

DR. BENJAMIN LOUGHEED

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Music, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, 2019

- *Major Area: String Performance (Guitar)*
- *Major Professor: Bruce Holzman*
- *Committee Members: Corinne Stillwell and Greg Sauer*
- *Outside University Representative: Dr. Jane P. Clendinning*

Specialized Studies Certificate: Music Education and Leadership, Florida State University, Tallahassee FL 2019

Master of Music, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, 2015

- *Major Area: Guitar Performance*
- *Major Professor: Bruce Holzman*

Bachelor of Music, The Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, 2013

- *Major Area: Guitar Performance*
- *Major Professor: Julian Gray*

Other Private Guitar Study, Mary Lou Roberts, Ann Arbor, MI 1997-2009

NON-DEGREE EDUCATION TRAINING

Suzuki Teacher Certifications

- Suzuki Principles in Action, April 2022 - Online
- Guitar Unit 9, July 2021- Online
- Guitar Unit 8, November 2021 - Online
- Guitar Unit 7, March 2021 – Online
- Guitar Unit 6, February 2021 – Online
- Guitar Unit 5, January 2021 – Online
- Guitar Practicum Course, August 2018 – Chicago, IL
- Guitar Unit 4, July 2013 – Ann Arbor, MI
- Guitar Unit 3, June 2012 – Ann Arbor, MI
- Guitar Unit 2, June 2011 – Ann Arbor, MI
- Guitar Unit 1, June 2010 – Ann Arbor, MI
- Every Child Can, June 2010 – Ann Arbor, MI

Tallahassee Arts Entrepreneurs Institute, Tallahassee, FL 2018-2019

- *Curriculum Topics: Branding, Marketing, Bookkeeping, Market Research, Raising Capital, and Legal Issues in the Creative Industry.*

Modern Marketing with Seth Godin, Online, 2023

- *Curriculum Topics: Branding, Positioning, Market Testing, Fundraising, Website Design, Pricing, Getting Ideas to Spread, PR, Publicity, Building an Audience, B to B and B to C Marketing, Direct and Brand Marketing.*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Higher Education

Adjunct Visiting Professor of Guitar (Sabbatical Replacement), Pensacola State College, Pensacola, Florida, 2023-Present

- Responsibilities
 - Instructed undergraduate students in private lessons to improve their technique, musicality, practice habits, and performance practices and prepare them for end-of-semester juries.
 - Coached the Guitar Ensemble, guiding the group through new music to prepare for regular performances.
 - Taught introduction to guitar course, leading beginner guitar students through the basics of learning to play the instrument.
 - Assisted in the planning and implementation of annual guitar festival.
 - Served on end-of-semester juries for music students.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, 2018- 2019.

- Responsibilities
 - Prepared students for their end-of-semester juries. This included selecting and polishing repertoire, developing successful practice habits, and discussing techniques for dealing with performance anxiety.
 - Recruited for and taught Guitar Literature class to both undergraduate and graduate performance majors.
 - Participated in grading end-of-semester juries.
 - Advised graduate and undergraduate students on classes, repertoire, auditions, and graduation requirements.

Guitar Instructor, Florida State University Summer Camps, Tallahassee, Florida, 2017- 2018.

- Responsibilities
 - Taught beginning and intermediate guitar classes to middle and high school students.
 - Prepared students for short performances by selecting repertoire that interested them, helping them overcome the technical and musical challenges, and facilitated playing together as a group.

Private Teaching

Guitar Program Director, North Florida Suzuki School (a Music Lessons Express Program), Tallahassee, Florida, 2023- Present

- Responsibilities
 - Use the Suzuki method to instruct elementary, middle, and high school students. Progressing from single-note melodies to complex, polyphonic music while simultaneously creating a positive learning environment so that students enjoy music and establish good posture, technique, and practice habits.
 - Coach with middle, high school, and college-age intermediate and advanced students to help them to advance their technique and musicality using various etudes and student pieces along with right and left-hand technical exercises. Lessons also focus on addressing the health of students' posture and discussing methods for overcoming performance anxiety and excelling in pressure situations.
 - Developed parent education materials and policies to help facilitate positive and productive home practicing.
 - Provided content for webpage and assisted in branding.

Guitar Program Director, Music Lessons Express, Tallahassee, Florida, 2019 - Present.

