

School of Music Overview

Founded in 1912 as one of the five schools of the College of Fine Arts, Carnegie Mellon's School of Music educates outstanding, intellectually gifted musicians through excellence in performance, creativity, scholarship and pedagogy. The School of Music offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts in instrumental and vocal performance, composition and keyboard performance as well as a Bachelor of Science in Music and Technology. A Master of Music degree is offered in performance, composition, conducting, collaborative piano and music education and a Master of Science in Music and Technology. Additionally, the School of Music offers a variety of highly acclaimed non-degree programs, such as the Artist Diploma (Performance, Composition, Conducting), Advanced Music Studies Certificate (Performance, Composition, Piano Pedagogy, Audio Recording and Production, and Piano Maintenance), Dalcroze Eurhythmics Certification, Orff Schulwerk Teacher Training and Music Education Certification. The School of Music presents more than 250 events annually, many of which are free and open to the public.

Facts & Figures

- Approximately 350 graduate and undergraduate students hail from 35 states and 19 countries.
- Admission is selective with only the top 30% of voice and instrumental auditioning applicants accepted.
- Roughly 55% of students in the School of Music receive some form of financial aid.
- Graduate students work as substitute performers with Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and as members of Pittsburgh Opera, Opera Theatre of Pittsburgh, Bach Choir of Pittsburgh, and the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh.
- More than half of the current undergraduate vocalists are employed by singing in local churches and synagogues throughout the Greater Pittsburgh region.
- The School of Music has an internationally recognized program in eurhythmics and solfège.
- The School of Music instrumental faculty includes twenty-two members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Fifteen of which hold principal or co-principal chairs.

Undergraduate, Graduate Programs, & Certifications

The School of Music provides a rigorous musical education within a major research university setting. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for careers by balancing the classical with the contemporary and blending traditional instruments with the most modern technologies.

Undergraduate

- **Bachelor of Fine Arts** – offered in performance (instrumental, piano, organ, and voice) and composition.
- **Bachelor of Science in Music and Technology** – offered in partnership with the School of Computer Science and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in the Carnegie Institute of Technology.
- **BXA Concentration** – interdisciplinary degree program offering a Bachelor of Humanities and Arts, Bachelor of Science and Arts, and Bachelor of Computer Science and Arts.
- **Music Minors** – offered in accompanying (piano majors only), conducting (music majors only), music education certification (music majors only), music technology (major and non-majors), music (non-majors only), and music theory (non-majors only).

Graduate:

- **Master of Music** – offered in performance (instrumental, piano, organ, and voice), composition, conducting (choral and orchestral), collaborative piano, and music education.
- **Master of Science in Music and Technology** – offered in partnership with the School of Computer Science and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

- **Artist Diploma** – designed to meet the needs of the more mature musician, the Artist Diploma is the most advanced program in the School of Music where students focus solely on studio instruction, major ensemble and chamber music performance, or composition.
- **Advanced Music Studies Certificate** – offered in performance, composition, piano pedagogy, audio recording and production, and piano maintenance.
- **Certification** – offered in music education.

Certification:

- **Dalcroze Eurhythmics Certification Program** – Based on the artistic and pedagogical principles of Emile Jaques-Dalcroze, Dalcroze teaches an understanding of music's fundamental concepts, expressive meanings, and connections to other arts and activities. The School of Music's is one of only a few certificate and license-granting programs in the U.S.
- **Orff Schulwerk Teacher Training** – Developed by Carl Orff, Orff is a teaching and learning approach designed for all children that uses poems, rhymes, stories, games, songs, and dances as examples and basic materials.

Alumni

Over the last 100 years, the School of Music has graduated more than 3,200 undergraduate and graduate students - many of whom can be found performing, composing, conducting, teaching and contributing significantly to the music field worldwide. Across the United States, accomplished graduates are performing with some of the finest symphonies, opera companies and ensembles in every major city. Additionally, many School of Music alumni can be seen performing on Broadway.

A few of our distinguished alumni include:

- **Liam Bonner** (BFA'03) – baritone, The Metropolitan Opera
- **Dale Clevenger** (BFA'62) – Principal horn, Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- **Valerie Debaele** (AD'02) – Principal flute, l'Orchestre Philharmonique de Liege, Belgium
- **Cristian Ganicenco** (MM'97) – Principal trombone, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- **Emma Hancock McGrath** (MM'06, AD'08) – Associate Concertmaster, Seattle Symphony
- **Ricky Ian Gordon** (BFA'80) – critically acclaimed composer
- **Christiane Noll** (BFA'90) – soprano, lead role in Broadway's *Ragtime*
- **Joel Reist** (BFA'93) – Principal bass, Nashville Symphony
- **Heidi Skok** (BFA'90) – mezzo-soprano, The Metropolitan Opera

A sampling of these elite organizations:

- **United States** – The New York and Rochester Philharmonics; the Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago, and San Diego Symphony Orchestras; the President's Own Marine Band, The Metropolitan Opera, and San Francisco Opera.
- **Internationally** – Sinfonica de Chile, the Sinfonica do Brasilia, l'Orchestre Philharmonique de Liege Belgium, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Prague Sinfonia, the Orchestre Symphonique de Quebec, Bilbao Opera and the State Orchestra of Sao Paulo Brazil.

About Carnegie Mellon University:

Carnegie Mellon is a private, internationally ranked research university with programs in areas ranging from science, technology and business, to public policy, the humanities and the arts. More than 11,000 students in the university's seven schools and colleges benefit from a small student-to-faculty ratio and an education characterized by its focus on creating and implementing solutions for real problems, interdisciplinary collaboration, and innovation. A global university, Carnegie Mellon's main campus in the United States is in Pittsburgh, PA. It has campuses in California's Silicon Valley and Qatar, and programs in Asia, Australia, Europe, and Mexico. CMU is in the midst of a \$1 billion fundraising campaign, titled "Inspire Innovation: The Campaign for Carnegie Mellon University," which aims to build its endowment, support faculty, students and innovative research, and enhance the physical campus with equipment and facility improvements.