

2025-2026

# STUDENT GUIDE

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## Basic Contacts & Links

[Directions](#) / [Parking](#) / [Campus Map](#) / [Academic Calendar](#)

### Administration and Coordinators

**Director** – Shea Scruggs 973-655-5226, [scruggssh@montclair.edu](mailto:scruggssh@montclair.edu) CH-131

**Associate Director** – Stephanie Haggerstone 973-655-7028, [haggerstones@montclair.edu](mailto:haggerstones@montclair.edu), CH-148

**Associate Director Faculty** – Scott Davenport Richards, 973-655-2099 [richardssc@montclair.edu](mailto:richardssc@montclair.edu) Chapin G46

**Finance Secretary** – Paula Chmiel 973-655-5476; [chmielp@montclair.edu](mailto:chmielp@montclair.edu), CH-146

**Production Manager** – Andrew Dickerson 973-655-7885; [dickersona@montclair.edu](mailto:dickersona@montclair.edu), CH-120

**Scheduling Administrator** – Taylor Goodson 973-655-3215; [goodsont@montclair.edu](mailto:goodsont@montclair.edu), CH-129

**Marketing and Outreach Manager** – Heather Kern 973-655-7263; [kernh@montclair.edu](mailto:kernh@montclair.edu), CH-121

**Recruitment Coordinator** – Marla Meissner [meissnerm@montclair.edu](mailto:meissnerm@montclair.edu), CH-121

**Coordinator of Music Admissions/Recruitment** – Lindsay Setzer 973-655-7217, [setzerl@montclair.edu](mailto:setzerl@montclair.edu) CH-142

**Academic Administrator** – Letitia Stancu 973-655-4445; [stancul@montclair.edu](mailto:stancul@montclair.edu), CH-224

**Academic Advisor** – Michelle Klemme 973-655-4438; [klemmem@montclair.edu](mailto:klemmem@montclair.edu), CH-226

**Choral Activities** – Heather J. Buchanan [buchananh@montclair.edu](mailto:buchananh@montclair.edu) CH-G48

**University Bands** – Thomas McCauley [mccauleyt@montclair.edu](mailto:mccauleyt@montclair.edu) CH-249

**University Orchestras** – Kyle Ritenauer [ritenauerk@montclair.edu](mailto:ritenauerk@montclair.edu) CH-228

**University Opera and Early Music** – Karen Driscoll [driscollk@montclair.edu](mailto:driscollk@montclair.edu) CH-248

**Music Education – UG & Grad** - Marissa Silverman [silvermanm@montclair.edu](mailto:silvermanm@montclair.edu) CH-343

**Music Therapy Undergraduate** – Michael Viega [viagam@montclair.edu](mailto:viagam@montclair.edu) CH-344

**Music Therapy Graduate** – Brian Abrams [abramsb@montclair.edu](mailto:abramsb@montclair.edu) CH-344

**Music Theory/Composition** – Aaron Helgeson [helgesona@montclair.edu](mailto:helgesona@montclair.edu) CH-G42

**Music History and General Education** – Leah Batstone [batsonel@montclair.edu](mailto:batsonel@montclair.edu) 973-655-4439 CH-244

**MM in Performance, Performer's Certificate & Artist Diploma** – David Witten, advisor [wittend@montclair.edu](mailto:wittend@montclair.edu)

**Brass** – Micah Killion [killionm@montclair.edu](mailto:killionm@montclair.edu) 973-655-4442 CH-345

**Guitar** – Oren Fader [fadero@montclair.edu](mailto:fadero@montclair.edu) CH-Russ Hall 011

**Jazz** – Oscar Perez [perezo@montclair.edu](mailto:perezo@montclair.edu) CH-206

**Pathways Administrator** – Tomoko Fujita [fujitat@montclair.edu](mailto:fujitat@montclair.edu) CH-345

**Percussion** – Eric Borghi [borghie@montclair.edu](mailto:borghie@montclair.edu) CH-345

**Piano, Organ, Harpsichord** – David Witten [wittend@montclair.edu](mailto:wittend@montclair.edu) CH-G06

**Recording Arts and Production** – Bryan Powell [powellb@montclair.edu](mailto:powellb@montclair.edu) CH-348

**Strings** – Kathryn Lockwood [lockwoodka@montclair.edu](mailto:lockwoodka@montclair.edu) CH-243

**Voice** – Lori McCann [mccannl@montclair.edu](mailto:mccannl@montclair.edu) CH-G37 and Beth Roberts [robertsb@montclair.edu](mailto:robertsb@montclair.edu) CH-246

**Woodwinds** – Benjamin Baron [baronb@montclair.edu](mailto:baronb@montclair.edu) CH-229

### Who Helps Students

**Advising:** Students should see the academic administrator or their advisors for curricular matters, and the academic administrator for procedural issues, assistance with forms, or course authorizations.

**Problems between a student and private teacher:** Students are asked to talk to the instructor first, if possible. If the problem is not resolved, the student should talk to the area coordinator or the associate director for guidance. Faculty should speak with the student first, if possible, and then with the associate director.

**Course-related problems:** students are asked to talk to the instructor first, then the director. Faculty should speak to the student having problems, if possible) and then the student's advisor and director.

**Personal problems:** Counseling and Psychological Services (part of the Health and Wellness Center); Dean of Students; campus ministries offer services for faculty, staff, and students.

**Final Audits:** the academic administrator monitors final audits for students.

## Organizations & Activities Available for Students

**ACDA (American Choral Directors Association)** – Heather J. Buchanan, faculty advisor

MSU-ACDA, the student chapter of ACDA established in 2006-07, supports the MSU choral program by fostering and promoting the finest types of choral singing, and choral music education and engagement. Activities include leadership opportunities, professional development, and community outreach.

**Audio Production Club (APC)** - David Sanders, faculty advisor

From workshops centered on music production, to hands-on audio work in and out of studio environments; the Audio Production Club (APC) is an organization constructed with teaching, learning, creating, and delivering excellent audio wherever we go, as our core values. We collaborate with other campus organizations to provide our expertise in audio and to constantly gain insight through audio-oriented experiences. Whether you are a major in audio/music, or are interested in sound, new members are always welcome and encouraged to join!

**Music Therapy Students' Organization (MTSO)** - Brian Abrams, faculty advisor

Student-founded organization that promotes the needs and interests of music therapy students. The elected officers and the membership meet several times per semester to hear presentations about music therapy and related disciplines, and to participate in university and community social events and service projects.

**New Jersey Association for Jazz Educators (NJAJE)**

Student chapter of the organization providing resources for educational and professional development of jazz teachers.

**National Association for Music Educators (NAFME)** – Whitney Covalle, faculty advisor

NAFME is an organization of American music educators dedicated to advancing and preserving music education as part of the core curriculum of schools in the United States.