- Responsibilities
 - Use the Suzuki method to instruct elementary, middle, and high school students. Progressing from single-note melodies to complex, polyphonic music while simultaneously creating a positive learning environment so that students enjoy music and establish good posture, technique, and practice habits.
 - Work with middle, high school, and college-age intermediate and advanced students to help them to advance their technique and musicality using various etudes and student pieces along with right and left-hand technical exercises. Lessons also focus on addressing the health of students' posture and discussing methods for overcoming performance anxiety and excelling in pressure situations.
 - Recruit, onboard, and train other instructors on studio policies and teaching strategies, including talking with parents, setting clear practice expectations, preparing for performances, and adjusting pedagogy to sequential skill and knowledge acquisition.
 - Execute special projects focused on student retention and recruitment.
 - Collaborate with other teachers to design organization-wide programs to increase students' progress and enjoyment.

- Organize performances for students in the community through partnerships with other arts and culture organizations.
- Develop short-term, focused, guitar programs for community centers and school utilization to increase recruitment and foster external collaboration.
- Develop online lessons component of the company pre-COVID to increase geographic footprint.
- Use complementary group classes to strengthen students' note reading, harmony, ensemble playing, and music appreciation.
- Served as interim Executive Director of the company.
- Approve monthly teaching hours for guitar and ukulele instructors.
- Lead and design week-long and weekend guitar camps for intermediate and advanced students. These include master classes, ensemble coachings, technique classes, theory lessons, and a final performance.
- Consult on short and long-term planning and marketing strategies for the company.
- Create content for company social media accounts and manage online presence.
- Accomplishments
 - Assisted in growing the company to largest music lessons provider in the city.
 - Recruited hundreds of new students.
 - Organized the company's first Open House.
 - Headed the company's first direct mailing campaign.
 - Guided students to selection in FMEA All-State Guitar Ensemble and multiple competition prizes.
 - Assisted company to achieve monthly 20% profit margins through 2020 despite COVID Pandemic.
 - Developed and assisted in the launching of special Suzuki Program.

Artist in Residence, Leon High School Lessons Academy, Tallahassee, Florida, 2018- 2020.

- Responsibilities
 - Taught advanced high school guitar students in a private lesson setting after school. Worked with them to improve their playing and prepare for events, e.g., the All-National Guitar Ensemble, All-State auditions, Solo and Ensemble, and the North Florida String Festival.
 - Taught students effective practice strategies and helped them select music that would improve their playing ability.
 - Guided students in application and auditions processes for music schools.
 - Led large ensemble coachings to help prepare for competitions and

performances.

- Taught short masterclasses during class time.

Principal Guitar Instructor, Music Lessons Express, Tallahassee, Florida, 2013-2019.

- Responsibilities
 - Used the Suzuki method to teach beginner elementary and middle school students. Progressing from single-note melodies to complex, polyphonic music while simultaneously creating a positive learning environment so that students enjoy music and establish good posture, technique, and practice habits.
 - Worked with middle, high school, and college-age intermediate and advanced students to help them to advance their technique and musicality using various etudes and student pieces along with right and left-hand technical exercises. Lessons also focused on addressing the health of students' posture and discussing methods for overcoming performance anxiety and excelling in pressure situations.
 - Used group classes to teach note reading, harmony, ensemble playing, and music appreciation to Suzuki students.
 - Organized performances for students in the community.
 - Taught group lessons in after-school care.
 - Worked with other teachers designing organization-wide programs to increase students' progress and enjoyment.
- Accomplishments
 - Recruited students and grew personal teaching studio to over 35 students.

Teaching Apprentice, Studio of Zoe Johnstone-Stewart, Baltimore, MD, 2010-2018.

- Responsibilities
 - Assisted with weekly Suzuki group classes and taught group classes as a substitute when needed.

Courses Taught

1. MUL 4430 - Guitar Literature I
2. MUL 4431 – Guitar Literature II
3. MUL 5435 - Guitar Literature I (graduate level)
4. MUL 5436 – Guitar Literature II (graduate level)
5. MUN 1480 – Guitar Ensemble
6. MVS 1316 – Applied Music, Guitar
7. MVS 1416 - Applied Music, Guitar
8. MVS 2326 - Applied Music, Guitar
9. MVS 2426 - Applied Music, Guitar

