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St. Paul Conservatory of Music**Fast-growing St. Paul music school thrives in its new digs**

With a new location, expanded programming and a chorus line of fresh new faces on board, the St. Paul Conservatory of Music is hitting all the right notes this summer amid an impressive growth spurt.

The nonprofit music school, dedicated to “enriching the lives of students and audiences through the joy of music,” has added nearly 200 new students and eight faculty members since relocating to the historically significant Summit Center for Arts and Innovation building in April 2018.

To better serve those budding musicians, the SPCM is introducing new programs, including a Contemporary Music Program led by Harry Chalmiers, the former president of the McNally Smith College of Music and former executive director of the MacPhail Center for Music.

The Contemporary Music Program will begin classes this fall. Serving students of all ages, including adults, the program will cater to students interested in rock, blues, jazz, bluegrass, folk and other genres.

Besides the inaugural Contemporary Music Program, the SPCM presents an array of programs related to music theory, piano, guitar, strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, early music and chamber music.

The past few months have been busy for the students and staff, with camps, festivals and institutes filling the studios and performance space throughout the summer.

“The summer used to be very slow and all of a sudden it’s a pulsing summer,” said Cléa Galhano, executive artistic director at the SPCM. “This never, ever would have happened if we hadn’t had the growth and the move.”

The mission of the Summit Center is to “present adventurous cultural experiences that celebrate and connect community.”

Prior to the move, the SPCM occupied a much smaller space in downtown St. Paul. The Summit Center for Arts and Innovation, owned by St. Paul developer John Rupp,

prides itself on being one of the premier sources of classical music education in the Twin Cities.

Galhano said the new building has become a destination for people to showcase their musical talents. At the building, the SPCM hosts concerts and recitals through-

of possibilities.”

Community members are showing their appreciation for the school. One client, in a heartfelt testimonial, described SPCM as “a wonderful haven of music that has enriched our lives and we have recommended to many others.”

Another parent said, “I cannot say enough wonderful things about this place, their instructors, and the community of students and families. These musicians share their talent from the heart. Very grateful.”

After an SPCM contingent led a sing-along at a local care facility, the nursing home staff said more than half of the residents “were sit-dancing and clapping and singing along, having the time of their lives.”

“I feel alive again, like I want to get up and dance,” proclaimed one resident, who is in her mid-90s.

The SPCM will celebrate its new Contemporary Music Program with a free faculty concert at 7 p.m. on November 21 at the Summit Center for Arts and Innovation. Performers include faculty members Yazmin Bowers, LA Buckner, Randy Sabien and Harry Chalmiers. All are welcome!

Students in the program will learn how to perform, improvise, write songs and use technology to produce their own music. Classes range from Songwriting and Interpreting Chord Symbols at the Keyboard to Intro to Jazz Improvisation and Blues Immersion.

For more information, go to thespcm.org.

St. Paul Conservatory of Music

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thespcm.org



St. Paul Conservatory of Music executive artistic director Cléa Galhano.

gives the school greater visibility and a beautiful concert hall with seating for 500.

Located at 1524 Summit Ave. in St. Paul, the Summit Center for Arts and Innovation is an architectural gem built a century ago as the home of St. Paul’s on the Hill Episcopal Church.

The church’s designer, Emmanuel Masqueray, left his architectural imprint on some of the Twin Cities’ most iconic buildings, including the Cathedral of St. Paul and the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis.

The Summit Center for Arts and Innovation is an ideal home for a school that

out the year, and serves people of all abilities and income levels.

Holding true to its core belief that nobody should be denied access to music education, the SPCM offers financial aid and partners with area schools. It serves hundreds of public school students through an outreach program.

“They come here to this beautiful hall, to be part of the community, instead of performing in a cafeteria or a gym,” Galhano said. “And in terms of the neighborhood, we provide early childhood programming for preschool kids. It’s opening an array



The SAINT PAUL
CONSERVATORY
of MUSIC

Join Our Community

The Saint Paul Conservatory of Music is a community-minded music school where faculty, students, and parents get to know one another. Join us and learn from world-class, professional musicians.

Our low-pressure culture of warmth and nurturing allows individual growth for students at any level. Our performance opportunities build confidence, while engaging lessons keep students interested and excited about music. The benefits of musical training can be seen across all areas of a student’s life.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Music for all stages of life—from early childhood classes to adult lessons and ensembles, and all ages in between
- Engaging private lessons for more than 15 instruments, in classical and contemporary styles, as well as lessons for voice, composition, and music theory
- Chamber music ensembles, for school-age and adult students
- International, award-winning faculty
- Financial aid & scholarships available
- Free participation in SPCM’s children’s choir for students enrolled in lessons
- Free community concerts in SPCM’s beautiful and historic performance hall at the Summit Center for Arts & Innovation

New this fall:

Lessons & Classes in Contemporary Music!

Find class descriptions and register online: thespcm.org



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651.224.2205

