

2025/2026



STRAZ CENTER
PATEL
CONSERVATORY
SCHOOL YEAR BROCHURE





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ABOUT US

The opening of Patel Conservatory more than twenty years ago solidified Straz Center's commitment to its long-standing mission to make arts education a community priority.

Today, Straz Center is one of the only performing arts centers in the nation with an on-site, accredited performing arts conservatory.

Patel Conservatory offers arts education courses and programs in dance, theater and music, allowing students to advance from discovery to mastery.

MISSION

Patel Conservatory provides the finest performing arts training in an inspirational setting.

VISION

Patel Conservatory gives students the tools to: dream, reach, discover and create the performing arts; integrate them into everyday life; and contribute to the community.

THE FINEST ARTISTS AND EDUCATORS

Students are instructed by passionate, working artists with a vast array of professional performance experience and exemplary curriculum vitae, including degrees and study at these, and many other, fine institutions:

Eastman School of Music • The Juilliard School • The School of American Ballet • Yale University

Staff and faculty bios are available at patelconservatory.org.

EXTENSIVE SELECTION OF CLASSES

More than 100 weekly classes in dance, theater and music for all ages and skill levels

EXTRAORDINARY FACILITIES

- Spacious and contemporary dance studios with sprung floors, mirrors and barre apparatus
- A state-of-the-art black box theater used both for performance and technical instruction, as well as productions
- Multiple private-lesson studios for one-on-one instruction

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT PATELCONSERVATORY.ORG.

Many thanks to these contributing photographers: Fotoset by James Luedde Soho Images, Rob/Harris Productions, Stephanie Pemberton, Shazarah Rahaman, Hanna Toeniskoetter and Adrienne Harden.



2025-2026 CALENDAR

IMPORTANT DATES

MON • JUL 28, 2025 • Priority Consideration Financial Aid Deadline for Fall

MON • AUG 25, 2025 • Fall Classes Begin

MON • SEP 1, 2025 • Labor Day – Conservatory Closed

FRI • OCT 31, 2025 • Halloween Day – Conservatory Closes at 4PM

MON • NOV 11, 2025 • Veterans Day – Conservatory Closed

NOV 24-29, 2025 • Fall Break – Conservatory Closed

MON • DEC 8, 2025 • Priority Consideration Financial Aid Deadline for Spring

SAT • DEC 20, 2025 • Last day of Fall Classes

DEC 22, 2025 – JAN 10, 2026 • Winter Break – Conservatory Closed

MON • JAN 12, 2026 • Spring Classes Begin

MON • JAN 19, 2026 • Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – Conservatory Closed

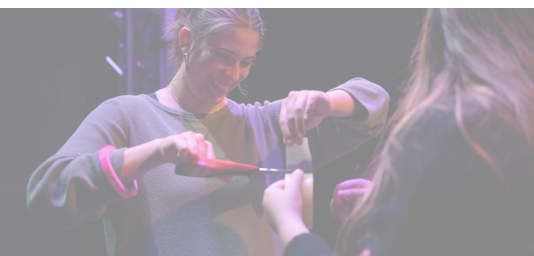
SAT • JAN 24, 2026 • Gasparilla Pirate Fest – Conservatory Closed

MAR 16-21, 2026 • Spring Break – Conservatory Closed

FRI • APR 3, 2026 • Good Friday – Conservatory Closed

SAT • MAY 9, 2026 • Last Day of Classes

Specific programs may begin or end on a different date or may remain open during the closures posted above. Call 813.222.1040 or speak to your instructor for more information.



Patel Conservatory students have opportunities to perform in shows, events and concerts throughout each session, many of which are on stage in Straz Center's professional theaters.

2025 FALL

2026 SPRING

Music Faculty Recital #1

NOV 10

The Wizard of Oz

NOV 14-16

NOV 21-23

Holiday Music Concert

DEC 7

Music Private

Lesson Recitals

DEC 12-13

Jazz Jam

DEC 13

Next Generation

Ballet's

Nutcracker

DEC 19-23

Youth America

Grand Prix Gala

JAN 10

Music Faculty Recital #2

JAN 26

Theater for Young Audiences:

To the Stars

FEB 7-8

Roald Dahl's *Willy Wonka KIDS*

FEB 19-22

Music Faculty Recital #3

FEB 23

Spring Cabaret

FEB 27-28

On the Edge

MAR 28

Music Honors Recital

APR 2

Disney's *High School Musical Jr.*

APR 23-26

Spring Music Spectacular:

Operas and Oratorios

APR 28

Spring Into Dance

MAY 2

Breakin' Out

MAY 2

Beginning Dance 1 Recital

MAY 2

Music Private Lesson Recitals

MAY 8-9

Jazz Jam

MAY 9

Next Generation Ballet's *Coppelia*

MAY 9-10

End-of-Year Celebration

MAY 16



Additional performances may be scheduled. All sales are final. Events, dates, times, performers and prices are subject to change without notice. Check patelconservatory.org for the most current information.

Patel Conservatory Student Discount

For most Conservatory performances, each Patel Conservatory student may purchase one ticket at half price in select seating areas by presenting a valid Patel Conservatory ID in person at the Ticket Sales Office. This discount cannot be combined with any other special offer and is available for one ticket per run of each Patel Conservatory event. Handling fees will apply.

DANCE



Patel Conservatory dance department offers instruction, training and enrichment for students from age three through young adult.

The Next Generation Ballet® (NGB)

mission is to be a steppingstone for great dance talent. NGB is a pre-professional auditioned dance company preparing serious young dancers for professional employment through instruction, coaching and performance opportunities.

Patel Conservatory Youth Ballet (PCYB)

for grade-school-aged dancers, is a structured after-school program for serious young ballet students.

Patel Conservatory Popular Dance (PCPD)

provides a track for grade-school-aged dancers looking for a contemporary edge and a path to television and Broadway.



next generation **BALLET**®

Next Generation Ballet® and Patel Conservatory Youth Ballet

- Winner, Outstanding School, 2011, 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 Youth America Grand Prix, Tampa
- Award-winning faculty from the world's best dance schools and ballet companies
- Recital and showcase opportunities for students of every level
- Structured curriculum for beginning to pre-professional level students

NGB IS COMMITTED TO THE ARTISTIC, PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUTSTANDING YOUNG DANCERS.

