

AN OVERVIEW OF TUFTS MUSIC

THE PERRY AND MARTY GRANOFF MUSIC CENTER • 20 TALBOT AVENUE • TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Frequently Asked Questions

How many Tufts students participate in the Music Department?

Each year about 2000 students take music classes, private lessons, and perform in music ensembles. We have a very broad and inclusive program with courses for non-majors, majors, and graduate students in classical, jazz, rock, blues, hip hop, and world music-with special strengths in the music of Africa, and the Middle East. We describe our mission as training “musical omnivores” who are open to every sort of musical experience. Many of our majors are double majors, with their second major in such fields as Biology, English, Classics, Philosophy, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, etc. There is also a minor in music.

Do I have to major or minor in music to participate in a music class or ensemble?

Most of the students in our classes and ensembles are not music major or minors, but music lovers who still want to have an active role in music. It is not necessary to major or minor in music to participate in any aspect of the department.

What should I include in my application packet to Tufts for admission?

The Tufts application provides opportunities for you to describe your musical interests. While not required, many students do submit recordings as part of their application materials. We do not have specific requirements for audition CDs; we encourage you to submit two or three excerpts that best demonstrate your abilities. The Admissions Office works with the Department of Music to coordinate evaluation of the recordings.

Do I have to have an audition to be involved in music at Tufts?

There is no separate audition required for admission to the music major. Many of the ensembles do require auditions to determine appropriate placement; these take place at the start of each semester. Specific audition requirements will be posted in the Department of Music.

Can I take regular private music lessons through the department?

The Music Department provides all Tufts students (regardless of school, major, or class year) the opportunity for private study of instrumental and vocal performance through our Applied Music Program. Lessons can be taken for academic credit or not for credit. Students can study with nearly fifty outstanding musicians in virtually every style: Classical, Jazz, Rock, Klezmer, Eastern European, Middle Eastern, Arabic, North African, Mediterranean, Indian, and Japanese vocal and instrumental music: voice, winds, brass, strings, percussion, harp, guitar, piano, harpsichord, shakuhachi, Viola da gamba, koto, and ud. Extra tuition is required for private lessons, but the cost is less than the outside “average market” prices for private music study. Music majors and minors are currently eligible for a 90% tuition waiver for two semesters. If you are interested in lessons please contact Edith Auner, the Coordinator of Applied Music; she will meet with you at the start of the semester to determine placement. edith.auner@tufts.edu.

What facilities are available in the Granoff Music Center

Extra tuition is required for private lessons, but the cost is less than the outside “average market” prices for private There are practice rooms open to the entire Tufts community; many with pianos. Rooms for amplified music and drums may also be reserved through the department office. The Ruth Lilly Music Library has a huge collection of music, recordings, books, and journals available for all Tufts students. Facilities include a World Music room, three classrooms, rehearsal spaces, ensemble rooms, computer music lab, and the acoustically superb Distler Performance Hall.

What are the performing ensembles available through the Music Department?

The department has over twenty ensembles currently, open to any Tufts University student, regardless of school, major, or class year. Ensembles include: four choral/vocal groups (Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Gospel Choir, and Opera), four jazz bands (Jazz Orchestra and three small Jazz Ensembles), two new music ensembles (New Music Ensemble, Tufts Composers), four world music ensembles (Kiniwe - African Music/Dance, Tufts Tahkt - Arabic Music, The Jumbo Knish Factory - Tufts Klezmer, Rinegga Sih Tentrem - Javanese Gamelan), two bands (Wind Ensemble and Pep Band), three instrumental ensembles (Symphony Orchestra, Flute Ensemble, Early Music Ensemble) and an active chamber music program. Most of these ensembles require some form of audition, normally held at the start of each academic semester.

What is the Tufts and New England Conservatory Program?

