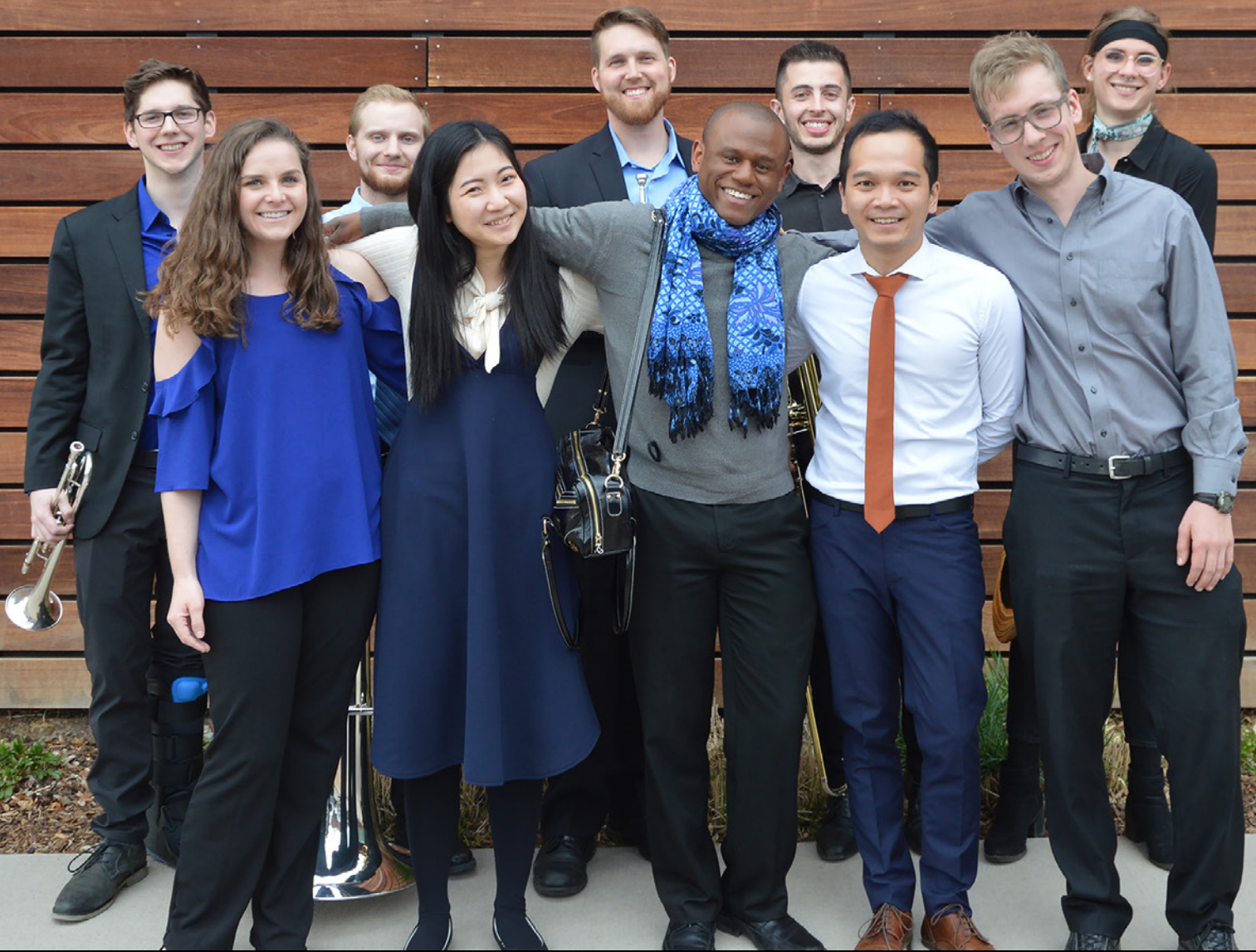


Graduate Studies



College of Music

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

Inspiring artistry and discovery, together

Welcome from Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Dr. Margaret Berg

The College of Music is unique amongst its peers, with world class faculty committed to mentoring graduate students as they launch or extend their careers. Undergirding our commitment to the development of high-level musicianship and interdisciplinary thinking in all students is the collaborative environment that makes the College of Music an energizing and supportive community in which to learn and grow. With 2020 having marked the college's centennial, we continue to connect student success to professional achievement through auspicious offerings like our biennial Carnegie Hall Student Showcase Concert series and Cleveland Orchestra residency.

Our recent 64,000 square-foot expansion includes innovative teaching and rehearsal spaces, a state-of-the-art recording studio, and dedicated suites for the Entrepreneurship Center for Music and Musicians' Wellness Program.