Next Generation Ballet® Trainee Program

The NGB Trainee Program offers two to four years of advanced training in classical ballet for students, ages 13-19, who have the desire, commitment, aptitude, and ability to pursue a career in classical ballet. Select students have the opportunity to participate in the intensive coaching program to prepare for major ballet competitions. Information about off-site and online academic options is available.

Acceptance is by audition only.

Trainee A1[†] • Ages 13-19

Trainee A2[†] • Ages 13-19

Trainee B[†] • Ages 13-19

MON-SAT • Call for schedule.

New Artist Program

New Artist dancers receive a full-tuition scholarship to the NGB Trainee Program and a living stipend. They receive intensive coaching, significant performing opportunities with NGB and other Straz Center events, competition opportunities and mentorship to prepare for a career in classical ballet.

*Acceptance is by audition only.

* Prerequisite - audition, placement, prior class, experience or instructor approval is required.

† Monthly payment includes tuition only. Purchase of costumes and recital fees are additional.



Patel Conservatory Youth Ballet (PCYB)

Official School of Next Generation Ballet® (NGB)

Each PCYB division has a sequence of levels designed to meet the students' developmental and technical needs. Classes impart a technique combining an American speed and lightness in the lower limbs while maintaining a classical port de bras.

Enrollment Division

Dancers, ages 3-7, are placed into appropriate class levels primarily by age. The classes introduce structured movement and the demands of serious ballet study. Each level is designed to challenge students within the context of their increasing physical, emotional and cognitive development in Beginning Dance 1, 2, 3 and Primary. Formal barre work is introduced as students mature.

Beginning Dance 1, Sec. I†

Age 3
THU • 4:15-5:00PM

Beginning Dance 1, Sec. II†

Age 3
SAT • 9:00-9:45AM

Beginning Dance 2, Sec. I†

Ages 4-5
FRI • 4:00-5:00PM

Beginning Dance 2, Sec. II†

Ages 4-5
SAT • 9:00-10:00AM

Beginning Dance 3, Sec. I†

Ages 5-6
TUE • 4:00-5:00PM

Beginning Dance 3, Sec. II†

Ages 5-6
SAT • 9:00-10:00AM

Primary, Sec. I†

Ages 6-7
MON • 4:00-5:00PM

Primary, Sec. II†

Ages 6-7
WED • 5:00-6:00PM

Primary, Sec. III†

Ages 6-7
SAT • 9:00-10:00AM

Pre-professional Division

Dancers, ages 7-17, are placed by ability in this division. They begin in Preparatory, attending a minimum of two ballet classes per week and a class in tap or jazz to broaden their movement skills. As the students move at their own pace through Levels 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 4 and 5, emphasis is placed on discipline, musicality and technique. In Levels 3A, 3B, 4 and 5, young women take pointe classes while young men take specialized classes for male dancers. Call for schedule.

Preparatory, Sec. I*†

Ages 7-13
MON/WED

Preparatory, Sec. II*†

Ages 7-13
WED/SAT

Level 1A, Sec. I*†

Ages 8-14
MON/WED

Level 1A, Sec. II*†

Ages 8-14
THU/SAT

Level 1B, Sec. I*†

Ages 9-15
TUE/FRI

Level 1B, Sec. II*†

Ages 9-15
THU/SAT

Level 2A*†

Ages 10-16
MON/TUE/FRI/SAT

Level 2B*†

Ages 11-17
MON/TUE/THU/SAT

Level 3A*†

Ages 12-17
MON, WED-SAT

Level 3B*†

Ages 12-17
MON-SAT

Level 4*†

Ages 13-17
MON-SAT

Level 5*†

Ages 15-17
MON-SAT

Progressing Ballet Technique (PCYB Level 1B-2B)*†

SPRING ONLY
Ages 9-17
MON • 7:30-8:30PM

Progressing Ballet Technique (PCYB Level 3A-5)*†

SPRING ONLY
Ages 12-17
THU • 7:30-8:30PM

* Prerequisite - audition, placement, prior class, experience or instructor approval is required.

† Monthly payment includes tuition only. Purchase of costumes and recital fees are additional.

Patel Conservatory Popular Dance (PCPD)

PCPD is a serious structured program preparing dancers for popular dance opportunities including Broadway, television, industrials, cruise ships, theme parks and music videos. The program offers young dancers’ classes to diversify their dance skills in jazz, contemporary and Just for Kicks with additional options in ballet by placement and approval of the PCYB faculty. Students have the flexibility to create their own course of study by choosing available classes. A variety of performance opportunities are available depending on the attended classes



Enrollment Division

Dancers, ages 5-13, are placed into an appropriate class primarily by age. The classes introduce structured movement in tap and jazz.

Tap Dance 1†

Ages 5-7

TUE • 3:30-4:00PM

Tap Dance 2†

Ages 8-10

THU • 4:00-5:00PM

Tap Dance 3†

Ages 10-12

THU • 5:00-6:00PM

Tap Dance 4†

Ages 11-13

SAT • 11:00AM-12:00PM

Beginning Jazz†

Ages 7-11

SAT • 10:00-11:00AM



Patel Conservatory Open Dance Program

ADULT BALLET

(Age 15-Adult)

In this introductory class, students learn the fundamental concepts of ballet and basic vocabulary. Students work on exercises both at the barre and in the center of the studio. This class is recommended for students who would like to try ballet for the first time and those who are returning to ballet class after a hiatus.

SAT • 11:30AM -12:30PM

FALL SEP 20 – NOV 22

SPRING FEB 7 – APR 18

ADULT TAP

(Age 15-Adult)

In this introductory class, students learn the fundamental concepts of tap and basic vocabulary. Students work on exercises both in the center and across the studio. This class is recommended for students who would like to try tap for the first time and those who are returning to tap class after a hiatus.

