

Music Performance Major Overview:

The Music Performance major focuses on developing students' skills in performing music across a variety of genres and instruments. Students receive intensive training in their chosen instrument or voice, along with coursework in music theory, history, and ear training. The program emphasizes the development of technical proficiency, stage presence, and interpretive abilities, preparing students for careers as professional musicians or music educators. Graduates may pursue performance opportunities in orchestras, ensembles, or as solo artists, and are equipped for roles in the broader music industry.

Typical Industry Sectors:

1. Performing Arts (Orchestras, Bands, Ensembles)
2. Music Education (Private Lessons or School Music Programs)
3. Music Production and Recording
4. Entertainment and Event Management
5. Music Therapy

10 Sample Entry-Level Job Titles:

1. Concert Pianist
2. Orchestra Musician
3. Solo Performer (Vocalist or Instrumentalist)
4. Music Instructor (Private Lessons)
5. Band Member (Professional or Semi-Professional)
6. Musician for Theater or Film
7. Music Teaching Assistant
8. Session Musician (Recording Studios)
9. Music Ensemble Director
10. Music Director (Church, Community Events)

5 Hard Skills:

1. Proficiency in Musical Performance (Instrument or Voice)
2. Music Theory and Composition
3. Sight-reading and Ear Training
4. Improvisation and Arrangement Techniques
5. Music Technology (Recording, Sound Engineering)

5 Soft Skills:

1. Communication
2. Discipline
3. Stage Presence

4. Collaboration
5. Time Management

Additional Training or Certifications:

While a Music Performance degree provides essential skills for professional musicians, continued study or private lessons from renowned instructors may be necessary to refine technique and style. Some musicians also pursue certifications in specific performance areas or music technology. For those seeking to teach or work in educational settings, certification in music education or additional qualifications may be required. Internships or apprenticeships with performance groups or in the music production industry help gain practical experience.

Student and National Organizations:

1. [National Association for Music Education \(NAfME\)](#)
2. [American Federation of Musicians \(AFM\)](#)
3. [College Music Society \(CMS\)](#)
4. [International Society of Bassists \(ISB\)](#)
5. [Mu Phi Epsilon \(Music Fraternity\)](#)