**Women in Recording, Engineering and Sound (W.I.R.E.S.)**

W.I.R.E.S is dedicated to promoting visibility and equal opportunities for women audio engineers, producers, and technicians by seeking events and professional opportunities through industry partners, organizations, and services. Meetings, events, and workshop topics cover music & audio recording, live sound, film sound, live broadcast audio, digital audio networking, etc., and promote the benefits of diversity, inclusion, and equity in media production and audio disciplines.

## Facilities

**Cali School - Chapin Hall (CH)**—During the academic year, the building and practice rooms are open every day from 7 am until 11 pm. On Saturdays, the New Jersey Youth Symphony Orchestra (NJYSO) uses most of the classrooms and practice rooms until mid-afternoon, but then rooms are available until 11 pm. For safety reasons, students are only permitted in the building during regular hours. Students are only allowed in classrooms when faculty or staff members are present. Campus police officers have been instructed to enforce this policy.

**Mailroom**—Faculty and staff mailboxes in CH149 are accessible for mail, messages and materials.

**Telephones**—Emergency In-house phones and emergency contact information are located in the hallways on every floor. Cell phones should be turned off during classes and performances.

**Faculty offices and studios:** Faculty offices and studios are off limits to unsupervised students. Students found violating this rule may be required to forfeit practice and/or performance privileges.

**Leshowitz Recital Hall**—The hall is available for degree recitals and Cali School ensembles including times for dress rehearsal and performance. See Recital Policies for complete information. Students are not permitted in the Recital Hall unaccompanied. A faculty member must be present to gain access (accompanist, applied lesson teacher).

**Practice rooms**— If practice rooms are not in use for lessons, they are available on a first-come, first-served basis for current music majors. The room schedule can be found on the TV monitor outside the main office. Rooms are only to be used for active instrumental/vocal practice. Study time, homework, or anything else outside of active practicing is not permitted. Please seek other lounge/quiet areas on campus. If a room contains personal items but is unoccupied for 15 minutes, students may respectfully remove the items and claim the room for active practice.

**Building Maintenance**—All maintenance and facilities concerns can be addressed by reporting to the Facilities office through the online ticketing system, or by using any phone in the building to dial ext 5444.

**Keys**—Students may **not** be given keys to studios or other locked areas. Students gaining access through violation of this rule may be subject to university sanctions.

**Food in Chapin Hall**—Food is allowed only at the tables in the ground floor lounge area. ***No student recital receptions are allowed in the building. Students may make their own arrangements for receptions in other campus buildings or off campus.***

**Pianos**—Note any issues you find on the tuning and maintenance request sheet located in the main office.

**Computers/Audio Software**—The computer lab (CH-122) provides Macintosh computers with keyboards and professional audio software for use by students.

**Copying**—The school copier is for the use of faculty only. There are self-serve copiers in Sprague Library, University Hall (5th floor) and the Student Center.

**Bulletin Boards**—Notices may be posted on designated general bulletin boards only. Any notices taped to doors or in stairwells will be removed. Permission is required from the Student Affairs Office (Student Center 4th floor) to post flyers at other locations on campus.

**Bookstore**—The campus bookstore (973-655-5460; fax: 973-655-1291, [bkstr.com](http://bkstr.com)) on the ground floor of the Student Center sells textbooks, stationery, school supplies, general books, etc.

**University Closings**—Closings information will be announced on the University webpage ([montclair.edu](http://montclair.edu)), on the automated telephone line 973-655-7810, and via email and text. Always check before leaving for campus in cases of severe weather.

**Lost and Found**—Turn in found items to the Main Office. Look for a lost item in the “Lost & Found” cabinet in the mail room. The Cali School is not responsible for lost items.

# Music Resources

## History and Research

American Musicological Society - <http://www.ams-net.org/>  
Cali School Music History Website – <https://calischoolmusichistory.com/>  
College Music Society - <https://www.music.org/>  
Indiana University - Cook Music Library - <https://libraries.indiana.edu/music>  
International Music Score Library (IMSLP - public domain scores) - <http://imslp.org/>  
Internet Movie Database - <https://www.imdb.com/>  
Juilliard Manuscript Collection Web Site - <http://www.juilliardmanuscriptcollection.org/>  
Library of Congress (SONIC - Text & Sound Catalogs) - <https://www.loc.gov/rr/record/Soniccont.html>

## Organizations

AFM - American Federation of Musicians - <http://www.afm.org/>  
AGMA - American Guild of Musical Artists - <https://www.musicalartists.org/>  
AGO - American Guild of Organists - <https://www.agohq.org/>  
AMTA - American Music Therapy Association - <https://www.musictherapy.org/>  
ASTA - American String Teachers Association - <https://www.astastrings.org/>  
CBMT - Certification Board for Music Therapists - <http://www.cbmt.org/>  
HBS - Historic Brass Society - <https://www.historicbrass.org/>  
NJAJE - New Jersey Association for Jazz Education - <http://www.njaje.org/>  
ITEA - International Tuba Euphonium Association - <http://www.iteaonline.org/index.php>  
League of American Orchestras - <https://americanorchestras.org/>  
MPTF - Music Performance Trust Fund - [http://www.musiccpf.org/mptf\\_apply.html](http://www.musiccpf.org/mptf_apply.html)  
NAFME - National Association for Music Education - <https://nafme.org/>  
NATS - National Association of Teachers of Singing - <https://www.nats.org/>  
NJMEA - New Jersey Music Educators Association - <https://njmea.org/>  
NJSO - New Jersey Symphony Orchestra - <https://www.njsymphony.org/>  
Organ Historical Society - <https://organhistoricalsociety.org/?v=7516fd43adaa>

## Specialist

Music Teacher Resources - <http://music-teacher-resources.com/>  
Arts in Psychotherapy (music therapy) - <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/the-arts-in-psychotherapy/>  
Music Theory (tutorial) - <https://www.musictheory.net/>  
Music Theory Online - <http://www.mtosmt.org/>  
Music Theory Resources - <http://www.music-theory.com/resources.html>  
Music Therapy World - <http://www.wfmt.info/>

## News

All Music Guide - <https://www.allmusic.com/>  
Billboard - <https://www.billboard.com/>  
Blues Revue - <http://www.bluesrevue.com/>  
Blues Guitar Insider - <http://www.bluesguitarinsider.com/>  
BBC - British Broadcasting Corporation (music) - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/music>  
Harmony Central - <http://www.harmonycentral.com/>  
Jazz Online - <http://www.jazz-on-line.com/lastacquired.htm>  
Jazz Times - <https://jazztimes.com/>  
Lyrics - <https://www.lyrics.com/>  
Archive of Misheard Lyrics - <http://kissthisguy.com/>  
Music.com - <http://www.music.com/>  
NPR - National Public Radio Music - <https://www.npr.org/music>  
Opera America - <https://www.operaamerica.org/>  
Opera Magazine - <http://www.opera.co.uk/index.php>  
Opera News - <https://www.operanews.com/>  
Pollstar - <https://www.pollstar.com/>  
Rock and Roll Hall of Fame - <https://www.rockhall.com/>

# Academics

## Academic Standards

You may be required to repeat any music courses in which you receive a D+, D, D-, or F; and some specific courses in the education program require a passing grade of B-. Courses may be repeated **once** after the first failed attempt. Subsequent repetitions are not automatically granted, and require both the support of the School of Music and the permission of the Provost. Passing grades must be earned at each level of a sequence of courses before you will be allowed to progress to the next level. We believe that understanding of course material at every level adds an essential dimension to music skills and development. Your advisor is there to help you if you are having trouble at any point in your studies.

