

Program Overview: Bachelor of Music, Performance

About This Major . . .

The Bachelor of Music in Performance is designed for those students who desire a performance-focused career. A strong core curriculum of musicianship courses includes music theory, history, literature, pedagogy, ensemble performance, and applied study. These courses develop the student's abilities and prepare them to perform in a plethora of venues and genres such as symphony orchestras, chamber ensembles, armed forces ensembles, musical theaters, opera and countless entertainment venues. As a musician in the 21st Century, this degree also seeks to create excellent performers who "create their own future and not simply enter a future that's been created for them." A second goal of this program is to train musicians with current skills so they have the ability to make their own opportunities, shape their careers like entrepreneurs, produce their own performances, collaborate with artists from other genres and art forms and perform at a high artistic level. Training in the follow areas will assist performers to create a meaningful career in music: Creating and Leveraging a Personal Network, Developing and Executing an Action Plan, Identifying Entrepreneurial Opportunities in Music and the Creative Sector, Interdisciplinary Collaborations, E Marketing your Music, Creating an Artist's Digital Portfolio, Video Marketing, and Independent Business Website.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, communication fluency, quantitative fluency, and specialized knowledge/applied learning.

In addition to these campus-wide student-learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

- Develop an express music judgments through solo performance
- Create a bibliography of solo and ensemble literature applicable to student's major instrument
- Demonstrate the fundamentals of pedagogy on the student's major instrument

Program Highlights:

Perform a senior recital that:

- Prepares you for an audition to graduate school
- Encapsulates your musical training into one public performance
- Exposes you to a wide variety of repertoire and styles

Intensive private lessons with full time faculty artists

Experience many performance and musical leadership opportunities

Involvement in collaborative opportunities with other performing arts disciplines

Opportunities to perform in professional ensembles in the community

Pedagogical training to prepare for teaching privately

Training in music marketing and entrepreneurship

Program Requirements

A student must follow CMU graduation requirements by completing 120 semester credit hours, including 40 credits of coursework at the 300+ level. See the “Undergraduate Graduation Requirements” in the catalog for additional graduation information. Students should work closely with a faculty advisor when selecting and scheduling courses prior to registration. In general, CMU’s programs of study are based on two curriculum groups:

1. Essential Learning

CMU’s Essential Learning program provides the foundation of skills and information that cuts across all fields of study and the support for advanced concepts that students will later encounter in their majors. Before moving into work at the 300+ level, students complete the Maverick Milestone and its co-requirement, Essential Speech. This pair of courses is a capstone experience where students integrate what they have learned from their foundation courses by making connections between diverse areas of knowledge. The capstone also is an opportunity for students to work with disparate ideas, a critical skill expected of all CMU graduates that will aid them in solving the complex and unscripted problems they will encounter in their personal, professional, and civic lives.

2. What You Will Study in This Major. . .

Foundational Courses

These courses in music give you the technical foundation on which to build your musical leadership.

Music Theory I, II, III, IV
Music Technology
Beginning Conducting

Ear Training & Sight Singing I & II
Performance Ensembles
Private Lessons

Music Core

These courses in advanced musical training and leadership prepare you to begin your professional career as a musician and musical leader.

Music History and Literature
Orchestration
Advanced Conducting
Jazz Improvisation

The Music of World Cultures
Advanced Private lessons
Performance Ensembles
Senior Recital

Performance Courses in student’s area of interest

These courses are specific to your performance area.

Instrumental Performance

Take courses in:

Symphonic Literature
Pedagogy on your instrument
Intensive private lessons
Adv. Jazz Improvisation
Advanced Conducting
Chamber Ensembles

Vocal Performance

Take courses in:

Vocal Literature
Diction
Vocal Pedagogy
Additional upper div. lessons

Keyboard Performance

Take courses in:

Keyboard Literature I & II
Accompanying Techniques
Keyboard Pedagogy
Additional upper div. lessons
Piano ensemble

Performance Opportunities

Choral – Vocal

Concert Choir
Chamber Choir
Women’s Choir
Vocal Chords (Vocal Jazz)
Opera Scenes

Band

Wind Symphony
Jazz Ensemble
The Maverick Stampede
(Marching Band)
The Maverick Sound
(Pep Band)

Orchestra

Symphony Orchestra
Chamber Orchestra
String Orchestra

Chamber Ensembles

String Quartet
Brass Quintet
Woodwind Quintet
Saxophone Quartet
Clarinet Quartet
Flute Choir
Piano Ensemble
Percussion Ensemble
Jazz Combo