ANDERSON UNIVERSITY
School of Music & Performing Arts

SUMMER STUDIES IN MUSIC EDUCATION

SUMMER 2027

Choral Pedagogy

June 1-4 & 7-10, 2027
Virtual: 5:00–8:45 p.m. EST

Instructor: Dr. Theodore Hicks

First Steps in Music

June 14-18, 2027
8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. EST

Instructor: Lillie Feierabend

First Steps and Orff

June 14-17, 2027
5:00–8:45 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Joani Brandon

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CHORAL PEDAGOGY (VIRTUAL)

June 1-4 & 7-10, 2027 | 5:00–8:45 p.m. EST | 2 credit hours

An integrated study of vocal pedagogy within the choral setting, focusing on the development of healthy, expressive singing across all stages of vocal maturation (ages 7–18). Emphasis is placed on acoustics, vocal function, the child and adolescent voice (including the changing voice), diction, and rehearsal strategies that promote ensemble cohesion and individual vocal growth in public school contexts. Students will apply pedagogical principles through lab teaching, rehearsal design, and repertoire selection.

Dr. Theodore Hicks is Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Anderson University, where he conducts the university's choral ensembles and teaches courses in conducting, aural skills, vocal and choral pedagogy, and music education. He also serves as Director of Music at North United Methodist Church in Indianapolis. He holds the Doctor of Arts degree in Choral Conducting from Ball State University, with a secondary emphasis in Voice Performance, and his research explores the intersections of vocal acoustics, resonance, and ensemble singing. His scholarly interests center on choral pedagogy, vocal acoustics, ensemble resonance, and the application of voice science to choral rehearsal and performance. In addition to his academic and church appointments, he is active as a conductor, clinician, arranger, and music educator. He holds a B.M. from Anderson University (2010), an M.M.degree from Ball State University (2019), and a D.A. Ball State University (2025).



FIRST STEPS IN MUSIC

June 14–18, 2027 | 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. EST | 2 credit hours

The First Steps in Music National Certification Course prepares educators to nurture young children's musical development through three essential dimensions: becoming tuneful, developing the ability to hear and sing tunes; beatful, experiencing and responding to the steady pulse and rhythmic organization of music; and artful, developing expressive sensitivity and meaningful emotional connections to music. This national certification course provides a bridge from research to practice by demonstrating how a natural curriculum, rich in the repertoire of traditional children's songs, rhymes, games, and dances, can develop young children's musical intelligence, singing and movement skills, and expressive sensitivities. Participants will explore effective principles, techniques, and materials designed to discover and maximize the innate musical potential of children from birth through the early elementary years. Three years of sample lessons are provided, thoughtfully balancing repetition and variety to create engaging, developmentally appropriate, and musically meaningful learning experiences for young children.

Lillie Feierabend is widely recognized for her work with young children and her dedication to instilling a lifelong love of music. An early childhood and general music educator for more than forty years, she also served for eighteen years as a conductor of the Connecticut Children's Chorus. Lillie has twice been honored as Teacher of the Year for her inclusive and innovative music programs and received the Connecticut Music Educators Association Outstanding Elementary Music Educator Award in 2008. A sought-after clinician at local, state, and national conferences, she has presented nearly 400 engaging and thought-provoking sessions focused on music and movement development, conducted regional honor choirs, and taught weeklong workshops throughout the country. Lillie is a founding and lifetime member of the Feierabend Association for Music Education (FAME) and has served as an endorsed Teacher Trainer in both First Steps in Music and Conversational Solfege since 2012. She is also an active member of NAfME, OAKE, CMEA, AOSA, and ACDA.



FIRST STEPS AND ORFF

June 14–17, 2027 | 5:00–8:45 p.m. | 1 credit hour

This course connects the two approaches of First Steps and Orff. First Steps in Music is a research-based approach to developing tuneful, beatful and artful children. Orff Schulwerk helps tap into the creative nature of children through singing, saying, dancing, playing, and creating. This course will explore how to weave these two models together and create experiences for children in the music classroom. Active participation in both music and movement activities will be the basis for most instruction.

Dr. Joani Brandon is a music educator at Leawood and Red Rocks Elementary Schools in Colorado. Joani previously taught in Carmel-Clay Schools (Indiana) and Wilmington Schools (Ohio). She is a Professor of Music Emeritus at Anderson University, where she served for twenty-two years. Joani completed her bachelor's degree from Anderson University (she received the 2024 Outstanding Music Alumni Award), her master's degree from Butler University, and her doctorate from Boston University. Joani has Kodaly certification and Feierabend certification from the Hartt School, Orff Schulwerk certification and Dalcroze training from Anderson University, and a certificate from the Orff Institute International Summer Course in Salzburg, Austria. She is a past president of the Rocky Mountain chapter of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association (AOSA) and is a past national president of the Feierabend Association for Music Education. Joani co-authored First Steps in Music with Orff Schulwerk (GIA Publications, 2017) and co-authored Conversational Solfege with Orff Schuhwerk (GIA Publications, 2026).



ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

We will also be offering core classes from our MME program, including:

- Analytical Techniques (Virtual; Asynchronous June 1-July 2),
- Seminar in World Music (Virtual; Asynchronous June 1-July 2), and
- Bibliography & Research (On Campus; June 21-25 from 8:00 – 4:30 p.m.)

TUITION AND REGISTRATION

Tuition for any course you are taking for graduate credit is estimated at $545 per credit hour.

If you take First Steps and Orff for credit, the cost is $545, and you will receive one hour of graduate credit. If you audit First Steps and Orff for no credit, the cost is $415 (no graduate credit).

If you take Choral Pedagogy and/or First Steps in Music for credit, the cost is $1,090, and you will receive two hours of graduate credit. If you audit Choral Pedagogy and/or First Steps in Music for no graduate credit, the cost is $830.

An on-campus materials fee of $35 will be added to each on-campus course taken.

Online registration is available at ***anderson.edu/music-studies***. A $100 nonrefundable enrollment deposit is due at the time of registration, which will be applied toward the tuition cost and will hold your place in the course. The remaining balance will be charged to your student account and billed electronically. For questions about registration and payment, contact Michelle Holmes at ***msholmes@anderson.edu*** or **(765) 641-4543**.

REGISTER TODAY AT
anderson.edu/summerstudies

HOUSING

Housing is available on-campus at Anderson University upon request at a rate of $50 per night per person, and must be secured through an online registration syste. Linens are available for an additional fee. For questions about housing, contact Amanda McCulloch at ***events@anderson.edu*** or **(765) 641-4144**.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about summer studies in music education, contact Dr. Michelle Bade at ***mbade@anderson.edu*** or visit ***anderson.edu/music-studies***.

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