# MUSIC

## What can I do with this major?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td>K-12 schools, public and private</td>
<td>Acquire teaching certificate for public school teaching. Learn about requirements by state.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Colleges and universities</td>
<td>Earn a graduate degree to teach in higher education.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Conservatories</td>
<td>Specialize in an area such as music theory, composition, music history, etc.</td>
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<td>Private Lessons</td>
<td>Daycare centers, Recreation centers, Children's music programs (franchises, local)</td>
<td>Performance skill on one instrument or voice is required.</td>
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<td>Studios</td>
<td>Gain experience working with children through volunteer or part-time work experiences.</td>
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<td>Self-employed</td>
<td>Join the National Association for Music Education as a collegiate member.</td>
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<td>Develop business relationships with schools and/or music stores to increase client base.</td>
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| **PERFORMANCE** | Orchestras: Philharmonic, symphony, and chamber Armed Forces bands and orchestras Small ensembles Rock or jazz groups Dance bands Concert soloist Clubs and restaurants Church choirs Community choral groups Opera companies Musical theaters Ballet productions Recording industry Radio, television, and motion picture industries Cruise lines Amusement parks | Develop musical talent and skill. Obtain formal training to acquire necessary skills, knowledge, and ability to interpret music. Demonstrate ambition and showmanship. Join campus bands and choruses, church choirs, and other performing acts. Seek competitions, apprenticeship programs, and workshops to gain experience and recognition. Auditions are generally required to join bands or get jobs. Be willing to move to a large city with more opportunities such as New York City, Los Angeles, Nashville, Las Vegas, or Chicago. Network with people in the industry to learn about potential jobs. Opportunities are very limited. Most performers have other careers. |
| Instrumental |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                         |
| Vocal       |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                         |

Develop business relationships with schools and/or music stores to increase client base.
### AREAS

#### CONDUCTING
- Directing
- Planning
- Leading
- Musician Selection

#### COMPOSING/ARRANGING
- Composing
- Arranging

### EMPLOYERS

#### CONDUCTING
- Orchestras: Philharmonic, symphony, and chamber
- Armed Forces bands and orchestras
- Various bands
- Choirs
- Choral groups
- Opera companies
- Musical theater companies

#### COMPOSING/ARRANGING
- Self-employed
- Record companies
- Publishers
- Muzak
- Motion picture and television industries
- Production companies
- Orchestras: Philharmonic, symphony, and chamber
- Opera companies
- Musical theater groups
- Ballet troupes
- Broadway

### STRATEGIES

#### CONDUCTING
- Develop superior musicianship and leadership.
- Acquire extensive experience in performing groups.
- Develop advanced site-reading skills.
- Learn other languages such as French, German, Latin, and Italian.
- Gain acceptance into a conductor-training program or related apprenticeship.
- Opportunities are extremely limited.

#### COMPOSING/ARRANGING
- Knowledge of composition, harmony, arranging, and theory are important.
- Skill on one or more instruments and voice are necessary. Play an instrument in a professional arena.
- Become familiar with all types of music productions.
- Learn how to use electronic instruments and synthesizers.
- Develop computer and desktop publishing expertise.
- Attend music conferences and workshops.
- Seek grants and awards through foundations, e.g. one from the National Endowment of the Arts.
- Very few musicians earn living through composing.

### MUSIC LIBRARIES

#### COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
- Conservatories
- Public libraries
- Radio and television stations
- Motion picture studies

