

Music



Queen's Music has earned a reputation across Canada for producing some of the best-prepared graduates: musicians who excel as scholars, composers, digital creators, teachers, and performers. The Bachelor of Arts in Music program, and the three streams of the newly innovated Bachelor of Music program, allow students to foster their own unique musical identities by providing opportunities to explore Classical, Contemporary, and Sonic Arts/Music Production courses. Queen's students in any program can enroll in our courses, and in our choral, wind, orchestra, improvisation, and jazz ensembles for credit. DAN School students benefit from small class sizes, individual attention, and become part of a tight-knit and engaged community.

TOP 4 REASONS to study MUSIC

- 1 Prepare yourself for work in the cultural industries through a flexible degree program that allows you to combine performance, education, creation, music studies, entrepreneurship, music, and technology in a variety of ways.
- 2 Learn from world-class faculty who are passionate, creative, and dynamic teachers.
- 3 Personalize your education by integrating other performing arts, arts, or science courses in your degree.
- 4 Connect with the community & the world through internship, experiential learning, and work experience throughout your degree.

Alumni Story

Originally an orchestral musician, Steven London, BMus '94, studied composition and conducting with Canada's music elite: John Burge and Kristi Allik. In 1995, he received a certificate from the world renowned 'Scoring for Motion Pictures and Television' program at the University of Southern California. The opportunity to study in L.A. with such composers as Jerry Goldsmith was invaluable and integral to his development as a serious composer for film and television.

Degree Plans



BACHELOR OF MUSIC (BMUS)

Allows students with a range of interests and experiences to explore the many facets of music production, performance, education, and entrepreneurship to prepare for an exciting career in the arts and cultural industries. Students are admitted to this direct-entry program through an individualized portfolio submission.

BACHELOR OF ARTS in MUSIC (BAH/BA)

is a liberal arts focused degree that allows students to combine courses in music performance and music studies with others in a range of Arts and Science disciplines. Students seek admission to Arts/Sci and then select their concentration (Music) at the end of their first year.

Interested in finding out how to augment your degree with Experiential Learning? Check in with your department to learn more about what opportunities and resources are available for you!

add a
CERTIFICATE

Data Analytics

Disability and
Physical Activity

Employment
Relations

Geographic
Information Science

Indigenous
Languages and
Cultures

Sexual and Gender
Diversity

Urban Planning
Studies

QUartsci.com/certs

Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global.

That is a degree from Queen's.

sdm.queensu.ca

Music MAJOR MAP

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

BACHELOR OF ARTS: HONOURS DEGREE (MAJOR/MINOR) OR GENERAL DEGREE



1ST YEAR

2ND YEAR

3RD YEAR

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Music along with some electives. Courses will vary based on your interest and stream, such as Classical, Contemporary, and Sonic Arts/Music Production.

Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.

Interested in getting a head start in learning and working in a digital world? Take [ASCX 150](#) and develop future-ready skills!

Explore the discipline of Music, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as [Entrepreneurship and Innovation certificate](#). Learn more about [Certificates](#) and [Internship](#) options.

Consider enrolling in a Drama (DRAM) or Entrepreneurship and Innovation (ENIN) course to broaden your knowledge of the Arts.

Third year is a chance to really focus on the subject areas that most interest you or to explore a broader selection of topics in Music.

Meet with a [DAN School Academic Advisor](#) to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

In fourth year you will have the chance to participate in research-based courses that can lead to [Graduate School](#) or to your future career path.

Make sure to finish up all your courses for your major and your optional minor and/or certificate(s).

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Join teams or clubs on campus such as [Queen's Bands](#), [Queen's Musical Theatre](#), and [QUSMEA](#).

Attend concerts, masterclasses, and workshops. Check out events at [The Isabel](#) and the [Grand Theatre](#).

See the [AMS Clubs Directory](#) or the [Queen's Get Involved](#) page for more ideas.

Talk to Career Services about summer jobs through [SWEP](#) or [Work-Study](#).

Think about applying to positions in student services or the [Alma Mater Society](#). Volunteer at local schools through approved programs.

Position yourself for performance and scholarship competitions. Contact professors about grading, research, and teaching assistant positions. Consider investigating a summer internship position for credit. Play in a pit band for one of Queen's music theatre groups. If interested, apply for an [Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship \(USSRF\)](#).

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest.

Assess what experience you're lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Services skills [workshop](#) for help.

GET ENGAGED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Develop your technical skills and artistic identity in solo works, and perform with others in your program in a range of performance contexts.

Connect with different community organizations such as [Queen's Musical Theatre](#), [QWave](#), and [QUSMEA](#).

Explore volunteer options in the community, at such places as [The Isabel](#), [Kingston Symphony](#), or the [Hart Centre](#).

Audition for performance opportunities in the Kingston community, such as bands, pit bands, shows, ensembles, and choral groups.

Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest through LinkedIn. Check out Career Services [networking workshops](#).

Connect with professors at events or workshops.

Consider joining professional associations like [SOCAN](#), [CFMTA](#), [SEM](#), [ORMTA](#), [MusCan](#), [AMS](#), and the [SMT](#).