Student Awards and Prizes

- 1st Prize at the Pensacola State College Guitar Competition - 2/2024
- 1st Prize in the High School and Advanced Middle School Divisions of the Troy University Guitar Competition – 2/2024
- 3rd Prize and finalist at the University of Florida High School Guitar Competition – 2/2024
- 3 students selected as Semi-Finalists for the Florida Guitar Festival High School Competition - 9/2023
- 4th Prize at the Chicago Guitar Festival Middle School Competition - 6/2023
- 1st and 3rd Prize at the Pensacola State College Guitar Competition - 2/2023
- 1st Prize in the Middle School Division of the Troy University Guitar Competition - 2/2023
- Selected for the 2023 Florida All-State Guitar Ensemble – 11/2022
- 3rd Prize in the Florida Guitar Festival High School Division – 10/2022
- 3rd Prize in the Florida Guitar Festival High School Division – 10/2021
- 1st Prize at the Latina Arts Guitar Festival Intermediate Division – 2/2021
- Selected for the 2020 Florida All-State Guitar Ensemble – 10/2019
- 3rd Prize in the High School Division of the Florida Guitar Festival – 10/2019
- 2 students selected for 2018 All-National Guitar Ensemble – 11/2018
- 2 students selected for Florida All-State Guitar Ensemble – 10/2018

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Higher Education

Florida State University

- 2015-2018, 2020-2023: Florida Guitar Festival, Festival Director
 - *Responsibilities*
 - Coordinated FSU students and community volunteers to ensure timely and smooth functioning of festival events and activities.
 - Booked and organized guest artists, adjudicators, luthiers, guitar dealers, and lecturers for four weekend-long Festivals.
 - Worked with FSU College of Music administrators to schedule venues for concerts, competitions, masterclasses, lectures, and guitar showcase.
 - Created the budget and managed all financial matters for the Festival. This included negotiating with guest artists, selling ads in the program booklet and on the Festival T-shirts, and campaigning for contributions from the student government.
 - Created the Festival program with biographies, schedules, maps, and concert programs.
 - Created and maintained the Festival website with all information for public attendees and competitors.
 - Designed and distributed promotional materials in print, online, radio, and television.
 - Diversified competition divisions to include high-school, undergraduate, and recreational options, increasing attendance.
 - Recruited top Florida High School guitar programs from around the state to participate, perform, and compete in the festival activities.
 - Developed relationships with local and national businesses and donors.

- Recruited students to come to the Festival using email, social media, relationships with college professors, and mailings.
- *Accomplishments*
 - Raised more than \$75,000 over six years.
 - Increased Festival participant attendance by 400% from year 1 to year 6.
 - Created a national reputation of musical excellence and fellowship at the festival.
- 2015-2019: Classical Guitar Society at FSU, President
 - *Responsibilities*
 - Collaborated with the faculty advisor to raise the profile of the classical guitar in Tallahassee through concerts, community outreach, and special events.
 - Partnered with other arts organizations in Tallahassee to produce concerts.
 - Procured funds to bring guest artists to perform and give masterclasses at FSU.
 - Collaborated with FSU College of Music administrators to organize and promote concerts.
 - Organized opportunities for guitar students at FSU to perform in the Tallahassee community at schools, hospitals, churches, student centers, and restaurants.
 - Developed relationships with multiple high school guitar programs in Tallahassee.
 - *Accomplishments*
 - Raised over \$65,000 through donations, grants, and sales.
 - Brought in world-renowned guest artists including David Russell, Bill Kanengiser, Rene Izquierdo, Alvaro Pierri, Ricardo Cobo, and Judicael Perroy to perform and teach.
 - Successfully organized over 100 outreach concerts in the community.

Consulting Services

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

- 2019-2020: Special Advisor to the Florida Guitar Festival
 - Advise the Classical Guitar Society at Florida State University on marketing, guest artist relations, budgeting, fundraising, publicity, and documentation of Festival procedures and processes.
 - Assist in day-of, and week-of tasks to help the Festival run smoothly.
 - Mentor FSU students, helping them learn about marketing, customer relations, budgeting, public speaking, logistics, and project management.

Community Service

Tallahassee, FL

- 2014 – 2019: Tallahassee Classical Guitar Society, Director of Community Outreach
 - *Responsibilities*
 - Organized events for society members to go into the community and perform.
 - Promoted guitar concerts using social media, email, television, and posters.

- Designed and maintained the Guitar Society website.
- *Accomplishments*
 - Grew email mailing list by 1,900%.
 - Increased audience attendance at guitar concerts by 60%.
- 2014 – 2018: Classical Revolution Tallahassee, Communications Director and Co-Artistic Director
 - *Responsibilities*
 - Communicated with Organization founder to ensure that chapter followed his vision.
 - Worked with co-directors to recruit performers and create a two-hour program each month.
 - Cultivated a relationship with local restaurant, which served as the venue for all concerts.
 - Promoted concerts using posters, social media, press releases, and television spots.
 - *Accomplishments*
 - Produced 30 concerts that included over 160 musicians.
 - Organized a call for scores that culminated in an entire performance of new music.
- 2015 – 2016: Music Lessons Express, Scheduling Supervisor
 - *Responsibilities*
 - Organized and planned all in-home and studio lessons for a 30-person instructional staff.
 - Kept an online scheduling system for parents and teachers to optimize instructors' time and effectively plan make-up lessons.

