



# Bass Retreat at Nazareth College

**August 8-12, 2016**

Co-sponsored by New York State American String Teachers Association, the five-day Bass Retreat at Nazareth College is an immersion in all things double bass. Join us for this special chance to refresh skills, get back in the groove of playing before summer ends, meet and work with inspiring teachers, and make dedicated time for questions and exploration. Area teachers will find this retreat a timely opportunity to sharpen their approach through hands-on learning and pedagogy classes with inspiring teachers. Plus, in-service credit is available through NY-ASTA at no charge.

This five-day retreat will have us all working together on:

- Using our bodies more efficiently as we play.
- Basic elements of technique for each hand.
- Solos and etudes.
- Improvisation—especially if you have never tried it before.
- Ways to care for the bass in all seasons.
- Large bass ensemble with parts for all levels of players.



Players at all levels are encouraged to participate. There are many levels of workshops, so plan to play where you are comfortable while listening and learning at other workshops.

- Hands on for everyone.
- All levels are welcome.
- Includes a track for teachers.
- Special track for young/beginning players.

 **LEARN MORE**  
[go.naz.edu/BassRetreat](http://go.naz.edu/BassRetreat)

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585-764-2809 ■ [gmccorm0@mail.naz.edu](mailto:gmccorm0@mail.naz.edu)

## 2016 TEACHERS



### Jeffrey Turner — Classical

Jeffrey Turner is the Director of Orchestral Studies at Duquesne University where he serves as conductor of the Duquesne Symphony Orchestra. A native of South Carolina, Mr. Turner holds a bachelor of music degree from the Eastman School of Music and a master's degree in conducting from

Carnegie Mellon University, where he studied with Dr. Robert Page. He has served in recent years as Music Director of the Pittsburgh Live Chamber Orchestra and Artistic Director of the City Music Center Chamber Orchestra from 2004-2009. Mr. Turner is also the Principal Bassist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. His teachers include James VanDemark, Lawrence Hurst, and Robert Gladstone. Before joining the PSO in 1987, Mr. Turner was the Principal Bass of the New American Chamber Orchestra from 1984 to 1986, and played with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra for the 1986-87 season. As winner of the Y Music Society's Passamaneck Award, Jeffrey Turner appeared in a critically acclaimed recital at Carnegie Music Hall in 1989. He was also a winner of the 1990 Pittsburgh Concert Society Artist Award.

Jeffrey Turner has served as Visiting Professor at the Eastman School of Music, Indiana University, and the University of Maryland, and as a faculty member of Carnegie Mellon University. At Duquesne, Mr. Turner has also served as Chair of Strings and as Artistic Director of City Music Center's Young Bassist Program.

Mr. Turner gives annual recitals, seminars, and masterclasses at universities and conservatories all over the world, and serves as resident artist for annual festivals including the Pacific Music Festival, The National Orchestral Institute, the Korsholm Festival (Finland), Indiana University's Summer Music Festival, and The Asian Youth Orchestra (Hong Kong). Mr. Turner has been a faculty member for International Workshops in Graz, Austria; Lausanne, Switzerland; and Glasgow, Scotland. He is featured as recitalist, clinician, and competition judge at the conventions of The International Society of Bassists. From 1988-92, Mr. Turner was the Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Chamber Music Project, a yearly series of concerts and educational programs featuring Pittsburgh's finest musicians in collaboration.



### Nicholas Walker — Classical and Jazz

Nicholas Walker is an accomplished musician who brings a broad range of training and experience to the string bass including classical and jazz; modern and baroque; solo recitals and chamber ensembles.

Mr. Walker's enthusiasm and aptitude transcend arbitrary musical boundaries.

Walker earned his doctorate of musical arts in early music at Stony Brook University in 2004. Formerly Walker studied with Paul Ellison at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University and apprenticed with two master mentors: Illinois Jacquet, swing-era saxophone legend, and François Rabbath, the pioneering maestro of the double bass. As a Fulbright Scholar (1994-95) he worked with Rabbath at the Nadia Boulanger Conservatoire de Paris, and received two diplomas from L'Institut International Francois Rabbath, one in performance, and one in teaching.

