



2025/2026

Member Handbook

Mission Statement:

Flute Frenzy's mission is to provide gratifying and educational ensemble experiences to flutists of all ages along with opportunities to publicly perform diverse repertoire on the instruments of the flute family.

WELCOME

Our Programs

Overture Flute Class runs from January through May and is open to 5th and 6th grade flutists in their first year playing flute, who can read and play at least 5 notes. Taught by Sean Arawjo, students will improve fundamental flute skills including hand position, tone, note identification, and rhythms, aiming to prepare students to enter the Prelude Flute Choir. Students must provide their own C flute. For the 2025-26 season, this class is free for the first 15 students who register.

Prelude Flute Choir, directed by Katie Draney, is an ensemble program primarily for middle school flutists. Students receive instruction in tone production, technique, music theory, and beginning ensemble skills, including directing themselves and tuning in a group. Students must provide their own C flute, and will have the opportunity to play piccolo, alto, and bass flutes.

Capriccio Flutes, the high school flute choir, continues to build on the skills learned in the Prelude flute choir. Directed by Katie Draney, students will learn to perform as a chamber ensemble, without a conductor, and will be given opportunities for community service by giving concerts in and around Williamsburg. Students must provide their own C flute, and will have the opportunity to play piccolo, alto, and bass flutes.

The **Fantasia Flutes** include adult and college-age amateur and professional flutists. Applicants should have a basic knowledge of flute playing and have previous ensemble experience. This group offers opportunities for both large and small ensemble performances. Participants must supply their own C flutes, and will have the opportunity to play piccolo, alto, bass, and contrabass flutes.

All groups give several public performances during the year and perform at various community events, such as the Williamsburg Farmers Market and An Occasion for the Arts. Youth choirs perform both as individual and combined ensembles.

2025-2026 Schedule

All rehearsals will take place on Wednesdays at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 7479 Richmond Rd, Williamsburg 23188.

Overture: 5:30-6:30 p.m. (Spring only)	Capriccio: 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Prelude: 5:45-7:00 p.m.	Fantasia: 7:00-8:45 p.m.

Zoom will be used as a back-up at rehearsals. Members who are sick should attend rehearsal via Zoom if they are well enough. If they are not, they should watch the Zoom recording before the next in-person rehearsal.

Schedule Highlights: ([View the complete Planning Calendar Here](#))

W Sept 3, 2025: 1st Rehearsal (Meet and Greet for all choirs: 6:45-7)

Sa Oct 4, 11:15am: Fall Concert (An Occasion For The Arts Festival)

W Nov 26: Thanksgiving Break - No Rehearsal

Su Dec 14, 2:30pm: Winter Concert, all choirs (King of Glory Church)

Dec 17 - 31: Winter Break

W Jan 7: 1st Rehearsal of Spring Semester

W Apr 8: Fantasia Rehearsal only (Prelude & Capriccio Spring Break)

Sa Mar 7, 2:30pm: Concert, all choirs (King of Glory Church)

W Mar 11, 7pm: Concert, all choirs (Patriot's Colony - in lieu of rehearsal)

Su May 31, 2:30pm: Concert, all choirs (King of Glory Church)

Tuition Policy

Please register through the website: www.flutefrenzy.org. You will also find payment options there. Should you have unusual circumstances which make it difficult for you to pay the tuition on the usual schedule, please discuss this with the treasurer.

Limited funds are available for need-based tuition assistance and may be requested through a letter to the treasurer.

Weather Cancellation Policy

Rehearsal Cancellation Policy: As soon as there is a possibility that a rehearsal could be canceled, an email will go out to participants indicating that possibility, and a specific time will be given when a final decision and email notification will be made.

Our Conductors



Sean Arawjo is a multi-instrumentalist, teacher, composer, and producer with a Bachelor's in Music Theory and Composition, a Master's in Flute Performance, and a very diverse set of musical skills and interests. In addition to Classical music, he specializes in new music and extended flute techniques and in his original works, often blends these complex sounds with the relative simplicity of his other favorite genres: Ska and Reggae. Over the past 18 years he's taught more than 13,000 private lessons to students ranging in age from 6 to 93, performed in theaters, clubs, and festivals, and produced music for popular podcasts. Sean relocated to Williamsburg from Pennsylvania in 2022 and is incredibly grateful to get to work with the fine folks at Flute Frenzy!



Katie Draney holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Houghton College and a Master of Music in Flute Performance from James Madison University. She has taught in both public and private schools and has taught both flute and piano privately. In addition to Flute Frenzy, she has played with the Flute Choir of Southern Maryland. Her major teachers included Nina Assimakopoulos, Joanna Bassett, and Beth Chandler Cahill. She is so excited to have found Flute Frenzy!

