

# MUSIC CONSERVATORY OF SANDPOINT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**EVENT DATE: July 2017**

**TODAY'S DATE: June 26, 2017**

## MCS offers summer camps in theater and music

Is it drama or music? What appeals to your child? Does she want to learn to play a musical instrument or does he want to learn the ins and outs of theater arts? Maybe one of them would love to sing in a choir? Whichever it is, the Music Conservatory of Sandpoint has announced its summer camp line up that's certain to appeal to the fledgling virtuoso in every family.

Starting on July 5 to July 14 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Conservatory (110 Main Street), instructor Keely Gray will lead the Theater Camp. Students eight years and up will explore theater techniques and scene work. With an emphasis on performance mastery, leadership and team building skills, these workshops will lead these campers to a final production.

Then on July 10 to July 15 and July 19, 20 from 9 a.m. to noon the Choir Camp will be held for children nine years and older. This camp is perfect for the child who loves singing. Voice instructor, John Fitzgerald, along with the accompaniment of Melody Puller, will prepare the campers to perform with the Young Artist Exchange Program's Orchestra at a performance to be held on July 21.

The Young Artist Exchange Program's Orchestra Camp starts on July 17 and runs through July 21. This camp combines efforts of local and regional musicians with exchange students and mentors from Mexico. This year's guest conductor is Dr. Philip Baldwin, Spokane Youth Symphony's Artistic Director.

"We are excited to have this link with him and the ability for our students to learn under his expertise," MCS camp coordinator Ruth Klinginsmith said. "We are also super excited about our already established international connections and growing Spokane collaboration."

The open Orchestra Camp is from 9 a.m. to noon and is recommended for students nine and over. Students must have at least one year of prior instrument instruction and be able to read music. This camp is held at North Summit Church (201 N. Division). For the more advanced student, please call the Conservatory to audition for the full day Chamber Ensemble (9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.).

Klinginsmith said that this is the fifth international exchange with the Redes 2025 Youth Orchestra and Centro de Artes Musicales from Mexico. "This year we will have three exchange students joining our camps as mentors," she continued. These advanced players are Misael

Antonio Zavala Lopez on clarinet, Santiago Rojo Acosta on bassoon and Josue Alejandro Armenta Sanchez on double bass. Music is the key element to tie participants together.

“I want to encourage the public to attend our capstone concert on July 21 at North Summit Church starting at 3:00 o’clock. You won’t want to miss this opportunity to watch the connective power of music across cultures,” Klinginsmith added.

Last, but certainly not least, July 24 is the opening of Piano Camp which runs through the 28th from 9 a.m. to noon. This is a premiere camp for MCS that will be facilitated by pianist Melody Puller and John Fitzgerald. This interactive keyboard experience will bring the skills of piano playing into a fun group setting, and campers will show off their skills at an in-house recital on July 28.

These camps are made possible through community giving and grant support. To keep these camps affordable and accessible, special recognition goes out to the Idaho Commission on the Arts. MCS is honored to have continued support for music at the State level.

Interested parents can go to [www.sandpointconservatory.org](http://www.sandpointconservatory.org) for more information, visit our studios at 110 Main Street between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Thursday, or contact MCS at 265-4444 to sign up.