## Applied Music Requirements

- All students must study with members of the Cali School faculty.
- An applied music fee, in addition to tuition, must be paid for private instruction.
- Recital requirements: 1) Undergraduates concentrating in performance present two recitals, one before the end of junior year and the second in the senior year; 2) Undergraduates concentrating in music education present a recital in the senior year; and 3) Undergraduates concentrating in theory/composition present a recital of original compositions in the senior year. Students in the Master of Music and the Artist's Diploma programs present two degree recitals; those in the M.A. in Composition and the Performer's Certificate present one recital.
- Piano students are expected to accompany at a level of ability designated by their teachers.
- Vocal performance majors at all levels all have vocal coaching requirements in addition to applied study, as do vocal students in other areas who are presenting degree recitals.
- All students should perform during performance practicum, a co-requisite for applied study, at least once during each year of primary study.
- If a student's GPA falls below 3.0, applied music instruction may be denied to allow the student to focus on academic improvement. If a student's applied music grade drops below a B applied music instruction may be denied, and continuation in the major will be in jeopardy. These severe actions will be taken by the School of Music in consultation with the student's applied music instructor and area coordinator, and wherever possible, the student will receive a semester of warning before actions are taken.

## Ensemble Requirements

- The ensemble policy is based on the principle that all students must perform in ensemble(s) each semester of attendance at MSU in order to assure the broadest possible experience in important ensemble repertoire and to assure that these ensembles have the needed instrumentation for successful performance. Although minimum requirements vary with each concentration, this principle is the overriding one. Students are expected to perform in their primary ensemble during each semester of attendance. Students may be assigned by the school director to an ensemble in accordance with the needs of the school, regardless of the completion of the student of the minimum requirements. Where admission to a chamber ensemble is by audition and a student fails to gain admission, additional performance in a large ensemble may, with the Director's consent, be substituted. Chamber ensembles must perform once a semester, either in recital or for a jury.
- If a student's GPA falls below 3.0, involvement in all ensembles may be denied so that the student can focus on academic improvement.
- Any changes in the ensemble policy will be posted in the Cali School.

## Registration Requirements

- No student may remain in a class if he or she is not officially registered. Faculty are responsible for ensuring that there are no students in classes who are not on the Registrar's official class lists. It is not allowable for students to register for a course after the semester has been completed.
- All students must be registered in order to receive private lessons. Students may not receive double lessons in any one semester without registering for both sets of lessons (i.e. percussion/drum set or piano/harpsichord or clarinet/bass clarinet). All double sets of lessons must be approved by the Director, and are never automatic. Double sets of lessons require a cumulative 3.0 GPA, and a B or better in primary private study.

## Graduation Competences

- **Technical mastery**  
Students must demonstrate appropriate technical mastery in performance, composition or music technology.
- **Musical insight**  
Students must perform and compose music with artistic excellence, musical understanding, and awareness.
- **Advanced knowledge**  
Students must demonstrate an advanced knowledge and understanding of music.
- **Research, Analytic, and Writing skills**  
Students must develop appropriate research, analytical, and writing skills to examine music effectively.
- **Cultural sensitivity**  
Students must demonstrate appropriate cultural contexts in all their musical endeavors, including the degree recital, thesis, project, clinical experience, or music internship.
- **Curricular completion**  
Students must demonstrate successful completion of all curricular requirements for their stated program

Additional graduation requirements for Undergraduate Music Majors at Montclair State University include:

- Earning a grade of 1.7 or higher in all core music courses.
- Earning a grade of 3.0 or higher in lessons.
- Successful completion of the prescribed curriculum, and at least 120 credits.

Students must also meet the GPA requirements for graduation, which are 2.0 for undergraduate students and 3.0 for graduate students.

## Undergraduate Advice and Support

- Planning course load: You will be assigned a primary advisor who is knowledgeable about your concentration and particular interests and will help you plan your curriculum.
- Consult your advisor AT LEAST once a semester preceding registration to ensure that you are fulfilling your requirements. Feel free to talk about decisions regarding your academic program. Advisers offer help in many ways, so take as much advantage of them as possible.
- Each student is responsible for his or her own registration.
- Help with registration: For advising and/or technical issues or authorizations, see the academic advisor, Letitia Stancu (CH121). She serves as the primary academic advisor for all undergraduates along with their faculty advisor.
- Responsibility for meeting requirements: You are responsible for meeting all the requirements of the university and school. Many people can help you do this. Use the Cali School curriculum guides and NEST, the academic advisor and your faculty mentor, to monitor your progress and also stay in contact with everyone to insure an on-time graduation.
- Cali School and University rules and regulations: The school sets rules for meeting music curriculum requirements. The university sets general rules and regulations for graduation that are summarized in MSU's online catalog. The rules in the university catalog in effect at the time you begin your degree will apply throughout your university career.
- If there are changes to a degree while you are attending MSU—for instance, if general education course requirements are altered, or if a degree designation changes—you may be able to opt in or out of the newer requirements. Your Degree Audit, available in DegreeWorks on NEST, will always have the most up-to-date record of your outstanding requirements.
- Transfer credits: There will be a delay in transferring music credits. See the academic administrator for information.
- How do I find out about applied music lesson requirements?  
Applied music lessons are required for all undergraduates and many graduate students. Your advisor will

discuss requirements with you. The lists of vocal and instrumental courses with section numbers are available in NEST.

- Changing degrees: To change from one concentration to another, meet with faculty advisors in your current concentration and in the one you wish to enter. These meetings will help you clarify your reasons for changing and assess your potential for entering a new concentration. Then, fulfill requirements for entering a new concentration, as follows:
  - Performance: Gain approval of performance faculty by completing a successful audition (often done at the end-of-term jury).
  - Music Education or Music Therapy: Gain approval of music education or music therapy faculty by completing a successful interview.
  - Theory-Composition: Gain approval of theory-comp faculty by completing a successful portfolio review and interview.
  - When you have been notified by the faculty that you have been accepted into the new concentration, complete a Change of Major form, which is available on the Registrar's website, collect the required signatures, and submit to the Office of the Registrar.
- Leave of absence: If you need to take a leave-of-absence please inform your advisor and the academic administrator so that you, the Cali School and the university can plan accordingly. A leave of absence may affect the courses that you will be required to take upon your return.

