early Childhood class, they can continue their musical journey in a warm, familiar space by enrolling in one of our group classes for ages 3 and up.
Guitar Friends
5-6 YEARS OLD (KINDERGARTEN AND 1ST GRADE)
Young guitarists learn how to strum chords, pick melodies and produce a satisfying sound. Students learn how to orient their fingers on the guitar fretboard and how to coordinate their left and right hand together. This class is limited to four students so that each child receives some individual attention each week. Students learn how to position the guitar on their bodies, how to care for the instrument and songs that help demonstrate the mechanics of the guitar, such as tuning.

This class runs for two 15-week semesters, each concluding with a recital. In the first semester, students learn the names of the strings, how to use a pick and rudimentary plucking technique. They learn how to identify the frets in the left hand and how to change the pitch of a note on one string. Standard notation and guitar tablature is introduced as well as basic chords and melodies from classical, pop and jazz repertoire. In the second semester, students learn how to switch between different strings and frets. An emphasis is placed on sight-reading, learning the names of the notes and recognizing tonal patterns and melodies. Each ensemble piece includes a play-along track and practice videos that keep students engaged all week long. Students are required to rent or purchase an appropriately sized acoustic guitar for this class. We strongly recommend the QC Nylon ¼ Size Guitar or similar. Guitars are provided for students in class and we recommend purchasing a guitar prior to the first class or within the first two weeks of the semester.

Instrument Friends
AGES 5 - 6 YEARS OLD
An engaging introduction to private instruction, our group instrumental “friends” classes feature a low student-to-teacher ratio so that students receive an enriching balance of individual attention and peer support. These classes are stepping stones toward formal private lessons in a lively group format. Students learn essential musicianship such as basic sight reading, notation and instrumental technique. Caregivers receive materials for learning at home. Creative activities such as improvisation, composition and interactive musical games keep the students engaged and excited about each class. Each class is a year-long program, divided into two 15-week semesters. At the end of each semester, students perform in a group recital, building confidence and performance skills in a supportive environment.

Piano Friends
5-6 YEARS OLD (KINDERGARTEN AND 1ST GRADE)
More than just an introduction to the piano, students learn essential music skills from sight-reading music to orienting their fingers on the keyboard. This program features the Music Monsters™️ curriculum designed to prepare students for private lessons through interactive note reading and ear training games. Traditional beginner songs, play-along tracks and online resources keep students practicing all week long. Students learn how to combine individual parts together for ensemble pieces, strengthening their rhythmic skills. With only four students per class, individual attention and interactive group games motivate each student to advance to the next level.

This class runs for two 15-week sessions, each concluding with a recital. In the first semester, students orient their playing on the black keys of the keyboard, learn how to move their fingers in sync and develop their understanding of pitch and rhythm through solfege and notation. In the second term, students begin to combine hands together and explore the white keys of the keyboard. Each group learns how to improvise and compose original music. These creative elements keep students engaged with the piano and encourage them to explore the instrument further.

Violin Friends
5-6 YEARS OLD (KINDERGARTEN AND 1ST GRADE)
Students begin their journey with the violin in a cheerful group setting which integrates elements of improvisation and composition and essential musicianship skills such as sight-reading, ear training and singing. For the first semester, caregivers attend each week and are provided with resources and tools for home progress. On the first day of class students are sized for the proper violin and after the first class, students are required to purchase or rent an instrument. BKCM provides a violin for students to use in class so that they can begin right away.

This class runs for two 15-week semesters, each concluding with a recital. In the first semester, students learn how to hold the violin, pluck individual strings and use the bow with the right hand. Students learn to read basic rhythmic notation, notes on the staff, identify strings and bowing directions. In the second semester, students are introduced to the left hand and learn how to change pitch on one string. In addition to beginner repertoire, students learn to combine individual parts together as an ensemble. Interactive musical games, improvisation and composition encourage students to be engaged and to have fun. At the end of these two semesters, students will be prepared for private lessons.
Private Lessons

AGES 6 YEARS TO ADULT

Private lessons are a core learning experience at BKCM and are available for every major instrument including voice. Drawing from a diverse faculty of world-class musicians and educators, we match each student to a teacher whose approach and experience fit their learning style. Our teachers design an individualized curriculum around each student’s goals and interests. Every student performs in a recital twice per year in our state-of-the-art concert hall. For guidance in finding your next instructor please call the registration desk at (718) 622-3300.

