

Thank you for your interest in piano studies at UCCS! Our Music Program offers opportunities for rigorous scholarship, performance, and innovative interdisciplinary immersions across the arts. Moreover, this entrepreneurial music program enables students to create unique new connections with other areas across sciences, computers and technology, ethnic and gender studies, arts therapy, acoustic ecology, business practices, and many more. We take advantage of the interconnected academic culture at UCCS and enable opportunities for students to create new partnerships with disciplines of all kinds.

We offer private instruction in both classical and jazz piano. As part of the private lessons, students also take the First Fridays Seminar, which serves both as a general music program meeting as well as a forum for the presentation of research and performances by visitors, faculty and students. Students register for lessons through extended studies at:

<http://www.uccs.edu/lases/private-music-lessons.html>

Related course offerings include:

MUS 1600/2600/3600/4600 Applied Lessons/First Fridays Seminar  
MUS 2210 Mountain Lion Athletics/Concert Band  
MUS 2250 Jazz and Improvisation Ensemble  
MUS 2300 Electronic/ Acoustic Ensemble  
MUS 2400 Chamber Music Ensemble  
MUS 4300 Creative Music Ensemble

### Meet our Faculty

#### Curt Smith - piano, theory and computer music

Curt Smith is a long time member of the UCCS faculty. He teaches Music Theory, music appreciation classes, and a variety of topics courses, including: Computer Applications in Music, Jazz History, Opera, and Symphonic Music. For ten years he wrote program notes for the Colorado Springs Symphony and frequently led their concert previews. He maintains a class of private piano students for whom he wrote a series of modern pedagogical pieces titled "For the Twentieth Century Young (at heart!)," which is published by Boston Music. He received his Master of Arts degree from the Eastman School of Music.

#### Kelly Zuercher – piano

Kelly McSweeney Zuercher joins the music department at UCCS in the fall of 2016, where she teaches both class piano and private piano lessons. Mrs. Zuercher is Principal Pianist of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, and holds a Master of Music in Piano Performance degree from the University of Louisville, where she studied with Lee Luvisi. Other degrees include a Performance Diploma from Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris, and Bachelor of Music from Oklahoma City University.

A native of Oklahoma City, she has appeared throughout the United States as a soloist, chamber musician, and in concerts with her husband, David, principal trumpet of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic. Mrs. Zuercher enjoys performing chamber music in the Pikes Peak region, and has appeared as soloist with the Colorado Springs Philharmonic and the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs. She has served as an adjudicator for the Rocky Mountain International Amateur Pianists Competition, Music Teachers National Association, and the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Having made her solo debut at age twelve with the Oklahoma City Symphony, Mrs. Zuercher's teachers have included Phillele McBryer, Clarence Burg, Richard Cass, Jules Gentil, and Lee Luvisi; she also has coached with Malcolm Frager and Emmanuel Ax.

For more information:

Curt Smith, M.M.  
Head of Piano  
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs  
Department of Visual and Performing Arts  
1420 Austin Bluffs Parkway  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80918  
csmith@uccs.edu  
(719) 255-3569

 University of Colorado  
Colorado Springs