

Welcome to the newsletter of the University of Kentucky Oboe Studio!

Dr. ToniMarie Marchioni,  
Professor of Oboe



**The 2025-2026 UK Oboe Studio:** Top L to R: Jacob Taylor, Kali Lewis, Jiyaa Pandya, Dom Luthje  
Middle L to R: Dr Marchioni, Leticia Ferreira, Arjuna Lee  
Bottom L to R: Jayca Justice, Amelia Johnson, Emily Maxey, Leah Jenkins

## About the UK Oboe Studio

The UK Oboe Studio, led by Dr. ToniMarie Marchioni (Professor of Oboe), is a group of dedicated and energetic students studying in a variety of degree programs in the UK School of Music and across the university. In addition to offering Bachelor of Music degrees in Performance and Education, UK also has a Bachelor of Arts degree in music to accommodate double degrees, and a Music Minor that allows students to have a vibrant collegiate musical experience without majoring in music. The UK School of Music also has outstanding graduate programs for students looking to pursue Master or Doctoral degrees in oboe performance.

Dr. Marchioni enjoys the challenge of tailoring her style and methods to each student's individual needs. Her lesson curriculum combines scales and technical exercises with repertoire, etudes, orchestral repertoire and sight-reading with a goal of contextual learning. She firmly believes that studying music and pursuing excellence—regardless of career goals—have clear benefits throughout a student's life, far beyond the UK concert hall. Her primary goals as a teacher are to help her students accomplish their own personal musical objectives, to inspire creativity and originality in the learning process, and to instill the aspiration to be excellent at

all of one's undertakings in life.

Members of the UK Oboe Studio have the opportunity to perform in UK's award-winning large ensembles, as well as various chamber groups. The Oboe Studio hosts annual events and numerous student recitals each year.

The UK Oboe Studio is committed to quality education and comprehensive training that also promotes joy in music-making. We hope you will join us!

Visit [www.tonimariem.com](http://www.tonimariem.com) for more information about Dr. Marchioni and her playing.

## Student Spotlights

### Amelia Johnson, Masters of Music

*Studio Teaching Assistant;  
Member of UKSO and  
UKWS; Secretary of the  
Double Reed Club.  
Degrees in Music  
Performance and Art  
History from the Univ. of  
Iowa*

### Kali Lewis, Senior Music Minor

*Engineering Major;  
Member of UKSO and  
UKWS; Treasurer of the  
Double Reed Club*

### Dom Luthje, Senior Music Performance Major

*Member of UKSO and  
UKWS; Recipient of the  
Lynn Markowitz Struttman  
Oboe Scholarship and UK  
Undergraduate Research  
Scholarship*

### Emily Maxey, Senior Music Performance Major

*Member of UKSO and  
UKWS; Recipient of the  
Lynn Markowitz Struttman  
Oboe Scholarship and the  
Ralph McCracken Award  
for Performance; Co-  
President of the Double  
Reed Club.*

### Jacob Taylor, Senior Music

**Education Major**  
*Member of UKWS, UKSB,  
and the Wildcat Marching  
Band.*

**Q: Why did you choose to study at UK and how did you choose your major?**

**Dom:** I chose UK because of the wide array of opportunities available to students here. While I knew I wanted to pursue music professionally, the different majors and minors, extracurricular activities, and research opportunities really appealed to me. I ended up double-majoring in both Music Performance and Linguistics because I am passionate about the oboe and love learning about languages.

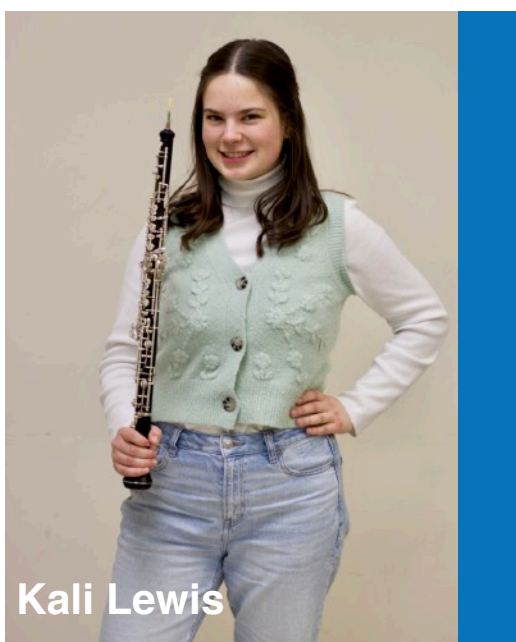
**Q: How does being a music major or minor factor into your long-term goals?**

**Kali:** For me, oboe brings a creative balance to my



**Amelia Johnson**

otherwise very technical degree. The more my skills develop on the instrument, the more I am able to express myself and convey the music on the page. I think as I begin my engineering career, playing the oboe will continue to keep me grounded and provide a new perspective on life when things get stressful.



