**Learn musical technique and performance skills by playing in a band.**

* The Music Ensemble will put together a small group of instrumentalists of a compatible skill level (including but not limited to guitar, bass, violin, flute, piano) who will meet each week in a group lesson to learn/rehearse a repertoire of music; and then perform this repertoire in public settings, i.e. parks, Farmers Market, A&E Center recitals, etc.
* The music repertoire is based on American Music Styles: rock, folk, country, blues, bluegrass, jazz, religious.
* The repertoire will be presented in such a way that students are learning bite-size chunks of musical theory along the way.
* As the course develops, the learning will extend to improvisational techniques.

**Requirements**: Basic musical knowledge: the chromatic scale, ability to recognize notes on the treble clef staff. Guitar players should know how to build major/minor chord triads in the easy keys. Other instruments should be able to read and perform a melody line.

13 sessions, 75 minutes/session Tentative Time: 4:30 pm Tuesday

Weeks of: Sept 11 18 25

Oct 2 9 16 23 30

Nov 6 13 27

Dec 5

**Syllabus**

Each week will include rehearsal of tunes with the aim of building a performance repertoire played at a high level of listenability.

In addition, the course will introduce new topics each week, in the following order:

1. Installing MuseScore for home practice
2. Bluegrass
3. Sight Reading
4. Sharing Leads – doubled leads, counterpoint, alternating part 1 and 2
5. Country
6. Rhythm Patterns
7. Rock/Pop, Blending Two or More songs
8. Jug Band
9. Sharing Leads -- call and response
10. Endings
11. Changing Key – Transitional Measures
12. Bass Lines, Brass Band Tunes, Early Jazz
13. Waltz time, Slow melodies