GET ENGAGED GLOBALLY

Explore courses in global musics, inter-cultural arts, music and gender and Indigenous musical traditions.

Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to [study abroad](#). Apply in January for a third-year exchange through the [International Programs Office](#).

Prepare for work in a multicultural environment by taking QUIC's [Intercultural Awareness Certificate](#).

Speak to a QUIC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an [International Student Advisor](#).

Explore non-music elective courses that complement your degree and offer education in intercultural competencies, such as courses in Development Studies, Black Studies, Languages, etc.

GET CAREER READY

Grappling with program decisions? Go to [Majors Night](#) or get some help with career options from [Career Services](#).

In any year or your studies, make an appointment to meet with the DAN School Undergraduate Program Coordinator.

Prepare for your future by taking courses in Entrepreneurship and Innovation (ENIN) where you will gain industry savvy.

Check out summer performance programs such as [FAVA](#), [COSA](#), [Opera NUOVA](#), and [CAMMAC](#).

Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests (like the LSAT or GMAT) and seek advice from [Career Services](#). Take any courses relevant to your future career (e.g. Music Education, Composition, Musicology, Applied Study).

Connect with Queen's [Career Services](#) to get help with job searching, resumes, interviews, Grad School applications, or other decisions. Attend the post-graduate information sessions held at the Queen's School of Graduate Studies and the DAN School.

Find impactful work that aligns with your values using the [Queen's Career Guide to the UN Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A degree in Music can equip you with:

- Music creation and curation
- Digital creation, editing, and mixing, use of sound equipment
- Understanding and analyzing a variety of musics: contemporary, historical, local, and global
- High level performance on an instrument
- Teaching skills such as band/choral/orchestral techniques, conducting, and leadership for classroom, individual lesson, and community-based teaching
- Reading analysis, and writing skills
- Increased working memory and IQ leading to improved pattern recognition, memorization, and improvisation
- Ability to adapt to new or changing situations
- Oral communication for confident public speaking
- Presentation, performance skills, and stage presence
- Creative and critical thinking
- Ability to work independently or as a team
- Self-discipline and time management

Career Possibilities

A degree in Music can take your career in many directions. Many students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a Master's Degree, or with further post-graduate study in Law, Medicine, Education, etc.. In addition, our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Audio consulting
- Concert production
- Digital creation
- Education
- Film scoring
- Music journalism
- Music production
- Music therapy
- Performing
- Piano accompaniment
- Songwriting
- Sound engineering

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

How to use this map

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don't have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the [My Major Map](#) tool.

Music

MUSIC FOR IMPACT

There are incredible and varied opportunities for meaningful work in Music across Canada and around the world. The [cultural industries are a \\$50B+ sector in Canada](#) and are ever-evolving. At the DAN School, we hope to prepare students to become leaders in this industry by educating, training, and inspiring musical leaders who will transform these domains with knowledge, skills, and passion.

Graduates of Queen's Music programs think critically about music's role in historical and contemporary, and local and global contexts. They develop skills in performance, creation, digital musicking, collaboration, curation, analysis, critical thinking, and teaching, among others.

Finally, through the DAN School's suite of courses in Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity, our students work closely with innovation researchers and industry leaders to develop fundamental knowledge and skills in ideating and establishing an entrepreneurial framework and mindset that will help launch and transform their careers.

We educate tomorrow's musical leaders

We want to support you as you dream big about your future in Music. Where do you want to go after your degree at Queen's? How will you transform your passion and skills into a meaningful career in the field? Book a [consultation](#) with one of our advisors to ask questions about how you can see yourself at Queen's Music.

Get the help you need

Queen's provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen's, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do.

Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Queen's wants you to succeed! Check out the [Student Affairs website](#) for available resources.



DAN School of Drama and Music

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Facebook: [Dan School of Drama and Music, Queen's University](https://www.facebook.com/DanSchoolofDramaandMusicQueen'sUniversity)

CLASSICAL

For students interested in grounding their music careers in solo classical, chamber, choral, opera, concert band or orchestral music, the Classical stream has been broadened to include digital creation and production, and entrepreneurial skills.

CONTEMPORARY INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL GENRES

Allows students interested in musical theatre, cabaret, pop, jazz, rock, folk, or fiddling to study music from any of these areas, with focus on developing skills in contemporary musicianship including performance, arranging, creation, digital production, and entrepreneurship.

SONIC ARTS & MUSIC PRODUCTION

This stream is for students interested in sound design, music-based performance art, and/or digital music creation, production, recording, and composition across all genres (including beat-, sample-, and loop-based music).



Why study in Kingston?

Since 1841, our community has been more than a collection of bright minds – Queen's has attracted students with an ambitious spirit. Queen's has the highest retention rates, the highest graduation rates, and one of the highest employment rates among recent graduates. We are a research intensive university focused on the undergraduate experience. The BBC has identified Kingston as one of the GREATEST UNIVERSITY TOWNS in the world – and it is often awarded the safest city in Canada. It is a university city at the core; just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York. A university with more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and a city with more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America – you will have the experience of a lifetime at Queen's – and graduate with a degree that is globally recognized among the best.

We're closer than you think