Private lesson students can take advantage of our flourishing ensemble scene with opportunities to join one of our many ensembles, from chamber music to jazz to bluegrass.

School-age private lesson students receive free enrollment in most ensembles and reduced tuition for BKCM classes and programs.

Piano:

Students learn to read and interpret music, develop proper technique, finger dexterity and ear training. Our world-class piano faculty are experienced in teaching a range of styles from classical to jazz to pop. Students perform repertoire that is suitably challenging and follows their interest, from a variety of method books, songs and composers—and all on our 19 brand-new Steinway pianos.

Guitar:

From rock and pop to classical and jazz, beginners of all ages learn how to properly care for and tune the guitar, pick melodies and strum chords. Our youngest beginners start on appropriately sized acoustic guitars that fit their hands and fingers. Older students learn to read and interpret standard notation, earn advanced chords and finger patterns and build skills in improvisation and accompaniment for singing.

Strings:

BKCM offers lessons in violin, viola, cello and bass, under the guidance of experienced teachers whose expertise ranges from classical to bluegrass to jazz. Our teachers take a gentle approach to the fundamentals of string playing, such as bow technique, posture and body awareness so that students may achieve excellence in pitch and tone. In the early years, teachers and caregivers work together to assure that the proper technique is being practiced at home and that a suitable practice routine is in place.

Brass & Woodwinds:

BKCM offers lessons on trumpet, trombone, French horn, saxophone, clarinet, flute, oboe and bassoon. Brass and woodwind lessons are generally suitable for students ages 9 and up. Students develop a foundation for an excellent sound by playing duets and studying breath control, articulation and expression. A great supplement to participation in elementary, middle and high school band programs, our brass and woodwind students are invited to take advantage of our plentiful ensemble offerings, including Jazz, Chamber Music and Brass Band.

Drums & Percussion:

Our percussion students jam on familiar songs and rhythms, including rock and roll, classical, Jazz, African, Latin American, South American and contemporary music. Students learn drum notation, rhythmic studies, limb independence and stick technique. We encourage our drum students to join one of our many ensembles. Students prepare and perform for recitals with a live ensemble, giving them a real-world experience as a drummer.

Voice:

Specializing in genres ranging from musical theatre and opera to pop, rock and jazz, our voice faculty focus on building solid vocal technique and developing habits that will help keep your voice healthy and strong. Students gain music skills such as sight-reading, matching pitch, harmonizing and interpreting songs and have the opportunity to prepare for performances and recitals with a live accompanist. Private voice lessons are recommended for students ages 8 and up.
Music Theory For Youth And Teens

Students begin in level 1 learning note identification, ear training and rhythmic diction. They explore chords, scales, harmony and melody and begin to explore concepts such as key signatures and time signatures. In level 2 students build on their basic knowledge and go deeper into the mechanics of how the western scale is constructed, the circle of 5ths, key centers, form and analysis of scores. In level 3, students explore 4 part writing, Bach progressions and advanced theory concepts such as 12-tone rows and minimalism.

LEVEL 1 • AGES 8-10 with 1-2 Years Private Lesson Experience
LEVEL 2 • AGES 10-12 with 2-3 Years Private Lesson Experience
LEVEL 3 • AGES 12-16 with 3-4 Years Private Lesson Experience

Every music theory class includes active listening, analysis, composition and notation. This course is offered as a 30 week, year long program. Students taking private lessons at BKCM pay only a materials fee and this course is open to any student studying music outside the conservatory. Students who complete a year of theory will be prepared to enter advanced middle school and high school music programs.

Composition Club

For the budding songwriter and future film composer, this class will ignite students’ imagination and provide a solid foundation in music theory. Students explore concepts such as theme, variation, song-form and orchestration and interact with online notation software so they can continue to experiment and compose at home. Students hear their music each week, performed in class by faculty and students, gaining immediate feedback on their work.