Adjudicator Service

- Adjudicator at the Pensacola State College Finger Style Acoustic Guitar Competition – (February 17, 2024).
- Adjudicator at North Florida String Festival in Tallahassee, FL (March 5, 2022).
- Adjudicator for Leon County Solo and Ensemble in Tallahassee, FL (November 2, 2019).
- Adjudicator at North Florida String Festival in Tallahassee, FL (February 16, 2019).
- Adjudicator at North Florida String Festival in Tallahassee, FL (February 3, 2018).

INVITED TALKS AND MASTERCLASSES

- Florida State University
 - Guest lecture for Introduction to Entrepreneurship class (2023).
- Intermountain Suzuki String Institute
 - Faculty (2023, 2024): Taught masterclasses, group rehearsals, technique classes, and ensemble coachings as well as performed in the Faculty Concert.
- Denver Suzuki Guitar Summit
 - Faculty (2023): Taught masterclasses, group rehearsals, and performed in Faculty Recital.
- Ann Arbor Suzuki Guitar Institute
 - Faculty (2022, 2023, 2024): Taught masterclasses, group rehearsals, theory classes, and ensemble coachings.

- Guitar Foundation of America
 - Lecture at International Convention
 - *Getting Around the Gatekeepers; Entrepreneurial Tips and Tricks to Help your Career*, Online, (2021)
 - *A Performance Guide to Selected Jazz Arrangements of Roland Dyens*, Miami, FL, (2019)
 - Guitar Foundation of America TV
 - *Getting Rid of Production Noise*, video segment featured in Foundations – Episode 28, (2021).
 - *Practice Strategies*, video segment featured in Foundations – Episode 27, (2021).
- Hillsborough Community College, Tampa, FL
 - Masterclass for students from the Tampa area (2019)
- University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
 - Lecture
 - *Getting Around the Gatekeepers; Entrepreneurial Tips and Tricks to Help your Career*, Gainesville, FL, (2019)
- Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
 - Lecture
 - *Getting Around the Gatekeepers; Entrepreneurial Tips and Tricks to Help your Career*, Tallahassee, FL, (2019)
- Pensacola State College, Pensacola, FL
 - Masterclass for students at Pensacola State College (2018)
- Tallahassee Council on Culture and Arts, Tallahassee, FL
 - Guest Speaker
 - *Arts Entrepreneurs Coffee Talk*, Tallahassee, FL, (2018)

PERFORMANCES

Solo Performances

- Solo recital for the Utah Classical Guitar in Salt Lake City, UT (June 2024).
- Solo Recital for Guitar Sarasota in Sarasota, FL (December 2023)
- Faculty Recital at Pensacola State College in Pensacola, FL (December 2023)
- Solo Recital at Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL (September 2023)
- Solo recital for the Utah Classical Guitar in Salt Lake City, UT (June 2023).
- “Noche Latina” Benefit Concert in Tallahassee, FL (December 2022).
- House Concert in Tallahassee, FL (November 2022).
- Virtual solo recital for the Classical Guitar Society of Michigan (March 2022).
- Solo recital for the Treasure Coast Guitar Society in Stuart, FL (February 2022).
- Solo recital at Kerrytown Concert House in Ann Arbor, MI (January 21, 2020).
- Solo recital for the HCC Dale Mabry Guitar Series in Tampa, FL (November 22, 2019).
- “Spanish Romance” Benefit Concert in Tallahassee, FL (August 29, 2019).
- “Bach on the Guitar” Concert co-hosted by the Tallahassee Bach Parley and the FSU Classical Guitar Society in Tallahassee, FL (April 12, 2019).
- Solo recital at All Saints Episcopal Church in Orlando, FL (April 15, 2018).
- Solo recital at Pensacola State College’s Ashmore Fine Arts Auditorium in Pensacola, FL (April 7, 2018).
- Solo house concert as part of the Music in the Woods Concert Series in Climax,

