

Music Career Resources

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arts.ucdavis.edu

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CAREER PLANNING MODEL: A LIFELONG PROCESS

Self-Exploration

Work Research*

Experiential Education

Decision Making

Job Search Skills

Career Management



RECOMMENDATIONS TO GET YOU STARTED ON YOUR CAREER SEARCH

Career Exploration Opportunities at UC Davis

- Work of Art: Career Series for Students in the Arts workshops are provided by the Arts Group Advising Center arts.ucdavis.edu/calendar
- The Internship and Career Center Career offers weekly job search related workshops and provides one to one career advising icc.ucdavis.edu
- The Undergraduate Career Exploration Group recognizes career decision-making is an ongoing process, which can be more effective within an interactive, supportive group approach shcs.ucdavis.edu/node/570
- The Center for Leadership Learning offers a few career development workshops during the academic year cll.ucdavis.edu/workshops
- AMS 95: Careers and Identity in American Culture Course (2 units)

Visit the UC Davis Internship and Career Center (ICC)

The ICC offers resources, workshops, and one to one assistance with job search techniques, career fairs, and more! Don't wait until your last quarter to take advantage of these resources provided by the ICC. Location: 2nd Floor South Hall, icc.ucdavis.edu

International Students and Employment

As a student in F-1 status, you may work on-campus up to 20 hours per week during the academic year, and full-time during school vacation periods. Curricular Practical Training (CPT) permits F-1 status students to take a job directly related to their field of study. Optional Practical Training (OPT) gives an F-1 student the opportunity to apply what they have learned in a degree program through off-campus employment after completion of all degree requirements. Employment approval takes at least 90 days, so careful planning is required.

For more information and to determine your eligibility for F-1 employment, please contact Services for International Students and Scholars (SISS) siss.ucdavis.edu

Learn How to Network and Conduct Informational Interviews

Career advisers will always say the best way to find a job is to network! Begin inquiring about the types of career opportunities you are seeking with your professors, lecturers, alumni, and working artists. Next, conduct informational interviews to learn about careers and grow your network. Attend a Work of Art Workshop or visit the Internship and Career Center to enhance your networking skills and learn how to conduct informational interviews.

Complete an Internship

An internship or a volunteer opportunity will develop your skills and help you discover career opportunities. The experience will greatly enhance your resume by displaying your relevant experience and exposure to the world of art beyond the classroom.

Complete a Research Project

The UC Davis Undergraduate Research Center - urc.ucdavis.edu - empowers students to find research opportunities and provides resources to hone the skills that are vital to success as a researcher. From scientific experiments to the scholarly analysis of literature, doing research is an ideal way to improve your future career prospects. Hands-on experience can help you narrow your interests and identify your aptitudes. If you are sure of

your goals, it can provide you with skills that will be valued by employers and allow you to interact more closely with faculty mentors. Faculty will know your work and can provide future references.

Join a Professional Association

Before and after you graduate, keep in touch with the world of music by joining an association related to your area of interest. An association membership will help you transition your identity from a student to a working professional, and provide the opportunity to discover career opportunities and enhance your network.

KEY AREAS OF MUSIC AND RELATED JOB TITLES

(A few examples, not inclusive of all possibilities)

Composition

arranger, arts consultant, band manager, choral conductor, composer, commercial music writer, disc jockey, ensemble conductor, film music composer, jingle writer, librarian, lyricist, music copyist, music director, music editor, music producer, orchestrator, orchestra manager, performing artist, professor, programmer, program director, production music writer, publisher, remixer, recording artist, songwriter, sound designer, sound technician, sound engineer, teacher, tour coordinator, transcriber, video game composer

History/Theory/Ethnomusicology

arts program director, business manager, educator, cultural festival director, director of educational activities, ethnomusicologist, historian, librarian, licensing representative, managing director, music director, music journalist, music publicist, music therapist, professor, program director, production manager, publisher, researcher, tour publicist, writer

Performance

band director, composer, DJ, director of educational activities, educator, frontman, lyricist, lyric writer, managing director, music producer, music director, music editor, music producer, music therapist, orchestra manager, performer, performing artist, professor, production manager, program director, publisher, remixer, recording artist, section leader, section member, session singer, singer, songwriter, sound designer, sound technician, sound engineer, studio musician, tour publicist, vocalist

Many additional careers possibilities exist for Music Majors. Remember a major does not always equal a specific career.