LEVEL 1 • AGES 8 – 11 with 1-2 Years Private Lesson Experience
LEVEL 2 • AGES 11 – 14 with 2-4 Years Private Lesson Experience

In Level 1, students compose melodies and rhythms while gaining skills in notation, sight reading and ear training. In level 2 students explore form, orchestration and edit their own scores. Each semester concludes with a final performance of students’ original compositions with a live professional ensemble. This unique opportunity to interact and collaborate with professional musicians, gives students a real-world experience in composition. No prior experience in composition is necessary for this class, but we recommend that students have two years in private lessons prior to taking this course.

Theory & Composition

Our theory and composition classes in the community music school are more than just a supplement to private lessons. Leveled by age and experience; our beginner programs will help students advance in their private lessons while building essential musicianship skills and developing their creativity in a fun, low pressure group setting. The more advanced classes are aligned with International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement music curricula so that students will be prepared to enter advanced high school music programs. Our registrars, private lesson teachers and program directors will guide you to the right class for your student.
Theory Of Harmony *(Advanced Level)*

This course is designed for advanced musicians who have had previous experience studying theory and harmony. This introductory course to the Schoenberg Theory of Harmony will cover topics including chord voicing, 4 part writing, voice leading, progressions and the preparation and resolution of dissonance. Each class will include a discussion, writing and performance portion. This class will prepare students who are looking to pursue advanced graduate degrees in composition, theory or performance.

Beginner Piano For Adults

Open to adults who are either completely new to the piano have had some prior experience at a beginner level. In a relaxed small group setting, students receive individual attention and helpful resources to familiarize them with the piano. Students orient their fingers on the keyboard and explore solfege, notation, pitch and rhythm. Students learn how to coordinate switching from one note to the next in rhythm while learning chords and familiar melodies. Instructors advise on how to combine hands together and build finger strength and agility through patterns and finger exercises. Come join in on the fun and take your first step towards learning the piano.

LECTURE CLASSES

Jazz And Gender

This philosophy, sociology and history class considers the unsung heroes in jazz (including women and musicians identifying as LGBTQIA+ and gender as a construct in our society. Through listening, conversation, and reflection, the 10-week introduction course will be taught by Sarah Elizabeth Charles and Caroline Davis, leaders in their profession as Jazz musicians and teaching artists. This class is open to all and no prior knowledge of Jazz is required.

An Introduction to Indian Classical Music

This course will introduce students to the building blocks of Indian classical music (Ragas). No previous technical knowledge of music is necessary. Students will gain an understanding of how to listen and appreciate the music by studying cornerstone artists, the style’s historical evolution and technical development through lecture, discussion, videos, readings and deep listening. Students will leave these classes with tools to gain deeper appreciation of Indian classical and Raga-inspired music, as well as an understanding of how to approach listening to musical styles from Eastern descent.
Ensembles

BKCM offers a wide range of ensembles for students of all ages, levels and experience. Students are motivated to practice repertoire outside of class and encouraged by their peers to take on new challenges. Taught by experts in the field, our ensembles include performance opportunities and a chance to connect with a community of other instrumentalists who are interested in developing their artistry. Students enrolled in our private lessons are eligible to join many ensembles at a highly discounted rate. Contact our registration desk for more information.

YOUTH AND TEEN ENSEMBLES

Piano Ensemble
8-10 YEARS OLD Students have fun playing individual parts that combine to create an ensemble sound. Beginner pianists rarely have the chance to perform in an ensemble with their peers. This ensemble experience is essential for all musicians and pianists to develop musicianship and connection to the instrument. Students are encouraged and motivated by their peers to practice their parts. For students who have two years of private lessons, this class will improve listening skills and develop students’ ability to play independent parts. The ability to play together with others will improve rhythm, sight reading, finger technique and expressive tools such as dynamics and articulation. Students take part in crafting arrangements ideas, composing original songs and exploring improvisation. Piano ensemble is a creative and engaging experience that all piano students are encouraged to take part in. Piano Ensemble prepares students to join chamber groups, jazz ensembles and explore new instruments.

Guitar Ensemble
8-10 YEARS OLD Guitar ensemble is an opportunity for young guitarists with two+ years of private lessons who wish to take their guitar playing to the next level. The guitar is a versatile instrument that is capable of playing harmony, melody and rhythm. Multiple guitars in one group is a satisfying sonic experience that students will love. This ensemble will improve student’s sight reading, chord knowledge and build right hand and left hand technique. Students must have some prior knowledge with reading notation as students will work on group guitar repertoire including classical, pop and jazz selections and learn valuable ensemble skills such as blend, expression, soloing and accompaniment. If you’re ready to take your guitar playing to the next level, this is the class for you.

