# **MUSIC**

# What can I do with this degree?

# **AREAS**

## **EMPLOYERS**

# **STRATEGIES**

#### **EDUCATION**

Teaching

Daycare centers

Elementary and secondary schools

Private schools Recreation centers Colleges and universities

Conservatories

Private Lessons

**Studios** 

Self-employed

#### **PERFORMANCE**

Instrumental Vocal

Armed Forces bands and orchestras

Symphony orchestras Small ensembles Rock or jazz groups Dance bands Concert soloist Clubs and restaurants

Church choirs

Community choral groups Opera chorus or soloist Musical theaters Ballet productions Recording industry

Radio, television, and motion picture industries

Acquire teaching certificate for public school teaching.

Gain experience working with children through volunteer or part-time work experiences.

Graduate degree required to teach in higher education. Specialize in an area such as music, music theory, composition, music history, etc.

Performance skill on one instrument or voice required.

Develop business relationships with schools and/or music stores to increase client base.

Develop musical talent and skill.

Obtain formal training to acquire necessary skills, knowledge, and ability to interpret music.

Ambition and showmanship are important.

Join campus bands and choruses, church choirs, and other performing acts.

Seek competitions, apprenticeship programs, and workshops to gain experience and recognition.

Opportunities are very limited. Most performers have other careers.

Auditions are generally required.

#### **COMPOSING/ARRANGING**

Composing Arranging

Self-employed Record companies

**Publishers** Muzak

Motion picture and television industries

Production companies

Knowledge of composition, harmony, arranging, and theory are important.

Learn how to use electronic instruments and synthesizers.

Develop computer and desktop publishing expertise. Skill on one or more instruments and voice are necessary.

Seek grants and awards through foundations. Very few musicians earn living through composing.

# **AREAS**

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#### **CONDUCTING**

Choirs

Choral groups Symphonies

Opera

Armed Forces bands and orchestras

Develop superior musicianship and leadership. Acquire extensive experience in performing groups. Opportunities extremely limited.

Gain acceptance into a conductor-training program or related apprenticeship.

## **MUSICTHERAPY**

Hospitals: general and psychiatric Special education facilities Mental health centers Nursing homes Correctional facilities

Private practice
Outpatient clinics

Take courses in psychology, social work, or education.

Earn a master's degree in music therapy and seek certification.

Volunteer in a rehabilitation setting.

Must demonstrate a genuine interest in helping people.

#### **MUSIC LIBRARIES**

Colleges and universities
Conservatories
Public libraries

Radio and television stations

Develop computer and research skills. Gain thorough knowledge of music and musicology.

Earn master's degree in library/information science.

## **RECORDING INDUSTRY**

Publishing and Editing

Producing

Recording

Engineering

Manufacturing Talent Acquisition

Promotion/Media Relations

Publicity

Administration

Marketing and Sales

Product Management

Production recording studios (most located in New York City, Los Angeles, and Nashville)

Complete an internship at a record company.

Take business courses to work in management or administration.

Journalism, public relations, and communication classes helpful for work in areas of promotion.

Gain sales experience for marketing. Must interact well with people and develop persuasion tools.

Knowledge of electronics, audio engineering, and recording knowledge required for production.

Work or volunteer at a campus or local radio station.

Join organizations involved with bringing events and entertainment to campus.

Work at a retail record store to learn about the industry.

# **AREAS**

# **EMPLOYERS**

# **STRATEGIES**

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Music and Program Direction
On Air Performance
Promotion
Voice Overs
Copyright/Clearance Administration
Music License Administration
Music Editing, Production, and Composing
Sound Mixing
Post Production

Radio and television stations
Virtual reality sound environments
e.g. Internet sites, software creators

Take classes in communications, broadcasting, or journalism.

Work at on-campus radio station.

Complete an internship at a television or radio station.

Develop computer-related skills such as software development and programming.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Research

Sales

Music Journalism

Law

Music shops
Record stores
Instrument manufacturers
Music-related publications
Magazines and newspapers
Entertainment law firms

Get sales experience. Work in a retail music outlet.

Take courses in journalism and English. Write articles for campus newspaper. Earn law degree.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Finding positions in the music industry requires a combination of talent, training, connections and some luck. Perserverence is required!
- Develop competencies in business management, computers, marketing, or other areas to broaden range of employment possibilities.
- Develop a variety of skills. Become "multitalented."
- Confidence, personality, a positive attitude, and a love of music are important to success.
- Need basic tools of self-promotion.
- Some jobs may require you to join unions or guilds.
- Perfomers often travel frequently and must be flexible regarding their work schedules.
- Gain experience working for a music publisher or other businesses in the entertainment industry.
- Majoring in music provides students with a sense of aesthetics and an understanding of human expression valuable to many employers.