Walker's exuberant and versatile performances on double bass have made him a sought after performer in many styles. He has given solo bass recitals on four continents, and has performed at music festivals worldwide. Walker has played with jazz masters such as Illinois Jacquet, Hank Jones, Frank Wess, Wynton Marsalis, Steve Turre, and Clark Terry, as well as progressive players from a younger generation, Bill Charlap, John Stetch, Aaron Goldberg, Matt Ray, William 'Beaver' Bausch, Paul Carlon, and John Ellis. Walker has recorded with Cuban jazz luminaries, Juan Pablo Torres, Paquito D'Rivera, Horacio 'El Negro' Hernandez, Jose Fajardo, and Giovanni Hidalgo. Walker has performed with The Handel and Haydn Society Orchestra, a period instrument ensemble under the direction of Roger Norrington and Christopher Hogwood. He also performed with the The St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic, under the direction of Jeffery Meyer, the Oslo Philharmonic, and the National Arts Center Orchestra of Canada.

An inventive composer, Walker features the double bass in solo, chamber music, and improvisational contexts. In 1998 the International Society of Bassists awarded him Grand Prize for his composition, EADG for Solo Bass, and in 2013 the ISB commissioned his composition, Chorale, for the international solo competition. As associate professor of music at Ithaca College, Walker demonstrates the art of playing in the broadest sense: he shows the full capacity of the instrument, and guides students to new levels in the traditional repertoire, early music, new music, jazz music, as well as in the art of improvisation and creative collaboration.



### Gaelen McCormick — Young Bassists and Classical

Founder and Artistic Coordinator of the Rochester Bass Retreat, Ms. McCormick has been a member of the Rochester Philharmonic's double bass section since 1995. Before joining the RPO, she held positions with regional orchestras such as the Erie (PA) Philharmonic,

the Binghamton Philharmonic, and the Albany Symphony. McCormick has performed regularly with other major orchestras, including the Buffalo Philharmonic and the

Syracuse Symphony. She holds degrees in performance from the Eastman School and Carnegie Mellon University.

Teaching the double bass to students of all ages has become a significant part of McCormick's life. She joined the faculty of Nazareth College in 2010, and has been the bass instructor for the Eastman Community Music School since 2001. She enjoys working with talented high school aged string players in the summer at Eastman's Music Horizons program, where she teaches chamber music and gives bass lessons. McCormick has given masterclasses and recitals at Ithaca College, Williams College, the College of St. Rose, and Roberts Wesleyan College. During the summer of 2015, Gaelen taught at four bass workshops and was able to study with the renowned pedagogue and artist François Rabbath. Recently she has been a frequent clinician at both the International Society of Bassists convention and the NYSSMA Winter Conference. Mastering the Bow part 2 (of a three book series) on double bass bow technique has been published by Carl Fischer in 2016. The third will be published during the 2016-17 season.

Playing chamber music has always been a passion for McCormick. Before moving to Rochester, she often performed with the St. Cecilia Chamber Orchestra (Albany, NY) as their sole bassist. During her tenure in Pittsburgh, she became the founding bassist of the Pittsburgh Live Music Chamber Orchestra. She was the founding member of the innovative string quintet "Gibbs and Main" recorded a CD of tango standards with them, and commissioned a new work for the ensemble by Judd Greenstein. In recent summers, she has been performing with the Music in the Mountains chamber orchestra, a festival based in Durango, Colorado.



### **Katie Fitipaldi — Alexander Technique**

Katie Fitipaldi received her master's degree in classical string performance from the Irish World Music Centre, University of Limerick, Ireland; and her bachelor of music degree in performance from Ithaca College.

In 2004, Katie graduated from the the Alexander Alliance School in Philadelphia (now the Philadelphia School for Alexander Technique), a three-year intensive training program with Bruce Fertman and Martha Hansen Fertman. In November 2013, Katie completed the training requirements to become a member of AmSAT (American Society for the Alexander Technique), studying with Kathy Miranda at ATS (Alexander Technique of Syracuse).

Since moving to Rochester in 2003, Katie has had a full studio of cello students, both privately and at the Kanack School of Music. Since 2004, Katie has taught Alexander Technique lessons and workshops privately as well as at the Eastman School of Music, the Eastman Summer Trombone Institute,

the New Directions Cello Festival, the University of Buffalo, Nazareth College, Rochester Institute of Technology, the Hochstein School of Music and Dance, the Kanack School of Music, Rochester Bass Retreat, the University of Rochester inspireDANCE Festival, and the Suzuki Guitar retreat at Silver Bay. In addition, Katie teaches an Alexander Technique class at the Eastman School of Music.

Katie is delighted to work with anyone interested in Alexander Technique. She has a special interest in teaching Alexander Technique to children, and is very inspired by the work of the Alexander Technique teachers Sue Merry and Sue Holladay.