String Ensemble
8-10 YEARS OLD In addition to private lessons, playing in an ensemble with other strings is essential for students to focus on sound production, sight-reading, tuning, rhythm and setup of the instrument. Young players develop their bow technique, expression and dynamics in a fun group experience. We recommend a minimum of two+ years experience on violin, viola, cello or bass to join this ensemble. Students practice and perform a variety of repertoire from classical to pop and jazz. Playing similar and individual parts builds confidence and joining with other strings is a satisfying sonic experience. Students are encouraged to practice ensemble repertoire with their private lesson teacher.

Bluegrass jam
9-16 YEARS OLD Vocalists and string, guitar and mandolin players are invited to experience the historic American music of bluegrass. Taught by expert bluegrass musicians, in a fun jam-style approach, students experience the joys of leading, improvising and accompanying traditional folk songs and old-time music. Students who join this class should be familiar with G, C and D major scales and have a minimum of three years of private lessons on their instrument. Workshops culminate in a jam-style performance at BCKM and at NYC bluegrass music festivals.

Big Bad Brass Band
11-18 YEARS OLD Calling all brass, winds and percussion players who want to take their playing to the next level and join us in a rocking good time. Directed by Grammy winning multi-instrumentalist, bandleader and composer, Peter Apfelbaum, this band plays and performs brass band music from all corners of the globe, including pop songs, spirituals, funk grooves and dance hits. From traditional New Orleans hot jazz to Stevie Wonder to Prince, this band is always a blast. Students help craft the arrangements with parts that are tailored and specially arranged for all levels of experience. This ensemble is ideal for students who have 2+ years of experience on their instrument.

Intro to DJ
12-18 YEARS OLD A fun introduction to the fundamental and creative elements of DJ and what it takes to put together a DJ set. Students learn mixing, scratching and drum breaks along with song structure, musical phrasing and DJ notation. This class explores how drum beats are put together in a variety of DJ styles including Hip Hop, EDM, House, Dub-Step, Trap and Pop. Students are encouraged to develop their own style and blend of music. Through listening and discussion, this class offers a perspective on the innovators of DJ music and the producer DJs of today.
ADULT & TEEN ENSEMBLES

Community Klezmer Band

12 YEARS OLD TO ADULT Strings, winds, brass, percussion and accordion players are invited to join our celebrated Community Klezmer Band in the Klezmer capital of the world—New York City. Explore a century's worth of Klezmer, examining how the music grew and changed with the migration of Jews from Eastern Europe to North America. No previous background in Klezmer or reading music is required and learning by ear is encouraged and charts and written resources are available for those who would like to read notation. Students perform alongside master Klezmer musicians in events throughout the year such as the annual Klezmer Hanukkah Party.

ADULT ENSEMBLES

Jazz Instrumental Lab

ADULTS In this weekly small group ensemble, jazz musicians at an intermediate level have the opportunity to collaborate, improvise, rehearse and develop the confidence for public performance. Working with a professional jazz musician coach, students work within a classic jazz repertoire highlighting blues forms and standards from the American songbook, while digging deep into the world of jazz improvisation.

Brooklyn Conservatory Community Orchestra

ADULTS Experience the joys of performing the great masterpieces of the orchestral repertoire with the BCCO, a passionate group of dedicated amateurs and professionals. Open by audition to adult orchestral musicians from intermediate to advanced levels, the BCCO presents four to six concerts for the community throughout the year.

Chamber Music

Youth, Teens, and Adults

10 YEARS OLD TO ADULT Teens and adults who have had at least three years experience on the piano, strings, woodwinds, brass or voice are invited to join one of our chamber ensembles. Each ensemble is supported by a professional coach and rehearses weekly, playing repertoire that includes a variety of genres and styles and are tailored to participants’ interest and skill levels. Chamber groups perform at the Brooklyn Conservatory and at community events throughout the city. This program requires a live audition so that students can be placed in the appropriate ensemble, paired by instrument type, proficiency level and musical interests.
Brooklyn Harmonics Teens
12-18 YEARS OLD This acclaimed singing ensemble performs music across the genres of pop, rock and jazz, arranged especially for members’ voices and skill levels. Students develop the skills necessary to be a part of a top-shelf vocal ensemble that features dynamic arrangements and close vocal harmony. Students learn repertoire interpretation, well-balanced section singing and soloing, preparing them for the next level of group and solo singing. This course is open to students by audition only and need-based scholarships are available.

