

RSCDS Summer School Week 4 - Music Course for Class Musicians.

4th – 11th August 2019

Have you ever thought about playing for class or do you know a musician who is thinking about this but is not quite sure how or where to start? If this is the case then the Class Musicians' Course, which is part of the St Andrews Summer School, might just be the answer.

This course is aimed solely at those musicians who want to develop or enhance their playing as a class musician. Participants do not need to have played for class before but need to be relatively proficient in their own playing.

The course aims to encourage musicians to:

- understand how to deliver music for class which has the necessary sustainability and lift to inspire dancers;
- use an ever-increasing repertoire of tunes which complement and support the teaching of dancing;
- appreciate and deliver the nuances in the music which enhances teaching;
- understand the role and impact of the class musician;
- work sympathetically and as a team with the class teacher.

With only 8 places available this course is very much about the developmental needs of the individual delivered in a friendly and supportive environment by experienced tutors. The course will include group workshops on:

- style;
- tune types;
- researching and selecting appropriate tunes to make up sets of music for dancing;
- adapting technically difficult tunes;
- composing tunes in the Scottish idiom;
- repertoire sessions from experienced class musicians;
- observation of experienced musicians through attendance at dance classes;
- masterclass – working with a teacher;
- individual coaching/mentoring;
- keeping a learning journal.

This all takes place at St Andrews University, a great place to learn, meet like-minded people, make music and have fun. Take advantage of the 'early-bird' booking to secure your place and bursaries are available to support funding.

If you would like further details then please do not hesitate to contact Ian Muir at Craigellachie@btinternet.com