

MUSIC



College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



MUSIC

at Michigan State University



A COMMUNITY OF VIBRANT, CREATIVE MUSICIANS THRIVING in a close community within a large, top-tier public research university. Rooted in collaboration, innovation, and a wide scope of interests, enhanced by the lively campus that is home.





A STUDENT-FOCUSED ENVIRONMENT,
OUR 40% EXPANSION OF FACILITIES
CREATES SPACES THAT ENCOURAGE
COLLABORATION, SPARK CREATIVITY,
AND SUPPORT ARTISTIC EXPLORATION.



BILLMAN MUSIC PAVILION
DEDICATED IN 2021

A HOME TO WORLD-CLASS REHEARSAL
FACILITIES AND VENUES, the College features acoustics
designed to protect hearing health while offering an exceptional sound
environment that elevates the artistic experience for musicians.





A FACULTY OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOLARS AND ARTISTS

who view students as future colleagues. Deeply committed to student success and mentorship, they work as active performers and researchers and utilize networks to provide real-world opportunities for students.

570
MUSIC MAJORS





2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

301
UNDERGRADS

269
GRADS



MERIT-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS WHO DEMONSTRATE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AND POTENTIAL. EVERY CANDIDATE IS AUTOMATICALLY EVALUATED THROUGH THE APPLICATION AND AUDITION PROCESS.



TUITION AND SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

To support the pursuit of musical passions and thriving careers, the College of Music develops analytical and intellectual skills in all students, strengthening success rates by laying a foundation in music theory and history with exposure to music from around the world.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS AND DEGREES

Bachelor of Music

- Composition
- Jazz Studies
- Music Education

Music Performance: brass, percussion, piano, strings, voice, woodwinds

Bachelor of Arts

- Music

GRADUATE PROGRAMS AND DEGREES

Master of Music

- Collaborative Piano
- Composition
- Conducting: choral, orchestral, wind
- Jazz Studies
- Music Education

Music Performance: brass, percussion, piano, strings, voice, woodwinds
Music Theory
Piano Pedagogy

Master of Arts

- Musicology

Doctor of Musical Arts

- Collaborative Piano
- Composition
- Conducting: choral, orchestral, wind

Music Performance: brass, percussion, piano, strings, voice, woodwinds
Music Theory
Piano Pedagogy

Doctor of Philosophy

- Music Education

Minors and Certificates

- Music Minor
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation Minor
- Performance Diploma

Graduate Certificate in College Teaching
Graduate Certificate in Music Theory

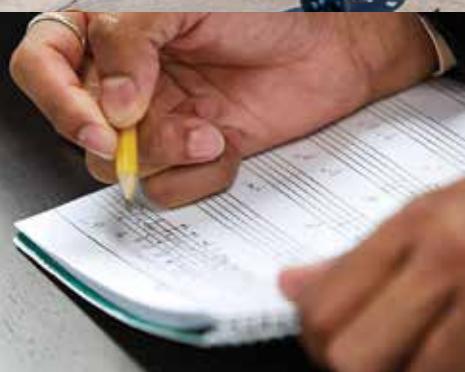
THE JOURNEY

Personalized, in-house advising and curriculum support for all students, offering multiple academic paths in performance, music education, composition, jazz, and more.

- Multiple academic specialists
- Focus on individual goals and the paths to reach them

A wide variety of entrepreneurship and career development resources on-site with an emphasis on building adaptable, creative, and resilient professionals capable of navigating a successful path or charting their own.

- Year-round availability of career preparation professionals who create and match internship opportunities and offer co-curricular programming
- Programs and coaching for entrepreneurial-minded students, connecting students to an exciting aspect of music careers







A ratio of only six students to each faculty member, ensuring in-depth, individualized attention, and strong classroom connections.