A reciprocal arrangement between Tufts University and the New England Conservatory of Music allows students at both institutions to select a limited number of courses at either school that may be applied toward their respective degrees. There is also the Tufts/NEC five year double-degree program. This program leads to a B.A. or B.S. from Tufts, and a B.M. from New England Conservatory. Students interested in participating in the double-degree program must be first admitted to both institutions. Acceptance into the double-degree program is highly selective and based on both academic and musical competence. For information about the program, please contact Jean Dillon at 617.627.2000 or contact the Dean of Admissions at NEC.

What opportunities are available to a graduate student studying music at Tufts?

Graduate students in the Music Department have the unique opportunity to study broadly across four sub-disciplines: composition, ethnomusicology, musicology, and theory while receiving a focused training in one of them. Advanced course work and thesis research support is strong in western classical music, African-American music, and world music (Africa, East and Southeast Asia, and Latin America). The program of study consists of eight courses, one of which normally includes a thesis or a composition (including oral defense of the thesis). Tuition and scholarships and teaching assistantships are available. Please contact the Department Office for more information.

What do music students do after Tufts?

Music majors have gone on to graduate programs in musicology, ethnomusicology, conducting, performance, and music education; some students have gotten jobs and internships in music-related professions and businesses. Many students have gone on to successful careers in a wide range of fields, while keeping music as an important part of their lives.



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Some Notes on the Tufts Department of Music

Founded in 1895, the Tufts Department of Music has a distinguished legacy and a bright future as one of the most comprehensive, inclusive, and connected programs in the country.

Explore. At Tufts, you will encounter and study Western music and World music traditions from a multi-disciplinary perspective including music theory, composition, historical musicology, and ethnomusicology.

Perform. We believe that hands-on performance is central to understanding music and sharing its power. Through private lessons and ensemble participation, you will have the opportunity to learn to perform in Western and World music traditions and to further develop your own musical personality.

Connect. In the spirit of Tufts' emphasis on civic engagement and global citizenship, the Department of Music expects its students to connect with others globally and locally through a curriculum that encourages fieldwork, outreach activities, and community activism. Our Saturday Community Music Program launched Fall 2007.

The Perry and Marty Granoff Center, opened January 2007

Featuring the Distler Performance Hall, the best small performance space in the Boston area

The Multi-Purpose Fisher Performance Room

The Varis Lecture Hall and two other high-tech classrooms

The Music Multimedia Lab and Technical Booth

The Ruth Lilly Music Library

The Tufts World Music Room

Twelve practice rooms open to all Tufts students and four speciality teaching studios

Ensemble rooms and sound-proof rehearsal spaces

Outstanding Faculty in Musicology, Ethnomusicology, Composition, and Performance

BA and MA Programs; Five-Year BA/BM dual degree with New England Conservatory

Each Year over 2000 Enrollments in Music Courses

Music Listed as a Strong Interest by Over Half of this Year's Entering Class

Fall 2008 courses include Theory and Musicianship, Verdi and Wagner, Blues, African

American Music, History of Western Music from the Middle Ages to the Baroque,

Music since 1900, Music and Trance, Music of Africa, Music for Multimedia, Composition,

Women in Music, Technology and the Jewish Oral Tradition

Performance Ensembles, open to all Tufts students

Symphony Orchestra, Chorus, Chamber Singers, Gospel Choir, Early Music Ensemble,

New Music Ensemble, Jazz Big Band and Small Ensembles, Javanese Gamelan,

Klezmer Ensemble, Arabic Music Ensemble, Kiniwe: West African Drumming and Dance,

Chamber Music, Flute Ensemble, Opera Ensemble

Several of the large ensembles have toured in Europe, Latin America, and the U.S.

Private Lessons with Boston's leading musicians

Jazz trumpet, Flute, Piano, Voice, Trombone, Jazz and Rock Guitar, Double bass, Cello,

Harp, Harpsichord, Bassoon, Clarinet, Viola da Gamba, Horn, Electric Bass, Oboe, Percussion,

Tuba, Classical Guitar, Koto, Trumpet, Harp, Classical Saxophone, Jazz Saxophone, Violin,

Hindustani Voice, Shakuhachi, Middle Eastern and Klezmer Violin

