Music

Music is alive at Rochester. From lessons and workshops to musical theater and symphony concerts, from a cappella groups and jazz and rock performers to summer carillon recitals, music plays a prominent role on the River Campus.

The Department of Music offers a rich array of opportunities for those with a passion for music. Students can choose to major, minor, or take one of the many classes offered that span theory, performance, and the history of music in all its forms.

Rochester students have access to a rich variety of resources, including the Art and Music Library on the River Campus and the extensive collection in the Eastman School of Music’s Sibley Music Library. The renowned music faculty has expertise in musical theater, popular music, classical music, and the music of various cultures and societies.

Opportunities to enjoy music on and off campus abound and enrich the student experience. Department of Music ensembles present performances throughout the year. Students also have a wealth of opportunities to attend performances in the broader community, including those given by Eastman School ensembles and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Institute for Popular Music

With a unique expertise in popular music, Rochester recently formed the Institute for Popular Music on the River Campus. The institute examines a continuum of popular music from the Renaissance, the Civil War, the late-19th century Victorian era, the roaring 1920s, the revolutionary 1960s, and today’s contemporary music. It offers classes that explore such topics as

- the role of women in music
- how race has influenced music
- the connection between religion and music
- how classical and jazz music have informed popular music
- the history of popular music and rock ‘n’ roll, jazz, hip hop, and specific topics such as the Beatles and the British Invasion.

The institute also offers an annual speaker series, workshops, and research opportunities. It leverages the University’s multidisciplinary approach by partnering with the Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women’s Studies, the Frederick Douglass Institute for African and African-American Studies, the Interfaith Chapel, and the Eastman School of Music to enhance its classes and programs.

Guided by an academic advisory board composed of international music scholars, the institute aims to attract new students and faculty, expand River Campus and Eastman School offerings, build on the musical strengths inherent here, and promote the scholarly study of popular music.

“You get the best of all worlds at Rochester: opportunities to perform on campus and at the Eastman School of Music, to learn about music from great scholars and musicians, and to experience the benefits that come with a strong research university.”

Gabrielle Cornish ’13
music major, Russian studies minor, Fulbright Scholar
More than 25 percent of all undergraduate students either take classes through the Department of Music on the River Campus or participate in a music ensemble.

How You Can Help
When you give to the University’s music department, you strengthen a legacy of more than 100 years. You can help by providing students with opportunities to learn, perform, and engage in all types of music from an inspired faculty.

Support the Music Department
Consider funding undergraduate student scholarships, fellowships, and study abroad opportunities; underwriting a series of concerts; or endowing music department professorships.

Grow the New Institute for Popular Music
Support the Institute for Popular Music by underwriting the program, sponsoring a speaker series or workshops, funding a visiting professor, providing pre- and postdoctoral awards, or endowing the position of chair of the institute. Such gifts make a difference in the lives of our students.

Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—And Make the World Ever Better
www.rochester.edu/College/MUR

For more information on giving opportunities, please contact
Lisa Ann Seischab
Executive Director of Advancement
(585) 276-3352, lisa.seischab@rochester.edu