

COLLEGE OF MUSIC



University of Colorado
Boulder

More than just music

At the College of Music, we are devoted to inspiring artistry and discovery. Our students gain more than just a music education—they receive a multidisciplinary approach to music, where they can merge their musical talent and passion with applicable skills, preparing them for success.

music+you



Sophia Thaut
Violin Performance '21

“This school provides intense training and study of music at a high level, while also providing a community that encourages positive growth.”



Curtis Sellers
Oboe Performance '21

“Professor Cooper’s principles of independence and artistry have inspired and challenged me to push my own limits and to become a better musician.”



Isabella Fincher
Guitar Performance '23

“Professor Spera is a supportive and enthusiastic mentor who pushes students to improve technically while also staying playful and creative in their music.”



Michael Batson
Choral Music Education '23

“I think the strongest part of our education program is our professors. They are so passionate about music education and have such great experience in the field. They want the very best for all of us and want to see us be successful.”

300
undergraduate
students

75%
of required music
classes have **fewer**
than **20** students

8:1
student-to-faculty **ratio**

25%
pursue majors in
addition to music

30
ensembles in a
variety of genres

70%
of 2019 graduates had
plans for full-time work
or graduate study at the
time of graduation

3
Grammy Award
nominations
in 2019

99%
job placement of
BME students for the
past 20 years

Applied study areas:

Classical:

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Bassoon | Flute | Piano |
| Cello | Harp | Saxophone |
| Clarinet | Harpsichord | Trombone |
| Classical | Horn | Trumpet |
| Guitar | Oboe | Tuba |
| Double Bass | Organ | Viola |
| Euphonium | Percussion | Violin |

Jazz:

- | |
|-----------|
| Bass |
| Drumset |
| Guitar |
| Piano |
| Saxophone |
| Trumpet |
| Trombone |

Meet our new faculty

Ryan Gardner

Associate professor of trumpet

Ryan Gardner comes to the College of Music from Oklahoma State University, where he taught for eight years—five of which saw his students win the National Trumpet Competition.

“My students have gone on to collegiate teaching and [professional] performance, so I’ve been fortunate,”

Gardner says. Having earned degrees from the Eastman School of Music, Rice University and the Manhattan School of Music, the California native says he may be a full-time educator, but performing will always be a big part of his life.

Joel Schut

Instructor of music education

Alumnus Joel Schut (MM’12) returns to the College of Music to join the Music Education department and conduct a new, additional orchestra for music students. In his new role at the College of Music, he’ll get to explore the relationship between ensemble music making and teacher education.

“My background informs my understanding of teaching as artistry and artistry as teaching. I am grateful to be integrated within a new performing ensemble and an excellent music education faculty working with performers and future teachers to develop their skills and nurture their craft.”

Claude Sim

Assistant professor of violin

Sim brings 20 years of experience with the Colorado Symphony to his role as studio professor for violin students.

“When we, as performers, get to be out in the field doing and practicing what we preach, it gives a little bit more truth to what we’re sharing with students.”

Branden Steinmetz

Assistant director of bands

instructor of conducting and music education

Steinmetz says for him, teaching music is all about relationships, and he’s looking forward to forging them here in Boulder.

“It’s 100% the people and the connections. I used to be very concerned with putting on the perfect performance and hitting every single note, but the more I get into this, the more I realize that the perfect performance doesn’t exist. It’s the relationships you build along the way, interacting with human beings on a different level and working together—especially in the current world climate. That’s what’s fulfilling to me.”

Performance & beyond

MUSIC EDUCATION



Learn the tools to share your own passion for music with the next generation of musicians as a music teacher. The Bachelor of Music Education is the only undergraduate degree that leads to state licensure to teach in public schools.

- ▶ Become licensed in one of five degree tracks: choral, instrumental-band, instrumental-strings, choral-general or instrumental-general.
- ▶ Observe veteran teachers and practice your own teaching skills in local schools throughout all four years of your program.
- ▶ Our K–12 teaching certificate has reciprocity with 46 of the 50 states.

COMPOSITION



We specialize in creating first-rate performance opportunities for our composers in a highly individualized environment.

- ▶ Participate in and write for a wide range of aesthetics: string quartets, large ensemble pieces, electroacoustic music, collaborations with filmmakers and so much more.
- ▶ Get Pulitzer Prize-level training: Professor Carter Pann was a finalist in 2016.
- ▶ Our students are commissioned to create works for faculty, local musicians and others.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY



The College of Music features between 10 and 20 exclusively electroacoustic performances each year, and dozens of performances integrate electronics and music technology annually across campus. Students can:

- ▶ Pursue this interest with either a bachelor's degree or a certificate in conjunction with study of your applied instrument
- ▶ Work in three state-of-the-art student computing labs and enjoy a new recording facility starting in fall 2020
- ▶ Check out our laptop orchestra as an electronic music performing option



Professional opportunities

Undergraduate development funds

Designated funding is available to connect students to professional-level training and experiences. Each year, numerous students are awarded financial support to study, perform and present nationally and internationally at high-level competitions, camps and conferences.

Kieran Scruggs (horn): Participated in the French-Czech Academy of Music in Telc, Czech Republic

Hannah Harm (oboe, music education): Selected to participate in the Conducting Institute at the University of Missouri-Kansas City

Margaret Brady (violin): Participated in the Bowdoin International Music Festival in Maine

Study Abroad

Use this opportunity to add robust and unique experiences to your résumé.