Please visit our [website](#) or connect with us through social media on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).



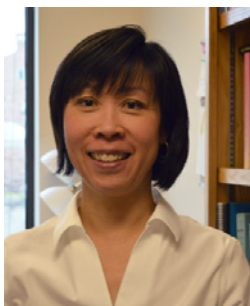
artistry



Faculty Focus

Daphne Leong, Music Theory

Daphne Leong is associate professor of music theory. Her research interests include rhythm, analysis and performance and the music of 20th- and 21st-century composers. Her book *Performing Knowledge* is forthcoming from Oxford University Press; her articles appear in journals such as *Journal of Music Theory*, *Perspectives of New Music*, and *Music Theory Online*, as well as in edited collections on Bartók, Ravel and the pedagogy of music theory. She is an active pianist and chamber musician, whose repertoire ranges from Bach to premieres of current music. Leong received the 2013 Excellence in Teaching Award of the University of Colorado Boulder Faculty Assembly and has served as (elected) vice president of the national Society for Music Theory.



Alexandra Nguyen, Collaborative Piano

“Discovering and sharing music with others is my passion, be it as a performer, teacher, or listener. As a collaborative pianist, I am lucky to be able to engage with others in all of these capacities in the stimulating and nurturing environment of the College of Music. My unusual career path has helped define me as an artist and pedagogue, and I continue to learn something new every day, thanks to my work here.”



Margaret McDonald, Collaborative Piano

“As an extremely shy young girl, music was the easiest way for me to communicate with others. It became only natural for me to follow the path of collaborative piano to enjoy a life of constant musical dialogue. I have always loved the exhilaration and energy that comes from making music with others. I was fortunate to join the faculty of the College of Music in 2004 to help develop a brand-new degree program in Collaborative Piano. One of the greatest joys of my job is having the opportunity to work with all performance students and faculty on a regular basis.”



Ryan Gardner, Trumpet

Ryan Gardner is an associate professor of trumpet. As an orchestral performer, Gardner has played with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra, the Charleston Symphony and the Rochester Philharmonic, among others. Gardner is a featured recitalist and his CDs *On Track* and *Sempiternal Songs* have received critical acclaim. He is an avid chamber musician and a champion of new music having played with Alarm Will Sound and Crash Ensemble.



Gardner serves as the New York and Los Angeles Artist Coordinator for Music for Autism and was named their 2010 Spotlight Artist of Year. He is a Bach Performing Artist and Clinician, he serves on the Board of Directors for the International Trumpet Guild, and has recorded with Naxos, Mark Records, and BX Entertainment. His degrees are from the Eastman School of Music, Rice University, and the Manhattan School of Music.

The Grammy-winning Takacs Quartet has been in residence at CU Boulder since 1983. Photo: Amanda Tipton



Music at a Glance

Graduate Degree Programs

Applied Studios: MM and DMA

*Brass**: Euphonium, Horn, Trombone, Trumpet, Tuba | MM and DMA

Conducting: Choral, Orchestral, Wind | MM and DMA

Collaborative Piano: MM and DMA

*Jazz Studies**: Bass, Drums, Guitar, Piano, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone | MM and DMA

*Piano and Keyboard**: Organ, Harpsichord | MM and DMA

*Percussion**: MM and DMA

*Strings**: Cello, Classical Guitar, Double Bass, Harp, Viola, Violin | MM and DMA

*Voice**: MM and DMA

* denotes a Performance and Pedagogy option

Academic Areas

Composition: Emphasis in Music Technology available | MM and DMA

Music Theory: Music Theory Certificate available | MM

Music Education: MMed, MMed plus licensure, PhD

Musicology: PhD

Please see colorado.edu/music/academics/graduate-degrees for details on each degree and a listing of Artist Diploma programs.

programs



Degree Overview

Master of Music

The purpose of Master of Music degree work is to refine skills in music performance, music composition, research and writing, and pedagogy. Each of the MM degrees incorporates studies in the major area, music electives, and thesis/recital credits.

Master of Music degrees require on average 30-32 credits over the course of two years of study.

Doctor of Musical Arts

The Doctor of Music degree is intended for composers, conductors and performers who possess both creative and scholarly abilities. Graduates of this program go on to careers as composers and performers in solo, chamber, opera, jazz, or orchestral music, or as choral, jazz, band and/or orchestral conductors. A particular focus of the DMA is the preparation for a career as a college, conservatory or university teacher. Students work closely with an advisor in completing a degree plan that reflects their needs and interests.

