Q: Can I access the Granoff Music Building?

A: Yes! The Granoff Music Center will be open to all this Fall Semester, and you are welcome to visit, attend in-person classes, and meet with staff and faculty. We have meticulously studied the building and have devised a set of clear protocols regarding sanitization, usage patterns, and room occupancy to ensure maximum safety for all visitors. Details will be made available upon your arrival. Granoff is the heart of music at Tufts, and while we're sad it cannot be quite the social gathering space it has served in the past, it is still your space, and we hope to see you there! For more information and updates, consult our main Music Department web-page or contact building manager Jeffrey Rawitsch.

Q: Will there be places for me to practice?

A: We are currently examining the feasibility of reopening the Granoff practice rooms, as well as alternative spaces if necessary. No matter what, we are committed to providing students a space to safely and privately practice their musical instruments. For updates and information on how and where to practice, please contact our main administrative office.

Q: What about other special Music Building spaces?

A: The Music Computer Lab will be accessible to students who require access on the basis of classes they are taking (e.g. MUS-61, 64, 140, and 142). The World Music Room will only be open for students in the Gamelan ensemble (MUS-80). Instrument storage lockers will be available for students who have non-portable instruments. Other Granoff spaces, including the Box Office, Administrative Office, kitchen, and lounge will be open to staff and students with scheduled meetings, with appropriate social distancing maintained.
Q: Will I be able to take advantage of the resources of the Lilly Music Library?

A: Students will be able to access the physical and online collections available at the Lilly Music Library, as well as in Tisch Library. While we examine how to safely reopen the libraries, students can use the contactless materials pickup or scan & deliver services in order to access the resources they need. Details about these and other library services can be found here. For reference or research assistance, please contact Music Librarian, Anna Kijas. For questions or assistance with borrowing materials, please contact Library Coordinator, Julie-Ann Bryson.

Q: Will I be able to take Private Lessons?

A: Yes! Private lessons will be available to all as in the past, though the format of those lessons—in person, hybrid, or virtual—is up to the discretion of the instructor. But enrolling in private lessons will otherwise be no different than in previous semesters. For more information, contact Edith Auner, Coordinator of Private Lessons.

Q: Will I be able to participate in Ensembles?

A: Yes! The way that auditions, rehearsals, and performances will end up working depends on the specific ensemble. Some, such as Klezmer ensemble, will be held entirely virtually. Others, including Gamelan and the Early Music Ensemble, will be able to meet in person. Many of our ensembles will be adhering to a hybrid in-person/digital format, with potentially differentiated modalities for instrumental sections or choirs. For more information, refer to the Music Department Course Guide Fall 2020, or contact the director of the specific ensemble you are interested in.
Q: What does the fall curriculum look like for academic classes?

A: We have a full roster of exciting courses available to you this fall, including some familiar standards and a number of fresh new offerings. As with ensembles, the format of any individual course depends on a multitude of factors, and we have a range of in-person, hybrid, and virtual options. We’re also excited to introduce two new faces to our department: visiting instructors Marcus Pyle (MUS 22, "History of African American Music"; MUS 147, "Sounds of Transgression: Voicing Subjectivity in Popular Music") and Daniel Fox (MUS 197-02, "Introduction to Music Engineering." Due to curriculum restructuring since the spring, some courses have been rescheduled, cancelled, or relisted with changed enrollment caps. For more information, check the updated Music Department Course Guide Fall 2020 for detailed and up-to-date descriptions of our fall offerings and their modalities.

Q: I might spend time taking classes away from Tufts. Can I use courses outside of Tufts towards my major or minor?

Yes! Both our Music Minor and Music, Sound, and Culture Major permit a judicious number of outside classes to count towards your requirements, provided they are also approved through the Tufts Transfer of Credit system. Importantly, however, university policy dictates ensemble and performance-based classes do not count towards transfer of credit, regardless of the institution where they were taken. Potential music courses outside Tufts should be discussed with your advisor. For more information, contact your advisor or Director of Undergraduate Studies Frank Lehman.
Q: Will there be student employment opportunities?

A: There will very much be employment opportunities for undergraduate students through the Music Department, though several categories of student staff will be different this year. For new hires, Main Office, Publicity Assistant, Security Monitor, Ensemble Support, and Music Event Staff will be work-study only positions in 2020-2021; returning students will not be restricted by their work-study status for these positions. Student work-study status or date of hire will not affect employment for the Music Event Technical Staff or students involved in the Tufts Community Music Program. For information about specific positions, consult the Student Employment page.

Q: Will office hours still be a thing?

A: Yes! If anything, meeting with your professors and mentors and nurturing one-on-one relationships with them is more important than ever now. To ensure social distancing, in-person office hours are likely to take place in larger classrooms rather than individual faculty offices; some instructors may opt for virtual meetings too. We are all eager to catch up, advise, collaborate, and just generally talk music with you!