

## University of St. Thomas Guitar Studies Program

A college curriculum designed for guitar? A program committed to both sound academics and inspired playing? Listen up.

From the absolute beginner seeking to round out a liberal arts experience (and for whom we provide free loaner guitars) to students who aim to be professional musicians, the **UST Guitar Studies Program** presents expert guitar curriculum with teachers who are performing artists in their own right.

The University of St. Thomas was a pioneer in guitar studies, creating the program in 1984, under Chris Kachian, who still directs the program. “We wanted a place that is ridiculously serious about guitar,” Kachian says. “A place where community and curriculum come together to form an exciting whole. A place of spirit and ambition. A place for great music.”

In the beginning there was a single student and zero guitar-related coursework. Today there are nearly 100 students at all skill levels, studying virtually every style guitar music. Students study, play, and perform in individual lessons and ensembles. Our majors go on to the finest graduate music programs in the U.S.

The **UST Guitar Studies Program** teaches a comprehensive approach to guitar. The curriculum is eclectic and performance-oriented, embracing all styles of music for acoustic and electric guitars and basses.

The program leads to a BA Degree in Music. It boasts a professional faculty with strengths in technique, performance practice and interpretation, improvisation, composition, songwriting, and small and large group performance in all styles of classical, jazz, rock, folk, and flamenco – and every music in between.