

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

August 20, 2020

Dear Music Students,

As the start of the school year approaches, we understand that you likely have many questions and concerns. I write to clarify the implications of President Stanley's announcement Tuesday that all undergraduate teaching will be moved to a virtual mode and to answer other questions that you may have.

This email has a great amount of important information. Please read it carefully and retain it for future reference. Please continue to read your MSU email EVERY DAY, as this is way we will communicate with you.

- The important point is that **graduate education will continue as planned** in a combination of in-person, hybrid, and remote modalities.
- **Piano, strings, guitar and percussion** will, in most cases, be taught in person with both faculty and student wearing masks. Safety protocols will be distributed to your applied teacher and shared with you. Your applied teacher will assign practice spaces and times in the music facilities.
- For safety reasons, we have strongly recommended that all applied teaching of **voice, woodwinds, and brass** be moved to a virtual format. Your applied teacher will assign a space in the music facilities from which you can take your virtual lesson. They will also assign practice spaces and times.
- Those performing **required graduate recitals** this fall will be allowed in-person rehearsals and coachings with the applied teacher. Specific recital protocols will be available soon.
- There will likely be a **chamber ensemble of graduate wind players** that will rehearse during the Wind Symphony rehearsal block. Those graduate students who are interested in that ensemble should [submit an audition video](#).
- There will likely be a **chamber orchestra of graduate string players** that will rehearse during the Symphony Orchestra rehearsal block. Those graduate students who are interested in that ensemble should [submit an audition video](#).
- **Graduate jazz ensembles** will likely be various small combos. Graduate students should [submit an audition video](#).
- Instrumentalists who have an **ensemble requirement tied to a GA or scholarship** and who do not wish to participate in an in-person ensemble should not audition and will not participate in the alternative online course. There will be no adjustment to your GA or scholarship.
- Each studio has been assigned a 'pod' of rooms. You will have access to these rooms for **virtual lessons and personal practice** if needed. Scheduling will be done through your individual studio. You must adhere STRICTLY to the schedule and to health and safety protocols, which will be posted in each room.
- **You may ONLY access these practice rooms once the schedule has been set by your applied teacher.** This will likely occur in the middle of next week. Please **WAIT** to hear from your teacher.
- **Microphones** will be available for students to borrow in order to enhance their virtual lesson experience. You will receive additional information about this in a separate email.
- Various items of **protective equipment** will also be available for wind students: slitted masks, bell covers, instrument "bags", flute shields.
- **Lockers** will be available for student use. You must send your name and instrument to Lynne Funk in the Main Office funklynn@msu.edu IN ADVANCE of the dates below.



College of Music

Music Building
Michigan State University
333 West Circle Drive
Room 102
East Lansing, MI 48824

517-353-5340
Fax: 517-432-2880
music.msu.edu

- We will **distribute microphones, personal protective equipment, and locker keys** to graduate students during the following times. Location: North side of Music Practice Building. These are the **ONLY times** you may pick up these items.
 - Tues, Aug 25, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
 - Wed, Aug 26, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
 - Thur, Aug 27, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
 - Fri, Aug 28, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
 - Mon, Aug 31, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
 - Tue, Sept 1, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation as we begin this challenging school year. Please know that if you should contact me if you have ANY questions or concerns.

Stay safe!

David Rayl
Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research