**Kali Lewis**

**Emily:** Being a music major has taught me a variety of skills that will help me in grad school and in my future career as a school psychologist or therapist. I've especially grown in my ability to connect with others and express myself, which I know will be valuable in helping an understanding people in the future.

## Student Spotlights (continued)

### Q: What is your best advice for time management for a younger student?

**Emily:** Plan your day hour by hour. I use a physical planner because writing things down helps me remember and stay organized. I also make a to-do list every day.

**Dom:** Being flexible is key. While it is important to plan out times for all tasks, sometimes things out of your control may come up, and being willing to move things around is helpful. Also, prioritize important tasks, break them into smaller steps, and keep a regular routine with short breaks.

### Q: What are some of the musical highlights from your time at UK?

**Amelia:** Our studio recital last semester was a lot of fun. We opened with the whole studio playing “Somewhere Oboe the Rainbow,” and then we each performed the solo pieces that we had been working on all semester. It was great to see everyone’s progress, and I was excited to share my music with the audience. As an added bonus, Rita sat under the piano and listened the whole time!



Dom Luthje

**Jacob:** During one of my juries, I took a risk and stomped during my performance to emphasize a break in the music. This was one of the pieces that helped me find my joy in playing the oboe, and I wanted to show off how much I loved the piece and make it exciting. Listening back to the recording, I could hear the faculty laughing; I was proud that my enthusiasm with the piece translated to the panel.

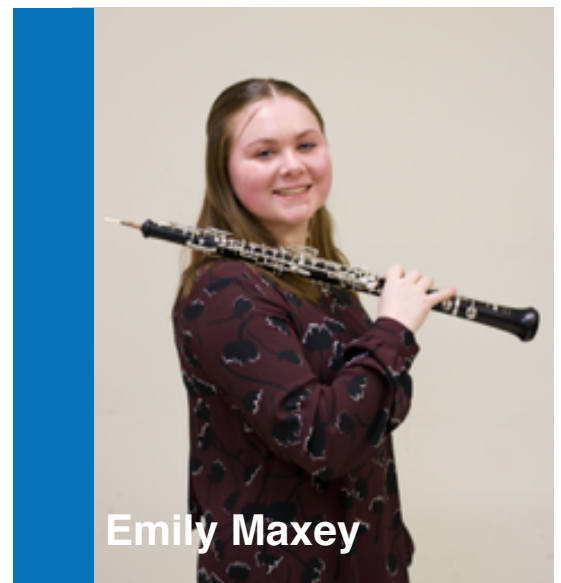
### Q: What would you tell a prospective UK student?

**Kali:** If you love the oboe, the UK oboe studio is for you. You’ll be challenged, that’s for sure, but everyone here is your biggest cheerleader. By the end of your four years,

regardless of if you major in music or not, you’ll have experienced so much of what being an oboist has to offer. Even, if like me, you don’t pursue music professionally, this program is somewhere you can pursue all of your musical goals.

### Q: What are you most excited about for your senior year?

**Dom:** I am truly excited to take in the “lasts” of everything. My last performances and concerts at UK, last outings with friends as UK students, last rehearsals, hiking trips at the Red River Gorge, and more. While it is bittersweet, I am grateful for all the friendships I have made and things learned while at UK.



Emily Maxey

## Student Spotlights (continued)

**Jacob:** I am really looking forward to performing my senior recital and then moving on to student teaching. Preparing for my recital is the biggest project I have had as an oboist, and I'm excited to get the chance to show how much I have improved over the course of studying at UK.

### Q: You're graduating in May. What's next?

**Amelia:** I am hoping to pursue a career as an orchestra librarian, while still finding avenues to perform on the oboe.

**Dom:** I am planning to pursue a Masters degree in Music Performance to further refine my playing and prepare for professional orchestral auditions.

**Jacob:** I am going to follow my career in music education and start teaching younger students to love band.

### Q: If you could have any color reed thread, what would it be?

**Kali:** I think it would be cool to have thread that's all different shades of green.

**Amelia:** Anything with purple!

**Emily:** Some combination of green, yellow, and teal.

**Dom:** Yellow has always been a lucky color for me - maybe thread that is different shades of yellow and other neutral colors like white and beige would be nice.

**Jacob:** I'd love a thread that fades between maroon and black.

### Q: What is your favorite thing about the UK Oboe Studio?

**Kali:** Definitely the people. Everyone is there to help each other grow. I still learn new things from my peers every day, and Dr. Marchioni always supports my best interests as a musician.

**Amelia:** The people. I am always inspired by the hard work and talent of the members of our studio, and they are all great human beings too!

