



Why pursue a degree in music at Cal State Fullerton?

A reflection of the human spirit, music is one of the most rewarding and compelling of all endeavors. The dedicated faculty members and students in the Department of Music at California State University, Fullerton strive for excellence from the classroom to the studio and stage. The faculty of internationally acclaimed teachers are also active musicians in their disciplines and are recognized for their artistic achievements, awards and publications. These professionals have dedicated themselves to inspire and challenge each student's musical and intellectual potential.

What sets Cal State Fullerton's programs apart?

The Department of Music provides an exhilarating and personal atmosphere within the university. Students receive individual attention in private study and in the classroom. Maintaining an optimum class size is important. Music classes at CSUF range from 20 to 30 students in lower-division classes and five to ten students for upper-division courses. In a department of 350 undergraduate and 80 graduate students, students thrive in an environment large enough to engage in challenging, vital music-making, but intimate enough for each student to be a familiar face. As music majors, students have a faculty adviser to monitor their progress and to meet with each semester for advising.

CSUF opera students are consistently among the regional semifinalists and finalists in the Metropolitan Opera Auditions. The Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensembles and University Singers have toured, at invitation, throughout the world. The University Singers were chosen to represent the United States at the first symposium of the International Federation for Choral Music in Vienna and have appeared with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra and Boston Pops Esplanade. The University Symphony Orchestra performs with guest and faculty artists regularly offering premiere performances to sold-out houses. Cal State Fullerton's Jazz Ensemble I has garnered first place at the Pacific Coast Collegiate Jazz Festival for two consecutive years, and Jazz Combo I placed first at the Reno Jazz Festival in 2004.

What career opportunities are available?

Cal State Fullerton graduates find that living in such close proximity to Los Angeles and Hollywood opens a wide variety of employment opportunities in the entertainment field. CSUF alumni are active performers in acclaimed orchestras and recording studios, and as soloists. In addition, many graduates choose careers in the field of education and are teaching at educational institutions across the nation.

What degree programs are offered?

The Department of Music offers a wide variety of specialized, professional degrees at both the baccalaureate and master's levels. The department also offers the traditional liberal arts degrees in music. Faculty members are here to support students in their decisions as to which course of study to pursue.

Bachelor of Music

If your goal is to become a professional performer or composer, you will want to aim for the Bachelor of Music degree. Concentrations include:

Voice

Instrumental Performance – Includes emphases in orchestral instruments and classical guitar

Keyboard Performance

Accompanying

Composition

Jazz/Commercial Music

Bachelor of Arts in Music

The Liberal Arts concentration emphasizes the rich and diverse liberal arts tradition while focusing on music. It is an alternative to professional performance or composition preparation.

The Music History and Theory concentration offers the breadth of the liberal arts degree with an emphasis on either music history or theory. It prepares graduates for advanced study in music theory, literature, musicology and other scholarly areas of music.

The Music Education concentration prepares students for teaching music in the public schools, with emphases in instrumental, vocal-choral and general music. In this concentration, students graduate as candidates for admission to Cal State Fullerton's highly respected Music Teacher Credential Program. The emphasis in piano pedagogy provides in-depth training for teaching individual and group piano lessons, but does not lead to the Music Teacher Credential Program. For more information, please consult the university catalog.

Is a minor available?

Students majoring in another field may elect a minor in music. Music minors will complete a total of 20-music course units spread among three categories: theory, history and literature, and performance.

Do you offer advanced degrees in music?

Several options are available for your pursuit of an advanced degree. CSUF offers a Master of Music in Performance or Composition-Theory and a Master of Arts in Music with a choice of two options: Music History and Literature, and Music Education. For further information, please call the Graduate Coordinator at (714) 278-5341.

What are the special features that the program offers?

The National Association of Schools of Music has fully and continuously accredited CSUF since 1966. At Cal State Fullerton, classes are taught by fully-qualified faculty members — not graduate assistants. Facilities include a 500-seat theatre, a 200-seat recital hall, rehearsal rooms for large and small ensembles and a generous supply of practice rooms. The Department of Music is also home to the Michalsky Resource Center, a computer music and MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) facility. A Performing Arts Center, featuring an 800-seat concert hall and a variety of other spaces including rehearsal facilities, is scheduled to open January 2006.

What student activities are available?

Active student organizations in the department provide critical networking opportunities and include the American Choral Directors Association, Classical Guitar Club, Mu Phi Epsilon and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, among others. For more information about student activities, please call the department at (714) 278-3511.

What performance ensembles are offered?

Cal State Fullerton's ensembles have performed throughout the world and have been featured artists at festivals, conferences and competitions. Ensembles include the University Singers, Opera Workshop, University Wind Ensemble, University Symphony Orchestra, CSUF Jazz Ensembles, Jazz Singers, Symphonic Band, Men's Chorus, Women's Choir, Chamber Choir, Diverse-Instrument Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Trombone Choir, Brass Choir, Horn Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Combos and numerous other chamber groups.

What scholarships are available?

Music scholarships are available to new students based on performance auditions held in March. Information regarding the auditions is available in January each year. Please visit the department website at www.fullerton.edu/arts/music for details. Music majors are also eligible for scholarships available to the general student body. For more information, please call Financial Aid at (714) 278-3125.

Who advises me?

All music majors receive advisement each semester. Students are assigned to advisers based on their area of concentration. Area coordinators and other full-time faculty serve as advisers.

How can I learn more?

The Department of Music has its own website to introduce faculty members and describe the curriculum at: www.fullerton.edu/arts/music.

However, the best way to get the information you need is to visit or call the department office located in Performing Arts 262 at (714) 278-3511. The department's vice chair is also happy to answer questions and can be reached at (714) 278-3511. To request information be sent to you, please send us an e-mail at: musicinfo@fullerton.edu.

We look forward to hearing from you and helping you achieve your career goals. Welcome!