

VMEA &  
The Virginia Guitar Directors Association  
present  
The 2023 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble

Dr. Kami Rowan, Conductor



*2022 AVGE conducted by Andrew York*


**November 17, 2023**

**Richmond, Virginia**






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## About the All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble

Founded in 2013 by Glen McCarthy

Previous Conductors:

- 2013 - Dr. Robert Trent
- 2014 - Dr. Miroslav Lončar
- 2015 - Dr. Alan Hirsh
- 2016 - Matthew Denman
- 2017 - Dr. Olga Amelkina-Vera
- 2018 - Glen McCarthy, Dr. Glenn Caluda & Dr. Miroslav Lončar
- 2019 - Chuck Hulihan
- 2020 - Virtual Edition
- 2021 - Dr. Martha Masters
- 2022 - Andrew York
- 2023 - Dr. Kami Rowan

Auditions were adjudicated by:

- Dr. Candice Mowbray (Maryland)
- Dr. Adam Kossler (North Carolina)
- Chris Perez (Florida)

**Schools & Teachers Represented:**

Briar Woods High School - Dr. Michael Murphy  
Blacksburg High School - Justin Craig  
John Champe High School - Eun Bit Seo  
Freedom High School - Samuel Wong  
Heritage High School - Dr. Kevin Vigil  
Independence High School - Ashley Driscoll  
Lightridge High School - Jacob Zerega  
Loudoun County High School - Matthew Trkula  
Manchester High School - Katherine Robinson  
Menchville High School - John Boyles  
Potomac Falls High School - William Hart Wells  
Riverside High School - Dr. Maya Lončar  
Rock Ridge High School - Dr. Nataša Klasinc-Lončar  
Stone Bridge High School - Patrick Fritz

Dr. Kevin Vigil, Event Chair 2015 - 2023

**Special Thanks to:**

- Michael Pierson, Fine Arts Supervisor for Loudoun County Public Schools
- Elaine Stanford, Music Specialist for Loudoun County Public Schools



**The Guitar Studio of William Hart Wells**  
*is proud to congratulate*  
**Andrew Stevens**  
*on his selection as the*  
**2023 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble**  
**Concertmaster!**

*Your hard-work and dedication to the art of guitar have been an inspiration to me personally as your teacher. I am in awe of watching your progress as you continue to reach new heights. Your dedication to your own personal excellence in all that you are involved in, is incredible and deserves recognition. Congratulations to your family in their support of you and your musical endeavors. I am very proud of you and look forward to your performance at the 2023 VMEA Convention!*



# Potomac Falls High School

Sterling, VA

-proudly salutes-

the following student guitarists selected to the  
2023 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble.

**Valeria Perero Santa-Cruz**

**Sophie Detorie\***

**Luke Dumas\***

**Kaley McQuinn**

\*-denotes second AVGE selection

*Your hard-work, dedication, and commitment to musical excellence is to be commended and celebrated! You are all testaments to the very best qualities of Potomac Falls High School and its Guitar Department. Congratulations to you and your families! Go Panthers!!*





## About the Conductor...

Dr. Kami Rowan, Charles A. Dana Professor of Music, has taught at *Guilford College* in Greensboro, NC since 1994. Her success has resulted in a nationally recognized classical guitar program within a liberal arts setting. The Guilford College Guitar Ensemble has received top prizes at ensemble festivals, and has performed in Virginia, South Carolina, Illinois, Georgia, NYC, Philadelphia, and Ireland. Kami is also the faculty advisor for the Guilford College Radio Station, WQFS, ranked as high as 3rd in the nation among college stations by the Princeton Review. Her Guilford alums have pursued higher-level music degrees at prestigious institutions, have taught for colleges and universities, public and private schools, music academies, and have been successful in creating professional performing and recording careers.

Kami completed her DMA and MM degrees in performance from *Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University* under the tutelage of Dr. Glenn Caluda. Dr. Rowan also studied with the renowned Aaron Shearer, at the *University of North Carolina School of the Arts*, in Winston-Salem, NC, where she received her BM in performance. Kami received her NC-A Teaching Certificate from the *University of North Carolina at Greensboro* and taught full-time for the Guilford County Public Schools for six years. She was part of the team that designed and put into operation the *Weaver High School for Performing & Visual Arts*, an options high school in Guilford County. During that time, Kami created and implemented a complete guitar curriculum for the high school level.

Dr. Rowan currently sits on the board of four non-profit organizations including The Eastern Music Festival, Piedmont Guitar Society, and The Guitar Foundation of America. Additionally, she has been a clinician, guest conductor, and adjudicator for numerous guitar festivals and competitions and is a published author and editor. Kami is on faculty of the Shearer Summer Institute and served as an initial member of the Aaron Shearer Foundation for 10 years. In 2015, Dr. Rowan began the Guitar Summit at the prestigious Eastern Music Festival where she is currently director and teaches alongside Jason Vieaux and guest artists Thomas Viloteau, Jiji Kim, and Badi Assad. Kami also directs the US Guitar Orchestra (USGO), which launched in Carnegie Hall followed by a tour of France in summer 2019. In 2022, the USGO performed in Merkin Hall and toured Spain. These two experiences included a total of 5 world premiere commissions written for the USGO. The USGO project is currently expanding to include recording commissioned works and creating guitar festivals abroad.

