



Workshop Schedule with Descriptions

Note: keep in mind that posted levels can be somewhat fluid depending on the instructor, the subject, and the make up of the class attendees; i.e. a class listed as “Confident Beginner” can be suitable for a Beginning or an Intermediate student. You do not need to pre-register for any of the workshops, just show up and then feel free to move to a different class if the one you’re in doesn’t suit you.

UKULELE LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS

Beginner: This level has been playing for up to 6 months and has learned 3 – 4 chords but hesitates in between chord changes to move the fingers to the next location.

Confident Beginner: This player knows a handful of chords and can move from one chord to another without pausing. Has trouble with barre chords, and has developed a strum or two or a basic finger pattern for picking.

Intermediate: This player can hold a steady rhythm, and is competent with a variety of basic chords (for example: A, Am, Bb, B7, C, C7, D, Dm, E7, Em, G, and G7). Understands simple chord progressions (such as I, IV, V chords), can sing and strum at the same time, and learns chords to simple tunes fairly quickly.

Advanced Intermediate: This player can hear I, IV, and V chords, has mastered some chord inversions, knows there is life above the fifth, and has been there with barre or four-fingered moveable chords. Plays lead and backup easily with others and keeps steady rhythm.

Baritone-Friendly (BF)

Classes labels as such can be enjoyed by baritone players. You should know the baritone equivalent of the standard ukulele chords used in the classes as they may not be provided on handouts. If a class is not listed as BF, you may be able to use a ukulele capo.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY, MAY 10

2:00 - 3:15

Cynthia Lin: Cynthia's Secret to Open Mic Confidence

As a singer, dancer, actor, and musician, Cynthia has passionately studied the art of performance. Her biggest secret: with practice, anyone can learn to be comfortable and confident on stage. Confidence as a performer comes from knowing your material, connecting authentically with the story you are telling, and learning to focus more on being present than on how the audience will react. Cynthia shares her favorite tricks for practicing and preparing for a confident performance, getting past fear and self-judgment, and learning to relax and enjoy the experience. Cynthia will invite a handful of willing participants to apply these techniques in front of the group. (All levels) (BF)

Abe Lagrimas, Jr: Tone, Sustain, and Articulation "Mahana"

This workshop focuses on various right hand fingerpicking techniques that will bring your ukulele to its fullest potential. Applying these skills will improve your tone and allow your instrument to sing with Mahana (warmth) and maximum sustain, which will help you become a more musical and dynamic musician. Participants will learn excerpts from one of Abe's original compositions entitled "Mahana". (Fingerpicking using the thumb, first, and second fingers. High-G is preferred but not required.) (Intermediate)

Craig Chee & Sarah Maisel: Group Play

You've been playing the 'ukulele for a while now. You go to your uke jam every week or so and all of you play the same song every week; it's time to spice up those songs and get your group sounding better than ever! This class is perfect for those who are looking to enhance their chord vocabulary and learn how to interact and play with others in a group. This workshop is great for small or large groups, and you are guaranteed to learn a lot and, most importantly, have fun. (All levels)

FRIDAY, MAY 10

3:45 - 5:00

Cynthia Lin: Intro to Voice - Your First Voice Lesson

In addition to teaching ukulele, Cynthia is a vocal coach. Cynthia teaches her own vocal method called "mindbodyvoice", which applies a mindful approach to breathing, vocalizing, articulation, and expression. Learn the fundamentals of how your voice works, and learn how to access your vocal power in speaking and singing. (All levels) (BF)

Abe Lagrimas, Jr: Bossa Nova for the Ukulele: "The Girl From Ipanema"

This workshop will transport you and your ukulele to the beaches of Rio de Janeiro where you will learn how to play the Bossa Nova. Here, you will learn about the unique rhythms and syncopation of the Bossa Nova using both strumming and fingerpicking

patterns, transforming yourself into a master Brazilian musician like Antonio Carlos Jobim. (Advanced Intermediate)

Kirk Jones: Double Your Pleasure, Double Your Fun with Double-Stops

What are double stops and how do you use them? Kirk will show you how they are used in popular songs from all eras and also how you can use them to add variety to the songs you already know. Songs include “Brown Eyed Girl”, “Margaritaville”, “Rhiannon”, “Dream On”, and more. (Confident Beginner and up)