## Graduate Advice and Support

- Planning course load: You will be assigned a faculty advisor (David Witten, Performance; Aaron Helgeson, Composition; Marissa Silverman, Music Education; Brian Abrams, Music Therapy) who will develop your work program and who is knowledgeable about your concentration and particular interests. At the beginning of each semester, your advisor will be posted online in your DegreeWorks audit on NEST.
- See your advisor AT LEAST once a semester preceding registration to ensure that you fulfill your requirements. Feel free to talk about decisions you need to make about your academic program. Advisors offer help in many ways, so take as much advantage of them as possible.
- Each student is responsible for his or her own registration.
- Registration: For curricular matters, see your advisor. For technical issues or authorizations, see Academic Administrator Gina Balestracci.
- It is your responsibility to meet all requirements of the university and school. Your advisor will help you do this. Your work program is your contract with the university that documents your degree requirements.
- Meeting requirements: The school sets rules for meeting music curriculum requirements. The university sets general rules and regulations for graduation that are summarized in the university catalog. The rules in effect in your first year's catalog will apply throughout your university career. If there are changes while you are attending MSU, you may be able to opt in or out of the newer requirements. Your Degree Audit, available in DegreeWorks on NEST, will always have the most up-to-date record of your outstanding requirements.
- Applied music requirements: Lessons are required for many graduate students. Requirements are listed on-line in NEST, which is where you can find the course number for your particular applied music section.
- Leave of absence - If you need to take a leave-of-absence please inform your adviser so that you, the Cali School and the university can plan accordingly. A leave of absence may affect the courses that you will be required when you return.

## Private Lesson Registration

1. The Cali School director, with coordinators, determines full time faculty load requirements for private students and/or chamber ensembles for the academic year before any instructors are assigned private students and/or chamber ensembles. No part time or visiting specialists are assigned private students until the teaching loads of full-time faculty are filled.
2. Teaching assignments before registration go from coordinators to instructors and the school administrator.
3. **All students must be registered in order to receive private lessons.** Students may not receive double lessons in any one semester without registering for both sets of lessons (i.e. percussion/drum set or piano/harpsichord or clarinet/bass clarinet). All double sets of lessons must be approved by the director, and are never automatic. Double sets of lessons require a cumulative 3.00 GPA in the previous semester, and a B or better on private study.
4. No student may receive additional semesters of private lessons beyond curriculum requirements without director's permission.



5. Instructors will not be compensated for unregistered students. Any student not registered by the second week of semester should not be receiving private lessons under any circumstances.
6. Coordinators should inform the academic administrator of studio assignments as soon as information is available so that registrations can be updated. When a new student's instructor is not known, that student will be registered with the area coordinator in the case of percussion, guitar, voice, or keyboard; or with the senior member of the other instrumental faculties until the student's studio assignment has been made.
7. All coordinators in each area (Woodwinds, Brass, Strings, Percussion, Piano, Voice, Composition, and Guitar) must report final teaching assignments to the director and the school administrator by the end of the second week of each semester.
8. If an instructor of Applied Music has a registered student who is not present, the instructor must advise the school administrator by the third week of semester.

Note: If a student's GPA falls below 3.0, lessons may be curtailed until academic performance has improved.

## Standards, Grades, Exams

Read the university retention standards in the university catalogs. They are part of the criteria used to determine whether you may remain in a program. The Cali School also monitors each student's progress.

### For Undergraduate Students

- If you fail academic work you may be asked to suspend applied music lessons and/or ensembles until your academic work has improved.
- If your GPA falls below 3.0, you may not be allowed to join ensembles and/or take applied music lessons. You would be required to focus on academic improvement.
- Grades required to remain a music major: you may be required to repeat any music courses in which you receive a D+, D, D-, or F; and some specific courses in the education program require a passing grade of B-. Courses may be repeated **once** after the first failed attempt. Subsequent repetitions are not automatically granted, and require both the support of the School of Music and the permission of the Provost. Passing grades must be earned at each level of a sequence of courses before you are allowed to progress to the next level. Contact your advisor if you are having trouble at any point in your studies.
- Sophomore comprehensive exam and assessment: At the end of the sophomore year, you must demonstrate comprehensive musicianship in performing primary, functional keyboard skills, theoretical and practical skills, secondary vocal skills and others related to your concentration. You must perform adequately in these areas in order to continue as a music major.
- Requirements for final admission to undergraduate programs:
  - *Theory-Composition*— Final admission in junior year; in addition to full audition requirements, candidates must submit a portfolio of compositions and/or analytical sketches before completion of sophomore year.
  - *Music Therapy*— Final admission in junior year; in addition to full audition requirements, all credentials (including reports of clinical experience) will be evaluated at the end of sophomore year.
  - *Performance*— Provisional acceptance is determined by an applied music jury at the end of the freshman year unless a postponement to the middle of the sophomore year is requested by the major teacher. Full admission is delayed until after a sophomore recital and/or demonstration of a solid grasp of technical aspects of the performing medium, and genuine musicality and sensitivity.
  - *Music Education*— Final admission is granted only after an interview and review of credentials toward the end of the sophomore year.

### For Graduate Students

When a degree student's GPA falls below 3.00, the student will be placed on academic probation. The degree student must raise his/her GPA to at least a 3.0 within the next six credits of course work taken within the next two semesters from the date of notification of probation. This may include summer session. Failure to achieve a GPA of 3.00 within the prescribed period of time will lead to final review, which may result in removal of matriculated status and dismissal.

A degree student who receives three "C" (i.e., "C+", "C", or "C-") or lower level grades (i.e., "F") will be dismissed from the program. The Graduate School will make dismissal actions on a case-by-case basis in consultation with a degree student's Graduate Program Coordinator.

(<https://www.montclair.edu/graduate/current-students/academic-policies-procedures-guidelines/>)

## Juries

Every student registered for lessons is required to take a jury examination at the end of the semester. The jury grade is for the performance of what has been accomplished in the studio during the semester, and contributes to the student's final grade. Juries are required for all students, even those who have performed a recital; however, exceptions to this may be made at the discretion of the instructor and area coordinator and will be made on a case-by-case basis.

The length of and requirements for juries vary by area. The specific works, etudes, and scales performed will be decided with the instructor (scales and sight-reading may be decided at the jury). Examples of the music for juries should be discussed by the student and instructor, and with repertory examples for each level in the course syllabus.

Students work with faculty to choose particular technical studies, scales and repertoire leading to the highest possible level of performance. It is expected that music performed at the jury will be that which was studied during the course of the semester in the studio. Works that were performed at prior juries or recitals should not be repeated unless it is at the suggestion of the instructor.

Sign-up sheets are usually posted toward the end of each semester, well before classes end.