This degree requires a minimum of 30 hours beyond the master's level, including 12 hours in seminar and other course work, and a minimum of 18 hours of performance and written projects (constituting the dissertation portion of the degree). Average time to DMA degree completion is three years.

Certificate in Arts Administration

The College of Music's professional Graduate Certificate in Arts Administration provides students with the managerial skills and knowledge to work in the performing arts industry.

Coursework:

- Arts Administration and Management
- Management and Leadership in the Arts
- Sustainable Arts Organizations: Forecasting and Fundraising

Certificate in Music Theory

The Music Theory certificate is a 12-credit program that provides a curricular framework for advanced studies in theory and theory pedagogy.

- 3 credits: Music Theory Pedagogy
- 6 credits: Two out of three of the following: Schenkerian Analysis, Post-tonal Theory and Analysis, Topics in Music Analysis

Post-tonal Theory and Analysis, Topics in Music Analysis

- 3 credits: One-semester of Special Studies, leading to a research project and public presentation of research.

Master of Music Education

Students in this degree program complete advanced studies that are designed to refine their teaching philosophy and practices.

These studies include courses in historical and philosophical foundations of music education, psychological theories of music learning, basic research methods, curriculum development and assessment. The minimum number of credit hours required is 30.

The college also offers a master of music education plus licensure degree, allowing students to earn a MME degree and a K-12 Colorado music teacher license. This degree requires 30 credit hours plus licensure coursework.

PhD in Musicology or Music Education

The PhD in Music emphasizes research in the principal areas of music education or musicology. Each program plan is developed through collaboration between student and advisor, keeping the specific goals of each individual student in mind. The PhD is designed to prepare the student for a career in research and college teaching or for a school leadership position. Minimum requirements for PhD degrees are: 60 credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree for musicology and 75 for music education, including 30 hours of thesis credits. The Musicology PhD program generally takes five to six years to complete, while the Music Education PhD takes on average three and a half to four years.

Artist Diploma

Artist Diplomas are pre-professional programs for musicians who exhibit the potential for a national and/or international performance career. These programs range from 20-24 credits and are generally completed in two years. Students in AD programs emphasize individual study with faculty in their instrumental or vocal area and generally complete less academic credits.

Students applying to an Artist Diploma must have completed a bachelor's degree in music. Priority is given to applicants who also have two to three years of professional experience and/or an advanced degree.



Ensembles

Bands

Under the guidance of Grammy nominee Donald McKinney, CU's Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band have toured internationally and performed at major national conventions, such as the College Band Directors Association and the Music Educators National Conference. Graduate conducting students assist in the administration of the Band program and have the opportunity to instruct the Concert Band.

Each summer, the Wind Band Conducting Symposium provides a series of clinics and workshops for graduate students and professionals.

Choral Music and Opera

Founded in 1938, the CU Choral Department became one of the first university programs in the nation to offer a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting in the 1960s. Each of CU Boulder's seven choirs performs two to three concerts per semester and collaborates regularly with the CU Symphony Orchestra, CU Wind Symphony and the Boulder Philharmonic. Master's and doctoral students in choral conducting receive intensive study with and one-on-one mentorship from CU Boulder's choral faculty, Dr. Gregory Gentry and Dr. Elizabeth Swanson, as well as professional-level podium experiences in rehearsals and performances. Graduates of the MM and DMA programs in choral conducting are directing successful professional, collegiate, secondary, children's and church choir programs throughout the country and abroad.


The Eklund Opera Program has been designated a "Program of Excellence" by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, and students in the College of Music present several fully staged operas each year.

Jazz Ensembles

The Thompson Jazz Studies Program offers students exposure to a wide variety of jazz styles from classic literature to the most current writing for jazz ensemble as well as providing opportunities to perform arrangements and original compositions by students and faculty. The Concert Jazz Ensemble was recently recognized in DownBeat Magazine's 2014 Student Music Awards as one of the nation's outstanding big bands. The Thompson Latin Jazz Ensemble studies music from the Caribbean and South America and its integration and ties with jazz. Jazz combos are organized to develop improvisational skills in a small group setting and to study significant periods, styles, and artists in jazz history.

Orchestras

Led by Director of Orchestral Studies Gary Lewis and Associate Director Joel Schut, the Symphony, Philharmonia and Chamber Orchestras perform a wide variety of outstanding repertoire and providing its members with a professional-level artistic experience and orchestral training. Principal musicians of the Cleveland Orchestra are in residence for one week at CU Boulder every other year, and the CU Orchestras have performed alongside such diverse musicians as cellist Johannes Krohn, pianist Jeremy Denk and jazz and pop artists such as Dave Grusin and the Indigo Girls. Recent graduate conducting students have found success in various aspects of the profession as winners of the American prize in Conducting and holding posts with the Fort Worth Symphony, Memphis Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, numerous professional opera companies and in both university and public school programs.