EXPLORE CAREER OPTIONS (United States)

Reliable websites to explore career options and discover detailed information about the most common art occupations.

California Career Zone cacareerzone.org

Provides California-specific information on 900 jobs and 24 career families which can be especially helpful in looking at job market trends and training requirements that vary by state. Complete the free online career assessments to determine your interests, values and skills; assessments generate a list of related careers.

CareerOneStop careeronestop.org

Provides national, state and local career, labor market, and workforce information using online tools, videos, and links to job search services. Excellent if you are doing an out-of-state job search. Offers specific resources for Military Veterans.

O*NET OnLine Occupational Information Network onetonline.org

Provides tools for career exploration and job analysis. Allows you to find occupations by category including industry, skills performed, education needed, and green careers. Advanced Search shows careers related to your values, abilities and interests.

Occupational Outlook Handbook bls.gov/ooh

From the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the easy to use OOH offers hundreds of job descriptions that can be searched for by job title or by job family. Useful search options allow you to narrow by salary, job growth projections, and level of education required.

(Retrieved on 7/8/16, "What can I do with my Major or Degree?" UC Davis Internship and Career Center <http://icc.ucdavis.edu/research/what-can-i-do.htm>)

ONLINE CAREER RESOURCES (A few examples, not inclusive of all possibilities)

UC Davis Internship and Career Center – Handshake icc.ucdavis.edu/handshake

Glassdoor glassdoor.com

LinkedIn Alumni Tool linkedin.com

Music Match media-match.com/usa/music/jobsboard.php

YouTern youtern.com

Google Internet Search: type the following phrases to generate career information

(Retrieved on 10/7/16 from googleguide.com/advanced_operators_reference.html)

inurl: If you include inurl: in your query, Google will restrict the results to documents containing that word in the [URL](#).

ethnomusicology inurl:careers

music producer inurl:careers

intitle: The query intitle:*animation* restricts results to documents containing *animation* in the [title](#). For instance, [[flu shot intitle:help](#)] will return documents that mention the word “help” in their titles, and mention the words “flu” and “shot” anywhere in the document (title or not).

intitle:performance careers

intitle:remixer careers

intitle:musicdirector careers

intitle:music production careers

intitle:electronic music careers

allintitle: If you start your query with allintitle:, Google restricts results to those containing all the query terms you specify in the title.

allintitle:“music performance jobs”

allintitle:“composition careers”

MUSIC ASSOCIATIONS (A few examples, not inclusive of all possibilities)

The Oxford University Press Music Research Handbook online provides an extensive list of Major Professional Music Associations:
global.oup.com/us/companion.websites/9780195171198/musicasn/

UC DAVIS GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

UC Davis Pre-Graduate / Professional School Advising and Workshops
success.ucdavis.edu/grad-prof

Master of Arts Degree in Conducting

M.A. in Conducting is designed for students who expect to conduct the major repertoire during their professional careers. In addition to developing practical technical skills, students study issues of performance practice and musical analysis, and gain experience in the preparation of performance materials. All students are encouraged to take part in performance groups sponsored by the department. More information online at: arts.ucdavis.edu/graduate-music-programs

PhD in Musicology

PhD in Composition and Theory

PhD in Ethnomusicology

All Doctor of Philosophy students follow the same core curriculum for roughly the first two years of study and then concentrate on emphasis course work in [musicology](#), and [ethnomusicology](#), or [composition and theory](#). Composition emphasizes analysis of tonal and post-tonal music, and original composition. Musicology focuses on stylistic study in all historical periods, the acquisition of research skills, and the presentation of papers dealing with studies in music history. Ethnomusicology covers training in the theory, fieldwork, ethnography, transcription, and intellectual history of the subject. More information online at: arts.ucdavis.edu/graduate-music-programs

