Music is a central part of the emotional and intellectual lives of Harvard undergraduates, and the Department of Music offers abundant opportunities to deepen that experience, both through performance and in the classroom. Our courses range widely from music fundamentals (essentially the nuts and bolts of how to read a score) to jazz, classical music, film, musical theater, cross-cultural encounters, popular music, opera, sound studies, and world music traditions. The range of topics is constantly evolving. We believe that substantive artistic experiences are crucial in nurturing well-rounded citizens, and we approach the study of music with an energetic commitment to diversity. Students come to us with widely varying backgrounds and goals. Some hope to shape careers in the arts — whether as performers, scholars, arts administrators, or educators. Others are still searching, aware that music-making is central to their identities but not yet certain about their ultimate path in life. Perhaps most importantly, our department offers a strong sense of community, with conscientious advising from the faculty.

Professor Carol J. Oja, Chair

### Concentration Information

#### About the Department

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### Already have a background in music theory?

Freshmen with prior music theory experience may be able to begin their studies at an advanced level, as determined by a placement exam offered during Freshman Orientation. Students interested in taking the Theory Placement Exam should consult the schedule in the Calendar of Opening Days. (Please note that concentration credit is not granted for passing out of Music 51; substitute courses may be selected with consultation of an adviser. The AP Music Theory exam cannot be applied toward concentration credit.)

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### Find Us

The Music Building, including Paine Hall, the Loeb Music Library, and the Davison Room, are located directly behind the Science Center in Harvard’s North Yard.

**Mailing Address:**
Music Building
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA 02138

**Phone:** (617) 495-2791
**Email:** musicdpt@fas.harvard.edu
**Web:** http://www.music.fas.harvard.edu
Pursuing an Honors degree in the Music Concentration affords students the chance to explore a specific facet of music (or music and another subject) on a deeper level, resulting in a thesis that is presented as a paper, a composition, or a recital. Thesis topics are approved towards the end of the junior year. Students have chosen to study a wide variety of topics over the years...

- SCHUBOT: Machine Learning Tools for the Automated Analysis of Schubert's Lieder (Joint with Computer Science)
- From Musical Consonance to Institutional Dissonance: The U.S. Government and the Internationalization of American Music (Joint with Government)
- The Archaeomusicology of Bone Flutes: From the Paleolithic to Peru (Joint with Anthropology)
- The Art of the Fugue: Leibniz's Idea of Perfection through Bach's Masterpiece (Joint with Philosophy)
- Transplanting the Clave: Migrations of Cuban Drummers and Their Influence on Jazz
- Johnny Rotten Behind the Berlin Wall: Punk in East Germany, 1979-1989 (Joint with History)
- Composers, Pedagogues, and Photographers: Impressions on Brass Instruments, Timbre and Performance Practice
- Amphion's Lyre: Stravinsky’s use of musical order to create a cacophonous city in Petrushka
- Grammar, Time, and the Musical Experience, i.e., the relationship of musical and linguistic neurological faculties (Joint with Linguistics)
- Large-Scale Musical Architecture in Wagner’s Die Meistersinger
- Two Dramas Both Alike: Words, Music, and Imagination in Shakespeare’s and Prokofiev’s Versions of Romeo and Juliet (Joint with English and American Literature and Language)

The Parker Quartet, Blodgett Artists-in-Residence, coach students enrolled in Music 189r, Chamber Music.

Through auditions students will be divided into chamber music ensembles and have weekly coachings with members of the Parker Quartet and Heng-Jin Park of the Boston Trio. (Pre-formed ensembles are encouraged and will be accommodated as much as possible.) Students will be expected to rehearse between each coaching and to participate in chamber music studio classes throughout the semester.

University Ensembles – Half-course (throughout the year)

Music 10hfr. Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra
Music 12hfr. The Harvard Dance Project
Music 14hfr. Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum
Music 15hfr. Harvard Glee Club
Music 16hfr. Radcliffe Choral Society

These courses may be taken repeatedly, but to receive credit each course must be taken in the Fall and Spring semesters consecutively. A maximum of four semesters (two years) may be counted as credit towards the degree.

What are Your Interests?

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Recent Alumni at Work

Harvard Music Concentrators go on to work in many different fields. For alumni profiles, including how their music studies help them in their current positions, visit the Alumni section of the Undergraduate Music page (http://bit.ly/1FFKxuv).

- Lara Hirner '05 - Speech and Language Pathologist, Mass General Hospital
- Emily Richmond Pollock '06 – Assistant Professor of Music at MIT
- Aram Demirjian ’08 – Associate Conductor of the Kansas City Symphony Orchestra
- Ben Eisler ’08 – Health Producer, CBS News
- Derrick Wang ’06 – Composer and lawyer whose opera "Scalia/Ginsburg" is based on the U.S. Supreme Court justices' own words and battles over constitutional interpretation.
- Forrest O’Connor ’10 – Co-founder of Concert Window, a national live concert webcasting network.
- Aviva Hakanoglu ’14 – Pursuing a graduate degree in performance at Indiana University.

Play, Sing, or Dance? Earn University Credit!

The Department of Music offers students the opportunity to study with innovative musicians, passionate educators, and world-renowned performers.