- Customize your education with musicians from all around the world in one of our 11 [education abroad](#) locations.

Network

The college provides opportunities to build your professional connections through diverse opportunities. Participate in internships through our Entrepreneurship Center for Music and compete in national competitions.

- The College of Music offers funding to support presentations at local and national conferences, student research projects, education abroad and more.

Career support

MUSICIANS' WELLNESS PROGRAM (MWP)

Developed by Professor James Brody, the program gives musicians insights through somatic education to support lifelong musicianship. Students study the Alexander Technique and body mapping to prevent and fully recover from injury.

- Take classes in Alexander Technique, offered every semester.
- One-on-one consultations are offered for students who are experiencing difficulty in playing/singing due to misuse, injury, anxiety or physical tension.
- Physical therapists are available with specific skills in the treatment of musicians.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER FOR MUSIC (ECM)

Our mission is simple: to equip music students with the skills and tools they need to create sustainable careers in the arts.

- Take advantage of one-on-one career mentoring.
- Attend weekly workshops with industry experts.
- Pursue the Certificate in Music Entrepreneurship, which includes a business minor.

ALUMNI SUPPORT

College of Music students can network with alumni who have positions in major universities, orchestras, arts administration and more. We have developed a thriving alumni program for the college, which helps connect Buffs and supports career development through the online network Music Buff Connect.

Nora Barpal

BM Euphonium Performance '18

"In addition to pursuing my master's at NYU, I also work for New York Shakespeare Exchange, which is a nonprofit that focuses on breathing new life into Shakespeare. . . . I am so proud of the work we do, the space we create and the idea that great art isn't just for the privileged few."

Carl Rydlund

BM Guitar Performance '89

"During the last 10 years or so, I've been focusing on film and live orchestral work as an arranger and orchestrator, conductor and guitarist. . . . I probably wouldn't be where I am today without making good connections along the way."



College of Music centennial— where we're going

The college is preparing to celebrate its Centennial year in style, reflecting on where we've been and where we're going with a year-long celebration and special events planned. Check out some of the programs we are especially excited about and get a first look at the expansion to our home, scheduled to open in 2020.

CULTIVATING DIVERSITY

Diverse Musicians' Alliance (DiMA) is an academic neighborhood dedicated to student development through scholarships, mentorship and a community of like-minded peers. DiMA supports and promotes diversity, fosters inclusive excellence and develops community programs where music serves as a vehicle for social change.

Examples of programs and projects

Persevering Legacy: This event elevates stories of historically marginalized African American composers to align classical music with social activism.

Intersect: This annual, student-produced interdisciplinary event presents theme-based content in response to current social issues.

Guest Artist Residencies: Musicians with unique perspectives on equity and inclusion join DiMA for conversations and workshops.



ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY



Lullaby Project: In partnership with Carnegie Hall, this initiative pairs new and expectant mothers with musicians to write personal lullabies for their children.



Internships: Students gain experience in nonprofit performing arts organizations such as symphony orchestras, opera companies, El Sistema programs and more.



NEW FACILITIES

Our building expansion project will be completed for fall 2020. As part of this endeavor, we are adding 50,000 square feet of practice rooms, classrooms, state-of-the-art performance and recording spaces, and more.

CHAMBER MUSIC COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to showcase concerts, master classes and honors concerts, students have the opportunity to perform in small ensembles in the community, developing their ability to interact and connect with a diverse range of audiences. Examples include:



Retirement homes: Student chamber groups are selected by the faculty to perform full-length or shared programs.



Hospitals: Students present chamber music performances in outpatient and inpatient facilities in the community.



Public schools: Chamber groups learn how to present programs to many different age groups and how to introduce musical ideas to younger students with varying degrees of musical expertise.

Degrees and certificates

Bachelor of Music (BM)

Composition
Jazz Studies
Musical Theatre
Musicology
Performance
Composition and Performance (dual BMs)

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Music Within Liberal Arts
Musicology & World Music Emphasis
Music Technology & Media Studies Emphasis

Bachelor of Music Education (BME)

General Music Education
Choral Music Education
Instrumental Music Education
Performance and Music Education (dual BM and BME)

Certificates

Jazz Studies
Music Entrepreneurship with Business Minor
Music Technology

Undergraduate application and audition

Application timeline: Fall 2020

- November 15:** Early action deadline for CU Boulder admissions application
- December 1:** Priority deadline for College of Music application. Final deadline for musical theatre, composition, jazz guitar, and nonresident flute and voice pre-screening
- January 15:** Regular decision deadline for CU Boulder admissions application
- February 1:** Deadline to submit College of Music application and recorded final auditions
*Note that Colorado residents are required to audition live, on-campus.
- February 17:** Final deadline to complete all in-person auditions with the College of Music

Audition dates:
February 1, February 8, February 15

College of Music middle 50% of admitted undergraduate students

HS GPA:	SAT total*:	ACT composite:
3.54–4.0	1210–1430	25–33

*Math and evidence-based reading and writing



Be challenged. Be inspired. Be authentic.

Be Boulder.

Hear us perform. livestream.com/cubouldermusic

Come visit us

Daily visits Monday–Friday
Check out Music Day
on November 11

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The University of Colorado is an equal opportunity/nondiscrimination institution. The information in this brochure was accurate at the time of printing (July 2019). All information is subject to change without notice.