MUSIC INTERNSHIPS (A few examples, not inclusive of all possibilities)

UC Davis Internship and Career Center – Handshake icc.ucdavis.edu/handshake

Glassdoor glassdoor.com

Internships.com internships.com/film

Internship Programs.com internshipprograms.com

UC Education Abroad Program/Fine and Performing Arts Abroad uc.eap.ucop.edu

YouTern youtern.com

International Students and Internships

As a student in F-1 status, you may be eligible to work on-campus up to 20 hours per week during the academic year, and full-time during school vacation periods. Curricular Practical Training (CPT) permits F-1 status students to take a job or paid internship directly related to their field of study. To determine your eligibility for F-1 employment, please contact Services for International Students and Scholars (SISS) siss.ucdavis.edu

UC Davis Washington Program

Americans for the Arts americansforthearts.org

The Choral Arts Society of Washington choralarts.org

Future of American Music Coalition futureofmusic.org

Kennedy Center for Performing Arts kennedy-center.org

Levine School of Music levinemusic.org

Museum of Natural History Jazz History Internship americanhistory.si.edu

National Public Radio npr.org

Phillips Collection Music Department Internship phillipscollection.org

The Smithsonian Associates Performing Arts Internship smithsonianassociates.org

Washington Performing Arts Society washingtonperformingarts.org

UC Davis/Regional internships students have completed:

String Instrument Tutor, Internship, Marguerite Montgomery Elementary, Davis, CA

Intern, Electronic Sound Lab, Cinema and Digital Media Program, UC Davis

Digital Music Intern with Professor Bogad, Mod Lab, UC Davis

Music Intern, Woodland High School, Woodland, CA

Music Mentor Intern, Winters High School Concert Band, Winters, CA

Other Locations in the World:

Programming Department Intern, 105.3 Radio Station, San Francisco, CA

MUSIC UC DAVIS MUSIC ALUMNI (A few examples, not inclusive of all alumni)

Account Specialist, Aon Risk Solutions, CA

Agent, Evolution Music Partners, LLC

Assistant Box Office Manager/Independent Music Professional, Puppet Showplace Theatre, Boston, MA

Assistant Concert Program Manager/Web Manager, Brandeis University, Boston, MA

Assistant Director, Contra Costa Civic Theatre, El Cerrito, CA

Assistant Director of Event Technology, PSAV, San Francisco, CA

Behavior Consultant/Program Manager, Encompass Consulting, San Francisco, CA

Chamber Music Coach, Crocker Middle School, Burlingame, CA

Classical Guitar Teacher and Performer, San Francisco, CA

Composer, Burnt Games

Crew Member, Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for Performing Arts, UC Davis

Customer Engagement Representative, SurveyMonkey, Portland, OR

Data Analysis Scientist, Quintara Biosciences, South San Francisco, CA

Development and Publicity Coordinator and Section Bass, UC Berkeley Symphony Orchestra, Berkeley, CA

Director, Cal Aggie Marching Band, UC Davis

Director of Choirs, Ronald E. McNair High School, Stockton, CA

Director of Production and Assistant Conductor, Miami Summer Music Festival, FL

Dr. of Osteopathic Medicine Candidate, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, West Virginia

Enrollment Coordinator and Adviser, UC Davis Study Abroad

ESL Teacher, UC Berkeley Extension, San Francisco, CA

Events and Publicity Manager, UC Davis Department of Music

Events Services Manager, UC Davis Campus and Recreation and Unions

Features Editor, RawrDemim.com (now Heddels)

Flute Teacher, Myriad Music School and Dance Academy, San Mateo, CA

Freelance Composer, Oakland, CA

Freelance Composer for Film and Media, Los Angeles, CA

Freelance Composer/Orchestrator/Conductor, Arbel Bedak Music, West Hollywood, CA

Freelance Musician and Trumpet Instructor, Los Angeles, CA

Freelance Musician and Horn Instructor, Los Angeles, CA

Freelance Video Producer/Editor, Dakota Salazar Productions, San Francisco, CA

Graduate Student: Assistant in Music Theory, Illinois State University

Graduate Student: Music Teacher Education, Azusa Pacific University, Los Angeles, CA

MUSIC UC DAVIS MUSIC ALUMNI Continued.....