- GA (March 11, 2018).
- Solo performance for FSU's NASM student showcase recital in Opperman Recital Hall (February 13, 2018).
- Solo recital for Guitar Sarasota's Mini-Concert Series in Sarasota, FL (November 13, 2017).
- Solo recital for the Treasure Coast Guitar Society in Stuart, FL (November 11, 2017).
- Solo half-recital as part of the Florida Guitar Competition Finalists' Concert at Leon County Public Library in Tallahassee, FL (April 29, 2015).
- Solo performance in the Seven Hills' FSU Studio Showcase Concert in Tallahassee, FL (January 25, 2015).
- Solo and Ensemble performances for the Domaine Forget final Concert in Quebec, CA (July 11, 2014).
- Solo performance for the GFA Regional Symposium Evening Concert at the DiMenna Center in New York, NY (December 2, 2012).
- Solo performance on Peabody's Thursday Noon Recital Series in Friedberg Hall in Baltimore, MD (October 25, 2012).
- Solo half-recital at the Mainstay in Rockhall, MD, (May 1, 2011).

Chamber Performances

- Florida Guitar Festival Guitar Orchestra in FSU's Opperman Music Hall in Tallahassee, FL (October 7, 2018).
- Large Ensemble performance for Chandler Wilson's Conducting Recital in FSU's Dohnanyi Recital Hall in Tallahassee, FL (February 7, 2018).
- Doctoral Chamber Recital in FSU's Dohnanyi Hall in Tallahassee, FL (November 20, 2016).
- Guitar quartet performance for the Domaine Forget final Concert in Quebec, CA (July 14, 2015).
- Guitar quartet performance for Domaine Forget's summer outreach concert series at The Musée d'art contemporain de Baie-Saint in Quebec, CA (July 13, 2015).
- Ensemble performance on FSU's String Chamber Concert in FSU's Lindsay Hall in Tallahassee, FL (April 18, 2015).
- Ensemble performance for *Chamber Concert* in Peabody's Cohen-Davidson Theater in Baltimore, MD, (April 29, 2013).
- Guitar Quartet performance for Peabody Donors in Baltimore, MD (March 3, 2013).
- Guitar Quartet performance for Peabody's External Review Student Recital in Friedberg Hall in Baltimore, MD (December 17, 2012).
- Guitar Quartet performance at the GFA Regional Symposium Concert at the DiMenna Center in New York, NY (December 2, 2012).
- Guitar Quartet performance for the Ensemble Showcase and the Evening Concert at GFA Regional symposium at Strathmore Hall in Bethesda, MD (April 29, 2012).

Community Engagement Performances

- Tallahassee FL
 - Leon High School Guitar Classes, Tallahassee, FL (2016 - 2019)
 - Lincoln High School Guitar Class, Tallahassee, FL (2017 - 2018)
 - St. John Paul II Catholic High School Outreach Performance, Tallahassee, FL (2017)

- Black Dog Café, Tallahassee, FL (2016 - 2019)
- RAA Middle School, Tallahassee, FL: (2016 – 2018)
- SAIL High School Guitar Class, Tallahassee, FL: (2015 – 2017)
- WTXL Sunrise Rocks, Tallahassee, FL: (2014 – 2018)
- Tallahassee Classical Revolution, Tallahassee, FL: (2014 – 2018)
- Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, Tallahassee, FL: (2014 – 2018)
- Florida Cultural Alliance Arts and Culture Day at the Capitol, Tallahassee, FL: (2014)
- Baltimore, MD
 - Creative Access Community Outreach concerts, Baltimore, MD: (2010 – 2013)

DISCOGRAPHY

Baroque Legacies; Music of Bach, Handel, Scarlatti, Barrios, Giuliani, and Asencio

- *Release Date: August 18, 2019*

PUBLICATIONS

A Performance Guide To Selected Jazz Arrangements of Roland Dyens, Article

- *Approved for Publication in Soundboard Magazine, March 2024*

Answers to the 10 Most Asked Questions About Music Lessons, Article

- *Approved for Publication in Tallahassee Family Magazine*

A Performance Guide To Selected Jazz Arrangements of Roland Dyens, Doctoral Treatise

- *Spring, 2019*

AWARDS

Scholarships and Grants

- Graduate Assistantship, Florida State University (2018-2019)
- Frank Longay Memorial Scholarship (2018)
- Tuition Scholarships, Florida State University (2013-2018)
- Attendance Grants from Florida State University (2015-2018)
- Domaine Forget Attendance Scholarship (2015)
- Peabody Career Development Grant (2014)
- Artist Support Grant from the Rislov Foundation (2008, 2013)
- Charlie Byrd Memorial Scholarship, Peabody Conservatory (2009-2013)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS

1. The College Music Society (2017-)
2. Omicron Delta Kappa (2017-)
3. Pi Kappa Lambda (2017-)
4. Guitar Foundation of America (2012-)
5. Suzuki Association of the Americas (2010-)