

## **Purposes and Vision of the Music Department Colorado Mesa University**

As the largest institution of higher learning between Denver and the Salt Lake region, the Music Department at Colorado Mesa University seeks to prepare music students for careers as a performer or teacher, as a professional in the music industry, or to use music study as the basis for other professions. The Music Department endeavors to create an educational setting in which students develop leadership skills and evolve into multi-faceted musicians, critical thinkers and life-long learners who can succeed in an ever-changing, competitive profession.

Set in a positive, collaborative teaching-learning environment, students receive excellent opportunities for musical growth, artistic achievement and professional training. The faculty believe this is the framework needed for successful development and strive to model this at every opportunity.

It is the vision of the Music Department at Colorado Mesa University to become a premiere destination for students who seek serious music study at a mid-size institution. Although Colorado Mesa University is designated as a regional provider for northwestern Colorado, the Music Department's reach extends far beyond to surrounding states. A primary objective of the Music Department is to recruit and retain excellent students first from high schools in Colorado but also from bordering states, and to provide them with an environment that stresses academic rigor and serious artistic standards and fosters a professional demeanor that is conducive to achievement and growth. The department takes seriously its role in providing cultural opportunities for those students who seek music study but major in other disciplines. To that end, the Music Department recruits students to all disciplines.

As a foremost cultural leader in western Colorado, the Music Department provides outstanding recitals, concerts and productions for the college, community and region. Furthermore, the department reaches out to secondary students and their teachers to provide educational opportunities by hosting instructive events, guest artists, and festivals. The Music Department consistently collaborates with area school districts and other community arts organizations.