The maximum number of semesters of study for each particular major is as follows:

Music Therapy (MT) Majors—6 semesters

Music Education (ME) Majors—7 semesters

Theory/Composition (TC) Majors—4 semesters

Performance (PERF) Majors—8 semesters

# Recital Policy

(I. Rules and Regulations; II. Recital Performance Spaces; III. Scheduling)

## I. Rules and Regulations

- Academic recital registration and scheduling is available for students enrolled in the following degree programs: **BMus, MA, MM, Performer's Certificate, and Artist Diploma.**
- Recitals must not exceed 90 minutes in length, inclusive of one 10-minute intermission.
- You will have 30 minutes for a sound check starting one hour before your recital. The house will be opened 30 minutes prior to your scheduled recital start time.
- Recitals must always start on time unless there is a need for production to hold. No exceptions.
- No encores permitted. House lights will come up at the conclusion of your final piece.
- No food, drink, or receptions are permitted in Chapin Hall.
- No cancellations are permitted unless there is written emergency approval by the Cali School Director Shea Scruggs.
  - Recitals canceled without approval will only be rescheduled in G55, 201, or Westminster 110.
- No recitals are permitted to be scheduled during the following conflicts:
  - The Crawford Memorial Concert in December
  - Against area/instrument-related large ensemble events (e.g., no voice recitals during a University Singers/MSU Chorale concert)
- All recital production requirements are subject to the Production Manager's approval.
- Recital grades and registration:
  - In order to schedule your recital, you must be registered for the relevant recital course (**MUPR 295, 395, 485, 495, or 695**).
  - Recital grades are given by your private instructor and submitted by the instructor of record Taylor Goodson. If you have a problem with your recital grade, be sure to discuss it with your private instructor or your academic advisor.
  - Incomplete recitals:
    - If you registered for a recital but were unable to complete it, you will receive a grade of "IN" (incomplete). Incomplete recitals must be completed by February 15 for Fall recitals or June 30 for Spring recitals. The "IN" grade will be updated upon the conclusion of the recital. Incomplete recitals that are not completed by the February 15/June 30 deadline will receive a letter grade of "F" automatically. Recitals that are completed beyond the February 15/June 30 deadline will only be scheduled in G55/201/Westminster 110. The "F" grade will be updated upon the conclusion of the recital.

## II. Recital Performance Spaces

Academic recitals are held in **Chapin Hall** on the Montclair Campus (**Leshowitz Recital Hall**, room **G55**, and room **201**) and in **Westminster Hall** (room **110**) on the Bloomfield Campus. Details about each of these spaces can be found below.

- **Leshowitz Recital Hall**

- Events in the Recital Hall are staffed by Production Office personnel.
- Archival audio recording happens for all Leshowitz Recital Hall events. Contact Andy Dickerson for more information.
- Events in Leshowitz Recital Hall may be streamed and video recorded by the Cali School. Due to the nature of the reliance on technology and university networking infrastructure, video recording and streaming is not guaranteed, but every effort will be made to reliably capture, stream, and archive performances that are staffed in Leshowitz Recital Hall.
- There is no green room provided for events in the Recital Hall. Belongings of performer(s) can remain backstage but must be removed at the conclusion of the performance. The Cali School is not responsible for any items left behind after the conclusion of the performance.
- Receptions and food/beverage are not permitted in any of the Montclair Campus locations (Leshowitz, G55, or 201).

- **G55 and 201**

- Events in G55 and 201 are not staffed by the Production Office.
- Room setup and restore is the responsibility of the performer for both G55 and 201.
- Audio/video recording arrangements for G55 and 201 are the responsibility of the performer(s).
- There is no green room provided for events in G55 or 201.
- Receptions and food/beverage are not permitted in any of the Montclair Campus locations (Leshowitz, G55, or 201).

- **Westminster 110**

- Events in Westminster 110 are not staffed by the Production Office.
- Room setup and restore is the responsibility of the performer for Westminster 110.
- Audio/video recording arrangements for Westminster 110 are the responsibility of the performer(s).
- All recitals in Westminster 110 include an adjacent green room, Westminster 103, where performers can leave their belongings at their own risk.
- All chairs and stands are stored in the closet labeled 113 within room 110. Any chairs and stands used must be returned to this closet at the conclusion of your event.

### III. Scheduling

In order to book the Recital Hall, your recital must be scheduled at least one month in advance while scheduling for G55, 201, or Westminster 110 can occur anytime before the performance date. Recital scheduling for the Fall semester opens on **August 1st**, about one month before the semester begins. Recital scheduling for the Spring semester opens on **December 1**, about six weeks before the semester begins. Recital Hall scheduling for the Fall semester closes on **November 15** while Spring semester recital scheduling closes on **April 15**. All recitals scheduled after November 15/April 15 will be scheduled for G55, 201, or Westminster 110 only as scheduling for the Leshowitz Recital Hall is fully closed on those dates.

In order to successfully schedule and finalize your recital date, you must complete the following:

- Meet with your advisor to determine how many recitals (if any) are required to complete your degree.
- Register for your recital. You must be registered for your recital before proceeding with recital scheduling.
- Find three dates\* that you, your accompanist, and your instructor have available for your recital.
- Meet with Taylor Goodson in person to schedule your recital. Office hours are posted on his office door, Chapin 129. If you are not at school during the available hours, send an email to [goodsont@montclair.edu](mailto:goodsont@montclair.edu) to schedule an alternative time.
- Once a date has been confirmed with Taylor, you will receive a blue recital scheduling form. This will begin a two-week countdown to your deadline. **If this scheduling process is not completed within two-weeks of receiving your blue form, your date will be erased from the calendar and released for other use.**
- Your private instructor must sign the top section of the recital form.
- Bring your signed form to our Production Manager, Andy Dickerson, to discuss your anticipated program and any production needs. If approved, Andy will receive your blue form and reconfirm your recital with you, your instructor, accompanist, the area coordinator, and the scheduling office via email. Your recital is now scheduled and fully confirmed.
- If at any time during this process you foresee any problems meeting your deadline, contact Andy and Taylor via email. If you do not meet your deadline and have not communicated beforehand, you will forfeit the use of the Recital Hall and your date will be released. All recital communications must happen via official Montclair State University email accounts only.
- One scheduled two-hour dress rehearsal is permitted per recital.\*\* Dress rehearsal time is not guaranteed and is subject to the availability of your performance space. Speak to Taylor to schedule your dress rehearsal after your recital is confirmed.

**\*Available recital times:**

- **Tuesday - Friday:** 5 & 8pm; **Saturdays:** 2, 5 & 8pm; **Sundays:** 11am, 2pm, 5pm, & 8pm
- No recitals will be scheduled on Mondays or during University holiday weekends.

**\*\*Additional rehearsals for recitals that rely on large ensembles:**

- Two additional two-hour rehearsal times may be booked for the following academic recitals that rely on large ensembles: Jazz, Composition, and Graduate Conducting. These rehearsals may only be scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays in the following spaces: G01, G02, G33, 230, 330, and 430. Rehearsal time is not guaranteed and is subject to room availability. The Scheduling Office will do everything possible to ensure scheduled rehearsals can occur as planned, but the need for flexibility is necessary for extreme

## Student Organization Scheduling

Please adhere to the following guidelines for booking Student Organization events in the Cali School of Music.

