About the VCU Guitar Program

The VCU Guitar Program is a vibrant part of the VCU Department of Music. Several of our alumni are teaching or have taught at VCU and at other universities, including Norfolk State University, the College of William and Mary, Christopher Newport University, the University of Richmond, and Randolph-Macon College. In addition, several of our graduates are currently teaching in Virginia public and private schools.

For many years, the VCU Guitar Series and the Guitar and Other Strings Series have brought nationally and internationally acclaimed guitarists to the VCU campus for concerts and master classes. Past performers include William Kanengiser, Manuel Barrueco, Eliot Fisk, Dennis Koster, David Russell, Simon Dinnigan, the Washington Guitar Quintet, Charlie Byrd (jazz), John Jackson (blues), Torcuato Zamora (flamenco), Miguelito (flamenco), Leo Kottke (finger-style), and Tony Rice (bluegrass).

The Jesús Silva Merit Scholarship provides financial assistance to outstanding undergraduate guitar majors. Contact John Patykula at jtpatyku@vcu.edu for additional information on how to support.

The VCU Friends of Music Scholarship Fund continues to assist many of our VCU Music students with necessary scholarship funds making it possible for them to pursue their education. To contribute to this fund online, please go to: support.vcu.edu/give/Arts - scroll to “Friends of Music.” For additional information on how to support VCU Music, please email music@vcu.edu or call 804-827-4541. Your support is valuable and appreciated!
Established in 1986 by John Patykula, the VCU Community Guitar Ensemble is open to classical guitarists in the Richmond community, including alumni and high school students. Over the years, the ensemble has performed at the Richmond International Music Festival, Richmond’s Big Gig summer festival, the Experiencing Villa-Lobos Festival, and the VCU Flamenco Festival. The ensemble was the resident ensemble for VCU’s Guitar and Other Strings Series for many years.

Program

Bourrée from Violin Partita No. 3
J.S. Bach/Robert Schumann
arr. J.Bullard/J.Patykula
John Bullard, classical banjo
with the VCU Community Guitar Ensemble

Prelude from Violin Partita No. 3
J.S. Bach, arr. J. Bullard
John Bullard, classical banjo

Two Dances
Sarabande
Bagatelle
Andrew York

Where Is Your Heart? (Chet Atkins version)
Georges Auric
arr. Adam Larrabee
Kathy Robinson, guitar
with the VCU Community Guitar Ensemble

Una flor en la laguna from Suite Montebello
Julio César Oliva
Seamus McDaniel, guitar

Three popular Mexican songs
Manuel M. Ponce, arr. J.Patykula
La Pajarera
Por ti mi corazón
La Valentina
VCU Community Guitar Ensemble

Oblivion
Astor Piazzolla
Kathy and David Robinson, guitar duo

Prelude No. 9 in A Flat Major, Cakewalk
Adam Larrabee
from 24 Preludes for Solo Banjo
John Bullard, classical banjo

Malagueña
Ernesto Lecuona, arr. J.Patykula
VCU Community Guitar Ensemble