OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE FACILITIES AND VISITING ARTISTS
Cook Recital Hall, Fairchild Theatre, and the Wharton Center form the backbone of excellent performance stages graced by students, faculty and an impressive lineup of visiting artists.

MODERN FACILITIES IN A CLASSIC SETTING
A historic part of MSU’s campus with classic, updated buildings plus new state-of-the-art facilities.

FROM PASSION TO PROFESSION
Getting a Running Start through a variety of programs, entrepreneurial concepts and strategies that lead to the best opportunities for career success.

LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY FOCUSED
An active and supportive community combined with a global focus on music leads to multiple paths for developing creative abilities.

EXPLORE YOUR ART
A welcoming, motivating environment with freedom to grow and inspiration to realize your unique potential.

DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES
A strong foundation in music theory and history with exposure to global and contemporary musical styles and influences.

OUR FACULTY
Exceptional artists, scholars and accessible mentors that can help you get to where you want music to take you.

STUDENT LIFE
Students enjoy a closely knit creative community with the excitement of a Big 10 university.

ALL THE WORLD’S A STAGE
Extensive opportunities for students to develop skills through nationally recognized bands, orchestras, choirs and other ensembles.

DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES
A strong foundation in music theory and history with exposure to global and contemporary musical styles and influences.
At Michigan State University’s College of Music, our rigorous program will challenge you while our supportive community nurtures your creativity to help you succeed. We believe in blending collaboration with competition and excellent mentorship with intense preparation. As a College of Music student, you will graduate equipped with broad analytical skills gained through studies in musicology, music theory, and composition, and through exposure to contemporary and international influences. Our students are empowered to make well-informed decisions about their music, career, and the pursuit of their full potential because of the cultural awareness and intellectual acuity gained through our programs.

Because we are committed to fostering each musician’s unique strengths, we provide multiple paths for engaging and developing your creative abilities. Our students perform with nationally recognized collegiate ensembles; study with award-winning artists, scholars and teachers; explore innovative music; teach music to community members of all ages; and much more. Regardless of the discipline you choose, you will enjoy an abundance of performance opportunities on our campus, in the greater capital region of Lansing, and around the nation and world.

Our curriculum will prepare you to meet the real demands facing musicians in the marketplace. As a result, you will graduate with both depth and breadth of knowledge, training, and performance experience. These skills, combined with the connections you will form with our committed and renowned faculty, other students, and alumni, can help secure your place in the larger world of music after graduation.

Experience a welcoming and motivating environment designed to give you the freedom to grow and the inspiration to help realize your unique potential.

WATCH “VICTORY FOR MSU” HERE:

music.msu.edu/fightsong
The College of Music provides all students with a strong foundation in music theory and history as well as exposure to global and contemporary musical styles and influences. This foundation enables students in all areas of study to develop strong analytical and intellectual skills as they pursue their creative passion.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS AND DEGREES

Bachelor of Music
- Composition
- Jazz Studies
- Music Education
- Music Performance: brass, percussion, piano, strings, voice, woodwinds

Bachelor of Arts
- Music

GRADUATE PROGRAMS AND DEGREES

Master of Music
- Collaborative Piano
- Composition
- Conducting: choral, orchestral, wind
- Jazz Studies
- Music Education
- Music Performance: brass, percussion, piano, strings, voice, woodwinds
- Music Theory
- Piano Pedagogy

Master of Arts
- Musicology

Doctor of Musical Arts
- Collaborative Piano
- Composition
- Conducting: choral, orchestral, wind
- Music Performance: brass, percussion, piano, strings, voice, woodwinds

Doctor of Philosophy
- Music Education

Non-Degree Programs
- Music Minor
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation Minor
- Performance Diploma
- Graduate Certificate in College Teaching
- Graduate Certificate in Music Theory

582
NUMBER OF MUSIC MAJORS AT MSU
2017-2018 academic year

303
UNDERGRADS

279
GRAD STUDENTS
OUR FACULTY

EXCEPTIONAL ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS, ACCESSIBLE MENTORS

Where do you want music to take you? The College of Music faculty can help you get there.

Dreaming of performing on the biggest stages in the world? Our faculty have been there – Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, The Met, and prestigious concert halls around the world.

Do you want to prepare for a life in music, as a musician in symphonies and chamber ensembles or perhaps starting your own new music group? Our faculty have been there, too – creating new music, teaching, and guiding musicians to prominent positions in orchestras around the world, including the Royal Philharmonic, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and so many more.

If your dream includes composing, conducting, music education in schools, scholarly work delving into musicology and music theory – or perhaps you want to explore all of it – the faculty at the MSU College of Music have the expertise you need.

They foster strong relationships with students, introducing you to colleagues in the music world, inviting you to join them at gigs, mentoring you as you present at conferences, and staying connected long after graduation.