MON • 7:30-8:30PM

FALL SEP 15 – NOV 17

SPRING FEB 2 – APR 13

† Monthly payment includes tuition only. Purchase of costumes and recital fees are additional.

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a red, pleated, ruffled costume that resembles a mermaid's tail or a large fan. She has a crown with black, pointed, star-like ornaments on her head. Her face is painted with red, scale-like patterns. She is posing dramatically, with one arm raised and the other bent. The background is a stone wall with a chain hanging from the top left.

THEATER

Patel Conservatory theater department offers classes for students age 3 to adult, from entry-level and enrichment experiences to advanced-level training. Students discover the world of theater by performing on stage in Patel Conservatory productions, studying skills for successful auditions, learning on-screen techniques and exploring technical apprenticeships. Students choose from courses in Acting, Musical Theater, and Improv have the opportunity to pursue Theater Certification (grades 5-12). All classes end with an open classroom experience where students demonstrate the skills they've learned.



MUSICAL THEATER

Intro to Musical Theater

Ages 5-7 • SAT • 10:00-11:00AM

Students are introduced to the world of musical theater through instruction in dance, theater and music. Students explore the fundamental tools used to perform musical theater as they develop ensemble skills, performance technique and confidence while gaining an understanding of the production process through work with literature and scripts.

Theater for the Very Young

Ages 18-36 months + Adult • TUE • 9:00-9:30AM

Step into a world of pure imagination with your little one! This interactive class transforms playtime into a theatrical experience through sensory play, music, movement and dramatic storytelling. Designed for babies (18-36 months) and their caregivers, each session is packed with expressive play that strengthens your bond, sparks curiosity and turns everyday moments into mini performances. From gentle sways to playful character moments, share magical moments that inspire imagination and connection in a welcoming and engaging environment.

Musical Theater 1A

Ages 7-10 • WED • 5:00-6:00PM

In this exciting beginner level class, students expand their budding love of musical theatre through the basics of dance, acting and music techniques. Students develop performance skills through engaging improvisational games, vocal work, movement combinations and scene study.

Ages 11-13 • THU • 5:00-6:00PM

For older beginners or those continuing from Musical Theater 1A, this class expands on the fundamentals with more advanced acting, vocal and dance techniques. Students refine their skills through engaging improvisational exercises, vocal work, character study and more complex choreography.

*Prerequisite: Musical Theater 1A and/or successful faculty placement.

Musical Theater 1B

Ages 7-13 • MON • 5:00-6:30PM

For students who have successfully completed Musical Theater 1A (previously Musical Theater 1) this course builds upon the fundamentals of MT 1A. Students have more in depth training in Musical Theater as they learn how to fuse singing, dancing and acting into a single mode of expression. Topics include character work, vocal terminology, dance combo memorization and audition techniques.

*Prerequisite: Musical Theater 1A and/or successful faculty placement.

Musical Theater 2

Ages 11-15 • MON • 6:30-8:00PM

Building on the curriculum of Musical Theater 1 this course furthers the students techniques in singing, dancing and acting. Through more complex material and pedagogy students gain a better understanding of themselves as a performing artist. Topics include voice and speech, character building, monologues, two person scene work and audition technique.

*Prerequisite: Musical Theater 1B and/or successful faculty placement.

Musical Theater Dance 1

Ages 10-13 • THU • 5:00-6:00PM

Training in musical theater dance gives students the skills they need to perform with confidence in musicals. Focus on building a solid foundation of classical dance technique while learning how to build characters and tell stories through choreography. A taste of musical theater history shows students how dance in musical theater has evolved. This is a great class for students new to dance and for those looking to strengthen fundamental skills.

Musical Theater Dance 2

Ages 13-18 • TUE • 5:00-6:30PM

The focus of this class is twofold: technique and choreography. While dance in musical theater is fun and character-driven, its foundation lies in classical technique. Ballet and jazz exercises are incorporated while progressing through musical theater styles and time periods, stressing the importance of influential choreographers along the way. Class kicks off with a thorough warm up starting with center barre through a solid workout targeting abs and arms while utilizing yoga and Pilates exercises. Students dance through musical theater history to be sure they can attack all styles of choreography in a musical theater dance audition.

*Prerequisite: Musical Theater Dance 1 and/or successful faculty placement.





Musical Theater Tap 1

Ages 10-13 • MON • 6:30-7:30PM

Tap dance is often used in musical theater to tell a story, further a plot and entertain audiences. In this beginner/intermediate course, students are introduced to the historical role of tap dance in musical theater while building basic tap skills and a strong foundation of tap technique. Through rhythmic exercises, terminology and choreography, students focus on technique, style and performance quality. While tap shoes are necessary, students who are new to tap or previously taken a tap class will benefit from this instruction.

Musical Theater Tap 2

Ages 14-18 • THU • 6:00-7:00PM

In this intermediate/advanced tap class, tap terms and common phrases will be reviewed and added upon while increasing speed and varying rhythms. Students build upon their tap technique while gaining a more comprehensive understanding of how the art form has grown.

*Prerequisite: Musical Theater Tap I and/or successful faculty placement.

Patel Conservatory Theater Ensemble

Ages 12-18 • THU • 7:00-8:30PM

This audition-based ensemble focuses on training the next generation of young theater artists. Students develop musical theater performance repertoire in this weekly advanced musical program that will cover acting, singing and dance training. PCT ensemble members will have the opportunity to perform rehearsed material throughout the year at various events, acting as performing arts ambassadors of Straz Center and during a culminating spring showcase for families.



Acting 1

Ages 7-10

TUE • 5:00-6:00PM

This introductory class give students the opportunity to grow confidence onstage and find their voice as an actor. Students are exposed to different theatrical elements from improv to blocking basics as well as speaking alone onstage in both monologue work and scene work, all the while exploring character development and theater etiquette.

Acting 2

Ages 10-13

WED • 5:00-6:00PM

In this repeatable class, students explore acting through games, hands-on activities, as well as monologue and scene work. Students focus on honing skills needed such as projection, body control and connecting with others through a variety of different acting techniques.