### **Tracy Rowell — Young Bassists and Classical**

Tracy Rowell is a faculty member at Oberlin College and Conservatory, and at the Cleveland Institute of Music Preparatory program. She has been a frequent clinician at such workshops as Peabody Bass Works, the Kansas City Bass Workshop, and Institut Francois Rabbath/George

Vance Summer Bass Workshop. Formerly the assistant principal bassist of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, Canada, Rowell currently serves as principal bass for the CityMusic Cleveland and performs with Apollo's Fire, Cleveland's baroque orchestra. She may be heard as a soloist in Telemann's Grillen-Symphonie with Apollo's Fire (Koch International Recording).

As a chamber musician, Rowell has collaborated with musicians from the Cavani, St. Lawrence, Pacifica, and Parker string quartets. Rowell has also performed with orchestras such as the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Boston Pops Orchestra, North Carolina Symphony, and Carmel Bach Festival. She received fellowships from the Aspen Music Festival, the Tanglewood Music Center, and the Solti Orchestral Project at Carnegie Hall. Rowell earned a bachelor's of music degree from Rice University, studying under Paul Ellison, and a master's of music degree from Boston University, studying under Edwin Barker.



### **Danny Ziemann — Jazz**

Danny Ziemann is a bassist, educator, and composer living in Rochester, NY. Freelancing professionally in western NY since the age of 18, Danny has toured throughout the USA, Canada, and Europe, playing major jazz festivals and Lindy Hop festivals.

Equally versatile in both electric and upright bass, Danny's performance resume includes shows with Josh Groban, The Rat Pack (national touring act), Delfeayo Marsalis, Dave

Douglas, Don Menza, Dennis Mackrel, Bob Sneider, George Caldwell, Bill Dobbins, and Bobby Militello. Since 2012, Danny has regularly toured with respected bandleader Gordon Webster, playing for swing dancers and lindy hoppers all over the world including trips to Istanbul, Munich, Copenhagen, and London. Other collaborations in the swing dance community include performances with Jonathan Stout, Solomon Douglas, Fried Bananas, and Mike Faltese.

A 2012 graduate of the Eastman School of Music with degrees in music education and jazz bass performance, Danny studied extensively with Jeff Campbell, James VanDemark, and Bill Dobbins. He also continues to study privately with renowned bassist Larry Grenadier of the Brad Mehldau trio.

As the Instructor of jazz bass at the Eastman Community Music School and Adjunct Professor at SUNY Oswego, Danny balances a full-time performing schedule with a full private teaching studio. Combining his love for performing and education, he published his first book in a series of method books in 2015 entitled *The Low Down: A Guide to Creating Supportive Jazz Bass Lines*, featuring contributions from esteemed bassists Larry Grenadier, John Clayton, and Rufus Reid. He is actively working on the second book, with a release planned by late 2015. He is an active guest clinician at many colleges, conferences, and camps throughout the country including the Eastman School of Music, Ithaca College Conservatory, the Nazareth Bass Retreat, and the 2015 International Society of Bassists convention.

In 2014, Danny and Gaelen McCormick spearheaded the Rochester Bass Community, a community dedicated to providing studio classes and resources for bassists in the Greater Rochester area. He is also a teaching artist for the Institute for Creative Music, a not-for-profit group in Rochester providing resources for students. In his spare time, Danny also writes for the D'Addario strings blog *Behind The Bridge*.

In 2015, Danny was the 2nd place winner of the International Society of Bassists Jazz Bass Competition, an event occurring every two years with an esteemed panel of judges including Buster Williams, Rufus Reid, and Martin Wind.



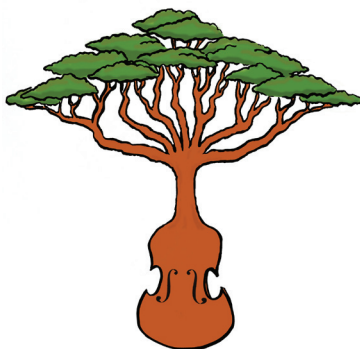
### Mike Forfia — Jazz

Mike Forfia is a native of Akron, Ohio and currently resides in Rochester, New York. He earned a bachelor of music degree from the University of Akron in 2012 and is currently pursuing a master's of music in jazz double bass performance and contemporary media at the Eastman School of Music.

Forfia is a product of the varied and vibrant music scene in northeast Ohio. Equally at home on upright and electric bass, his musical experiences have led him to perform in settings from free-jazz improvisation to sight-reading with national tours of Broadway musicals and many things in between.