48% OF MUSIC MAJORS ARE FROM MICHIGAN

30% REPRESENT 38 DIFFERENT STATES OUTSIDE OF MICHIGAN

2017-2018 academic year

music.msu.edu/faculty
Students at the College of Music enjoy a closely knit creative community and the excitement of a Big 10 university.

As a Music student, you will benefit from our 6:1 student-teacher ratio, ensuring in-depth, individualized attention, and strong classroom connections. You will be known by your peers, professors, and mentors.

The College of Music is in the North Neighborhood of campus with housing nearby. Living close to the college places you in the midst of our friendly, supportive community, strengthening collaborations which help during the rigor of regular practice.

Michigan State University is located in East Lansing, a vibrant college town just minutes away from the state capital. An easy drive east to Detroit or west to the beaches of Lake Michigan as well as Chicago. When students need a break from practice, there are always Spartan games, live concerts, art exhibits, theater, and hundreds of on-campus student clubs to enjoy. As a world-class university, MSU attracts internationally renowned scholars, guest lecturers, and visiting artists who, along with students from around the country and the globe, create a truly international community.

MSU students who major in other disciplines on campus participate in College of Music ensembles, courses and other activities, helping to create a vibrant music community.
The College of Music offers extensive opportunities for students to develop their skills through renowned ensembles that are open to all MSU students. Most require an audition, and details are available at music.msu.edu/performance.

**ORCHESTRAS**

The Symphony Orchestra is comprised of some of the most advanced string, wind, and percussion musicians in the college. It maintains a schedule of six main orchestral performances, two full opera productions, and a holiday program each season. The repertoire chosen is often advanced and draws from both the well-established orchestral canon and new works by living composers; it is designed to be an intensive learning environment for musicians further developing core musicianship skills.

The Concert Orchestra, which is open to students, staff, and faculty from all corners of the university as well as the greater Lansing community, presents four concerts per year and is designed to be a community-building artistic experience for all involved. An audition is required for participation in all orchestral ensembles at MSU.

**BANDS**

The College of Music concert bands perform the full spectrum of wind music including chamber, contemporary, and traditional repertoires. Wind Symphony, comprised of advanced undergraduate and graduate students, performs six concerts during the academic year with additional holiday performances. Symphony Band consists of higher level undergraduate music majors and aims at preparing performance choruses around the clock, concerts a year. Concert Band, which includes undergraduate and graduate students and open auditions and Concert Band, providing opportunities for instrumental majors using a wind, each traveling to various cities and states.

**CHOIRS**

Choral groups at MSU perform secular and sacred music in all styles and genres representing many areas of the college. Choral Union is comprised of the top graduate and undergraduate singers in the college and frequently appears with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. University Chorale is the oldest regular performance organization on campus, and Women’s Choral Ensemble focuses on more contemporary repertoire. Glee clubs are popular ensembles performing in the glee tradition while Spartan Brass, University Wind Symphony and Spartan Singers provide playing opportunities for instrumental majors using a wind, each traveling to various cities and states.

**CHOIRS**

University Chorale, State Singers, Choral Union, Wind Symphony, Spartan Singers, and Men’s Glee have performed at national conferences of the American Choral Directors Association.

**JAZZ ENSEMBLES**

Jazz ensembles include three big bands, each made up of 18 members, playing the repertoire of the great jazz masters as well as a wide range of soul, swing, blues, and gospel. The four octets are eight-piece ensembles that blend the sounds of big band with small group performance. There are also 12 combos, each consisting of four to six members.

**MUSIQUE 21**

Musique 21 is a project-based group of musicians with a flexible instrumentation. Focusing on innovative presentations of new work utilizing a variety of media including theatre, film, and movement, this adventurous troupe pushes the boundaries of 21st century performance. Using a style that has often been called “Theatre of Music,” M21 has been enthusiastically celebrated by students, audiences, and critics alike.
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE FACILITIES

Cook Recital Hall
Historic Cook Recital Hall is the heart of performance life in the College of Music. The intimate 182-seat venue has been completely renovated to meet contemporary performance standards, and is used for student rehearsals, recitals, faculty concerts, and master classes.

Fairchild Theatre
Fairchild Theatre has transformed from a 75-year-old proscenium-stage facility into a modern performance venue with state-of-the-art acoustics, thanks to a recent $20 million renovation. The 462-seat historic hall hosts College of Music courses, rehearsals, master classes, and performances.

Wharton Center for Performing Arts
The Wharton Center’s Cobb Great Hall, which seats 2,420, is used for most College of Music large ensemble performances. Wharton’s Pasant Theatre with its thrust stage and intimate ambiance seats 596 and hosts a variety of performances each year.