SATURDAY, MAY 11

11:00 - 12:15

Grace van’t Hof: Four Strings and the Truth

This progressive class will dive into the history and impact of uke and Hawaiian guitar music on early 20th century String Band Music and American Country music. We’ll touch on Jimmie Rodgers, old-time fiddle backup, the Nashville numbers system, and learn some finger-style soloing and rhythm techniques in the styles of country greats; all while learning a little bit about early 20th century American popular music. (Intermediate)

Kirk Jones: Easiest Barre Chord Ever - “Moondance” with One Finger

Intimidated by barre chords? Kirk will teach you how to play the entire song “Moondance” by Van Morrison using only one finger. This will set the foundation for you to start playing barre chords and playing up the neck. (Beginner - Confident Beginner)

Sarah Maisel: Doo Wop ’Til You Drop

Sarah’s most popular class! This class focuses on popular progressions, including Doo-Wop, Blues, and Pop. With those progressions, we will also discuss holding the instrument, barre chords, and creating efficiency while playing. It’s a perfect class for the advanced beginner though experienced ‘ukulele player. (Confident Beginner - Intermediate) (BF)

Yurtfolk: Latin American Cousins to the Ukulele

An introduction to ukulele-like instruments from the Americas. Learn some common strumming techniques borrowed from the playing styles of each instrument.

Venezuelan Cuatro - Strumming Technique: frenado

Peruvian Charango - Strumming Technique: tremolo

Mexican Vihuela - Strumming Technique: un mánico marichi

Mexican Jarana - Strumming Technique: abanico

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Craig Chee: Boot Camp

Craig's most popular workshop! Craig's ever adapting Boot Camp will dive into a ton of exercises that will help strengthen and quicken your fingers as well as focus on your tone. We will then show how these exercises are applied to intermediate and even advanced techniques to take you to the next level! 'Ukulele beginners to intermediates will have lots to chew on as there are many variations for all levels. (*There will be a follow up video that will be created to go over the important elements as well as expand on some of the ideas brought up during the workshop.) (All levels) (BF)

Abe Lagrimas, Jr: Creating Rhythms - Pop, Jazz, and Funk

Ever get tired of "D DU UDU"? In this workshop, you will learn how to actively listen to any piece of music and create your own strumming patterns. We'll listen to three songs in different styles and collectively come up with our own customized patterns that are unique and appropriate to the style. (Intermediate) (BF)

HoAloha Polynesian Dance Group: Beginning Family Hula

Learn the basics of hula in this fun, family-friendly workshop. (All ages and levels)

SATURDAY, MAY 11

3:45 - 5:00

Grace van't Hof: Baritone Country Jam

We'll get the breakdown on the uke in country music while we also work through an introduction to the baritone uke. Yeah, the tuning is different, but you'll be surprised how much you know already and how exciting the lower register is for backing up classic country tunes! (Confident Beginner) (BF)

Craig Chee: The Percussive Side of the 'Ukulele

Craig loves showcasing how percussive the 'ukulele can be. We take a look at muting and scratching to bring a whole new element to your 'ukulele playing! A fun and addicting workshop to create more sound and texture with your 'ukulele. (*There will be a follow up video that will be created to go over the important elements as well as expand on some of the ideas brought up during the workshop.) (All levels) (BF)

Sarah Maisel: Intro to Jazz

Ever been intimidated by Jazz? Don't worry, this class will be a lot of fun as we go

through some popular Standards and progressions. We'll show you how easy (or hard) you can make these tunes. You must be able to play all of your basic chords in order to get the most out of this class. (Confident Beginner - Intermediate) (BF)

Kirk Jones: Famous Intros

Learn famous intros to songs you love such as "Proud Mary", "Take On Me", "Down On the Corner", and more. Add new dimensions to your playing. (Confident Beginner)

SATURDAY MUD LITE ACTIVITIES (Donations accepted and appreciated)

- 10:00 Opening Strum
- 10:45 Beginning Ukulele Part 1
- 11:00 Latin American Cousins to the Ukulele
- 12:15 Lunch Strum with Cynthia Lin
- 1:00 Family Music: Around the World w/Yurtfolk
- 2:00 Family Hula with HoAloha Polynesian Dance Group
- 3:00 PT Strummers performance
- 3:30 Wilson Family Ukulele Obsession performance
- 4:00 Two-Chord Strum w/Punch Drunk
- 4:30 The Amazing John Payne performance
- 11 - 4:00 Flight Open Mic