

Curriculum Vitae

Jennifer P. Aikey

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education | 4.0 GPA

Anticipated Graduation: May 2026

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Dissertation Title: The Lived Experiences of Second-Stage Neurodivergent Music Educators

Advisor: Dr. Tami Draves

Master of Music Education | 3.95 GPA – Summa Cum Laude

Florida State University

June 2013 - August 2016

Music Education - Instrumental Track (Summer MME)

Bachelor of Music | 3.5 GPA – Cum Laude

Augusta University

August 2009 - May 2013

Music Education

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty/Instructor

Winston-Salem State University; Winston Salem, NC | 2025-Present

Spring 2025:

MUS 2130 – Strings Class

Class instruction in playing and teaching violin, viola, cello, and bass. Includes basic playing skills on string instruments and preparation in string pedagogy for group instruction.

Instructor of Record, Graduate Teaching Assistant

UNC Greensboro; Greensboro, NC | 2023-Present

Instructor of Record

Fall 2024:

MUE 363 – Teaching Strings Laboratory

Class instruction in playing and teaching violin, viola, cello, and bass. Includes basic playing skills on string instruments and preparation in string pedagogy for group instruction.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Fall 2023:

MUE 467 - Instrumental Music in Schools

Methods of teaching instrumental music; study of administrative procedures, repertoire, personnel, and resources; application of music teaching techniques.

Spring 2024:

MUE 367 – Foundations of Teaching Instrumental Music

Teaching and organizing instrumental music in the US public schools. Includes planning and implementing pedagogical techniques for the instrumental music classroom. Includes supervised school internship. Cultural diversity and exceptional learner content explored in detail.

MUE 363 – Teaching Strings Laboratory

Class instruction in playing and teaching violin, viola, cello, and bass. Includes basic playing skills on string instruments and preparation in string pedagogy for group instruction.

Fall 2024:

MUE 463 – Advanced String Methods

Overview of classroom methods teaching for teaching strings with an emphasis on advanced skills on secondary string instruments.

MUE 467 - (Instrumental Microteaching Music Lab – String Teaching Evaluator)

Methods of teaching instrumental music; study of administrative procedures, repertoire, personnel, and resources; application of music teaching techniques.

Spring 2025:

ENS 390 – Sinfonia Orchestra

String orchestra, performance of important works from symphonic repertoire of eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries.

University Supervisor of Student Teachers

Fall 2023:

MUE 465: Student Teaching

Responsible for evaluation of student teachers: observations, feedback, final grade, licensure paperwork

Spring 2025:

MUE 465: Student Teaching

Responsible for evaluation of student teachers: observations, feedback, final grade, licensure paperwork

COMMUNITY ENGAGED SERVICE

Co-Teacher and Instructional Specialist of 4th and 5th Grade Orchestra Classes

Fall 2023-present

Lillian Rauch Beginning Strings Program (LRBS) at Peck Elementary

Students receive group violin & cello instruction twice weekly

Teacher (2023-present), Program Coordinator (2024–present)

Peer Artist Leadership Program (formerly Peck Alumni Leadership program)

String students in Guilford County Schools are nominated for inclusion in the PAL program based on interest and teacher recommendation. These students receive private lessons from UNCG preservice teachers in exchange for mentoring others in the program, in addition to a youth orchestra experience.

GUEST TEACHING EXPERIENCE

SanLee Middle School; Sanford, NC | January 2025

Myers Park High School; Charlotte, NC | January 2025

String Teaching Review, MUE 467 - Instrumental Music in Schools, UNCG | September 2024

Allatoona High School, Sinfonia & Freshman Orchestras; Acworth, GA | 2022-2023

K-12 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Durham Middle School; Acworth, GA | Cobb County School District

Orchestra Director | 2015-2023

Assistant Orchestra Director | 2013-2015

- Taught full-time for ten years, earning consistent Superior ratings.
- Led over 300 students annually with a 75% retention rate, directing multiple concerts and community events each year. Organized annual 8th-grade music trips for over 200 participants, students regularly earned spots in GMEA All-State and District Honor Orchestras
- Directed Durham Fiddlers and Cello Choir in frequent community performances, and co-led the Musical Theater Club, which won the Alliance Theater Jumpstart Grant in 2020.
- Composed and arranged music for students and previously taught beginning guitar and music appreciation.
- Served on the Teacher Leadership Team (2021-2023) and as a Sources of Strength Trusted Adult (2019-2023).
- Teacher of the Year nominee in 2022.