Acting 3:

Fundamentals of Acting (Fall)

AUG 27 - DEC 17

Ages 14-18

WED • 7:00-8:00PM

Focus is placed on essential acting concepts, voice techniques, physical communication and character development through scene and monologue work as well as a variety of other activities during this semester-long exploration of acting.

Continue to next page for Acting 3 Spring Classes!

Acting 3:

Methods of Acting (Spring)

JAN 14 - MAY 6 Ages 14-18 WED • 7:00-8:00PM

Expanding on skills acquired in Fundamentals of Acting, students explore different techniques through a variety of acting methods. Multi-week units explore teachers such as Stanislavski, Grotowski, Chekhov, Meisner and Bogart, testing the waters of each technique through games and activities to find one that resonates with each student's style of training.

*Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Acting and/or successful faculty placement.

IMPROV (Fall)

AUG 25 - DEC 20 • Ages 10-18 • MON • 8:00-9:00PM

Step into the world of improv! If you've ever been curious about improvisation, this is the perfect place to start. Students of all experience levels explore fundamentals of improv through fun, high-energy games and group exercises. Students learn the core principles of "Yes, and," active listening, staying present, making bold choices and embracing mistakes with confidence—all in a supportive and encouraging environment.

IMPROV (Spring)

JAN 12-MAY 9 • Ages 10-18 • MON • 8:00-9:00PM

Take your improv skills to the next level! The spring session builds on the fundamentals introduced in the fall, shifting the focus from short-form games to dynamic scene work. Students will explore strong character choices, emotional commitment, and the art of heightening—transforming simple ideas into engaging, full-bodied scenes. Whether you're looking to sharpen your acting sensibilities or strengthen your confidence in unscripted storytelling, this course provides the tools to bring your scenes to life!



PATEL CONSERVATORY

THEATER PRODUCTIONS

*The Wizard of Oz**

Ages 10-18

SEP 3 – NOV 23

WED, FRI, SAT

WED & FRI Rehearsals – 6:00-9:00PM

SAT Rehearsals – 11:00AM-3:00PM†

Exact times may vary depending on cast availability

Performance Dates: NOV 14-16 and NOV 21-23



Follow the yellow brick road to Patel Conservatory Theater's production of the beloved classic in this delightful stage adaptation of L. Frank Baum's tale, featuring the iconic musical score from the MGM film. The timeless story, in which young Dorothy Gale travels from Kansas over the rainbow to the magical Land of Oz, continues to thrill audiences worldwide.

*Theater for Young Audiences: To the Stars**

Ages 14-18

JAN 14 – FEB 8

WED, FRI, SAT

WED & FRI Rehearsals – 6:00-9:00PM

SAT Rehearsal : 11:00AM-3:00PM†

Exact times may vary depending on cast availability

Performance Dates: FEB 7-8



To the Stars is a brand-new show for young audiences where imagination takes center stage. The world is full of wishes, but the stars are struggling to keep up. As constellations sacrifice their formations to bring hope to a world in need. Who will inspire the stars to keep shining? In this immersive production, audiences join the Luminarian Research Society on a mission to restore the fallen stars and keep the world's wishes alive. This unique production process invites student performers to go beyond acting. They become creative collaborators and dramaturgs, helping shape a brand-new Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) play that explores how hope, resilience and empathy can illuminate the world.

*Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka KIDS**

Ages 7-11

DEC 17 – FEB 23

WED, FRI, SAT

WED & FRI Rehearsals – 6:00-8:30PM

SAT Rehearsal : 11:00AM-3:00PM†

Exact times may vary depending on cast availability

Performance Dates: FEB 19-21



The delicious adventures experienced by Charlie Bucket on his visit to Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory light up the stage in this captivating tale. Featuring the enchanting songs from the 1971 film starring Gene Wilder, in addition to a host of fun new songs, this scrumdiddlyumptious musical is guaranteed to delight everyone's sweet tooth. Our young PCT students will dig into the world of Roald Dahl to bring this show to life in the TECO Theater!

*Disney's High School Musical JR.**

Ages 9-13

FEB 25 – APR 26

WED, FRI, SAT

WED & FRI Rehearsal – 6:00-9:00PM

SAT Rehearsal : 11:00AM-3:00PM†

Exact times may vary depending on cast availability

Performance Dates: APR 23-26



Disney Channel's smash hit movie musical comes to life in our TECO Theater in *Disney's High School Musical JR.* In this adaptation, Troy, Gabriella and the students of East High must deal with issues of love, friends and family while balancing their classes and extra curricular activities. The show's infectious, danceable songs are exactly what has engaged performers and audiences alike for years.

* Audition, placement or instructor approval is required.

• All classes, dates, times and prices are subject to change.

† Exact SAT rehearsal times may vary depending on cast availability.

CERTIFICATION

Jr. Theater Arts Certification

AGES 11 - 13

The Jr. Theater Certification Program is an intensive theater training program geared toward students pursuing acceptance into a performing arts high school or as a supplemental training program for students interested in beginning a professional career. Beginning the summer prior to or the fall of their fifth-grade year, students meet with a theater department advisor and develop their three-year course schedule. Students then complete the required courses in dance, music and theater over their middle school years. With the completion of these courses students receive a certification of completion and trophy of achievement.

Sr. Theater Certification*

AGES 14 - 18

The Sr. Theater Certification Program is an audition-based intensive theater training program geared toward students pursuing acceptance into a performing arts college or as a supplemental training program for students interested in beginning a professional career. Beginning the summer prior to or the fall of their ninth-grade year, students meet with a theater department advisor and develop their four-year course schedule. Students then complete the required courses in theater, technical theater and apprenticing over their high school years. With the completion of these courses students receive a certification of completion and trophy of achievement.

