COLLEGE OF **MUSIC**

Graduate Studies

University of Colorado
Boulder

Important dates + requirements:

International:

Discover + Innovate + Succeed

Work closely with our award-winning faculty, join a global community of trailblazing Music Buffs and make an impact on the musical landscape of our world.

Whether you're pursuing a performance or an academic degree, the University of Colorado Boulder College of Music offers a wide range of programs for graduate study, integrating advanced musical and interdisciplinary training with professional-level experiences and the rich resources of a leading research university.

Earn more than a music degree in the foothills of the Rockies: Whether your passion is to teach, perform, compose, research or rethink music entirely, diverse opportunities for collaboration and a spirit of inclusive excellence await you!

Learn why the CU Boulder College of Music is one of the top comprehensive music schools in the country.

Creating community, together.

Welcome from Associate Dean for Graduate Studies Margaret Berg:

The CU Boulder College of Music is unique amongst its peers, with world class faculty committed to inclusive excellence and mentorship of graduate students as they launch or extend their careers.

Undergirding our commitment to the development of high-level musicianship and interdisciplinary thinking in all our students is a collaborative, welcoming environment that ensures an inspiring and supportive community in which to learn and grow. Having recently celebrated the college's centennial, we continue to connect student success to professional achievement through auspicious offerings like our biennial Cleveland Orchestra residency.

Our recently expanded Imig Music Building—now totaling more than 89,500 square feet—houses recital halls, large ensemble rehearsal rooms, a choral room, a state-of-the-art recording studio, practice rooms, faculty studios, as well as classrooms and offices. Students also have access to the Howard B. Waltz Music Library and the American Music Research Center, one of the largest and most important music research collections in the country; as well as access to dedicated space for our Musicians' Wellness Program and Entrepreneurship Center for Music.

I encourage you to explore all the College of Music has to offer!

Shannon Christie (MM '22) as "Violetta" and Miguel Ángel Ortega Bañales (MM '23) as "Alfredo" in Verdi's La traviata. (Photo: Casey A. Cass)

The Grammy Award-winning Takács Quartet has been in residence at the CU Boulder College of Music since 1983 (Photo: Amanda Tipton Photography)

Making music together:

Music-at-a-glance

Graduate degree programs

Applied studios

MM + DMA degrees available

Brass*
Euphonium, Horn, Trombone, Trumpet, Tuba

Conducting
Choral, Orchestral, Wind

Collaborative Piano

Jazz Studies*
Bass, Drums, Guitar, Piano, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone

Piano and Keyboard*
Harpsichord, Piano

Percussion*

Strings*
Cello, Classical Guitar, Double Bass, Harp, Viola, Violin

Voice*

Woodwinds*
Bassoon, Clarinet, Flute, Oboe, Saxophone

**Performance and pedagogy option available.*

Academic areas

Composition
Emphasis in music technology available
MM and DMA

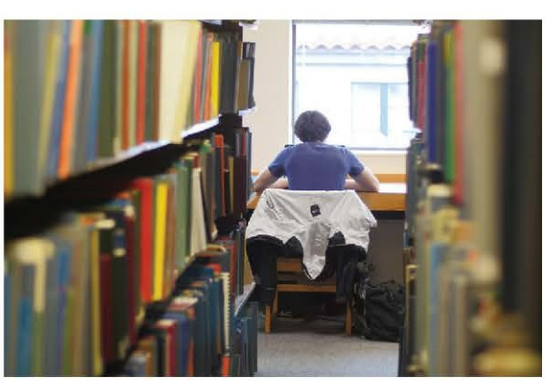
Music Theory
MM only

Music Education
Licensure track available
MMED and PhD

Musicology
Emphasis in ethnomusicology and historical musicology available
PhD only

At a glance:

Degrees:



Degree overview

Master of Music

Refine your music performance, music composition, research, writing and/or pedagogy skills with upper-level studies and 1-on-1 training. With an 8:1 student to faculty ratio, students receive a more interactive and collaborative learning experience. Each of our MM degrees incorporates studies in the major area, ample performance opportunities, music electives and one or more recitals.

Applicants pursuing an MM degree should have at least a bachelor's degree in music.