- All Student Organizations must appoint one point of contact for all scheduling needs and concerns. The Scheduling Office will work with this contact for the booking of events.
- Scheduling for Student Organizations' needs will begin on **August 1st** for Fall events and **December 1st** for Spring events.
- All Student Organization scheduling must be completed by either **November 15** or **April 15** of the current semester. No additional scheduling can take place in the semester's final month to ensure that there is appropriate time for booking end-of-semester events (*dress rehearsals, juries, exams, etc.*).
- The Scheduling Office will do everything possible to ensure scheduled Student Organization meetings can occur as planned, but the need for flexibility is necessary for extreme circumstances. As much notice as possible will be given if a Student Organization meeting/event needs to be moved or rescheduled.
- All informal Student Organization events are to be held outside of Chapin Hall. Organization recitals and relevant musical activities are welcome to be held in our facility, but social events and similar activities should be held elsewhere on campus, such as the Student Center, Recreation Center, or in the many Residence Life locations available for student use.
- Student Organizations are not permitted to use the Leshowitz Recital Hall unless written approval is provided by the Cali School Director Shea Scruggs.
- For more information, please visit the Center for Student Involvement website at:  
<https://www.montclair.edu/center-for-student-involvement/>

## Chapin Hall Room Rental Fees

### For MSU Students and Personnel

Within Chapin Hall, our three large performance spaces (**G55, 201, and the Leshowitz Recital Hall**) are available for rental throughout the year. The following rates apply for use of the space:

**Weekday Day** (Monday - Friday, 9am - 4pm)

\$100 for the first hour, \$50 for each additional hour

**Weekday Evening** (Monday - Friday, 4pm - 10pm)

\$200 for the first hour, \$50 for each additional hour

**Weekend** (Saturday & Sunday, 9am-10pm)

\$250 for the first hour, \$50 for each additional hour

Rental rates are for **non-academic events only** (audio and video recordings, rehearsals, non-degree performances, etc.) - these fees do not apply to degree recitals, dress rehearsals, or other for-credit endeavors.

A **non-refundable \$25 deposit** is required in order for your reservation to be placed on the Cali School calendar. **No reservations will be made without this deposit.** Please visit the **Scheduling Office** in order to book any and all dates.

Portions of an hour are charged as a whole. Events that begin prior to 4:00pm and end after 4:00pm are charged at the evening rate. Other rooms, rates, and availability are determined on a case-by-case basis.

Please discuss any and all production requirements and anticipated schedule with the **Production Office** after your date and time has been secured.



## Accompanist Services

1. Professional staff accompanists and piano students are available. At the beginning of each semester discuss your specific needs with your studio professor. Your studio professor will take care of making arrangements. The university pays for a limited number of hours, as follows:

- Juries: String players will get up to three hours of rehearsals before juries. Woodwind and Brass up to one hour. Voice students get none, due to having more accompanist hours during regular lessons.
- Wednesday and other masterclasses: All instruments get up to one hour of rehearsal time.
- Degree recital: Eight hours total. Two hours are reserved for the recital itself. Six hours of rehearsals total including dress rehearsal. For all extra rehearsals, students must pay directly to the pianist.

2. Accompanist will NOT have all the necessary music. Strings/Woodwind/Brass students must provide music eight weeks prior the juries or degree recitals.

3. A \$200 recital fee is added to your university tuition bill for the semester in which you have your recital. This fee includes payment to the accompanist for six hours of rehearsal plus two hours for the actual performance. You may adjust these hours as long as the total does not exceed eight (for example, 5+3).

Each staff accompanist is paid by the university for rehearsing with students and playing for studio voice lessons, juries, masterclasses and degree recitals. You should not pay any additional fees unless you use rehearsal time beyond the allotted number of hours. Students must pay accompanists privately for any time beyond the maximum number of rehearsal hours shown above.

5. You may make private arrangements with your accompanist for extracurricular events such as competitions or off-campus recitals and you must pay the accompanist to work with you. The university will not pay for accompanists for these events or for rehearsals for such events. Be professional and make all financial arrangements clear from the start. It is always a good idea to make a simple written contract with your accompanist stating hourly rate and number of hours planned. Make no assumptions when money is involved.

6. Guidelines for cancellations and lateness: If a student needs to cancel an appointment with the pianist, or if the pianist must cancel an appointment with the student, he or she must give at least twenty-four hours notice. If one of you is late, he or she cannot expect the other to wait beyond 12 minutes.

## Student Recital Program Guidelines

All recital programs must be created using [ProBuilder](#), the Cali School's official online program tool. In line with the University's sustainability goals, we no longer print physical programs. Instead, attendees will access programs via QR codes at the event.

### QR Code Deadline:

Programs must be **completed and submitted at least 7 days before your recital** so they can be linked to the QR code posted at your venue (Leshowitz Hall, 201, G55, or Westminster 110).

### Printed Programs:

Printed copies will **not** be provided. If you want printed programs for your audience, **you must print and bring them yourself**. Please also **inform your recital worker** that programs (if printed) should be **handed out at the door**.

**IMPORTANT:** Once your program has been submitted in ProBuilder, **do not create a duplicate**.

If you need to make changes, email Heather Kern at [kernh@montclair.edu](mailto:kernh@montclair.edu) to request that your original program be reopened.

### How to Build Your Program:

- Log in at [ProBuilder](#) using your full Montclair email and password: **chromatic**  
<https://montclair.probuilder.app/>
- Draft your program and send to your studio professor for approval
- Once approved, click **"Send to Print"** (this will connect it to the QR code — no actual printing will occur)

### Guidelines:

- **Students:** No bios, dedications, or acknowledgments
- **Vocalists:** May include translations and program notes
- **Instrumentalists:** Include repertoire, soloist, and accompanist info

**Need Help?** Contact Heather Kern at [kernh@montclair.edu](mailto:kernh@montclair.edu) or 973-655-7263

## Use of School-Owned Musical Instruments

Musical instruments are supplied by the School of Music to its faculty, enrolled music majors and minors, and enrolled students participating in school activities. They are available for educational purposes only to those enrolled in classes, ensembles, or lessons. There is a fee assessed when instruments are used for techniques classes. This fee is waived by faculty request when a student needs an instrument to perform in an ensemble. A written request by the faculty member must be submitted before an instrument will be given to the student. Contact the Production Manager (Phil Clifford) with any questions about the use, fees, tuning, or maintenance of instruments. The following list of terms and conditions is part of a contract students must sign before using an instrument:

### Conditions of use

The terms and conditions under which instruments are loaned are listed below. Upon signing for an instrument, the party is responsible for its normal care and security while in his or her possession.