Sr. Musical Theater Certification*

AGES 14 - 18

The Sr. Musical Theater Certification Program is an audition-based intensive theater training program geared toward students pursuing acceptance into a performing arts college or as a supplemental training program for students interested in beginning a professional career. Beginning the summer prior to or the fall of their ninth grade year, students meet with a theater department advisor and develop their four-year course schedule. Students then complete the required courses in dance, music, theater, technical theater and apprenticing over their high school years. With the completion of these courses students receive a certification of completion and trophy of achievement.

Senior Capstone*

AGES 17 - 18

FEB 5-MAY 3

Student directors work with their peers in partnership with a theater department mentor to prepare a Senior Capstone presentation after completing the high school acting class track and submitting a production proposal.

* Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Acting and Techniques of Acting.





MUSIC

Patel Conservatory music department offers ensembles, classes and lessons in all areas of vocal and instrumental music for students from age 3 to adult. Master teachers and performers lead all areas of instruction to provide the finest music education for novice learners, music enthusiasts, pre-professionals and professionals.

CHILDREN'S MUSIC PROGRAM

The Children's Music Program offers an introduction to the creative world of musical expression and movement by providing a foundation for students to progress to vocal or instrumental music. Instructors lead children toward developing healthy singing practices and musical skills with fun, engaging lessons of vocal exercises and instrumental activities.



Suzuki Violin*

Group Class A

Age 3 and Up

MON • 3:30-4:30PM

Group Class B

Age 5 and Up

MON • 4:00-5:00PM



Patel Conservatory Suzuki program is taught by specialized instructors who guide students through violin instruction using the Suzuki Method. Children learn music by listening and establishing a technical foundation on the violin prior to reading music. The nurturing learning environment consists of a triangle of parent, teacher and child within a group class encouraging social interaction with other children. Registration includes weekly group violin class and 30 private lessons to be scheduled during the 25/26 school year. Due to the integral role of parental involvement in the Suzuki philosophy, it is required that parents attend both the group class and the private lesson.

NEW! in 2025/26, financial aid scholarships are available for families who qualify. Financial aid is applicable only to the group class tuition (\$485), and is not applicable to private lesson costs.

Suzuki Chamber Group Class

Age 8 and Up

WED • 5:00-6:00PM

Intended for the Suzuki violin student who is at late book 2 level or higher and is comfortable reading music, this class builds upon musical concepts and ensemble skills introduced in Suzuki Group Class, while delving into greater detail in practice and rehearsal skills, technical exercises and preparation for auditions and ensembles.

NEW! in 2025/26, financial aid scholarships are available for families who qualify. Financial aid is applicable only to the chamber class tuition, and is not applicable to private lesson costs.

Strummin' and Singin'

Ages 6-9

TUE • 4:15-5:00PM

Make new friends, sing new songs, and learn a new instrument! Students will divide their time between singing in a group setting and playing the ukulele. Budding young vocalists earn their choir-chops and begin reading music while also mastering basic strumming techniques and chord progressions. This class provides multiple performance opportunities including singing in *The Nutcracker*. Students must provide their own ukulele.

ADULT CLASSES

Adult Voice Class

FALL

AUG 28 - DEC 18

THU • 7:30 - 8:30PM

SPRING

JAN 15 - MAY 7

THU • 7:30 - 8:30PM

Singers of all skill levels find their voice in this group-lesson setting. Students study proper singing technique and strengthen their solo voice while exploring music of different styles. Students are encouraged to learn from each other and receive one-on-one coaching from a trained teacher-artist.

Adult Chamber Strings

TUE • 1:30 - 2:30PM

Designed for the busy adult amateur with some previous experience, this class combines work on technique and practice skills with ensemble rehearsal on small chamber works.

Adult Piano

YEAR LONG CLASS

THU • 6:00 - 7:00PM

Designed specifically for the beginning adult learner, this course offers a fun and comprehensive introduction to the fundamentals of piano playing. Through structured lessons and hands-on practice, students develop essential skills such as reading music notation, proper posture, basic techniques and playing piano repertoire. By the end of the course, adult learners have developed a solid foundation in piano playing and are equipped to continue their musical journey with joy and confidence.





Patel Conservatory Vocal Arts Program focuses on building healthy singing practices and progressing through developmentally-appropriate instruction. The end result is a well-rounded vocal education focused on strong solo and group singing skills.

Opera Workshop*

Ages 14-18 • MON • 4:30-6:00PM

In this collaborative program with Opera Tampa, resident opera company of Straz Center, advanced vocal students learn proper vocal technique through opera scenes, duets and arias while exploring opera history, composers, works and terminology. All students participate in masterclasses with professional guest artists and students have the opportunity to audition for the Opera Tampa Chorus.

Men's Ensemble*

Ages 12-18 • TUE • 5:00-6:00PM

Students with changed male voices explore the unique aspects of men's choral literature. Repertoire may include barbershop, doo wop, choral works and popular music.

Women's Ensemble*

Ages 12-18 • TUE • 6:00-7:00PM

This advanced female ensemble performs at the highest level, studying challenging choral literature while improving sight-reading skills, musicianship and vocal technique.

Chorale*

Ages 12-18 • TUE • 7:00-8:30PM

One of the premier performing ensembles at the Conservatory, Vocal Arts Chorale is for skilled male and female vocalists who are serious about singing music of many styles and languages. Students in this ensemble are strongly encouraged to enroll in Men's or Women's Ensemble.

*Requires an audition.



Bella Voce*

Ages 14-18 • TUE • 8:30-9:00PM

Focusing on tight harmonies, vocal jazz and barbershop styles, these ensembles perform challenging repertoire and participate in community and outreach performances in the Tampa Bay area. Students must be enrolled in Chorale or Women's Ensemble to be eligible for this smaller ensemble.

Barbershop*

Ages 14-18 • TUE • 8:30-9:00PM

Focusing on tight harmonies, vocal jazz and barbershop styles, these ensembles perform challenging repertoire and participate in community and outreach performances in the Tampa Bay area. Students must be enrolled in Chorale or Men's Ensemble to be eligible for this smaller ensemble.

Youth Choir

Ages 10-13 • FRI • 5:00-6:00PM

Girls and boys with unchanged voices excel in this large ensemble developing proper singing technique, music reading skills and musicianship. Choral repertoire includes arrangements of Broadway hits, classic choral pieces and popular music.