A full range of traditional, non-traditional and world music ensembles can be found at colorado.edu/music/ensembles.

Supporting Artistry

Musicians' Wellness Program



The Musicians' Wellness Program is a unique resource that promotes career-long health and well-being for musicians. Services include Alexander Technique classes, one-on-one consultations with director James Brody and lessons for music students who are experiencing difficulty in performing due to misuse, injury, anxiety or physical tension.

The Wardenburg Health Center offers musician-specific medical evaluations, as well as referrals for diagnostic tests, physical therapy and appointments with specialists as needed. Additionally, the College of Music partners with CU Boulder Counseling Services to provide students support in many aspects of emotional health that frequently affect musicians, including performance anxiety and emotional blocks to success.

colorado.edu/music/wellness

Pendulum New Music



Pendulum presents some of CU's best performers from all departments, premiering original music of CU composers. Every monthly concert also features a faculty or guest performance; past features include Ursula Oppens, Bang on a Can All Stars, California Ear Unit, and eighth blackbird. Monthly concerts take place on Wednesdays in venues across campus, with special events in other venues. Pendulum's mission is to promote new music and to equip students with the necessary skills and resources for successful collaborations and commissions.

CU New Opera Workshop (CU NOW)



By the time an opera production hits the floorboards, composers and performers have spent years transforming theatrical ideas and music for the stage. The CU New Opera Workshop (CU NOW) gives students the rare opportunity to observe this process and share suggestions with the composers. The interactive workshop-style performances feature acclaimed opera composers, such as Tom Cipullo, Jake Heggie, and Libby Larson, working with CU singers on new operas on their way to professional world premieres. CU NOW is an exciting way for student musicians and composers to bring new ideas to a traditional genre and engage with respected figures in the opera world.

support

Professional Development

Student Research and Performances

In addition to the recitals and research projects required by College of Music graduate degrees, students are encouraged to seek opportunities to perform and present at conferences and competitions. The Dean's Graduate Student Grant, which is awarded twice each academic year, is a fund available to support students in these efforts. Previously funded proposals include recording projects, competition travel, funding for compositions and funding to compensate participants in student research.

All College of Music students are welcome to participate in the annual Honors Competition and the Bruce Ekstrand Memorial Graduate Student Performance Competition held at CU Boulder.

Professional Associations

College of Music students and faculty are actively involved in a variety of professional organizations, including, but not limited to the following:

- American String Teachers Association
- Music Teachers National Association
- The College Music Society
- Society for Music Theory
- American Musicological Society
- Society for Ethnomusicology
- National Association of Teachers of Singing
- National Flute Association
- International Double Reed Society
- International Trumpet Guild
- Percussive Arts Society
- Society for American Music
- National Association for Music Education
- American Choral Directors Association
- American Educational Research Association
- Society for Music Teacher Education
- Denver Musicians Association

Entrepreneurship Center for Music (ECM)

The ECM aims to equip today's music students with the skills and tools they need to create sustainable careers in the arts. With the arts business undergoing enormous changes in how content is produced, distributed and consumed, ECM programming goes beyond the traditional career skills taught at some music schools: At the ECM, 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.

Along with the opportunities presented by the ECM, the College of Music also offers an Arts Administration certificate for graduate students. This certificate provides knowledge and insights into the opportunities and challenges facing today's arts administration professionals through unique class sessions bringing Boulder students and distance learners together in a boardroom setting.

colorado.edu/music/ecm



Envisioning Your Future

Music Buff Connect

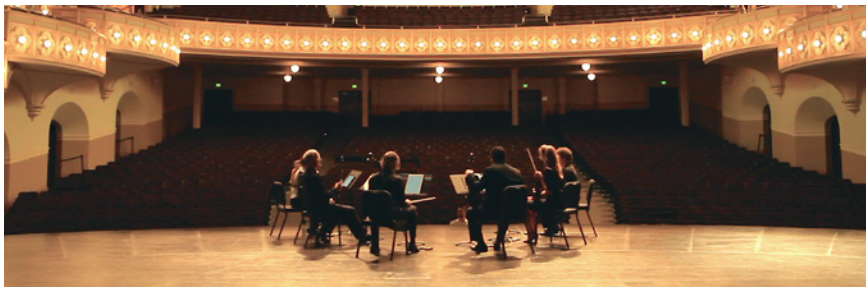
At the CU Boulder College of Music, we're creating a community of engaged Music Buffs for whom the support, resources and sense of family continue well beyond graduation. All Music Buffs—alumni, current students, and participants in any College of Music ensembles or programs—are welcome!

