

What can I do with a major in . . . ?

MUSIC



Southwest MN State University's Music degree allows students the opportunity to develop an understanding and appreciation of music, their own creativity, and artistic performance. The Music Performance degree prepares a student for instrumental/vocal performance and for entering graduate study in music. The Vocal/Instrumental Music Education degree prepares a student for a music teaching licensure in the specialized areas of vocal (choral) music and/or instrumental music and general music for K-12. The Music Management degree allows students the opportunity to gain management skills in both music and business.

A wide variety of careers are available to students after completing a B.A. in Music or a B.S. in Music Education. Some of the career opportunities include becoming a performer, a composer, a conductor, or going on to study at the graduate level. In addition to a vocal music teaching position in private and public schools (K-12), Vocal/Instrumental Music Education graduates may also pursue private teaching, performing in professional instrumental/vocal ensembles, church/synagogue music, and freelance performance. Music Management graduates may pursue work in music retailing, professional music organizations, and other arts organizations.

Typical work activities for someone holding a degree in Music include, but are not limited to: composing/writing music, rehearsing, performing, teaching singing or music lessons, and playing musical instruments.

**100% OF
SOUTHWEST
MN STATE
MUSIC
GRADUATES
FOUND JOBS!**

**B.A. IN MUSIC
\$35,690*
Starting Salary**

* National Average

Skills & Abilities Acquired in College

Employers expect Music graduates to have acquired these skills and abilities during their four years in college:

- Deft in use of symbolism
- Skilled telephone voice
- Sense of rhythm
- Creative imagination
- Visualizing concepts
- Memorization
- Entertain
- Follow written & oral instruction
- Musical knowledge
- Accurately reproduce sounds
- Facial expressions
- Tonal memory
- Coordinate with others
- Direct/assess
- Develop ideas
- Create/perform art

Possible Career Titles

These titles represent a possible list of careers, but not necessarily the complete list. Some occupations may require additional education or advanced degrees.

- Architectural Acoustic Monitor
- Armed Forces Band Member
- Artist & Repertoire (A&R) Person
- Arts Administrator/Manager
- Church Music Director
- Community Development Specialist
- Composer/Arranger
- Conductor
- Copyright Specialist
- Copywriter
- Music Publishing Specialist
- Editor
- Engineer/Mixer
- Film Music Editor
- Instrument Service & Repair Specialist
- Journalist
- Manufacturers Representative
- Music Attorney
- Music Copyist
- Music Critic
- Music Promoter
- Recording Technician
- Music Software Programmer
- Music Store Manager
- Music Stringer
- Music Teacher
- Music Therapist
- Musician
- Orchestra Librarian
- Piano Tuner
- Public Relations Specialist
- Publicist
- Disc Jockey
- Royalties Broadcast Monitor
- Sales Representative
- Singer
- Studio Musician
- Synthesizer Specialist
- Technical Writer
- Tour Manager
- Union Contractor
- Voice Teacher
- Performer/Entertainer
- Disc Jockey
- Recreation Director
- Dance Teacher
- Recording Artist
- Music Arranger
- Musical Creator
- Orchestra
- Music Reporter
- Jingle Writer/Advertising
- Studio Arranger
- Lyricist
- Songwriter
- Musical Theater
- Cruise Director
- Music Technician
- Orchestrator
- Music Video Producer
- Music Manager
- Music Librarian
- Concert Soloist
- Piano Technician
- Musical Instrument Builder
- Music Historian

Possible Employers

Here's an example of possible employment settings for Music majors:

- Educational Institutions
- Churches/Religious Institutions
- Theaters
- Music Libraries
- Music Stores
- Private Clubs
- Newspapers
- Auditoriums
- Museums
- Government agencies
- Libraries
- Historical societies
- Motion Picture Companies
- Advertising
- Non-profit organizations
- Public service organizations
- Recording Studios
- Community Symphonies
- Film Industry
- Radio/TV Industry
- Magazines/Journals
- Music Publishing Companies
- Community Agencies
- Orchestras

SMSU Career Services Library Resources

Check out these as well as other reference material on job searching, resumes and cover letters, graduate schools, employers, and more.

- *Resumes for Performing Arts Careers* by VGM Career Horizons, 1997.
- *Careers in Art* by Blythe Camenson, 2000.

Career Website Links

- Music Jobs Online www.musicjobs.com/default.htm
- Computer Music Journal <http://mitpress.mit.edu/e-journals/Computer-Music-Journal/>



Career Services

Bellows Academic, Room 156; (507) 537-6221; www.southwestmsu.edu/career_services.htm