Beginner Vocal Class
16 YEARS OLD TO ADULT If you’ve never had formal training or would like to start singing again, this course will help students discover vocal technique, warm-up exercises and guided meditations that bring an awareness to the body in preparation for singing. Taught by expert vocal coach, Joy Askew who is active in the pop, jazz and rock world, this class will expand both singing and speaking voices through connection of mind, body and emotion.

Vocal Workshop for Singers and Singer-Songwriters
16 YEARS OLD TO ADULT For singers who have experience singing in groups and solo, this workshop is designed to develop a personal approach to interpreting songs, build performance skills In a small, nurturing environment, students develop vocal technique and breath control, discover warm–up exercises and guided meditations that bring an awareness to the body in preparation for singing. This is designed to build your confidence in performance and getting positive feedback from world renowned experienced, in every genre professional singer, song-writer, arranger, Joy Askew.

Voice & Musical Theatre

Musical Theatre Friends
6–7 YEARS OLD (1ST AND 2ND GRADE) For our youngest singers, this introduction to classic musical theatre repertoire combines engaging music theatre games, music skills and choreography. With a live pianist and expert musical theatre coach, students learn performance and rehearsal techniques through a wide range of Broadway hits. Each semester ends with a final performance.

Musical Theatre Workshop Level 1
8-10 YEARS OLD Young performers learn healthy singing techniques—including breath control, posture and diction—while exploring classic and contemporary musical theatre repertoire. Students learn to make motivated choices on stage, build essential audition techniques, performance and rehearsal etiquette. Students explore a range of voice types and characters in a fun group setting. Each semester ends with a final performance.

Musical Theatre Workshop Level 2
9-12 YEARS OLD For students with some experience in musical theatre, young performers expand healthy singing techniques—including breath control, posture and diction—while exploring classic and contemporary musical theatre repertoire. Students learn to make motivated choices on stage, build essential audition techniques, and performance and rehearsal etiquette. This class takes a deeper dive into narrative structure including character development and setting. Along with tools for home practice such as rehearsal tracks and sheet music, students examine original scores and cast recordings.

Brooklyn Conservatory Chorale
ADULTS Now in its 15th season, this dynamic 40-plus-member choir performs a rich variety of musical styles, both a cappella and with a variety of accompaniment. Conducted by Dr. Nick Nicassio, this ensemble meets on Monday evenings and performs two to three concerts per season for the community. Members develop their vocal technique and singing voices through exciting and vibrant repertoire from the past and present. Members build essential skills in matching pitch, singing harmony, breath support, sight-reading and expanding vocal range. Members may join annually for the entire season or by the semester for a half of a season. If you are passionate about singing and choral music, this group is for you. *New for the 2020–21 season, see our updated menu of online and socially distant chorale offerings.
Amy Winehouse Jazz Program

Pre-teens, teens and adults explore the world of jazz and improvisation, learning repertoire that includes classic jazz standards, contemporary works, original compositions and music from around the world. Students work closely with professional jazz faculty and perform at private concerts, public recitals and community events. With an average student-teacher ratio of five to one, students receive personalized attention in an intimate group setting. Students enrolled in private lessons at BKCM may be eligible for reduced tuition enrollment; contact our registration desk for more information. Thanks to our generous donor, The Amy Winehouse Foundation, this program is open to all students and need-based scholarships are available.

Amy Winehouse Jazz Explorers (Late Elementary)
GIRLS - 9-11 YEARS OLD (4TH GRADE - 6TH GRADE)
Taught by accomplished female musicians who are active in the New York City jazz community, Jazz Explorers empowers girls, growing their musicianship and confidence through improvisation, ensemble playing, performance opportunities and mentorship. One year of experience on their instrument is encouraged, but no prior experience in jazz is necessary.