Voice and Theory Fundamentals

Ages 13-18 • WED • 4:00-5:00PM

Proper vocal technique is paired with music theory fundamentals in this course for solo singers. Level up your musicianship in this group class setting as you make yourself more marketable as a performer and a more well-rounded musician.

Youth Opera Workshop

SPRING

JAN 16 - MAY 8 • Ages 8-13 • FRI • 6:00-7:00PM

Explore the exciting world of opera through this unique class for young singers. Students will study and perform scenes and songs sung by children in some of the world's most famous operas. Learn a new language, practice your acting skills and prepare for your next role in the Patel Opera Children's Chorus. Multiple showcases include the Spring Music Spectacular in Ferguson Hall and the Opera Workshop Showcase.

*Requires an audition.

Voice Class

Ages 10-13 • WED • 5:00-6:00PM

Singers of all skill levels find their voice in this group lesson setting. Students study proper singing technique and strengthen their solo voice while exploring music of different styles. Students are encouraged to learn from each other and receive one-on-one coaching from a trained teacher-artist.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAMS



Intermezzo Strings*

Age 12-Adult • THU • 6:30-7:30PM

String players explore chamber music of various composers, periods and styles while refining performance techniques within a small ensemble setting. Small groups will meet together once a month for larger ensemble works.

Advanced Chamber Strings*

Age 12-Adult • TUE • 5:30-6:30PM

This select ensemble explores challenging chamber music repertoire as Patel Conservatory's premiere string ensemble performing throughout the Tampa Bay area.

*Requires an audition.

Beginning Piano Class

Ages 7-12 • MON • 4:30-5:30PM

Ages 10-15 • MON • 5:30-6:30PM

Learn to play the piano in a group class setting. Designed for the beginning piano student with no previous experience. Students participate in an imaginative and fun musical exploration that includes note reading, piano fundamentals, creative improvisation and piano ensemble.

Intermediate Piano Class

Ages 11-16 • MON • 6:30-7:30PM

Ages 8-13 • THU • 4:00-5:00PM

Designed for the pianist with at least a year of prior experience, this group class delves deeper into musical concepts, technique and repertoire to further refine students' playing abilities. Students build upon foundational skills while exploring more complex pieces in a dynamic environment to further their musical and pianistic journey.

Repertory Orchestra: Holiday Concert*

OCT 29 - DEC 3 • Ages 13-18 • WED • 6:00-7:30PM

This ensemble, made up of woodwind, brass and percussion students perform as a part of a full orchestra and in select chamber settings on multiple pieces for our Holiday Concert.

Repertory Orchestra: Spring Cabaret*

DEC 10 - FEB 25 • Ages 13-18 • WED • 6:00-8:00PM

Students selected for this ensemble will perform as the orchestra for our Spring Cabaret musical theater revue on FEB 27-28. Instruments needed will vary each depending on the repertoire selected.

Repertory Orchestra: Spring Concert*

MAR 25 - APR 22 • Ages 13-18 • WED • 6:00-7:30PM

This ensemble, made up of woodwind, brass and percussion students perform as a part of a full orchestra and in select chamber settings on multiple pieces for our Spring Concert on APR 28.

Jazz Improvisation*

Ages 12-18 • SAT • 10:00-11:00AM

Students in this jazz performance class receive instruction in improvisation, ensemble playing and elements of music theory that are utilized in jazz styles. Perfect for students enrolled in jazz ensemble in school that would like to learn to be a solo improviser.

Jazz Combo*

Ages 12-18 • SAT • 11:00AM - 12:00PM

Select auditioned students participate in this elite performance group and represent Straz Center and Patel Conservatory in performances at local events and venues.

Woodwind Quintet*

OCT 29 - MAY 6 • Ages 14-18 • WED • 5:00-6:00PM

This Woodwind Quintet class offers an opportunity for students to explore and perform chamber music repertoire. Focusing on ensemble playing, communication and individual technique, students collaborate on both classic and contemporary works.

MUSIC ACADEMICS

Music Theory Fundamentals**

Ages 9-13 • THU • 5:00-6:00PM

In this class, students are introduced to the vast world of music theory. Students who wish to further their musical knowledge are encouraged to take this class. A cumulation of note and rhythm reading, analysis, sight reading and listening skills. The class creates a solid foundation for understanding the language of music and is highly recommended for students to take before beginning lessons on another instrument.

*Requires an audition.

**Course materials are included in the cost of tuition.

CERTIFICATIONS

Vocal Arts Certification

Ages 14-18

This four-year intensive vocal training program is geared toward students pursuing acceptance into collegiate voice programs or as a supplemental training program for students interested in beginning a professional career in voice.

Piano Certification

Ages 14-18

This four-year program provides the essential training and fundamentals of piano, with classes focused on excellence in musicianship and performance. This program is designed for students ages 14-18 who are considering or seeking a college education in music.

Instrumental Certification

Ages 14-18

This multi-year program provides supplemental training in instrumental music at the highest level and is highly recommended for students ages 14-18 seeking acceptance into a college music program.



WORKSHOPS

All-State Audition Masterclass: Trumpet

Ages 13-18

SAT • AUG 23 • 9:00AM – 12:00PM

Trumpet students will spend the day learning about the FBA All-State audition process and will receive instruction on their audition materials including scales, etudes and sight reading. Issues of audition preparation and performance anxiety are also addressed culminating in an optional round of mock auditions.

Music Major Parent Information Session

ADULT

TUE • SEP 16 • 7:00 – 8:30PM

Do you have a student who is interested in applying to college as a music major? If so, this is a process that can be difficult to navigate, as it is very different than applying to college for most other majors. Come hear our experienced music faculty talk through the process of applying, pre-screening, auditioning, and making the big decision. A question and answer session will follow.

Music Audition Prep Workshop

Ages 13-18

TUE • OCT 14 • 7:00 – 8:30PM

Designed for students who are preparing for college entrance auditions, this workshop is open to any music student who wants to improve audition skills. It begins with a session on the different types of auditions and how to best prepare and deal with issues of stage fright and will conclude with students using their new skills in individual mock auditions.