VISITING ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS

Enhancing the Music student experience at MSU are a plethora of visiting artists and scholars who interact with students through master classes, clinics and in-service opportunities. Often in small settings, seasoned performers, educators and scholars draw on their life’s work for the benefit of students. Great community support has led to residency programs that bring top artists in their fields, and the connections of our esteemed faculty create opportunities throughout each year to leverage our partnerships and collaborations with successful musicians from around the world.
The mission of the MSU Career Services Network is to drive purpose—to help students find where their interests and passions, skills and abilities, and society’s needs overlap. At the College of Music, this includes introducing students to entrepreneurial concepts and strategies tailored to meet their career ambitions. We call it Running Start, and it provides a variety of original and partnered programs to ensure students have the best opportunities for career success.

Music is a passion. Those who thrive in music understand it is also a profession. That is why the Running Start office coordinates extensive opportunities to help students learn how to apply their skills in real-world settings and market their talents for professional success in music.

ON-CAMPUS CAREER PREPARATION

- Practical training in performance, business, and teaching.
- One-on-one career advising allows students to work with a coach to customize their path to professional success in music.
- Workshops led by faculty, alumni, and guest artists cover self-marketing, building a private studio, recording techniques, applying for grants, financial management and more.
- Courses designed to prepare students for success after graduation are woven throughout the curriculum, including electives on business and entrepreneurship concepts, and students are advised on electives that align with their passions and expand their marketability.
- With assistance from the Running Start office, students can apply for local and national opportunities in music, including part-time work, internships, jobs, festivals, grants, and competitions.

PUTTING IDEAS INTO ACTION

- Undergraduate and graduate students can gain considerable funding for professional development.
- Students can pitch and win funding for entrepreneurial initiatives, including business start-ups, outreach projects, recordings, commissions, research, and other creative endeavors.
- Students are guided and encouraged to apply for grants and financial support for projects, submitting research for scholarly journals, and presenting at conferences.

MSU’s Entrepreneurship and Innovation minor focuses on core business disciplines including accounting, business law, finance, management, and marketing. College of Music entrepreneurship elective courses on these topics count toward completing this minor.

CAREERS

College of Music students graduate with a comprehensive and balanced education, well-prepared for professional paths in a variety of music fields. Recent alumni have positions such as K-12 music teachers, college professors, conductors, performers, band leaders, arts administrators, and many other creative endeavors.

Placement data for the College of Music undergraduates is tracked yearly, and can be accessed at CareerNetwork.msu.edu/DestinationSurvey.
LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY FOCUSED

The College of Music offers students multiple paths for developing their creative abilities.

AN ACTIVE AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

Students have opportunities to audition for local ensembles, perform in local live music venues, work with strong local public school music programs, volunteer with arts organizations, or land part-time jobs and internships in the arts. Greater Lansing organizations like the MSU Federal Credit Union, the Arts Council of Greater Lansing, and the Michigan Council of Arts and Cultural Affairs have supported our students through the Entrepreneurial Musical Artist in Residence program, residency programs in public schools and retirement homes, and other endeavors.

A GLOBAL FOCUS ON MUSIC

Music bridges cultures and broadens perspectives. At the College of Music, we recognize the power and purpose of international programs that build relationships, create opportunities, and encourage scholarly exchange. Our international focus mirrors that of the university and provides students with exceptional educational and performance programs that expand cultural competence. Many of our faculty and students have strong international connections that foster partnerships and exchanges with universities, municipalities, and guest artists.

The College of Music participates in a range of international programs that include study abroad options, collaborations, faculty and student exchanges, festivals, and educational and curriculum development opportunities. By offering our students a global experience, we hope to build perceptive musicians and educators who contribute to the quality of life around the world.

Our programs include:

- MSU-China Vocal Collaboration
- Summer Study Abroad in Todi, Italy
- Semester Study Abroad in Vienna, Austria
- Summer Study Abroad in Ireland
- Summer Study Abroad in Havana, Cuba
- Summer Study Abroad in Ireland

Our programs include:

- MSU-China Vocal Collaboration
- Summer Study Abroad in Todi, Italy
- Semester Study Abroad in Vienna, Austria
- Summer Study Abroad in Ireland

22% OF MSU MUSIC STUDENTS COME FROM OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Representing 24 countries.

2017-2018 academic year
The project will expand MSU Music facilities by 40% through the addition of 37,000 square feet of new space and includes renovations to another 8,500 square feet of existing spaces. It is a giant leap forward as we continue our mission to prepare future generations of musical leaders. These changes will provide our community with state-of-the-art facilities appropriate for a nationally ranked College of Music that serves as a destination for some of the most talented and creative students and faculty from around the world. Construction began in the summer of 2018, and the new facility – including new acoustically superior rehearsal halls for ensembles of all sizes, jazz, percussion, vocal, band, orchestra, and choral music, and 45 additional practice rooms – will open in spring 2020.