

Music

Learning Goals

1. To attain experience with the creative process in music.
2. To be able to apply historical knowledge at or above the 200 level.
3. To be able to apply theoretical knowledge at or above the 200 level.
4. To be able to apply ethnomusicological knowledge at or above the 200 level.
5. To be able to integrate theoretical, historical, and ethnomusicological knowledge in the approach to music.

About the major

Middlebury's Music Department puts students' creative works in the spotlight. There are opportunities to compose and perform; courses in popular and classical music, ethnomusicology, electronic music, and jazz; choral, orchestral, African music and dance, jazz, and chamber ensemble opportunities; and annual music theater productions.

All Music Department courses, ensembles, lessons, and other activities are equally available to nonmajors and majors. The curriculum for music majors offers a balance between thoroughness and flexibility, offering each student a chance to develop areas of strength in the context of a broad liberal arts education.

A wide range of lessons are available from piano, voice, and most orchestral instruments to folk fiddle, bagpipe, and blues harmonica.

Facilities include a gorgeous small concert hall, an electronic music lab with six keyboards and eight computers, a 51-rank Gress-Miles pipe organ, a student-run recording studio, a French double-manual harpsichord built by William Dowd in 1964, a three-rank portatif organ, and nine practice rooms. In addition, the music collection at the Davis Family Library offers references; CD/tape/record, book, and score collections; videos; and instructional computer software in the field of music.

“As a music major at Middlebury, I was taught to confidently think outside the box and to color outside the lines. I learned how to see the vision and hear the tune and then functionally realize it by inking it on paper or capturing it in a recording. I use these skills every day at the Skinny Pancake.”

—Ben Adler '03
*Founder and Owner of the
Skinny Pancake Restaurant*

Reasons you might choose this major

- You live and breathe music.
- You sing, play an instrument, or compose your own music (or at least aspire to do so).
- Concerts and other musical experiences have changed your life.
- You are ready to expand your knowledge of how music works—its history, its place in society, and its global reach.
- You want to explore how music might help you launch a career, not only in teaching, performing, composing, and producing, but also in other seemingly unrelated industries such as government, business, public relations, health care, and public service.



Translating Learning into Professional Competencies

Throughout your time at Middlebury, you will develop and enhance the following core professional competencies, skills, and dispositions highly valued by employers that will prepare you for leadership and success in any given field:

Critical Thinking: Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, make decisions, and overcome problems.

Oral/Written Communications: Articulate thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral forms.

Teamwork/Collaboration: Build collaborative relationships with colleagues and customers from diverse backgrounds.

Leadership: Leverage the strengths of others to achieve common goals, and use interpersonal skills to coach and develop others.

Professionalism/Work Ethic: Demonstrate personal accountability and effective work habits.

Global/Intercultural Fluency: Value, respect, and learn from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, and religions.

Digital Technology: Leverage existing digital technologies ethically and efficiently to solve problems, complete tasks, and accomplish goals.

Career Management: Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge, and experiences relevant to career goals, and identify areas necessary for professional development.

Where music majors go

Applying your learning through internships . . .

Students pursue internships and research in a variety of fields, enabling them to apply their liberal arts learning in real-world settings. Internships, research, and self-directed projects enrich your academic experience and help prepare you for life after Middlebury. Students have interned or done research at the following:

Sony Music

Soundtrack Group

Republic Records

Middlebury Community Music Center

The College Light Opera Company

The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research

Quad Studios

Women's Rights Project (ACLU)

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Middlebury Town Hall Theatre

State Street Media

Front and Center stage

The Theatre Lab

NYU Tisch Summer Intensive Program

Movement Intensive in Compositional Improvisation

Music in the Mountains Festival

Core Company at the Orchard Project

Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill

PTP/NY

Electronic Arts

. . . leading to meaningful, dynamic, and engaging career paths.

See just some of the many interesting ways our graduates have applied their liberal arts learning to engage the world. If you want to see what other Middlebury alumni are doing now, log into Midd2Midd and search by major. **go/midd2midd**

Greenwich Village Orchestra and Kidmusic, *Music Director, Music Therapist*

Heifetz International Music Institute, *President and CEO*

Rocky Mountain Recorders, *Audio Engineer, Producer, Musician*

Museum of Science, *Media Producer*

Symantec Corp, *Director, Systems Engineering*

The Patient Experience Project, *Director of Digital Strategy*

Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theater, *Production and Tour Management Department Coordinator*

Vermont Children's Hospital at UVM Medical, *Pediatrician*

CBS Interactive, *Senior Director, Business Intelligence*

Viacom, *Senior Vice President, Product Management*

Telltale Games, *Senior Sound Designer*

Naspers Group, *Global Head of Data Privacy*

William J. Clinton Foundation, *Deputy Director*

Pigtronix, *Cofounder, President*

NZ Micrographic Services, *Solution Consultant*

Mayo Clinic, *Investment Officer*

Ambry Genetics, *Strategic Marketing Manager*

The Reach One Child Foundation/My Power Living, *Cofounder and President, CEO*

Southern Environmental Law Center, *Staff Attorney*

PBS, *Associate Producer*

Electro Graphic, *Founder*

Google, *Software Engineer*

Many of our alumni in Music are also self-employed as musicians and composers.