

FAQ

- What kind of job can I get with a music degree?

Our music alumni have gone on to many diverse careers: professional musicians, music teachers, television and radio announcers, piano tuners, attorneys, physicians, and administrators--just to name a few! Please read on for some of our success stories:

http://www.albany.edu/music/music_alumni.shtml

- Can I take music lessons?

Private instruction in voice and piano is available to music majors with permission of the instructor. Performance before the faculty jury at the end of the semester is required and determines eligibility for further private instruction. Students enrolled in "Major Performance Study" receive three credits for each semester and jury completed. There is no extra cost for this instruction. Instruction in instruments other than piano may be arranged for music performance majors after consultation with the Department Chair. Please contact Prof. Nancy Newman at nnewman@albany.edu. Additional private piano instruction is available to non-majors on a limited basis and by permission of instructor. Please contact the Music Office for more information at (518) 442-4187.

- How do I apply?

The Admissions Office handles all applications. Please check their website at:

<http://www.albany.edu/admissions.php> (Undergraduate Admissions)

Although there is no need to contact the Music Office directly, we welcome queries from prospective students and encourage interested students to talk to us about our programs.

- Do I need to audition?

General music majors (and music minors) do not need to audition. Only music performance majors are required to audition; this audition takes place at the end of a student's first semester of lessons (with their first jury serving as their audition). Therefore, there is really no formal audition before admission to our music programs.

- How do I declare a major or minor in music?

Please visit the Advisement Services Center in LI-36 (go down the stairs in front of the University Library and turn right) or call them at (518) 442-3960.

- Can I double major?

Yes. Many of our students choose to double major with our department and another (for example: Communication, English, History, or Psychology).

- What do I need to do to be admitted to a particular music program?

For the following programs, please see the corresponding program director:

Composition (Max Lifchitz, mlifchitz@albany.edu)

Conducting,

Performance, or

Vocal Performance (Michael Pfitzer, mpfitzer@albany.edu or Nancy Newman, nnewman@albany.edu)

Musicology (Nancy Newman, nnewman@albany.edu)

Theory (André Redwood, aoredwood@albany.edu)

- Do you offer a graduate degree?

No. However, it is possible to pursue a graduate degree at UAlbany in a different department, such as History, with a Music-related focus.

- How do I get a music advisor?

Please contact the Music Office for more information at (518) 442-4187.

- Can I have information about your concerts?

Please contact the Performing Arts Center Box Office at (518) 442-3997.

- Are there practice rooms available?

Yes. There are practice rooms in the basement of the Performing Arts Center building (Music is housed on the left side of the building). Some are locked (for use by music majors only). However, other rooms are left unlocked for use by non-majors. All practice rooms are labeled, and use is on a first-come, first-served basis.

- Can I rent an instrument?

Yes. We do rent out some instruments to members of our ensembles. Please contact our band/orchestra assistant for further details at sunyband@albany.edu or sunyorch@albany.edu or (518) 442-4175.

- Can I store my instrument?

Yes. We do store instruments for some members of our ensembles. Please contact our band/orchestra assistant for further details at sunyband@albany.edu or sunyorch@albany.edu or (518) 442-4175.

- How big is the Music Program?

In spring 2018, we had 49 music majors and 68 music minors. Enrollment in music courses exceeded 700 students. (Students study with professors, not teaching assistants.)

- Why study music?

A 2000 Georgia Tech study indicates that a student who participates in at least one college elective music course is 4.5 times more likely to stay in college than the general student population.

– Dr. Denise C. Gardner, Effects of Music Courses on Retention, Georgia Tech, 2000

"Music exalts life, enhances life, and gives it meaning...For those who love it, it remains as a fixed point of reference in an unpredictable world. Music is a source of reconciliation, exhilaration, and hope which never fails."

(Anthony Storr, *Music and the Mind*)