Jazz Travelers (Middle & High School)
11-14 YEARS OLD • 6TH GRADE - 9TH GRADE
Improvisation and creativity are at the center of this jazz program, where students learn classic jazz songs and an eclectic mix of repertoire. Students learn blues songs, classics from the great American songbook and jazz standards in a wide range of styles such as swing, funk, bebop and Afro-Cuban. Students develop and perform their own compositions, deepen their improvisation skills and gain a basic understanding of jazz theory. This program features a mentorship model, where teachers and students often perform together. Students must have a minimum of one year experience on their instrument, but no prior experience in jazz is necessary—only a willingness to be creative, have fun and work as a team.

Creative Music Ensemble (High School)
14-18 YEARS OLD • 9TH-12TH GRADE
Students learn advanced jazz repertoire and theory and are encouraged to compose, arrange and rehearse their own music in class. Students learn how to be articulate, engaging and thoughtful band-leaders and side musicians. Students must have at least three years of experience on their instrument and a minimum of one year of jazz experience. This course will prepare students for advanced high school and college level jazz programs.
Suzuki

AGES 3.5 AND UP

The Suzuki method is recognized worldwide as a highly effective approach for teaching children the language of music. Generations of students have begun a lifelong journey of musical enrichment through this approach.

The world-class Suzuki Program at the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music offers programs in violin, viola, cello, flute, guitar, piano and bass, and incorporates three essential elements of an instrumental music education: private lessons, theory classes and group classes. Parent involvement is an integral component of the Suzuki approach. By learning and practicing alongside their children, parents function as role models and provide encouragement.

Suzuki is an annual program that requires a full-year commitment. The enrollment process begins in January for enrollment in fall the same year and includes a required parent orientation, an observation and an intake interview.

Suzuki Early Childhood Education (SECE)

AGES 0-4 YEARS

A gateway to our world-class Suzuki Program, children and parents learn and interact with other families through music in this class, gently developing motor, pitch, singing, listening and socio-emotional skills. Teachers lead families in songs and activities that are designed to engage children in a calm and focused manner. Children sing, walk or dance with scarves to the pulse of the rhyme, song or drumbeat, use mallets with a variety of instruments, take turns rolling a ball, enact song lyrics and read books.

Expecting parents and their partners are welcome to attend for free as visitors. Please sign up (limit one family per section).

A trial class is hosted during the first class of every calendar month so families can see if the class is right for them.
Music Partners

Music Partners is the Conservatory’s music education outreach program, established in 1988 to address a critical need in our communities: the rising number of New York City public schools offering little or no music instruction. When alarming numbers of New York City public schools eliminated their music programs in the 1970s and 1980s, BKCM stepped in to help to fill the void. Today, that need is more critical than ever. For 31 years continuously, we have been placing highly skilled and dedicated music educators in city schools, as well as senior centers, childcare centers and other community settings — expanding our reach to 5,000 students yearly. With curriculum options that include live and online instruction for early childhood music, world percussion, recorder, musical theater, band, percussion, strings, guitar, ukulele, chorus and songwriting, Music Partners works closely with administrators and PTAs to tailor programs to each site’s needs, priorities and budget.

Learn more about the Music Partners Program at bkcm.org/musicpartners, or contact program director Dorothy Savitch at dorothy.savitch@bkcm.org.

Music Therapy

Music Therapy is an evidenced-based clinical discipline where music is used to affect positive development and foster creative expression in children and adults. In addition to achieving clinical developmental goals and improving social functioning, music therapy provides opportunities for working through problems and feelings in a safe, creative medium with a trained and credentialed therapist.

BKCM offers music therapy in individual and group settings, enabling clients to grow through the transformative experience of making music within a therapeutic relationship. Music Therapy is an active process where clients and therapists use a variety of instruments and specific music interventions, to meet our clients’ needs and goals in a positive, constructive and supportive relationship.

Visit bkcm.org/musictherapy to learn more about our Music Therapy Program, which includes sessions at BKCM and at schools and agencies throughout Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island and Manhattan.

Please contact Christina Sterrett Caliz for further information and placement in the Music Therapy Program christina.sterrett.caliz@bkcm.org, 212–622–3300 ext. 212.

Please contact Music Therapy Director, Toby Williams, for further information on setting up an outreach program at your school or community organization. toby.williams@bkcm.org, 212–622–3300 ext. 216.