Spring Cabaret*

Ages 12-18

WED-SAT • FEB 25-28 • 6:00 – 9:00PM

Perform your solo, duet, or small group number with a live orchestra at Straz Center. Collaborate with friends from across the Tampa Bay area on that song you always wanted to perform, but never got the chance. Choose your song, receive valuable coaching on technique and song interpretation and learn an exciting group number to round out the performance.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Age 5 and Up

Private lessons are the foundation for developing musical skills from the first notes through a professional career. Working one-on-one with our exceptional teaching artists gives students an opportunity to improve their skills that can translate into a more complete and enjoyable experience in instrumental and vocal ensembles both here at Patel Conservatory and in schools and professional ensembles. Private voice lessons are for students age 10 and older.



HOMESCHOOL

Homeschool Performing Arts (3 HR BLOCK)

Ages 8-17 • WED • 9:30AM-12:30PM

This morning-long session of three classes allows homeschool and non-traditional students to explore theater, music and movement in an active learning environment. Students explore collaboration through the arts, culminating each semester in a Homeschool Showcase.

Homeschool Theater

Ages 8-13 • WED • 9:30-10:30AM

In fall, students bring a script to life for in-class performance at the end of the semester, focusing on cultivating their skills in movement to vocal quality on stage as well as technical skills backstage collaborating on set design and props. In spring, the class collectively writes their own script using improv and creative collaboration. They repeat the process of producing the piece for an audience at an end of semester showcase.

Homeschool Musical Theater Movement

Ages 8-13 • WED • 11:30AM-12:30PM

This class introduces students to musical theater movement. Students become familiar with fundamental dance steps and rhythms, applying them to combinations that are both challenging and fun to build a strong technical foundation.

Homeschool Chorus 1

Ages 7-12

WED • 10:30-11:30AM

Students who love to sing participate in this ensemble performance group which pairs general music training with choral skills. Students practice healthy singing and develop musical expression through exciting repertoire selected to develop ensemble and solo singing techniques.

Homeschool Chorus 2

Ages 10-18

WED • 11:30AM - 12:30PM

Students looking to continue studies in singing will find new challenges in this course designed for students with at least a year of prior experience in choral music. Students explore more advanced skills such as sight-reading, harmony and vocal technique.

Homeschool Beginning Piano**

Ages 8-18

WED • 11:30AM - 12:30PM

Learn to play the piano in a group class setting. Designed for the beginning piano student with no previous experience, students participate in an imaginative and fun musical exploration that includes note reading, piano fundamentals, creative improvisation and piano ensemble.

Homeschool Intermediate Piano**

Ages 8-18

WED • 10:30 - 11:30AM

Designed for the pianist with a year of experience, this group class delves deeper into musical concepts, technique and repertoire to further refine students' playing abilities. Students build upon foundational skills while exploring more complex pieces in a dynamic environment to further their musical and pianistic journey.

****Course materials are included in the cost of tuition.**





OUTREACH



Arts Education Partnership Program

Each year, Straz Center and Patel Conservatory select a diverse group of Tampa Bay area agencies, schools and community organizations to which they provide ongoing performing arts education experiences to improve the quality of life for all involved.

For more information on the Arts Education Partnership Program, contact communityprograms@strazcenter.org.



Conservatory To-Go!

To meet the challenge of making performing arts education available to everyone, the Conservatory takes the show on the road by offering Conservatory To-Go! This fee-based program allows schools, businesses and organizations to create their own arts education experiences with us, but in their own spaces and places.

For more information on Conservatory To-Go!, visit patelconservatory.org or contact patelconservatory@strazcenter.org



Study Guides and Educators' Discounts

Straz Center and Patel Conservatory enhance the performance experience for lifelong learners by providing study guides that offer in-depth looks into performances that can be integrated into existing curriculum. In addition, teachers, homeschool educators and staff may be eligible to receive a discount off the purchase of up to two tickets for select shows.

For more information on study guides and Educators' Discounts, contact groups@strazcenter.org.

Straz Center has dedicated itself to make arts education accessible to everyone since the opening of its doors in 1987. Patel Conservatory strives to make the finest performing arts training available to all, especially communities that have experienced barriers in their access to the performing arts and performing arts education.

The Conservatory builds relationships with community partners to provide free or discounted opportunities to attend performances, dress rehearsals, lectures, talk-backs, master classes and workshops.

IT STARTS WITH YOU

Donations to Straz Center sustain our arts education programs and ensure every child in our community has a chance to step into the spotlight. With your gift of \$100 or more we'll waive your registration fees for the next 12 months.



MAKE YOUR GIFT IN MONTHLY PAYMENTS!
CONTACT THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
813.222.1036 / belong@strazcenter.org



SCAN HERE TO
MAKE A DONATION.



DISCOUNTS & INCENTIVES

PATEL PERKS

PATEL STUDENTS ATTEND MANY STRAZ CENTER PERFORMANCES AT REDUCED PRICES WITH ENROLLMENT IN PATEL CONSERVATORY CLASSES!

The best way to learn is from the masters! To maximize learning, Patel Conservatory students receive special discount codes and opportunities to attend performances within their discipline through our Patel Perks program.

more

PERKS FOR CONSERVATORY STUDENTS

- Students may purchase discounted tickets to a variety of select performances at the Straz Center.
- Students receive 50% off one ticket in select locations to most Conservatory productions.
- Students have the opportunity to benefit from professional guest artists performing at Straz Center through master classes and workshops.

*Handling fees will apply. Not combinable with any other offer. Days, dates, times, performances and prices are subject to change without notice.

Try Before You Buy

Do you want to explore the performing arts, but aren't sure which class is right for you? Patel Conservatory offers more than 100 classes in dance, theater and music.

Try one before you register! We have classes for all ages and experience levels. Come find your place in the performing arts!

Restrictions apply. Limit one class per discipline per student. Some classes may be observation only.