- Each semester a school instrument is used (summer is counted as a semester) there is a fee. This fee may be waived only by the Cali School director.
- The instrument and case will be returned in the same condition as received with allowances for reasonable wear.
- The party is to assume responsibility for any damage beyond reasonable wear that may occur while the instrument is in his or her possession, on or off campus.
- If, due to negligence, an instrument is stolen, the party is responsible for its replacement. Examples of obvious negligence are: a) leaving lockers unlocked or b) leaving instruments unattended in practice rooms.
- If the borrower withdraws from the class or activity for which the instrument was loaned, the instrument must be returned immediately.
- In the event that the borrower withdraws from or otherwise leaves the university, the instrument must be returned immediately. If the instrument is not returned as specified, the party assumes all charges and expenses, including legal fees, which may be incurred by Montclair State University, to secure the return of the instrument. Additionally, a hold will be placed on the student's university file, preventing future registration or release of transcripts, until the matter has been settled.
- The deadline for final check-in for all instruments is 48 hours after the relevant applied jury examination. Student grades will be held until all matters are cleared after that date.
- Any exceptions to these policies must be approved by the director.

### School Instrument Rental Process

A student must be registered for a course in which the instrument is needed (applied lessons, large ensembles, methods course, etc). Students requesting an instrument must first consult with their instructor to determine if they require use of a school instrument. The instructor will then request use of a school instrument on the student's behalf. The request should be forwarded to the Production Manager and relevant area coordinator (i.e. tenor saxophone requests should include the Woodwind Coordinator, cornet requests should include the Brass Coordinator, etc). The Production Manager and area coordinator in consultation with the large ensemble directors (if applicable) will allow or disallow the use of the instrument. If approved, the student will then meet with the Production Manager to fill out instrument rental paperwork, deliver any applicable rental fees, and pick up the instrument.

### Percussion equipment use

Percussion equipment must be moved from storage (Chapin 202 and several other rooms) for most rehearsals and performances. Follow the guidelines below to ensure required equipment is in place when needed:

- For regularly scheduled rehearsals and performances: Put away all equipment immediately after rehearsals or performances, whether these take place in McEachern or elsewhere.
- Other uses of equipment: Permission from a percussion instructor is required for individual practice or performance. If borrowed equipment is to leave Chapin Hall, the borrower is responsible for obtaining written permission from a percussion instructor and submitting it to the Percussion Coordinator. This must be done no later than 24 hours before the equipment is to leave the building.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Academic Advice and Support

#### Who will help me plan my course load?

- You will be assigned an advisor who is knowledgeable about your concentration and particular interests. Your advisor will be listed in Degree Works.

#### How often should I see my advisor?

- You should consult with your advisor AT LEAST once a semester preceding registration to ensure that you fulfill your requirements. Feel free to talk about decisions regarding your academic program. Advisors offer help in many ways, so take as much advantage of them as possible.

#### Where can I get help with registration?

- For curricular matters, see your advisor. For technical issues or authorizations, see Administrator Gina Balestracci.

#### Who is responsible for overseeing my progress in the music program?

- It is your responsibility to meet all requirements of the university and school. Your advisor will help you do this. Use the Cali School curriculum guides and Degree Works to monitor your progress and also meet with your advisor to ensure on-time graduation.

#### How do the school of music rules and regulations fit in with university requirements?

- The school sets rules for meeting music curriculum requirements. The university sets general rules and regulations for graduation that are summarized in MSU's undergraduate catalog online. The rules in the university catalog in effect during your freshman year will apply to you throughout your university career. If there are changes while you are attending MSU—for instance, if general education course requirements are altered—such changes may not apply to you.

#### How do I find out about applied music lesson requirements?

- Applied music lessons are required for all undergraduates. Undergraduates register for MUS1499; graduates for MUS1599.

#### How can I apply for a double major in music?

- No. See your advisor to discuss other options.

#### May I change my degree program within the school of music?

Yes. To change from one concentration to another:

1. **Meet with faculty advisors** in your current concentration and in the one you wish to enter. These meetings will help you clarify your reasons for changing and assess your potential for entering a new concentration.
2. **Fulfill requirements for entering a new concentration:**
  - **Performance** — Gain approval of performance faculty by completing a successful audition.
  - **Music Education or Music Therapy** — Gain approval of music education or music therapy faculty by completing a successful interview.
  - **Theory/Composition** — Gain approval of theory/composition faculty by completing a successful portfolio review and interview.
  - **Performance with Music Theater emphasis** — Gain approval of music, theater and dance faculty by completing a successful audition.
3. **When you have been notified by the faculty that you have been accepted into the new concentration**, your concentration will be changed.

**How can I change my major to something other than music?**

You should discuss the change with your music advisor and with advisors in your new major to assure a smooth transition. You may need to take up courses in your new major, but music courses will in most cases apply toward your graduation requirements. You may also have earned enough credits in music to declare a music minor.

**May I take a leave of absence from school?**

Yes. If you need to take a leave of absence please inform your advisor so that you, the Cali School and the university can plan accordingly. You will be required to submit a Leave-of-Absence form. A leave of absence may affect the courses that you will be required to take upon your return.

## **Standards, Examinations, Final Admission to Programs**

### **How will I know if I am meeting the standards of the Cali School?**

There are university guidelines for retention in the university catalog. You should read these guidelines since they are part of the criteria used to determine whether you may remain in a program of study. In addition to these, the school monitors each major's progress. Undergraduates who fail academic work may be asked to suspend applied music lessons and/or ensembles until their academic work has improved.

### **What grades must I maintain to remain a music major?**

Students may be required to repeat any music courses in which they receive a D+, D, D-, or F. Courses may be repeated a maximum of two times after the first failed attempt. Passing grades must be earned at each level of a sequence of courses before a student is allowed to progress to the next level. We believe that understanding of course material at every level adds an essential dimension to your musical skills and development. Your advisor is there to help you if you are having trouble at any point in your studies.

### **Comprehensive Examination/Assessment**

At the end of the sophomore year, all students must demonstrate comprehensive musicianship in the performing primary, functional keyboard skills, theoretical and practical skills, secondary vocal skills and other elements germane to the student's concentration. Continuation as a music major is dependent upon adequate performance in these areas.

Graduate students are required to complete a culminating activity.

### **Composition**

Final admission in junior year; in addition to fulfillment requirements, all candidates must submit a portfolio of compositions and undergo an oral examination at the end of sophomore year.

### **Music Therapy**

Final admission in junior year; in addition to fulfillment requirements, all candidates must submit a portfolio of clinical experience and will be evaluated at the end of sophomore year.

### **Performance**

Provisional acceptance is determined by an applied music jury at the end of the freshman year unless a postponement to the middle of the sophomore year is requested by the major teacher. Full admission is delayed until after a sophomore recital and/or demonstration of a solid grasp of technical aspects of the performing medium, and genuine musicality and sensitivity.

### **Music Education**

Final admission is granted only after an interview and review of credentials toward the end of the sophomore year.