Our members of Fantasia Flutes with professional music degrees will serve as substitute ensemble directors, if the need arises.

Member Guidelines

Communication

We primarily communicate by email. **Please check daily.** Some announcements may also be sent through text, the Flute Frenzy Facebook page, and the website: www.flutefrenzy.org. Please like us on: [Facebook: @flutefrenzyfans](https://www.facebook.com/flutefrenzyfans) [@flutefrenzy](https://www.instagram.com/flutefrenzy) and [TikTok: @flutefrenzy](https://www.tiktok.com/@flutefrenzy)

Attendance Requirements

- Members must attend at least 80% of rehearsals leading up to a concert. If you are sick, virtual attendance will count as attending. Arriving late or leaving early will count against your attendance record.
- We expect that you will play in all concerts scheduled for your ensemble, unless you have a prior commitment which cannot be changed. If you have an unexpected conflict and have to miss a concert, you must let us know at least 6 weeks before the concert date.
- The "Dress Rehearsal" is the last rehearsal before the concert; **attendance is mandatory**. It is a run-through of the actual concert.
- If you miss more than 20% of rehearsals for any reason, the director may:
 - Request to hear you play your music
 - Ask you to take private lessons to catch up (at your own expense)
 - Suspend you from the concert

In addition to the planned concerts, Flute Frenzy can be asked to play for special events, sometimes on short notice. We will be more flexible with the attendance rules in these cases, but we hope you will do your best to arrange to participate.

Instruments

C flute: Participants must supply their own C flutes, which should be in good working order. Amory Music, 4436 John Tyler Highway, Williamsburg, is used to dealing quickly with small repairs such as loose screws and leaking pads. Tell them you are from Flute Frenzy.

Piccolo: Please bring your own piccolo, if you have one. Flute Frenzy piccolos will be shared during in-person rehearsal time only.

Alto, Bass, and Contrabass Flutes: Several Flute Frenzy alto and bass flutes, and one contrabass flute will be available for use during in-person rehearsals and may be signed out for at-home practice with director's approval. Members must fill out and sign the Instrument Borrowing Agreement Form.

Flute Frenzy instruments must be treated with care. Although they are insured for major problems, we must pay for small adjustments or dents. You will have to show you care for your own flute before being allowed to play one of these flutes. The director will supervise their assembly, cleaning and putting away.

Music

- Flute Frenzy will supply you with a binder to be used exclusively for your Flute Frenzy music. We will either provide a digital copy of your part for you to print and bring to rehearsal, or we will bring copies for your use. Music must be hole-punched and securely fastened in your binder.
- If you lose the binder with your music, the replacement cost is \$15.
- Due to copyright regulations, we request that you return all sheet music at the end of the year. If using digital sheet music, please delete the files at the end of each concert season.
- If you are loaned an original part, you must give it back after use. If you lose or damage it, you will be asked to replace the entire set of parts and score for that music, costing \$25-60.

Rehearsals

- Rehearsals are held weekly during the academic year. We will also provide virtual access to the rehearsal should it be needed.
- Please arrive 10 minutes ahead of scheduled rehearsals, so that you can be tuned and ready to play at the scheduled rehearsal start time.
- You will be responsible for getting and returning a music stand to its storage spot before and after rehearsals.
- If rehearsals are overlapped, please arrive or leave quietly so you do not disrupt the rehearsal in progress.
- The time to talk to your friends is before and after rehearsal.
- All youth members must remain inside the building during in-person rehearsals and breaks.
- Please be sure to take all of your belongings with you at the end of rehearsal. **Flute Frenzy is not responsible for lost property.**

Flute Frenzy members are expected to treat each other respectfully and to treat their own instruments and all Flute Frenzy and rehearsal and performance venue property with care. Consequences may be suspension from the program with forfeited tuition.

For parents dropping off youth: Please make sure that a supervising adult is in the building before dropping off youth for rehearsals or concerts and come into the building (or to the front door) when picking up. Pick up promptly. Teachers often have commitments after rehearsal.

Practice Expectations

All participants are expected to practice regularly at home. Rehearsals focus primarily on developing ensemble skills, such as intonation, coordinated rhythms and articulations, dynamics, and balancing parts.

Concert Schedule

All concerts will require a warm-up before the start of the concert. Warmups generally start between 45 minutes and 90 minutes beforehand, depending on the venue and ensembles involved in the concert. The directors will give you the exact warm-up and concert schedule about 1 week before the concert date.

Parents and other family members—please plan to take pictures to share at our various public performances, unless special restrictions apply.