East Aiken Elementary School of the Arts; Aiken, SC | Aiken County Public School District

Part-Time Strings Teacher | 2010-2013 (Pilot Program)

FEATURED STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Lobby Performance – Durham MS Fiddlers

Georgia Music Educators Association Conference; Athens, GA | January 2019

PRIVATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Violin, Viola, Cello, Guitar, Mandolin

Lessons in Your Home; Atlanta, GA | 2019

Carolina Academy of Music; Aiken, SC | 2010-2013

Home Studio; Augusta, GA | 2010-2013

OTHER RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Office Assistant & Orchestra Librarian, Augusta University; Augusta, GA | 2010-2013

YOUTH ORCHESTRA EXPERIENCE

Rehearsal Sub & Sectional Coach, Greensboro Youth Symphony Orchestra; Greensboro, NC | 2024-present

Undergraduate Student Assistant, Youth Orchestras of Greater Augusta; Augusta, GA | 2010-2013

GUEST ADJUDICATOR/CLINICIAN

Durham Orchestra Festival; Durham, NC | March 2025

Guilford County Schools Orchestra Festival; Greensboro, NC | February 2025

Eastern NC Music Performance Assessment (MPA); Chapel Hill, NC | March 2024

Whitewater Music Festival; Columbus, GA | February 2023

Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School; Augusta, GA | 2011-2013

SUMMER CAMPS

Middle School Orchestra Conductor, UNCG Summer Music Camp; Greensboro, NC | 2024

Camp Director, Upbeat! String Camp West Cobb; Acworth, GA | 2022

Co-Teacher/Conductor, Upbeat! String Camp West Cobb; Acworth, GA | 2017-2019, 2021

Co-Teacher/Conductor, Augusta State University Strings Camp; Augusta, GA | 2014 & 2015

Student Teaching Assistant, Laurel Ridge Music Camp; Dawsonville, GA | 2010-2012

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Aikey, J.P. (in progress). Composing Resilience: A Narrative of a Neurodivergent Preservice Music Teacher.

Aikey, J.P. (*dissertation proposal*) The Lived Experiences of Second-Stage Neurodivergent Music Educators

MacLeod, R.B. & Aikey, J.P. (in progress). Factors Influencing K-12 Music Teacher Attrition.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

National

MacLeod, R.B. & Aikey, J.P. (2024). *Factors contributing to K-12 music teacher attrition* [Research poster presentation]. Biennial National Association for Music Education Music Research and Teacher Education Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.

Regional

MacLeod, R.B. & Aikey, J.P. (2024). *Factors contributing to K-12 music teacher attrition* [Research poster presentation]. North Carolina Music Educators Association Conference, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

TEACHING/MUSIC EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS

National

Aikey, J. P., Palmer, J.D., Roodenburg, J., Jackson, G., & Tschiegg-Baker, A.K. (March 2025) *Overcoming obstacles, challenges, and missteps: You are not alone*. [Invited presentation]. American String Teachers Association National Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.

Bagley, M. H., **Aikey, J. P.**, Stinson, J., Hansen, E. M. (January 2025) *Parenting is hard. Let's talk*. [Invited presentation] American String Teachers Association Webinar.

Regional

Aikey, J.P. (2024). *Extracurricular string ensembles: Advocating for your program & reaching your community*. [Invited presentation]. Southeast Honors String Festival, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Guarriello, M.L., Rose, M., Gray, K.T., **Aikey, J.P.** (2024). *Connecting research to practice: A panel on how university programs or schools can be mutually beneficial to elevating music education*. [Invited presentation]. Southeast Honors String Festival, Greensboro, North Carolina.