30-32 CREDIT HOURS | **2 YEARS** TIME TO COMPLETE

Master of Music Education

Complete advanced studies to fine-tune your teaching practices. Courses offered include historical and philosophical foundations of music education, psychological theories of music learning, basic research methods, curriculum development and assessment. Experience why our music education program has resulted in 99% job placement for our graudates seeking K-12 teaching positions, and learn about career advancement and leadership opportunities.

30-32 CREDIT HOURS | **2 YEARS** TIME TO COMPLETE

Doctor of Musical Arts

Designed for graduate students interested in receiving in-depth training and research skills in preparation for a multifaceted career in college teaching and/or professional performance, DMA candidates pursue advanced studies, take graduate seminar courses, perform several recitals and design projects tailored towards research-oriented interests. You may supplement your studies by also completing a Certificate of Music Theory.

30 minimum CREDIT HOURS | **3 YEARS** TIME TO COMPLETE

PhD in music education or musicology

As one of the nation's top-ranked Tier 1 research institutions, CU Boulder provides unparalleled opportunities to support your higher education career goals. With emphases in music education or musicology, our PhD program is designed to prepare students for a career in research, college teaching and/or school leadership positions. Minimum requirements for PhD degrees are: 75 credit hours beyond the bachelor degree for music education and 60 credit hours for musicology, including 30 hours of thesis credit. On average, the music education PhD takes three to four years to complete; the musicology PhD generally takes five to six years.

Artist Diploma

Artist Diplomas are designed for musicians who exhibit potential for a national and/or international performance career. This highly selective two-year pre-professional program focuses exclusively on developing advanced performance skills, and includes a number of performance opportunities, studio lessons and ensemble participation. Students applying to an Artist Diploma must have completed a bachelor's degree in music.

20-24 CREDIT HOURS | **2 YEARS** TIME TO COMPLETE

ECM

MWP

Pendulum

CU NOW

Resources

Supporting artistry + the universal musician

Entrepreneurship Center for Music (ECM)

As one of the first such programs in the country, the ECM is an entrepreneurial endeavor, developing new paradigms for education, leadership and advocacy in the emerging field of arts entrepreneurship. Students are encouraged to develop entrepreneurial skills to explore the vast opportunities inherent in a changing marketplace and develop plans to implement career-enhancing ventures across the artistic spectrum. In conjunction with the ECM, the College of Music offers a Graduate Certificate in Arts Administration, providing knowledge and insights into the opportunities and challenges facing today's arts administrators.

Musicians' Wellness Program (MWP)

The MWP increases proficiency and prevents injury through somatic training, health-related information and a medical support network. As such, the MWP provides essential assistance to injured students with the goals of returning them to full function and preventing further injury, and guiding them to resources and local medical professionals trained in the special needs of musicians. Classes and lessons in the Alexander Technique and Body Mapping are offered each semester; additional available services include medical evaluations and physical therapy in partnership with the university's Wardenburg Health Center, as well as counseling and psychiatric services.

Pendulum New Music

Pendulum is a concert series-meets-forum for the creation and performance of new and original works by student composers, improvisers, performers and collaborators from across the College of Music, as well as a space to celebrate works by living composers from outside the CU Boulder community. Pendulum values a broad aesthetic range of sound-based art that is inclusive of all genres and manners of music making, ranging from concert music to songwriting, electroacoustic to jazz ... and beyond. Pendulum has welcomed many guests, including Ursula Oppens, Nina Young, Alarm Will Sound, Bang on a Can All Stars, Eighth Blackbird, HOCKET, ~Nois and annual appearances by the Boulder Altitude Directive and the CU Boulder Wind Symphony.

CU New Opera Workshop (CU NOW)

CU NOW—part of our Eklund Opera Program—is an interactive summer session that empowers student singers and composers to workshop their own pieces and works by new opera professionals, including Tom Cipullo, Jake Heggie and Kamala Sankaram. In new works on their way to professional world premieres, student musicians and composers bring new ideas to a traditional genre and engage with respected figures in the opera world.

Other campus resources

Graduate students can leverage the many resources on campus. The Howard B. Waltz Music Library holds one of the largest music research collections between Chicago and Los Angeles. The Anderson Language & Technology Center (ALTEC) supports language study through innovative approaches to language learning and teaching. The CU Boulder Writing Center offers an array of services for graduate students, including 1-on-1 sessions and workshops, as well as extended writing support.