Within the Forever Buffs Network, Music Buff Connect is the digital home for the Music Buff alumni network. You'll discover and share tools and resources to support your professional journey.

Connect with the Music Buff community: foreverbuffsnetwork.com

Sample of Regional Professional Opportunities

- Boulder Philharmonic
- Denver Performing Arts Complex
- Boulder Valley School District
- Opera Colorado
- Longmont Symphony Orchestra
- Aspen Music Festival and School
- Colorado Music Educator Association Conference
- National Association of Teachers of Singing
- Colorado Springs Philharmonic
- Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra
- Denver Philharmonic Orchestra
- CU Middle School Ensemble Program



Reclaiming a history of diversity in Boulder: The Persevering Legacy project

Persevering Legacy champions a unique collaboration that elevates stories of historically marginalized female African American composers to align classical music with social activism. College of Music students prepare an annual performance and “Inclusipedia” workshop in partnership with the American Music Research Center (AMRC), Diverse Musicians’ Alliance, Howard B. Waltz Music Library and Museum of Boulder.

Performances feature College of Music faculty and students performing selections from the AMRC’s Helen Walker-Hill Collection, which is a special collection of seldom-performed musical compositions by female African American composers. The “Inclusipedia” workshop component, led by the Museum of Boulder, equips volunteers with tools to create, edit and maintain Wikipedia pages in order to build a more complete and diverse history of musicianship across the gender gap and in Boulder throughout the years.

Teaching Assistantships & Scholarships

Teaching assistantships offer graduate students the chance to participate in the College of Music as “colleagues in training.” The goal of offering graduate teaching positions, along with supporting students financially, is to provide faculty mentorship and guidance to students beginning to shape their career.

All applicants are automatically considered for teaching assistantships and scholarships based on their audition and application materials.

Teaching Assistantships and Graduate Part-Time Instructor Positions

The majority of the College of Music’s awards are 25% Teaching Assistantship positions. These positions involve 10 hours of weekly work in both the student’s area and in theory and musicology classes that require grading assistance. Incoming TAs will have the opportunity to select their preferred areas of study, and final class assignments are made by the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies.

Applicants with previous teaching experience may be placed in Graduate Part-Time Instructor positions.

All Graduate Assistantship positions above 20% will provide annual coverage of 92%, or \$3,410 of CU Gold Health Insurance.

2021-2022 Teaching Assistant Appointment Information

Work Hours per Week (Avg)	Appointment Percentage	Annual Salary (Estimate)	Tuition Waiver
10	25%	TA: \$11,390.72 GPTI: \$13,165.20	5 hrs per semester 4-6 flexible hrs under advisement

*Value of \$3,942 for CO residents and \$10,548 for nonresidents

Scholarships

Applicants to the College of Music are automatically considered for scholarship funds, which range in value depending on availability in each department.

Graduate Teaching Program

All graduate students interested in refining their teaching skills can participate in the Graduate Teacher Program, a university-wide, no-cost professional student development program that offers workshops, trainings, and a certification for all graduate teachers.

Additional University Funding

The Graduate School of CU Boulder offers a variety of grants, which can be seen online at colorado.edu/graduateschool/funding/graduate-student-awards-and-grants.

Applicants are encouraged to apply to the Free Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).



Graduate Application & Audition

August 1	Graduate Application Opens
December 1	Graduate Application Deadline Deadline for TOEFL/IELTS/DET submission Deadline for pre-screening submission.
January 1	Deadline to submit letters of recommendation
January 2	Pre-Screening Pass/Fail results shared on a rolling basis
March 2	Final decisions released on a rolling basis through April 15
March 15	Scholarship and assistantship offers released on a rolling basis
April 15	Confirmation deadline

Test Scores

The GRE is only required for the PhD-Music Education.

A valid TOEFL, IELTS, or DET score is required of all international graduate applicants whose native language is not English.

Please see our International Applications page for minimum score information.

Some programs may have additional requirements.

Please see colorado.edu/music for details

2022 Audition Dates

The following departments schedule interviews and auditions on an individual basis between February and March: Conducting, Music Education, Composition, Music Theory, Musicology

Flute: January 21 & February 11

Voice Auditions: January 28-29

Solo Piano Auditions: January 28-29

Collaborative Piano Auditions: February 11 & 25

Strings, Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion, Jazz: January 22
February 5, February 12 (virtual)

Some programs may have additional requirements.
Please see colorado.edu/music for details.

auditions



Be Boulder.

Visit Us!



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