Notable performances and professional associations include a 2011 tour with the World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra, the Nelson Riddle Orchestra, the touring cast of *Wicked*, the Erie Philharmonic Orchestra, violinist Christian Howes, and various recording and sideman projects.

Mike Forfia was the 1st prize winner of the 2015 International Society of Bassists Scott LaFaro Jazz Bass competition, and a finalist in the 2013 Airmen of Note jazz bass audition. He began his studies at Eastman in the fall of 2014 as a graduate teaching assistant, where he is a candidate for the Arts Leadership Certificate as well as the programming director and producer of the *Jazz@Eastman: Past, Present, and Future* radio program, and administrator of the Eastman Gig Service.



Stringed Instrument Services

NEW YORK American String Teacher's Association



**NAZARETH COLLEGE**

## Daily Schedule:

9 a.m.	Bass ensemble	Parts available at all levels
10 a.m.	Masterclass 1	Split into small groups of 3-6
11 a.m.	Special topic — participants will choose one	Alexander Technique with Katie Fitipaldi, jazz bass line construction with Danny Ziemann, adding Dalcroze to your practice with Gaelen McCormick, orchestral rep class, and more options
12 p.m.	LUNCH! incl. in registration fee	chat with faculty, meet your new bass friends, visit vendors
1 p.m.	Student recital hour	Everyone has the opportunity to play, accompanist provided, low pressure... this all about sharing what we are working on
2 p.m.	Small ensembles	Groups are coached by our faculty and assigned by interest/style based on registration info
3 p.m.	Masterclass 2	Participants will get a class with every faculty member over the course of the week
4 p.m.	Faculty Recital 1	
4:45 p.m.	Faculty Recital 2	
5:30 p.m.	Students picked up	Vendors close

**"I feel so much more confident working with my bass players!"**

— Rochester area school teacher and 2014 and 2015 workshop participant

**"This gave me so much inspiration. I can't wait to see what happens next year! We're definitely coming back!"**

— Young Bassists participant 2015

# Nazareth College Bass Retreat Registration Form August 8–12, 2016

## WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

- Arrival: 9 a.m.
- Workshops begin: 9 a.m.
- Faculty recital (open to the public): 4-5 p.m.
- Students available for pick up no later than 5:30 p.m.

Schedule includes stretches and warm-ups, care of your instrument, improv for everyone, master classes at different levels, pedagogy for teachers, sitting and standing posture, practicing tips, and a faculty recital with all guest teachers.

## TO REGISTER:

- Print and complete registration form.
- Include your check made payable to Nazareth College and mail to Nazareth College, Attn: Music Department, 4245 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618.

## PAYMENT DETAILS:

The registration fee includes all workshops, performances, and lunch each day. Please make checks payable to Nazareth College.

**Early Registration before June 1:** \$400

**After June 1:** \$500

## QUESTIONS?

Call Pamela Griffin at the Nazareth Music Department at 585-389-2700 or Gaelen McCormick at 585-764-2809.

PARTICIPANT NAME	PHONE
ADDRESS	EMAIL
CITY/STATE/ZIP	T-SHIRT SIZE
NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN (Any child too young to go from class to class needs an adult to help.)	WILL ATTEND?
PLAYING EXPERIENCE	
HOW LONG STUDIED?	PRIVATE TEACHER/S?
TEACHER'S NAME	TEACHER'S EMAIL
SCHOOL ORCHESTRA/BAND?	HOW MANY YEARS?
CURRENT SOLO PIECE/S:	
PAST SOLO PIECE/S:	
PIECE YOU WANT TO PLAY IN GROUP SOLO RECITAL:	

## Please rate your own ability (1 = no experience — 5 = very comfortable)

Shifting on neck \_\_\_\_ Thumb position \_\_\_\_ Read treble clef \_\_\_\_ Read complex rhythms \_\_\_\_ Improvise \_\_\_\_ Read in all keys \_\_\_\_

## Teachers—In-service credit is available thanks to NY ASTA.

Need to rent a bass? Rentals are available for \$20 per day. Please specify size \_\_\_\_\_ and bow style \_\_\_\_\_ .

### 2016 TEACHERS:

Jeffrey Turner — Pittsburgh Symphony, principal bass  
Nicholas Walker — Ithaca College  
Mike Forfia — Rochester bassist, winner 2015 ISB Jazz Bass Competition  
Tracy Rowell — Oberlin College  
Gaelen McCormick — Rochester Philharmonic, Nazareth College  
Brian Williams — Rochester jazz bassist  
Danny Ziemann — SUNY Oswego, Eastman Community School

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