

Dr. Matthew Dunlap began playing the guitar at the age of ten. He completed his BM in guitar performance at Kennesaw State University, MM in guitar performance at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and a DM in guitar performance at Florida State University where he was a Teaching Assistant to Bruce Holzman from 2003-2005. During the summers of 2004 and 2005, he studied at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana with world renowned guitar pedagogue, Oscar Ghiglia.

He has received numerous awards including 1st prize in the graduate division of the 2000 Atlanta Music Club Scholarship, Peabody Merit Scholarship in 2000, 1st prize in the 2003 Florida MTNA Wurlitzer Collegiate Artist Competition, a Top Prize at the 2003 Columbus Guitar Symposium, and in October of 2004 he received the Promising Artist of the 21st Century Award from Florida State University. He has performed concerts and conducted masterclasses in Italy, Costa Rica, Canada and numerous venues in the US.

Dr. Dunlap has been on the faculty of Andrew College, Florida State University, Troy State University, Carver Elementary Arts Magnet School, and Loudoun County Public Schools in northern Virginia. His duties have included teaching class guitar, guitar ensemble, guitar literature, and applied lessons. He has received multiple awards for teaching and leadership through his tenure as an educator including being a finalist for teacher of the year, recipient of the Loudoun County Excellence in Education Award, the Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction, and the Tuscarora High School Diamond award for Excellence.

Dr. Dunlap has been the director of the Tuscarora Guitar Program since it was established in 2010. His students have participated in workshops and masterclasses with the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, Canadian Guitar Quartet, Ana Vidovic, Marco Tamayo, Julian Gray, Leo Welch, and Jason Vieaux. In the Spring of 2014 they were featured in the Yale University Guitar Extravaganza and the Peabody Preparatory Fret Festival. The following school year they performed with the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet at the Washington College Guitar Festival.