- Develop computer and research skills.
- Gain thorough knowledge of music and musicology.
- Earn a master's degree in library/information science.
- Work in a campus or public library to gain relevant experience.
- Develop good organizational and technology skills.
- Learn to understand foreign languages, particularly Italian, Latin, German, and French.
- Join the Music Library Association.
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| **COMMUNICATIONS (BROADCASTING)** | Radio and television stations  
  Virtual reality sound environments  
  e.g. Internet sites, software creators | Take classes in communications, broadcasting, or journalism.  
  Work at on-campus radio station.  
  Complete an internship at a television or radio station.  
  Develop computer-related skills such as software development and programming. |
| Music and Program Direction  
 On Air Performance  
 Promotion  
 Voice Overs  
 Copyright/Clearance Administration  
 Music License Administration  
 Music Editing, Production, and Composing  
 Sound Mixing  
 Post Production  
 Research | Radio and television stations  
  Virtual reality sound environments  
  e.g. Internet sites, software creators | Take classes in communications, broadcasting, or journalism.  
  Work at on-campus radio station.  
  Complete an internship at a television or radio station.  
  Develop computer-related skills such as software development and programming. |
| **MUSIC THERAPY** | Hospitals: general and psychiatric  
  Special education facilities  
  Mental health centers  
  Nursing homes and senior centers  
  Rehabilitation centers  
  Correctional facilities  
  Private practice  
  Outpatient clinics  
  Schools | Take courses in psychology, social work, or education.  
  Earn a master's degree in music therapy and seek certification.  
  Volunteer in a rehabilitation setting.  
  Demonstrate a genuine interest in helping people.  
  Learn to work well with all types of people.  
  Develop a broad array of musical talents. |
| **BEHIND THE SCENES** | Local bands Regional bands  
  Production companies Theater groups  
  Orchestras  
  Armed Forces  
  Radio, television, and motion picture industries | Shadow an individual who is in the music industry in an area of interest.  
  Volunteer in community, school, or church productions.  
  Gain expertise in the areas of musical and technical knowledge, sound board, and sound equipment.  
  Take courses in areas such as broadcasting, engineering, or computer science to learn technical skills.  
  Complete an internship with a recording company or other relevant organization.  
  Research seminars, workshops, and professional associations that could provide useful information or contacts.  
  Check trade journals and association bulletins for possible employment. |
**AREAS**

**MUSIC INDUSTRY/BUSINESS**
- Publishing and Editing
- Producing
- Recording
- Engineering
- Manufacturing
- Talent Acquisition
- Artist/Talent Representation
- Promotion/Media Relations
- Publicity
- Administration
- Marketing
- Booking
- Product Management
- Business Management
- Retail Sales

**MISCELLANEOUS**
- Music Journalism
- Law
- Music Analysis

**EMPLOYERS**

- Production recording studios (most located in New York City, Los Angeles, and Nashville)
- Music management groups
- Agencies
- Music and record stores
- Instrument manufacturers

**STATEGIES**

- Complete an internship at a record company.
- Take business courses to work in management or administration.
- Journalism, public relations, and communication classes are helpful for work in areas of promotion.
- Gain sales experience for marketing. Learn to interact well with people and develop persuasion tools.
- Knowledge of electronics, audio engineering, and recording knowledge required for production.
- Work or volunteer at a campus or local radio station.
- Join organizations involved with bringing events and entertainment to campus.
- Work at a retail record store to learn about the industry.
- Volunteer to help promote a local or campus band with their promotions and bookings.
- Gain a broad knowledge of music and the industry.
- Build a strong network of contacts.
- Develop skills such as negotiation, assertiveness, the ability to recognize talent, and working under pressure.

- Take courses in journalism and English.
- Write articles for campus newspaper.
- Prepare for law school and earn a law degree (J.D.).
- For music analysis:
  - Develop the ability to read and transcribe well.
  - Gain knowledge with use of high tech digital computers to analyze music.
- Move to a larger city where more opportunities exist.
GENERAL INFORMATION

• Majoring in music provides students with a sense of aesthetics and an understanding of human expression valuable to many employers.
• Develop competencies in business management, computers, marketing, or other areas to broaden range of employment possibilities.
• Finding positions in the music industry requires a combination of talent, training, connections and some luck. Perserverance is required!
• Develop a variety of skills. Become "multitalented."
• As an undergraduate, gain as much experience as possible, paid or unpaid, through college and local organizations. Seek internships or volunteer positions with relevant organizations.
• Confidence, personality, a positive attitude, and a love of music are important to success in many arenas of music. Learn basic tools of self-promotion.
• Some jobs may require you to join unions or guilds. Research the industry to learn which ones are appropriate.
• Performers often travel frequently and must be flexible regarding their work schedules.
• Move to a larger city such as Los Angeles, New York, Nashville, or Chicago to find more job opportunities.
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
  o *National Association for Music Education – Careers in Music
  o American Federation of Musicians
  o Women in Music National Network
  o American Music Therapy Association
  o Music and Entertainment Industry Educators Association

OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK INFORMATION
  o Musicians, Singers, and Related Workers
  o Teachers – Postsecondary
  o Teachers-Elementary, Middle and Secondary
  o Arts, Entertainment and Recreation Industry Guide

MISCELLANEOUS CAREER INFORMATION
  o Music Professions from ThinkQuest
  o Music Business Solutions
  o Berklee Careers in Music
  o Performing Arts Career Guide

JOB POSTINGS
  o Art Opportunities
  o Music Jobs USA
  o MyMusicJob.com
* Recommended Sites