Concert Attire

Concert attire will vary according to the venue. Fantasia will primarily perform in all black. Youth need to include in your wardrobe: A solid white shirt, solid black shirt; black pants and/or skirt or dress, khaki pants; black shoes and socks. Dress will be selected from these items for the concerts.

Concert Etiquette

- When the audience claps, make your bow, as indicated by the director.
- After the performance, plan to stay to greet the audience members and thank them for coming. (Thank them for any compliments; critique your own and the group's performance at the next rehearsal!)

Audience Etiquette

- Be as quiet as possible. Please check cell phones and other electronics to make sure they are off or silent.
- Arrive early and stay for the entire performance. If you really have to get up during the concert, do so during the applause between pieces.
- Children who are disrupting during a performance should be taken out immediately and not wait for the applause.
- Show your appreciation by applauding, but only after complete pieces. The conductor will turn to the audience at the end of a piece.
- Take photos only before or after a performance. Flash and shutter noises are distracting to the musicians.

Extra Musical Opportunities

Mrs. Draney, Mr. Arawjo, and Mrs. Carlson, Founder and Artistic Director Emeritus, are available for private lessons.

Flute Frenzy sponsors a District Band Audition Prep class/Mock Audition. All eligible youth should plan to audition for District Band and to attend this class.

We will send you notices of solo competitions, workshops, flute fairs and concerts.

Flute Frenzy sometimes performs at flute conferences, and/or attends a conference as a group. These are incredible educational experiences for the attendees, and it is a great privilege to perform at these events. Please make every effort to take part in these events.

Questions or Concerns?

Ensemble Directors will be happy to answer questions about an individual's flute-playing concerns. Please consult a Board member with concerns about a specific ensemble, or the overall Flute Frenzy program management.

Our Board of Directors and Committee Members

President: Laura Mullin lhnullin@gmail.com

Secretary: Jennifer Ju jenniferyangjj@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lisa Van Divender vandivender@gmail.com

Directors:

Sandra Hood sandra.j.hood@gmail.com

Teresa Denner treedenn@gmail.com

Lisa Stone ljsmaui59@gmail.com

Susie Maraist susan.maraist@gmail.com

Cherry Robinson Cherry.robinson@gmail.com

Artistic Director: Sean Arawjo sean.flutefrenzy@gmail.com

The Artistic Director determines the overall artistic goals of the Flute Frenzy program, working together with individual directors to coordinate music choices to meet that goal.

Fantasia Conductor: Sean Arawjo sean.flutefrenzy@gmail.com

Capriccio Conductor: Katie Draney ktdavis@hotmail.com

Prelude Conductor: Katie Draney

Overture Teacher/Conductor: Sean Arawjo sean.flutefrenzy@gmail.com

Each ensemble conductor chooses repertoire for his/her own ensemble, while working together with the other ensemble directors to coordinate combined events which contribute to the overall Flute Frenzy artistic goals.

Grants: Heather West

The grant writer writes proposals for funding to our supporting organizations, researches new possibilities, ensures that stipulations on grants received are met, and keeps all grant records.

Media Publicity: OPEN

Media Publicity sends announcements to online and hard copy newspapers.

Social Media: OPEN

Website Manager: OPEN

Outreach Coordinator: Teresa Denner treedenn@gmail.com

The outreach Coordinator schedules outreach concerts and serves as the contact liaison for details related to the concert.

Volunteer Coordinator: OPEN

Parent Representative: OPEN

The parent Representative expresses concerns of the youth members and parents to the Board.

Logistics Manager: Thom Recktenwald recktenwaldthomas8@gmail.com

Volunteering

Most of the work is done by volunteer board members and parents. Every member's family unit will be expected to take on a task to keep the Flute Frenzy organization functioning smoothly. These tasks may include:

- Photography
- Publicity
- Designing Programs
- Equipment cartage
- Carpooling
- Hospitality
- Any other talent you can offer!
- Office tasks
- Grant proposal research
- Concert set-up and take-down
- Board positions
- Fundraising
- Website Design/Maintenance

We are grateful for past and present support from the following organizations:

Our Saviour's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Coldwell Banker Traditions

WalMart Distribution Center, Williamsburg

Junior Women's Club of Williamsburg

Williamsburg Area Arts Commission

Williamsburg Community Trust

The Brannen-Cooper Fund

York County Arts Commission

The Williamsburg Symphonia

The Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra

The Virginia Arts Commission

National Endowment for the Arts

Williamsburg Lions Club

Williamsburg Kiwanis Club

Williamsburg United Methodist Church

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Williamsburg Community Foundation

as well as

Private Donors