

College of Arts and Science

School of Music

The primary mission of the School of Music is to prepare students to become professional musicians and music educators. The school is widely known for its scholarship and musical artistry and is an important cultural resource for the profession, the campus community and the people of Missouri. Established in 1907, the school is large enough to offer many degree opportunities, yet small enough to emphasize the personal interaction between talented students and faculty, which is so important in a creative field.

Our Strengths

Faculty members regularly publish, perform, conduct or present papers at music conferences worldwide. More than a third of the 34 full-time faculty members have had professional engagements outside the United States during the past six years. Several have gained national and international recognition for their research and/or creative achievement. And faculty composers have a long list of works to their credit that have been commissioned, performed by well-known ensembles, published and recorded.

Teaching and Learning

Because of the nature of music studies at MU — small academic classes, team preparation for ensemble and chamber performances, and one-on-one relationships in the studio — professors quickly get to know students by their first names. They are genuinely interested in each student's present and future success.

The College of Arts and Science encourages all undergraduates to get involved in research, service or teaching at some level. Music students share their talents in recitals and in an active, widely attended campus concert series. Those who live in the Fine Arts Residential Community, a living-learning environment in McDavid Hall, also learn from one another and from students in other creative areas.

Non-music majors are able to choose from a number of courses in Western art music; jazz, pop and rock; world music; and fundamentals of music theory, as well as private instrumental or vocal lessons and choral and instrumental music ensembles. Many non-majors take music courses

or audition for music ensembles, especially Marching Mizzou and choral groups.

Majoring in Music

The school offers bachelor's and graduate degree programs in a number of music specializations. More than 70 percent of the 230 students enrolled in degree programs are undergraduates. Fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music since 1933, the school offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in music or a Bachelor of Music degree with majors in performance (piano, voice, strings, woodwinds, percussion or brass), accompanying, music history, music theory or composition. It offers a Bachelor of Science in music education in cooperation with the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Curriculum in the College of Education.

The BA in music degree has become increasingly popular for students seeking a liberal arts preparation with a major in music. It is frequently combined with study in a second major field. The BM degree is designed for students who hope to pursue a career in music composition, performance or teaching at the college level, or graduate education in one of those areas. Students interested in performing are required to audition on campus or submit a tape. The repertoire, especially for pianists, must include three selections from the baroque, classical and romantic or 20th-century periods. The BS degree in music education prepares students to teach music at the elementary or secondary school level.

Music Degree Requirements

Bachelor of Arts (credits)

MAJOR (40)

Music

GENERAL EDUCATION AND FOUNDATION (52)

English (3)

Writing intensive (6)

Mathematics (3)

Math reasoning proficiency (3)

Foreign language (12–13)

Physical, biological and mathematical sciences (9)

Social sciences (9)

Behavioral sciences (5–6)

Fine arts/humanities (12)

Electives (23)

Bachelor of Music (credits)

MAJOR (73–90)

Music

GENERAL EDUCATION AND FOUNDATION (40–50)

English (3)

Writing intensive (6)

Mathematics (3)

Math reasoning proficiency (3)

Foreign language (12–13)

Social and behavioral sciences (9)

Physical and biological sciences (9)

Electives (2–9)

Bachelor of Science in Music Education (credits)

MAJOR (58–65)

Music

GENERAL EDUCATION AND FOUNDATION (36)

English (3)

Speech (3)

Mathematics (3)

Statistics (3)

Foreign language (13)

Humanities (3)

Psychology (3)

American history (3)

Political science or American government (3)

Physical and biological sciences (9)

Music history (6)

Professional education (48)

Advising

Initial advising for music education majors is provided through the College of Education. Music education faculty advise music education majors thereafter. Students in BM or BA in music programs are advised by the director of undergraduate studies in music. After the first semester, they are assigned to studio faculty in their performance area.

The director of undergraduate studies continues to advise students about scheduling and course requirements until the end of the sophomore year, when students complete a graduation plan form for official admission to their specific program.

The Career Center is a valuable resource for information about all fields.