Pay in Full and Save 10%

Students whose session tuition is paid in full by AUG 24, 2025 will receive a 10% discount.

Not available online.
Valid for school-year classes only. Does not apply to private lessons, recital, or productions.
Contact admissions office for details.

Multi-Class Discount

Students who enroll in three or more classes will receive 10% off the cost of each class. The discount applies to three students in one family taking one class each, or one student taking three or more classes.

Does not apply to private lessons, recitals, productions or open dance classes. Not valid with any other discounts or scholarships. All classes must be registered together, otherwise discount will only be applied to third and subsequent classes.

Partnership Schools

Students currently enrolled in a Patel Conservatory partner school receive 20% off tuition.

Some exclusions apply. Must present a student ID or letter on school letterhead. A list of our current partner schools may be found at patelconservatory.org.

Military

Patel Conservatory is an active supporter of our military community. All active duty and retired members of the armed forces can receive 10% off tuition for select classes for themselves, their spouse, and their dependent children (under the age of 18).

If you qualify, please email admissions@strazcenter.org to receive your discount.

Not valid with any other discounts or scholarships. Does not apply to private lessons, recital fees, productions, or open dance classes.

Registration Fee

A \$45.00 registration fee is required per student, per term, assessed with your first enrollment each term and is due at the time of registration. The registration fee is waived for current Straz Center Annual Donors, which starts at \$100 annually.

Contact the Development office at **813.222.1036** to make your gift.

Does not apply to extended family members or friends. Family members must be verified and approved through the Admissions Office.

FAQs

HOW TO REGISTER

- Online: patelconservatory.org
- Phone: 813.222.1040
- In Person: By appointment only.

ONGOING ENROLLMENT

We accept new students throughout the year.

Course age groupings are based on student age as of SEP 1, 2025. Instructor approval may be required to join mid session. Students joining mid-session should be aware that they are joining classes in progress. Call the Admissions Office to find out which classes are available during any given month.

Payment Options

- Credit Card • Money Order
- Check • Straz Center Gift Card
- Payment Plans
 - Must be secured by credit card on file.
 - A \$3 fee will apply to all payment plans to help defray the costs incurred in processing multiple transactions.
 - Payment plan fee and first payment are due at time of registration.
 - Balance spread into equal monthly payments for the duration of the payment period.
 - Not available for productions, workshops and intensives.

*No cash is accepted at Admissions Office. Gift Cards cannot be used online.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

To ensure access to high-quality arts education experiences for everyone, Patel Conservatory provides scholarships to students and families who might otherwise be unable to participate. Scholarships are awarded by the Scholarship Committee and typically cover a percentage of tuition. Scholarship information may be obtained through the Admissions Office or at STRAZCENTER.ORG/financialaid. There is a \$15 application fee per family. Applications must be submitted with all required documents by the deadline for priority consideration. Please note scholarships are not awarded for private lessons, On-Camera Techniques, Adult Classes or school year productions. Scholarships do not cover registration and recital fees.

Financial Aid application Priority Consideration deadlines for 2025-2026:

Fall 2025– JUL 28, 2025

Spring 2026 – DEC 8, 2025

Pick-up and Drop-off

A convenient and secure pick-up/drop-off area is located on Fortune Street in front of the Conservatory, on the north side of the Straz Center complex. Vehicles enter from Doyle Carlton Drive and exit by continuing east on Fortune Street or turning south on N. W.C. MacInnes Place. The pick-up/drop-off lane should be used for this purpose only, not for parking, and is subject to ticketing fines by the City of Tampa. When you drop off your student, they enter through the Patel Conservatory lobby doors and exit the same way.

Auditions

Some classes require an audition or placement before a student may register. These classes are marked with an * on the schedule. Visit patelconservatory.org for more information about auditions and placements.

Patel Conservatory E-newsletter and Email Notifications

Sign up for our free monthly email newsletter, and get the latest news on classes, master classes, workshops, deals and Patel Conservatory events. Go to patelconservatory.org and click Sign Up For Email Updates link at the bottom of the page.

All students receive email notifications about traffic alerts, holidays and other reminders from the Patel Conservatory. If you are a student and are not receiving these emails, please see the admissions staff located in the Chairmen's Library.

Get Involved

Volunteer, intern and work-study opportunities are available. If interested, email: patelconservatory@strazcenter.org.

Important Information and Policies

- Tuition amounts are based on the classes scheduled in each syllabus and account for holidays, special events, productions and other missed sessions. We divide the full tuition into equal monthly payments for the convenience of our students and families.
- Proof of age may be required for those 18 and under. Students must be the appropriate age for class by SEP 1, 2025.
- Class sizes are limited. Advance registration ensures enrollment. Tuition and fees are due at the time of registration.
- Classes are closed to parent viewing until scheduled showcases.
- Course fees and tuition are non-refundable unless the course is cancelled, in which case tuition will be refunded in full.
- Schedules, instructors and prices are subject to change.
- All students and parents of minor students must complete and submit the signed liability and media release forms before joining classes. Students will not be allowed to attend class without completed paperwork.
- Monthly tuition must be paid by credit card and set up at time of registration.
- Placement into all classes and intensives and participation in student showcases and performances are subject to instructor approval.
- In case of emergency, students may be reached by calling Patel Conservatory security desk at **813.222.1270** or Straz Center security desk at **813.222.1070**.
- Patel Conservatory and the Straz Center do not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry or sexual orientation.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Straz Center believes the high-quality and unique arts education opportunities provided at Patel Conservatory should be available to everyone. To meet that objective, Straz has a scholarship program for students and families whose resources may limit their ability to attend our classes. All students may apply for our scholarship program that is generously funded by individuals, corporations and foundations who fervently believe in Patel's arts education mission.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Go to STRAZCENTER.ORG/FinancialAid to begin the scholarship application process.

There is a \$15 application fee per family.



Scan here to access more
information about financial aid.

813.222.1040 • patelconservatory.org

Patel Conservatory at the Straz Center does not discriminate against applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, political beliefs, national origin or disability.



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