

# MUSIC: EDUCATION, B.M.

## VALUES AND EDUCATIONAL PRIORITIES

At the Mead Witter School of Music

- we teach by example, offering participatory, mentor-driven education;
- we provide individualized instruction and flexible curricula that encourage students to find their own musical pathways;
- we foster musical excellence and high academic standards;
- our faculty exhibit the best of their respective fields, are deeply engaged in artistic scholarship and research, and are committed to teaching at all levels;
- we whole-heartedly embrace the Wisconsin Idea;
- we have created a dynamic educational community, part of a large and vibrant research university within a city that values and supports the arts.

The Mead Witter School of Music enriches students' educational experience by hosting guest artists and scholars for master classes, recitals, colloquia, seminars, and festivals. Its performing organizations and ensembles perform more than 350 recitals and concerts every year, making a significant contribution to the cultural life of the university and the wider Madison community. Facilities specifically designed for music study and performance offer excellent resources for students to pursue their interests.

In addition to a thriving undergraduate student body, B.M.: Music Education students have the advantage of working side-by-side with students in master's-level and doctoral-level music programs. Working collegially in class and studio, making music together on stage and off, and building professional relationships across program boundaries all enable the sharing of expertise, experience, and perspectives and add immeasurably to every student's development.

The music degree programs are demanding and require care in taking courses in the proper sequence. Graduation can be delayed if a course is not taken in the appropriate semester. Refer to the Requirements and Four-Year Plan tabs for more details.

## THE MUSIC EDUCATION UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR

The undergraduate music education major offers two options: a specialty in *Instrumental Music* and a specialty in *Choral Music*. Students choose one of the options and will, upon completion, be certified to teach in all areas at the Early-Childhood-through-Adolescence level. Music Education is a program offered jointly by the School of Music and the School of Education. The Bachelor of Music: Education degree is conferred by the College of Letters & Science; teacher certification is earned through the School of Education.

Recent revisions to the music education curricula accomplish several important goals:

- Enable broad teaching certification for music instruction in Wisconsin's elementary and secondary schools (K-12). Students may specialize in vocal or instrumental music, but all students successfully completing the program will qualify for music certification.

- Explore the relationships between popular culture and music education. Graduates will be prepared to teach multiple forms of musical literacy, not just the traditional band, orchestra, and choral curriculum.
- Expand the number of musical styles studied in the curriculum. Students also participate in performance ensembles that reflect the diverse array of musical activities in today's schools.
- Offer an introductory music education class to sophomores prior to admission into the program.
- Provide instruction and experiences so that graduates can teach in culturally responsive ways.
- Increase performance collaboration between students in the instrumental and vocal tracks.
- Create an interdisciplinary program by including a core set of courses for all music education students.
- Enable potential completion of the undergraduate degree in four years, including the final semester of student teaching.

Although these programs are designed with the goal of preparing teachers to work in K-12 schools, the programs also provide a good preparation for individuals seeking careers in continuing education or music education-related fields.

The student's principal performance area should be consistent with the chosen major option. One or more additional performance areas may be required. Prospective music education majors must audition and be accepted into any additional performance areas at the music major level (200 level) of performance study prior to beginning the methods and practicum sequence. Mead Witter School of Music cannot guarantee admission to additional performance areas, nor can it guarantee that appropriate substitute coursework will be available. During the time a student is enrolled in degree work, all performance study is expected to take place at UW-Madison.