

VICTORIA VOX WORKSHOPS

Get in the Groove: (All Levels) In this very hands-on class, we'll play around with different rhythms and grooves. Over a simple chord progression, we'll work on loosening up the right hand for fun strums! The groove even starts before you play a note! We'll play a simple tune in many different styles: Pop / Jazz / Ska / Swing / Blues / Reggae / Opera / Bluegrass, etc. This class is groovy, 100% fun, and a bit of a strumming crash course!

This can also be broken down into a 2-part class:

Get in the Groove I: Expanding on your regular strum patterns, we'll hit the beach (in our minds) and introduce some new strumming patterns in Reggae, Calypso, and Ska. Guaranteed to spice up your playing while giving you a further understanding of rhythm and how it can drastically affect your sound.

Get in the Groove II: Continuing to loosen up the right hand, be ready ready for more fun strums! You will learn to play Pop with a back beat "chunk, and how to get down with Bluegrass. You will also learn how to Swing, along with a couple other variations of Calypso. Groove is everything, and this class will open up your world of right hand strumming! Other workshops:

"Remember the Music" Tutorial (Advanced Beginner – Advanced Intermediate): How much can one learn in one song? With Victoria's original song called "Remember the Music" you will learn about strumming / rhythm, chord changes, song structure, diminished chords, vamping intros and outros, minor line clichés, and singing and strumming at the same time. This song is jam-packed with musical know-how that you'll never forget!

Introduction to Left Hand Movement (chord melody): (Intermediate / Advanced) Learn an instrumental Celtic-style song, "Ship Goes Down", with chords and melody! Based off a C major scale, we'll be using chord and non-chord tones - applied with the technique of strumming and plucking – which will outline the melody. We'll also be using hammer-ons AND pull-offs as a left-hand technique. Music and tab will be provided. Techniques and concepts from this class can be applied to any song. It will change the way your play... forever!

Uke Can Do It: (Beginner) In this beginner class, you'll be able to gain confidence with your ukulele by reinforcing good technique and maybe breaking some bad habits. While playing some 2 and 3 chords songs, we'll work on keeping time with some simple strum patterns while singing (or just smiling) at the same time. It's fun and easy, and you'll be sure to see big progress! Hula skirts optional :)

Open Strings that Sing: (Advanced Beginner - Intermediate) The use of open strings possibly could be a ukulele player's best kept secret. In this technique class we'll play the open strings on the uke in between changes to 1) get where we want to go in time but 2) give the song a little more style. This technique is especially effective in the use of playing easy, open chords.

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Letting the Fretting Hand Do the Work: (Advanced) Right-hand strumming is obviously a very important part to playing ukulele... but it's only half of it! Using your left hand to manipulate the changes and the length of the note hold can make a world of difference in how your ukulele will sound! Be prepared for a fun (and very hands on) workshop as we play with different rhythms (inc. pop and jazz), while using left-hand muting techniques, hammer ons, and slides.

What Time Is It: (Intermediate - Advanced) Learn to play some of Victoria's original songs that use different time signatures. "Sweetest Melodies" will be plucked in 5/4 time. Other songs will have time signature changes within the songs. Only Time Will Tell goes from 4/4 to 3/4 and back to 4/4, while Daffodil moves seamlessly from 4/4 to 2/4 and back. While playing these different time signatures, we'll maintain a groove in bossa nova and jazz swing styles.

Introduction to Line Clichés: (Intermediate / Advanced)

A line cliché is a descending or ascending line that moves against a single stationary chord. Famous line cliché tunes include the James Bond theme song, "Michelle" (McCartney / Lennon), "Blue Skies" (Irving Berlin), "One" (Harry Nilsson), and Victoria's own "Mon Coeur Vide". We can alter the harmony of a song to incorporate the use of line clichés, in both major and minor keys. It's a great way to embellish a chord progression or spice up a stagnant melody line.

Funky Chunky: (Advanced Beginner / Intermediate) The "chunk" is a great rhythm technique to create a beat for yourself while you're playing. I will break down the "chunk" for you so that you can give yourself a "back-beat" on beats 2 and 4, while playing pop, rock, soul, or swing. It's like being your own drummer!

Intro to Mouth Trumpet: (Advanced Beginner Singers) If your hands are full, with a guitar or ukulele, or if you find yourself wishing you had a horn player, this class is for you. The Mouth Trumpet, also called a Mouth Horn or Lips-a-phone, is an old jazz-era vocal technique first heard by the Mills Brothers. Today, it is used by beat-boxers and vocalists. Very similar to playing a real trumpet, you'll learn some techniques to give your "horn" some edge!

Making Sense of the Fretboard: (Intermediate) This is an intermediate level workshop about making sense of chords, movable shapes, dumbing down "complicated" chords... and making the instrument more playable! Basic music theory made easy. Counting on your fingers is totally acceptable (we'll only go to 7!). Learn how to move from major to minor and add color. We'll get inside diminished chords, augmented chords, and suspended chords, so that you don't have be afraid of them anymore!

Songwriting: (All Levels) There are many ticking parts in getting a song to work. Melodies, rhythms, chords, and lyrics... Which chords will work? What notes will work? Learn about songwriting techniques to help you get you out of a rut, perhaps inspire new ideas, and most importantly, finish that song you've been working on! All levels welcomed.

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Fretting-Hand Playing Techniques (for right-handed players): (Intermediate / Advanced)

Strumming is obviously a very important part to playing ukulele... but it's only half of it! Using your fretting hand to manipulate the changes and the length of the note hold can make a world of difference in how your ukulele will sound! Be prepared for a fun (and very hands on) workshop as we play with different rhythms, muting techniques, hammer ons (and slides). Your playing will never be the same!

Multi-Tasking / Performance Techniques: (All Level Performers) Singing and playing at the same time doesn't come easy for everyone. It's a bit like rubbing your tummy and patting your head. And don't forget keeping time, staying in tune, and remembering both the lyrics and chord changes! Overwhelmed yet? We'll play around with practicing / performing techniques to get ALL the jobs done!

Mastering the C Scale / Music Theory 101: (Advanced Beginner - Intermediate) If you can count to 7, you'll be good to go! In this class you'll get to know your ukulele. Learn about chords (triads, diminished chords, augmented chords, 6ths, and 7ths (dominant, minor, and major) and how to make them. You can figure it out without the internet! We'll do it all in the key of C, so you can learn the concept and later transpose it to any key you like!