Music

Overview

Our program offers the best features of a music conservatory and a traditional liberal arts experience. You are challenged in the studio and classroom to be a first-rate performer, composer and scholar. Your professors work closely with you to tailor the program to your needs and interests. You can major in music or music and technology, with a concentration in performance, theory, ethnomusicology, music education, history or composition. Master classes and lectures will provide regular opportunities for you to work with internationally known performers, composers and scholars. The discipline and critical-thinking skills you develop will prepare you for graduate school or a career in a number of fields.

Performance and Private Study Opportunities

Public performances are a priority. You can perform during one of the many recitals each semester or join one of several ensembles, including Camel Heard, Chorale, Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Percussion and New Music Ensemble and Orchestra. If you are interested in musical theater, you can audition for one of our annual shows, produced in collaboration with the theater department. We also offer free music lessons to qualified students through the Jack Niblack ‘98 Music Lessons Fund.

Facilities

Cummings Arts Center boasts technology-rich classrooms, the Greer Music Library, two performance halls and numerous studios and practice rooms. We are also in the process of becoming an “All-Steinway School.” In Cummings, you have access to a recording studio, a control room with connectivity to two major recital halls and a production-quality electronic music studio.

Avery Yurman

Music, music education

Q: Why Connecticut College?
A: I wanted to pursue music within a broader liberal arts setting. When I visited the Connecticut College campus, the students and professors were incredibly friendly and welcoming. I felt at home here. Additionally, I was very interested in the ideas of shared governance and an honor code.

Q: Did you study abroad?
A: I went to the Accademia dell’Arte in Arezzo, Italy, the fall semester of my junior year. The ADA had 32 music and theater students living together on campus and working with international faculty in a picturesque villa near vineyards and olive orchards.

Q: What are your career plans?
A: Since graduating, I have been working as a band, chorus and general music teacher in public schools on Long Island, where I hail from. I have also been attending LIU Post - Long Island University pursuing a master of arts degree in music theory and composition. Also, I have been teaching private music lessons, been commissioned by friends from my study-abroad program to score and orchestrate two original musicals, and been working as a freelance musician throughout the Northeast U.S. on various woodwinds and trumpet.
Connecticut College educates students to put the liberal arts into action as citizens in a global society. A leader in the liberal arts since 1911, the College is home to nationally ranked programs for internships, community action, arts and technology, environmental studies and international studies. Our beautiful 750-acre arboretum is located in the historic New England seaport community of New London, Conn.

Faculty

John P. Anthony, Professor of Music; College Organist; Chair of the Music Department
B.A., B.Mus., University of Arkansas; M.Phil., Ph.D., Yale University
Baroque music; organ music

John Clark, Visiting Assistant Professor of Music
B.A., Connecticut College; University of Maryland; Brandeis University
Jazz; American music; history of Western music

Arthur Kreiger, Sylvia Pattenack
Marx Professor of Music; Fellow, Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology; Cummins Electric and Digital Sound Studio
B.A., M.A., University of Connecticut; D.M.A., Columbia University
Composition; electronic music

Wendy K. Moy, Assistant Professor of Music; Director of Choral Activities; Head of Music Education
D.M.A., University of Washington; M.M.E., Westminster Choir College; B.A., Seattle Pacific University
Choral conducting and methods; music education: pre-service and professional development; culture of singing communities; models of collaborative learning and music-making

Mark Seto, Assistant Professor of Music; Director, Connecticut College Orchestra
B.A., Yale University; M.Phil., Ph.D., Columbia University
Historical musicology, orchestral conducting, 19th-century music, symphonic culture in “fin-de-siècle” Paris

Margaret Thomas, Associate Professor of Music; President, New England Conference of Music Theorists, 2013-2015
B.A., Whitman College; M.A., University of Washington Seattle; Ph.D., Yale University
Tonal and non-tonal music theory; contemporary music; music theory pedagogy; analysis of jazz and popular music

James Dale Wilson,
Associate Professor of Music; Ethnomusicologist; Jazz Composer
B.M., M.M., University of North Texas; M.A., Ph.D., Columbia University
Ethnomusicology; jazz; guangdong ritual and ritual music; Southeast Chinese perspectives on migration and transnationalism

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Theodore Arm, violin and viola
Thomas Brown, trumpet
Gary Buttery, tuba and euphonium; Director of Bands; Director of Jazz Ensembles
Christine Coyle, cello
Ian Frenkel, piano
Patricia L. Harper, flute
Maksim Ivanov Zhdanovskii, voice
Peter Jarvis, percussion; chamber music
Victor Johnson, trombone
Thomas Labadorf, clarinet
Daniel Lee, violin; viola; chamber music
Mark McCormick, bass
James McNeish, classical guitar; recording engineer
Patrice Newman, piano
Rebecca Noreen, bassoon
Kumi Ogano, piano
Megan Sesma, harp
Linda Skernick, harpsichord
Samantha Talmadge, voice
Joshua Thomas, saxophone
Jaime L. Thorne, French horn
Julie Water, voice
Lilby Van Cleve, oboe

Selected Courses

Foundational Theory for Musicians; Making Music at the Keyboard; Music Through Time and Society; Tonal Theory; Post-Tonal Theory; American Music; Music of the World; History of Jazz; History of Western Music; Ethnomusicology: The Social Science of Music; Electroacoustic Music; Composition; Jazz Harmony; Counterpoint; Methods in Music Education

About Connecticut College

What Can You Do With a Major in Music?

Violinist, Boston Pops
Recording and Mixing Engineer, Gallery Recording Studio
Teacher, School District of Palm Beach County
Software Engineer, Denodo
Assistant Professor of Music Theory, University of Rochester
Audio Engineer, Boston Pops
Development Assistant, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
Director of Music, Elizabeth Seton High School
Principal Librarian, Philharmonic Center for the Arts
Senior Vice President, Corcoran Gallery of Art
Executive Director, Apple Tree Arts
Donor Relations Associate, Steppenwolf Theatre Company
Senior Staff Copywriter, Mattel
Choir Director, Christ Church
Director of Communications, Aid to Artisans
Executive Director, Allegro School Inc.

Examples of Student Research in Music

Emily Verschoor-Kirss ’15
Junior recital: classical and contemporary works for saxophone, both solo and chamber

Anastasia Elliott ’14
Senior recital: pieces for piano, harpsichord and organ

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.CONNCOLL.EDU/ACADEMICS/