Also, the school's faculty members represent a wide range of backgrounds that covers the spectrum of careers in music. As a profession, music tends to draw talented people into multiple roles as teachers, performers, conductors and composers.

Value of a Music Degree

Many MU graduates in music education do what they have been well trained to do — teach in schools across the state and in many other parts of the country.

Most alumni accept a teaching position or go on to graduate study at MU or other leading schools of music, such as the Eastman School of Music, New England Conservatory, Indiana University, Yale, Northwestern, Cincinnati, Rutgers, Rice, Georgia, Iowa and Texas at Austin. We take pride in their accomplishments as signs that we continue to give our students the preparation they need to succeed, even as those needs change.

Many of those who graduated in recent years have already secured important positions in the musical world. Notable among that group are Tim Aubuchon (BS '96) and Elaine Aubuchon (BS '97), Truman State University; Greg Fuller (MM '86, PhD '00), University of Southern Mississippi; Christopher Jewell (BM '99), assistant principal bassoon, Washington National Opera; Michael Knight (BS '97), University of Missouri; Ryan MacPherson (BES '97), tenor soloist, New York City; Pete Madsen (BS '93), University of Nebraska–Omaha; Bret Nolker (PhD '01), University of North Carolina–Greensboro; Joseph Rackers (BS '99), University of South Carolina; Jason Stumbo (PhD '04), University of Toledo; Linda Thornton (MEd '93; PhD '98), Pennsylvania State University; Greg Williams (BM '99), assistant principal clarinet, Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra; and Caroline Worra (MM '93), soprano soloist, New York City.

More established alumni include Timothy Bentsch, tenor soloist throughout Europe; Earl Coleman, distinguished professor of voice, Columbus State University; Gary Kendall, baritone soloist and teacher, New York City; Mike Metheny, jazz trumpeter and composer; Charles Menghini, president of Vandercook College of Music; Margaret Merrion, dean of the College of Fine Arts at Ball State University; Todd Waldecker, clarinet professor at Middle Tennessee State University; Gene Watts, trombonist, Canadian Brass; and Josephine Wright, professor of music and black studies, College of Wooster. The name of the University of Missouri is well known in music circles.

Missouri Admission

The University admits students on the basis of their potential for success here. The main criteria are the high-school curriculum, test scores and class rank.

Applicants are expected to have followed a college-preparatory program with at least 17 units of credit, as follows (one unit equals one year):

Four units of English

Two units emphasizing composition or writing skills are required, one unit may be in speech.

Four units of mathematics

Acceptable courses include algebra I, geometry, algebra II, pre-calculus/trigonometry/analytic geometry, calculus and math analysis. Courses such as computer

math, programming, consumer math and accounting are not acceptable.

Three units of science

At least one must be a laboratory course, such as earth science, biology, chemistry or physics. Courses such as general science and agricultural science are not acceptable.

Three units of social studies

Examples are world history, American government and principles of democracy.

Two units in a single foreign language

One unit in fine arts

Students considering a major in music should participate in their school band, orchestra or choir and take private lessons on their instrument.

Scholarships

If you apply for financial aid, you will learn about University scholarships and grants. Music scholarships are also available to talented freshmen and transfer students, both majors and non-majors, based primarily on performance ability. Past musical achievement and academic success are also considered.

How to Audition

For information about applying to the music program or auditioning for a music scholarship, call or write:

Dan Willett

University of Missouri

140 Fine Arts Building

Columbia, MO 65211

Phone: 573-882-2604

Fax: 573-884-7444

E-mail: WillettD@missouri.edu

For information about applying to MU, call or write:

Office of Admissions

230 Jesse Hall

Columbia, MO 65211-1300

Phone: 573-882-7786

800-225-6075 (toll free in Missouri and Illinois)

Fax: 573-882-7887

E-mail: mu4u@missouri.edu

Web: www.missouri.edu

The University of Missouri does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, disability or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era. For more information, call Human Resource Services at 573-882-4256 or the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights.

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