



Virginia Guitar Directors Association

# NEWS



**Loudoun Youth Guitars (LYG), Dr. Miroslav Lončar Director**

*LYG will perform for the 2024 VMEA Professional Development Conference in Norfolk*

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- NAFME Guitar Town Hall

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[https://www.viriniaguitardirectors.org/  
 executive-board](https://www.viriniaguitardirectors.org/executive-board)



# 2023 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble Fundraiser

Sponsored by



**Order between Monday, Aug. 26 - Wednesday, Sept. 4  
(by midnight)**

## How it works:

1. Go to: <https://www.stringsbymail.com/>
2. Select items to purchase
3. Proceed to Checkout
4. Scroll down to the field that says,  
“Special Instructions or Order Comments”
5. Type in this phrase:  
“**Supporting All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble**”
6. Complete the checkout process
7. 10% of your purchase price will be donated to  
the All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble

## 2024 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble Auditions

Sept. 14 - 15

- The AVGE Audition page is now updated. Students may now sign up for an audition time.
- Directors will register their students on one digital form. That means you only have to put your information down one time. If you have multiple students, this will streamline the process. Before filling out the registration, you will need to have the following information for each student:
  - Student Name as it will appear in the program if selected
  - Student's Email Address
  - Parent or Guardian's Name
  - Parent or Guardian's Email Address
  - Student Grade Level
  - Director will upload their NAFME Card

**All information can be found on the VGDA Website:**

**<https://www.viriniaguitardirectors.org/about-1>**



**Chuck Hulihan, conductor**  
2024 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble

## **Guitar at the VMEA Conference**

**Thursday, Nov. 21**

5:00 PM **Loudoun Youth Guitars**, directed by Dr. Miroslav Lončar

**Friday, Nov. 22**

11:00 AM **All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble**, directed by Chuck Hulihan

12:00 PM **How to Prepare and Retain Your Programs with Impact**  
Presenters: Jenna Day & Mary Wagner

2:00 PM **Ukulele Flash Mob Rehearsal**

3:00 PM **Choosing Ensemble Music for Class Guitar: Graded  
Guitar Ensemble  
Repertoire**  
Presenters: Aaron Kunk & William Hart Wells

4:00 PM **Ukulele Flash Mob (in the Exhibitors Fair)**

5:00 PM **Mastering the Basics: Implementing The Aaron Shearer  
Method of Instruction in the Beginning Guitar  
Classroom**  
Presenters: Drs. Alan Hirsh & Matthew Dunlap

5:30 PM **VGDA General Meeting**

**Saturday, Nov. 22**

9:00 AM **VGDA Mentor Session**

10:00 AM **Strings in Harmony: Exploring Fresh Titles for Guitar  
Ensemble Music**  
Presenters: Kathy Robinson & Jodi Austin

**REGISTER FOR CONFERENCE HERE!**

<https://www.vmea.com/vmeaconference2024>



**Kathy Robinson**  
Strings in Harmony



**Dr. Alan Hirsh**  
Mastering the Basics



**Dr. Matthew Dunlap**  
Mastering the Basics



**Aaron Kunk**  
Choosing Ensemble Music



**William Hart Wells**  
Choosing Ensemble Music



Council for  
Guitar Education



**Higher Education Summit: Guitar in Music Education Programs**

Presented by the NAfME Council for Guitar Education and the Guitar Foundation of America

October 22, 2024

7:00 EST

**Register Here!**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlcemsqTMjGdNb\\_9tfyYMTyXPRUbbMoaOC#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlcemsqTMjGdNb_9tfyYMTyXPRUbbMoaOC#/registration)

Based on recently collected data, 38% of those who teach guitar in secondary education consider themselves guitar specialists. Only 7.7% of those surveyed stated that their pre-service training prepared them for a career in guitar education.

Guitar classes and programs are growing nationwide. Music educators are finding themselves assigned to teach this instrument with little to no preparation. This data driven session will address the need to support music education majors as they prepare to go into the work force.

Target Audience: University/College Music Education Professors, Guitar Professors, Music Department Administrators, Secondary Guitar Educators, Music Education Majors and all who have a vested interest in music education programs.

**Featured Panelists:**



Brain Head



Martha Masters



Kevin Vigil



Ruth LeMay



Chuck Hulihan



Rob Pethel



Robert Trent



**September 30, 7 PM EST**

**Save the Date**

The NAfME Council for Guitar Education will hold a virtual Town Hall. This Town Hall is designed to support those who find themselves teaching guitar. What would you like to learn about?

- Tone production
- Curriculum
- Pacing
- Types of guitars - what are the differences?
- What guitar is best for beginners
- R.H. Technique - PIMA (finger picking) vs. using a pick
- L.H. Technique
- Advanced technique – Barre Chords, harmonics (natural and false), golpe, etc.
- Concert music and programming
- Something else?

NAfME Members, watch your inbox for the announcement and the registration link!

**Enjoy great coffee & help support  
this amazing program**



Virginia Guitar Directors Association

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and make your purchase to  
help this great program!

Virginia Guitar Director's Association



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