

2017 - 2018 Artists in Residence

This program was made possible in part with the support of the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation and the North Carolina Arts Council.



Tim Smith | Flute - Vocals - Piano

MONDAYS 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Tim Smith's inspirational saxophone, positive lyrics, and expressive voice have been heard from Compiègne, France to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and from Saratov, Russia to the Carolinas. Tim earned a Bachelor's Degree in Jazz Saxophone Performance from Oberlin Conservatory. He later moved on to create an impressive musical performance resume, touring nationally and internationally with such bands as The Squirrel Nut Zippers, Orquesta GarDel, Hobex, The Beast Big Band and the Raleigh Jazz Orchestra. Tim has been performing music for patients, families and staff at Duke Hospital since 2008.



Alexandra Valladares | Guitar - Vocals

TUESDAYS 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Alexandra's love of singing began at an early age as a child in Honduras, inspired by her family of Latin folk singers and musicians. Her fluency in Spanish, French and English allows for versatility in interpreting ballads from around the world. She has lived in Durham for half her life and finds it to be an ideal hub for the synergy of arts and sciences. She holds degrees in Chemistry and Earth Science. Alexandra is the artist-in-residence at the Durham Senior Center where she plays for seniors suffering from Alzheimer's and Dementia and is the music teacher at the Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center through the Arts For Life program and a visiting teaching artist at the UNC Hospital School.



Shawn Luby | Classical Guitar

THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS 10 a.m. -12 p.m.

Shawn Luby is the founder of the North Carolina based orchestral folk group Humble Tripe. He began his musical studies in classical guitar at age four, training with some of world's greatest players, including Christopher Parkening and Pepe Romero. Shawn holds a degree in Clinical Laboratory Science (UNC) and Sociology (Colorado College), and serves as an adjunct professor in Clinical Chemistry for the Clinical Laboratory Science department at the University of North Carolina. Shawn is a regular performer for patients and families at Duke Regional Hospital and at Carillon Assisted Living in Hillsborough.



William Dawson | Piano - Ukulele - Guitar - Accordion

Musician In Residence & Semans/Bryd Performing Arts Coordinator

Full Time Staff Member, Available Monday - Friday

William Dawson spent time growing up in England, Australia, and The Netherlands before settling in the United States. He has engineered and produced over 150 records, toured internationally performing with the platinum-selling Squirrel Nut Zippers, worked as an elementary school music teacher and middle school band director, and helped to found hospital-based music programs for pediatric patients at the UNC Hospital School and the Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center. William studied music at The University of Memphis and graduated from North Carolina Central University (Summa Cum Laude) with a degree in Elementary Education. He has been performing music for patients, families and staff at UNC and Duke Hospitals since 2009.



Sponsored by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of Cultural Services.