### **Applied Music Requirements**

All music students must study with members of the Montclair State faculty. An applied music fee, in addition to tuition, must be paid for private instruction. Recital requirements: Undergraduates concentrating in performance present two recitals, one before the end of junior year and the second in the senior year; two year; and 3) Students concentrating in theory/composition present a recital of original compositions in the senior year. Piano students are expected to accompany at a level of ability designated by their teachers and to participate actively in the musical life of MSU and the community. All students should perform during performance practicum at least once during each year of primary study. Applied music instruction beyond the minimum requirements may be available when schedules and other considerations allow.

Recitals for the graduate programs are outlined in the program descriptions.

**Ensemble Requirements**

The ensemble policy is based on the principle that all students must perform in ensemble(s) every semester of their attendance at Montclair State in order to assure the broadest possible experience in important ensemble repertoire and to assure that these ensembles have the needed instrumentation for successful performance. Although minimum requirements vary with each concentration, this principle is the overriding one. Students are expected to perform in their primary ensemble during each semester of attendance. Students may be assigned by the school director to an ensemble in accordance with the needs of the school, regardless of the completion by the student of the minimum requirements. Where admission to a chamber ensemble is by audition and a student fails to gain admission, additional performance in a large ensemble may, with the director's consent, be substituted. Chamber ensembles must perform once a semester, either on recital or for a jury.

If a student's GPA falls below 3.0, involvement in all ensembles may be denied so that the student can focus on academic improvement.

Any changes in the ensemble policy will be posted in the Cali School.

## **Grading**

**Repeating Courses** Undergraduates may only repeat courses in which they have received below a C-.

### **Incomplete Grades**

Incomplete grades will be granted by faculty members in cases where a student has completed most of the work for a course and extraordinary circumstances preclude her/him from finishing the required work by the end of a semester or summer session. Incomplete grades will be posted for a period of approximately six weeks after the submission of final grades: February 15 for a Fall course, June 30 for a Spring course, and October 15 for a Summer course. If work is not completed and a final grade posted within that time, the grade will revert to an F. The faculty member and student are required to submit a written contract regarding course completion.

A grade may never be changed from a letter grade to an Incomplete.

### **Grade Changes**

A change of grade request must be initiated by faculty, approved by the school director, College of the Arts dean, and forwarded to the Office of the Registrar no later than one year after the term or coursework was due to be finished. In the event that a faculty member has left the employment of the University, the Director should determine his/her willingness to consider "IN" grade completions as well as grade changes. The school should determine how the individual would be contacted for this purpose. In the event that the former faculty member is not available for completion of these tasks, the school will choose some continuing faculty person who can act in his/her behalf. Note that no changes will be made to the academic record beyond 30 days of the student's graduation date.

### **Important Notes**

A grade may never be changed from a letter grade to an Incomplete.

No student may remain in a class if he or she is not officially registered. Faculty are responsible for insuring that there are no students in classes who are not on the Registrar's official class lists. It is not allowable for students to 'post' register for a course.



## Performing at Montclair State University

The Cali School sponsors over 300 concerts each year by the band, chamber ensembles, chamber singers, choral, orchestra, opera workshop, wind ensemble, student organizations, faculty, and undergraduate and graduate students. Students will be involved in many different kinds of performances over the course of their studies. This section provides an overview of student ensembles and of the process for planning individual recitals.

### Policies and Procedures for Chamber Ensemble Registration

1. Large ensembles are defined as Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, Orchestra and Chorale only.
2. All ensembles must have at least three students to qualify as a chamber ensemble. Duos may be approved by the Cali School director only if they satisfy curricular requirements.
3. Any student registered for more than four ensembles must show a cumulative GPA of 3.0, and a B or better in applied instrument study.
4. All students must register for any ensemble in which they participate. Any exceptions must be approved by the director before participation.
5. Faculty coaching ensembles which do not have all students registered will not be compensated for coaching.
6. With the exception of Guitar Ensemble, Bass Ensemble (Practicum) and Percussion Ensemble, the registration committee recommends students perform in mixed rather than homogeneous chamber ensembles. The existence of studio or homogeneous ensembles needs the approval of the director or faculty.
7. No faculty may form any studio, homogeneous, or chamber ensembles and receive credit and payment for them without PRIOR approval of the director and coordinators.

### Participating in Ensembles

**Participation** Undergraduates taking private instrumental or vocal lessons with MSU faculty members must perform with at least one major school ensemble every semester they are registered as full-time students or have registered for applied lessons. Instrumentalists may audition for band, wind ensemble and/or orchestra. Vocalists, keyboardists and guitarists will participate in chorale as a major ensemble. The director may make ensemble assignments as the school's needs dictate.

**Credit** Undergraduates are granted 0.5 credits per ensemble, regardless of the amount of rehearsal time involved. Students may elect to continue performing in an ensemble after their requirements are completed. Students may be requested, at the discretion of the school director, to continue performing in an ensemble. Graduate students earn one credit per ensembles.

**Grades** Grades may be lowered for any student who is late or leaves before the rehearsal or performance is over. Failure to appear for a scheduled performance may affect a student's rights and privileges as a music major.

**Exceptions** Exceptions to this policy will be at the discretion of the major ensemble directors, the student's advisor, and the Cali School director. Detailed curricular ensemble assignments are listed in the curriculum guides (see Appendix).

**Chamber Ensembles** In order to place students with similar musical interests and abilities in appropriate chamber ensembles, the ensemble directors hold auditions at the beginning of each semester. You may need to audition for the dual auditions of the chamber and smaller ensembles. All graduate chamber ensembles and ensembles in which membership is determined by audition require Cali School authorization before registration.

## Policies and Procedures for Private Lesson Registration

1. The Cali School director, with coordinators, determines full time faculty load requirements for private students and/or chamber ensembles for the academic year before any instructors are assigned private students and/or chamber ensembles. Noadjunct faculty are assigned private students until full time loads are filled.
2. Teaching assignments before registration go from coordinators to instructors and the school administrator.
3. All students must be registered in order to receive private lessons. Students may not receive double lessons in any one semester without registering for both sets of lessons (i.e. percussion/drum set or piano/harpsichord or clarinet/bass clarinet). All double sets of lessons must be approved by the director, and are never automatic. Double sets of lessons require a cumulative 3.00 GPA in previous semester, and a B or better on private study.
4. No student may receive additional semesters of private lessons beyond curriculum requirements without director's permission.
5. Instructors will not be compensated for unregistered students. Any student not registered by the second week of semester should not be receiving private lessons under any circumstances.
6. All coordinators in each area (Woodwinds, Brass, Strings, Percussion, Piano, Voice, Composition, and Guitar) must report final teaching assignments to the director and the school administrator by the end of the second week of each semester.
7. If an instructor of Applied Music has a registered student who is not present, instructor must advise the school administrator by the third week of semester.

**Note:** If a student's GPA falls below 3.0, lessons may be curtailed until academic performance has improved.