Studying music not only provides specialized training for those who plan careers related to the arts, but also teaches critical skills that can be applied to a wide variety of fields. Students enjoy successful careers as:

- Composers
- Conductors
- Designers
- Engineers
- Physicians
- Professional musicians

"Majoring or minoring in music opens up a whole world of experience. The courses challenge students' perspectives; performance groups provide fantastic opportunities to play and travel; and the department is devoted to helping students realize their visions through personal projects. Although my current career in the software industry doesn't directly involve music, the discipline, creativity, and leadership I developed as a music major help me every day."

Tommy Pauly, '12
Software engineer, Apple

"As a music major, I was challenged to consider not only the rich history of classical music, but also its influence in society today. In a department as willing to embrace Baroque performance technique as mobile phone orchestras, I learned to think in unconventional ways."

Susan Lape, '11
Executive director, Lake Forest Symphony

Department of Music:
music.stanford.edu

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MAKE DISCOVERIES

Explore the intersection of music, science, and technology at Stanford’s Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics, a world-renowned multidisciplinary hub where faculty, students, and industry experts work together. Recent projects have ranged from translating the brain’s electrical signals into sound to recreating songs and chants as they were once heard in an ancient Byzantine cathedral.

PICTURED: Stanford Symphony Orchestra playing in Bing Concert Hall on campus

FIND A FOCUS

Music is an abstract language—a system that teaches interpretive and analytical skills, cultivates an appreciation of complexity and ambiguity, and provides a framework to explore creative risk-taking. In addition to pursuing the general music major, you can choose to concentrate in one of five areas:

• Composition
• Conducting
• History, Theory, and Ethnomusicology
• Music, Science, and Technology
• Performance

Choose Compelling Electives:

• Rock, Sex, and Rebellion
• Music, Mind, and Human Behavior
• The Soul Tradition in African American Music
• Online Jamming and Concert Technology

JOIN A LIVELY COMMUNITY

Each quarter, more than 1,000 students participate in private lessons, ensembles, and lecture classes. You can join everything from a major masterworks chorus to a laptop orchestra—and perform everywhere from Stanford’s Bing Concert Hall to renowned venues around the world. Performance opportunities include:

• Choral ensembles
• Wind symphony
• Jazz orchestra
• Symphony orchestra
• Afro-Latin jazz ensemble
• [sic]: Improvisation Collective
• Chamber ensembles
• Jazz combos
• Taiko (Japanese drumming)
• Steel pan ensemble