Kami enjoys composing and performing solo and chamber music in a variety of settings. In her free time, she is an avid traveler and enjoys spending time with her animal and human family.



Applause and admiration for the incredible achievements of these students from Dr. Matthew Dunlap:

Thad Alpeter  
Aryan Dhiman  
Maneesh Getni  
Alexander Ignacio  
Parth Jaiswal  
Rishi Kadiyala  
Isabella Lopez  
Ian Lucas  
Vishwa Sunkara

Let the music resonate and the applause never end!



**The Heritage High School  
Music Boosters & Dr. V  
congratulate  
Sofyan Elshaer &  
Amulya Rupakheti  
For being selected for the  
2023 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble**

**Roar Pride!**





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## Program

Three "Ellington Tunes"

Duke Ellington  
(1899 - 1974)  
arr. Alan Hirsh

*I Let a Song Go Out of My Heart*  
*Sentimental Mood*  
*It Don't Mean a Thing*

Magnetic Trance

Clarice Assad  
(b. 1978)

Paranoid Android

Radiohead  
arr. Mark Charles Smith

Three White Geese

Kevin Callahan  
(b. 1958)

## 2023 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble

Andrew Stevens, *concertmaster*  
Stone Bridge HS

Aaditya Acharya	Briar Woods HS	Nikhil Kumar	Freedom HS
Thaddeus Alpeter	Stone Bridge HS	Isabella Lopez	Rock Ridge HS
Aditeya Banerjee	Briar Woods HS	Ian M. Lucas	Freedom HS
Kushal Borra	Freedom HS	Ved Lulay	Freedom HS
Joshua Byun	Blacksburg HS	Sunny Marion	Manchester HS
Rhys Castel	Freedom HS	Kaley McQuinn	Potomac Falls HS
Harry Cheng	Briar Woods HS	Colin Minter	Menchville HS
Amy Cherian	Freedom HS	Chase Mulholland	John Champe HS
Sophia Detorie	Potomac Falls HS	Tanvi Nare	Independence HS
Aryan Dhiman	Rock Ridge HS	Ryan Oates	Loudoun County HS
Luke Dumas	Potomac Falls HS	Jiho Oh	Freedom HS
Sofyan Elshaer	Heritage HS	Nisarg Oza	Freedom HS
Nader Elsharkawy	Riverside HS	Valeria Perero Santa Cruz	Potomac Falls HS
Maneesh Getni	Rock Ridge HS	Rohit Rajakumar	Lightridge HS
Raghav Goel	Briar Woods HS	Amulya Rupakheti	Heritage HS
Maximo Herrera	Freedom HS	Ben Schassler	Loudoun County HS
Ethan Hyun	Freedom HS	Vishwa Sunkara	Freedom HS
Alexander Ignacio	Freedom HS	Nirav Surabhi	Independence HS
Parth Jaiswal	Rock Ridge HS	Logan Taylor	Freedom HS
Rishi Kadiyala	Freedom HS	Aarav Vangipuram	Briar Woods HS
Arjun Kesiraju	Briar Woods HS	Shawn Vuong	Briar Woods HS
Nora Kuhlman	Blacksburg HS	David Xing	Blacksburg HS



# Congratulations to **Freedom High School's** 2023 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble Students!



**Freedom High School**

Kushal Borra  
Rhys Castel  
Amy Cherian  
Maximo Herrera  
Ethan Hyun  
Alexander Ignacio  
Rishi Kadiyala  
Nikhil Kumar  
Ian Luces  
Ved Lulay  
Jiho Oh  
Nisarg Oza  
Vishwa Sunkara  
Logan Taylor

We are proud of your accomplishment and dedication!

*Briar Woods High School Congratulates Our Students Of The  
2023 Virginia All State Guitar Ensemble On Their Outstanding  
Achievements In Guitar!*



*Aaditya Acharya, Aditeya Banerjee, Harry Cheng, Raghav Goel,  
Arjun Kesiraju, Aarav Vangipuram, Shawn Vuong*

# Rock Ridge High School

Congratulates the following students:



Aryan Dhiman  
Maneesh Getni  
Parth Jaiswal\*  
Isabella Lopez

For being selected to the 2023 All-Virginia Guitar Ensemble

*\*denotes second year in AVGE*

*We are proud of your outstanding accomplishment*

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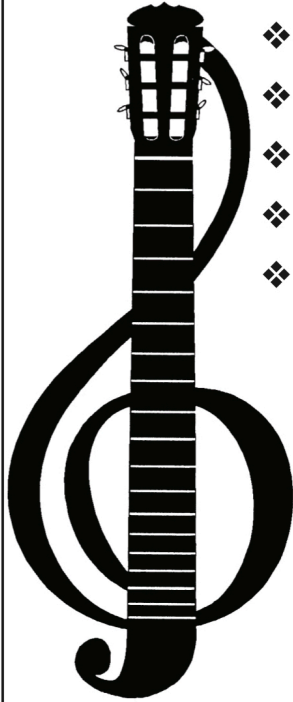
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