House Manager, San Francisco Renaissance Voices, San Francisco, CA
Individual Giving Manager for the Baton Circle SF Symphony, San Francisco, CA
Installation Assistant, Kinesis Studio, Inc., San Francisco, CA
Instructor/Voice, Piano and Guitar, Takelessons.com
Manager, Placer County Youth Orchestra, Rocklin, CA
Marketing Director, Quickscrews Intl. Corp., Livermore, CA
Media Manager, Evolution Music Partners, LLC
MFA Media Arts, Composer/Coder, UCLA
Music Director, CBG Enterprises, Los Angeles, CA
Music Director, First United Methodist Church, Loomis, CA
Music Intern, Opera Parallele, San Francisco, CA
Operations Associate, American Bach Soloists, Berkeley, CA
PhD Student/English, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
PhD, Doctor of Philosophy Musicology and Ethnomusicology Candidate, UC Riverside, CA
PhD Student/Research Assistant Music Theory & Cognition, Northwestern University
PhD Student Musicology/Ethnomusicology, Stanford University
Physics Instructor, The Princeton Review, Davis, CA
Piano Instructor, South Bay School of Music, Milpitas, CA
Piano Instructor, San Francisco, CA
Private Music Instructor, Private Music Studio of Rachel Condry, Sacramento, CA
Production Assistant, Community Manager, Space Dwares Entertainment, Inc.,
Miami, FL
Production Assistant for American Bach Soloists, Berkeley, CA
Recording Assistant/Concert Crew, UC Davis Music Department
Recording/Sound Engineer, Living Sound, Sacramento, CA
Researcher, Patricelli Lab, UC Davis
Sales Associate, Kinesis Studio, Inc., San Francisco, CA
Senior Associate, Samsung Ventures America, San Jose, CA
Senior Business Analyst, PG&E, San Carlos, CA
Social Media Specialist, Supercool Creative Agency, Los Angeles, CA
Stage Manager, Valley of the Moon Festival, Sonoma, CA
Tutor and Teacher, Piano, A Plus Immersion School, San Francisco, CA
Vice President, Repertoire & Creative Services at Score Revolution, Hollywood, CA
ESL Teacher, EC Production, San Francisco, CA

The Rearview Mirror: What I Wish I'd Known in Music School



Hello! My name is Christine Beamer and I'm a violist, and also the Director of the [Running Start program](#) at Michigan State University's (MSU) [College of Music](#). In my daily life, I talk to bachelors, masters, and doctoral students about their career plans.

When I left undergrad at the [University of Michigan](#) with my newly minted degree, I had no idea where I was going in my career. After a series of left turns, I have arrived at a great career that allows me to perform, teach, and work with students - all passions of mine. But it took me a while, and some hard work to get there. Here's what I wish I had known when I was about to transition from student to professional.

1) Keep pursuing multiple passions.

In the current music market, versatility is the name of the game. The more skills you have — playing alternative styles, improvising, arranging, composing, fundraising, organising concerts and tours, creating significant social impact — the more ways you have to create work opportunities for yourself.

During a recent visit to Running Start, [Bulletproof Musician](#) founder Noa Kageyama talked about creating a career by combining various expertise levels. For instance, I may not be in the top 5% of the world's viola players, but when you include my skills in public presentations, networking, and mentoring, then I start to stand out. In other words, if you can be in the top 25% of several fields, and then find a way to combine those skills, you will start being a unique commodity.

This will also open up opportunities for what is commonly termed a “portfolio” career, where you put multiple streams of income together instead of relying on just one job. Which leads me to #2...

2) Welcome to the age of the portfolio career

In music school, it can be easy to hyperfocus on traditional career paths as the primary — or even the only — way to achieve success. I remember feeling that being a legitimate professional depended upon being able to create a national or international performance career, win an orchestra seat in a top tier orchestra, land a young artist spot at an opera company, or get a job as professor of X at Y university. These careers can be satisfying (and really can be obtainable, despite the cutthroat competition) but it's also important to not just assume that is the ONLY way to be successful at music.