SERVICE TO UNCG

String Music Education Assistant Professor Search Student Committee Member | 2024-2025

Volunteer and Performer in Beginning Uke Recital | Fall 2024

Assistant/Volunteer for Visiting School Orchestras at UNCG | 2023-Present

Southeast Honors String Festival Assistant | 2023 & 2024

Conversation/Writing Partner for International Graduate Music Students | 2023-2024

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteer, Guilford County Schools; Greensboro, NC | 2023-Present

Worship Team & Children's Ministry Volunteer, Eagle Pointe Church Acworth, GA | 2017-2023

Usher/Library Volunteer, Augusta Symphony; Augusta, GA | 2010-2013

Various Community Volunteer Work; Augusta, GA | 2008-2012

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Regional and Local Performances

Solo & Group Performances: Voice, Guitar, Mandolin, Violin

Augusta, GA; Nashville, TN; Atlanta, GA; Greensboro, NC | 2006 – Present

Ed Turner and Number 9, Imperial Theater; Augusta, GA | 2010 – 2022

Tom Miller Project Bluegrass Band; Augusta, GA | 2008 – 2013

The Pickin' Parlor: Original Musical by Carl Purdy, Millie (Lead Role); Augusta, GA | 2011

Professional Recordings

Mamie Lew (*album in progress*) Montgomery, AL; Aiken, SC | 2010-2012, 2023-Present

Session Violinist, Greenlight Studios; Augusta, GA & Charlotte, NC | 2009-present

Demo Recording, Andy McCraw Studios; Aiken, SC | 2008

Semi-Professional Ensembles

2nd Violin, Rome Symphony; Rome, GA | 2014 - 2015

Collegiate Ensembles

Sinfonia Orchestra, UNCG; Greensboro, NC | 2024-present

Old Time Ensemble, UNCG; Greensboro, NC | 2024

University Symphony Orchestra, UNCG; Greensboro, NC | 2023-2024

Summer Chorale String Quartet, Florida State University; Tallahassee, FL | 2014

Old Time Ensemble, Florida State University; Tallahassee, FL | 2014

Summer Chorale (Soprano), Florida State University; Tallahassee, FL | 2013

Steel Pan Ensemble, Florida State University; Tallahassee, FL | 2013

Undergraduate String Quartet/Quintet, Augusta University; Augusta, GA | 2011-2012

Sand Hills String Band, Augusta University; Augusta, GA | 2009-2013

University Symphony Orchestra, Augusta University; Augusta, GA | 2008-2012

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL RECORDINGS/ACTIVITIES

Aikey, J.P. (Host/Editor). (in-progress). *Neurodivergent music education* [Audio podcast].

Guarriello, M.L. (2025). *Onward and upward* (J.P. Aikey, Supplemental Materials Performer). F-Flat Books Enharmonic Series, Philadelphia, PA.

EDUCATOR AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

American String Teachers Association (ASTA) | 2013-Present
2024-2026 Advocacy Committee Member

National Association for Music Education (NAfME) | 2010-Present
Accessible Music Education Special Research Interest Group Member, 2024-present

North Carolina Music Educators Association (NCMEA) | 2023-present

Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) | 2010-2023

HONORS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Underrepresented Scholar Support Award, Arts Education Research Methods Summit
University of Maryland; College Park, MD | January 2025

Burlington Industries Music Scholarship | 2024-2025

Graduate Summer Research Assistantship, University of North Carolina Greensboro
Greensboro, NC | Summer 2024

Graduate Teaching Assistantship in Music Education, University of North Carolina Greensboro
Greensboro, NC | 2023–Present

Class of 1933 Graduate Fellowship, University of North Carolina Greensboro
Greensboro, NC | 2023-2024

Music Scholarship, Augusta University; Augusta, GA | 2009-2013

Georgia HOPE Scholarship Recipient | 2009-2013

OTHER CERTIFICATIONS

Certified PK-12 Music Teacher – Georgia and North Carolina, Exp 2028

Microsoft Innovative Educator Certification | 2018

AP Music Theory Teacher Certification | 2013