**Emily:** My favorite thing about the UK Oboe studio is the community. I've made life-long friends here, and I really value the guidance



**Jacob Taylor**

and support I have received from Dr. Marchioni.

**Dom:** My favorite part is definitely the relationships I've made and skills learned from Dr. Marchioni and my fellow peers (and friends!). The community that Dr. Marchioni fosters in the studio encourages us to support and motivate one another; something I truly value.

**Jacob:** My favorite part of the studio is the tradition of high-level playing. Since my freshman year, I've been surrounded by amazing musicians who I've been able to learn from at every step of the way.

# Where do you want to be?

## Selected Recent UK Oboe Studio Achievements

- Success in the **University of Kentucky Concerto Competition**: 3 Winners and 1 Honorable Mention, performing works by Martinu, Francaix, Bellini, and Mozart.
- **Higher Education Faculty Appointments** at the University of Idaho and Colorado Christian University.
- **Public School Teaching Appointments** in Kentucky (Fayette, Jessamine, and Shelby counties), and Florida (Orange County).
- **Invited Lecturer** and **Recitalist** at the International Double Reed Society Conference.
- **Published Author** in the *Double Reed*, Journal of the International Double Reed Society.
- **Invited Presenters** at the Idaho and Kentucky Music Educators Conferences.
- **Ensemble Library Intern** at the Interlochen Arts Camp. (Michigan).
- **Professional Orchestral Appointments:**
  - Principal Oboe, Washington-Idaho Symphony
  - English horn, Omaha Symphony
- **Professional Orchestral Engagements:**
  - Kentucky: Lexington Philharmonic, Owensboro Symphony
  - Pennsylvania: Harrisburg Symphony, Allentown Symphony, Berks Sinfonietta
  - Montana: Great Falls Symphony, Bozeman Symphony
  - West Virginia Symphony
  - Greeley (CO) Philharmonic
- **Graduate School Acceptances**
  - New England Conservatory
  - Cincinnati Conservatory of Music
  - Cleveland Institute of Music
  - Peabody Conservatory
  - University of Georgia
  - University of Iowa
  - University of Missouri Kansas City
- **Summer Festival Acceptances**
  - Imani Winds Chamber Music Festival
  - Akropolis Chamber Music Institute
  - Mostly Modern Music Festival
  - Bayview Music Festival
  - Texas Music Festival
  - National Music Festival
  - National Symphony Orchestra Summer Music Institute
  - Eastern Music Festival
  - MasterWorks Music Festival
  - Renova Music Festival
  - Decoda Chamber Music Festival
  - CCM International Wind Festival
  - Snow Pond Music Festival
  - Madeline Island Seminar for Advanced Wind Chamber Music
  - Hidden Valley Oboe Seminar with Elaine Douvas

# UK From the Reed Desk of Dr. Marchioni



## SAVE THE DATE: UK Honor Band

January 30 - February 1, 2026

<https://finearts.uky.edu/music/events/george-r-boulden-honor-band-festival>

### Apply to UK!

The application for Fall 2026 admission is now LIVE!!! <https://admission.uky.edu/apply>

Interested students should email Dr. Marchioni to set up a campus visit and trial lesson! **All auditioning students are considered for scholarship awards.**

Auditions will be held January 23-24, February 13-14, February 20-21, or by special arrangement.

<https://finearts.uky.edu/music/audition-and-exam-request-form>

### Stream

Dr. Marchioni's album:

<https://open.spotify.com/album/2xh9jxSgBNe2T5mjxaJkGx>



### Selected Studio Events 2025-2026:

- Dr. Marchioni's plays Marcello and Barber with the Lexington Chamber Orchestra  
Saturday, October 25, 7:30pm  
Centenary Church
- UK All State Audition Prep Clinic  
Saturday, November 1, 9-11:30am
- Dr. Camilla Yoder, Guest Artist Recital  
Saturday, November 22, 2pm  
Niles Gallery
- Jacob Taylor, Senior Recital  
Saturday, December 6, 2pm  
Niles Gallery
- Maribo Trio Faculty Chamber Recital  
Tuesday, March 10, 7:30pm  
SCFA Concert Hall
- Kali Lewis, Dom Luthje, and Emily Maxey, Senior Recitals  
Dates and Times TBD
- Amelia Johnson, Masters Recital  
Date and Time TBD
- Dr. Marchioni, Harstad Arts Recital Series  
Saturday, May 16, 7:30pm  
Faith Lutheran Church

### Schedule a school visit!

Dr. Marchioni and Dr. Nicotera are available to visit your school to perform for and work with your double reed students!

Email [marchioni.oboe@uky.edu](mailto:marchioni.oboe@uky.edu) to schedule a time!

Dr. Marchioni's All State Help Video:

<https://youtu.be/vUnyzSxLryE?si=XuFTB8YwLW-IAUY7>