In fact, the world in general is shifting away from traditional employment models, towards what is sometimes called the “gig economy.” Some studies of the U.S. economy predict that by 2020,

more than 40% of the US workforce will be so-called contingent workers — a freelancing workforce.

If you talk to prominent music professionals, you'll find this is already the case. Administrators who perform (for instance, the [General Manager](#) of the [Detroit Symphony Orchestra](#) is also a saxophonist and cofounder of [New Music Detroit](#)), performers who teach or consult as resident artists with businesses (Encore's own [Paula Muldoon](#) is an example), teachers who manage bands or chamber groups....you name it, you can combine it. So why stop at one career?



3) Don't be afraid to create your own adventure

Our current zeitgeist privileges change, innovation, and the “new,” and there are many ways to craft a career around activities for which you are particularly passionate and skilled.

One of the fun aspects of my job is interviewing many of our MSU alums who are arts entrepreneurs. It has become apparent to me that musicians often have the important characteristics of entrepreneurs already — talent for single-minded focus, grit, an ability to handle failure, and creativity. Take some time to read about some of the innovators in our field on a site like [Fractured Atlas](#), and brainstorm about problems you would like to solve within music, or using music. Then go do it!

As one of my favorite entrepreneurship thought leaders, [Seth Godin](#), puts it, “One reason it's so difficult to teach entrepreneurship is that we're not teaching tactics or skills. We're not teaching spreadsheets or finance or even marketing. No, when we encourage entrepreneurship, we're actually trying to get people to the place where they care enough and where they are confident enough to stand up and try to make things change. Don't tell me what you invented. Tell me about who you changed.”

4) You will keep getting better at your instrument after you stop studying.

This piece of advice is to all of you who haven't won a major audition or position yet, and you're facing down the prospect of high rent (or student loan debt) without the safety net of school. One of the most surprising things for me was how much my playing improved once I started teaching a studio of 20+ violinists and violists.

There's nothing like teaching bow grip 10 times a day to make you refocus and examine the fundamentals. Since then, I find that as long as I stay focused on musical goals (and keep practicing regularly and work with mentors occasionally), I continue to develop more as a musician every year. Perhaps in another five years I'll be able to play all the notes of Ride of the Valkyries at the correct tempo...

5) Network (authentically)

Musicians get to have more fun networking than pretty much anyone I know, because we're usually performing when we do it! Any time you play a gig with someone new, or meet an audience member in the lobby, or meet a donor at an event, or tell someone at church what you do for a living....you're networking.

Once I stopped thinking of networking as a transactional experience and started thinking of it as a relational experience, I started enjoying it a lot more. Essentially, networking for musicians is about finding like-minded folks who are passionate about what you're passionate about. Over the course of time, if you find ways in which you can collaborate, so much the better.

All the people you went to music school with are now a part of your network — keep up with what they do, celebrate their successes, and sympathize with their setbacks. The music world is crazy small, and you never know who you might be creating art with next week!

Last, but perhaps most importantly...

6) You are responsible for creating the audience of the future.

I cannot emphasize this enough. If you care about music, and you think it is important, it is your responsibility to be an advocate for the arts. People make decisions about their discretionary income based upon personal recommendations, and it is an increasingly crowded field of choices. In the music world, we are too often guilty of thinking, "Well, I love this and I think it's really great, why don't YOU love it too?"

While passion is great, sometimes we as "experts" need to take the time to think from an audience standpoint. What are your audience's needs? How could you meet those needs through the arts? What parts of the artistic experience might THEY find engaging? Take the time to make friends with people who aren't musicians, and be an evangelist for classical music and live music.

This year, I have been trying to invite a different non-musician to every concert I play with one of my contract orchestras. It has been a rewarding and eye-opening challenge for me, and one of my guests even became regular subscribers after her second concert! In the world outside music school, we as professional musicians are a part of creating a future that values the arts. It's a wild ride — welcome aboard.