- Faculty collaborate among disciplines and encourage the same for students

- Students are known, and will know, the people in the community

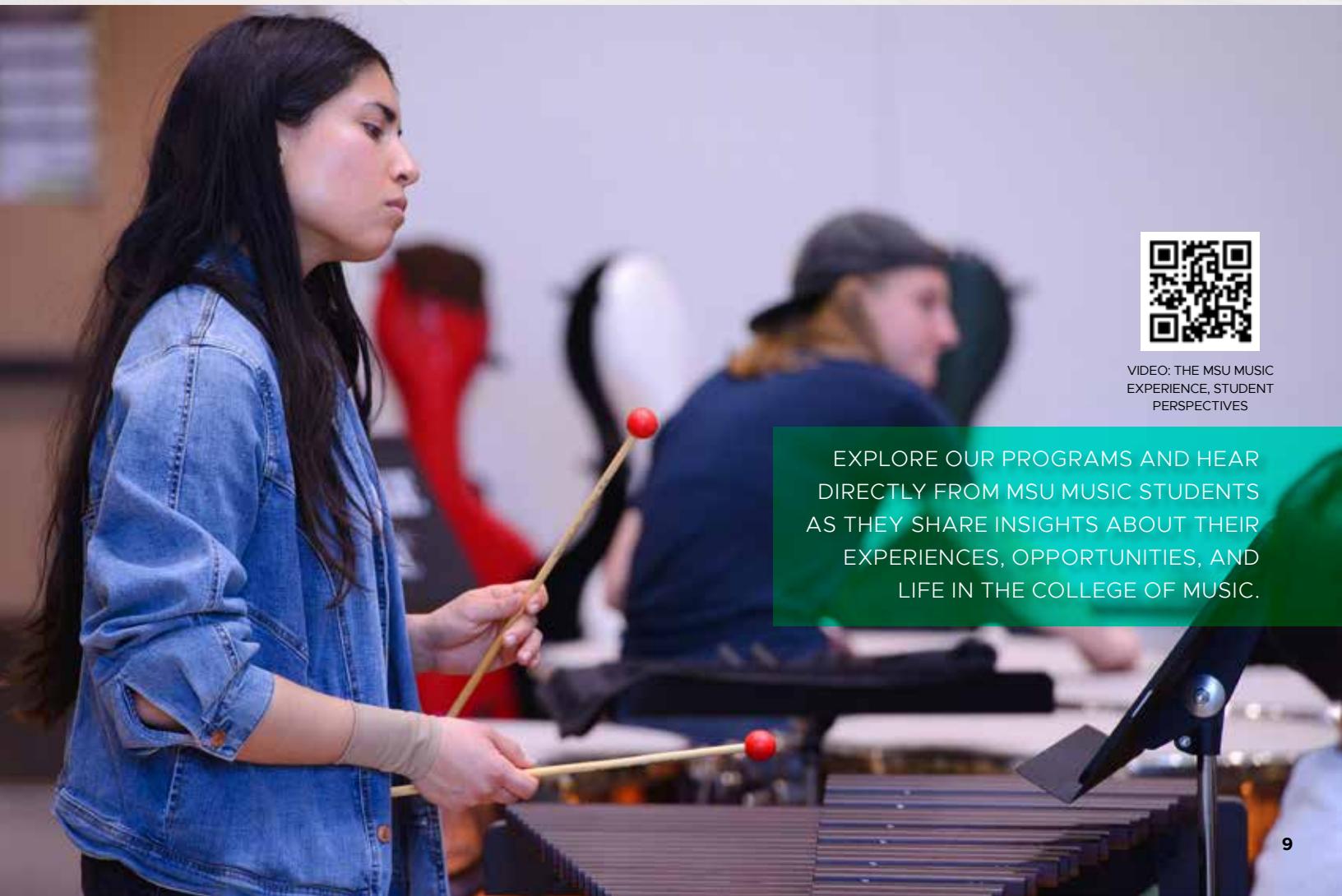




International guest artists and opportunities to participate in international programs enhance student experiences with music as the universal language.

- Off-campus and international performances, conferences, competitions, and festivals are supported

- Degrees earned are enhanced through interactions with renowned artists and scholars



VIDEO: THE MSU MUSIC EXPERIENCE, STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

EXPLORE OUR PROGRAMS AND HEAR DIRECTLY FROM MSU MUSIC STUDENTS AS THEY SHARE INSIGHTS ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND LIFE IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC.



PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

When including student recitals and concerts throughout the year by 30 ensembles, the College of Music offers roughly 700 performances annually.

- Regular performance opportunities across campus and beyond
- Guest artist residencies and masterclasses with leading musicians
- High-level collaborative experiences in varied musical settings



VICTORY FOR MSU





BANDS

Six College of Music bands, including the Wind Symphony and the Spartan Marching Band, perform the full spectrum of wind music including chamber, contemporary, and traditional repertoire. In total, Wind Symphony, Symphony Band, Concert Band, and Campus Band present twenty concerts during the academic year with some adding national performances.

CHOIRS

Eight College of Music Choral groups perform secular and sacred music in all styles and genres representing many eras and cultures. University Chorale features top graduate and undergraduate singers in the college, and auditioned choirs State Singers and the women's chamber ensemble Mosaic focus on a wide range of traditional and contemporary repertoire. Featured in many campus settings and outside major functions each year, choirs include glee clubs and a community chorus.

ORCHESTRAS

The Symphony Orchestra maintains a schedule of six orchestral performances, two full opera productions, and a holiday program each season. The Concert Orchestra, open to students, staff, and faculty from all corners of the university as well as the greater Lansing community, presents four concerts per year. Both ensembles choose repertoire from the well-established orchestral canon and new works by living composers, and both require an audition for participation.

JAZZ ENSEMBLES

Jazz ensembles include three big bands, each made up of 18 members, playing the repertoire of the great jazz masters as well as a wide range of soul, swing, blues, and gospel. The four nonets are nine-piece ensembles that blend the sounds of big band with small group performance. There are also multiple jazz combos with varying number of members that increase the number of performance opportunities.

MUSIQUE 21

Musique 21 is a project-based group of musicians with flexible instrumentation. Focusing on innovative presentations of new work utilizing a variety of media including theatre, film, and movement, this adventurous troupe pushes the envelope of 21st century performance.

MSU OPERA THEATRE

Each season, MSU Opera Theatre presents two fully staged and costumed productions with the orchestra. Opera productions are presented in Fairchild Theatre, bringing audiences a close theatrical experience with stellar acoustics. MSU productions have taken top prize within their divisions for the National Opera Association's college competition.



STUDENT LIFE

This is a living-learning community, meaning students live and work closely to each other, adjacent to the music facilities, supporting artistic and personal growth and bringing joy during the rigors of music study.

- Easy to-and-from practice and rehearsal facilities while living among others keeping a similar schedule

- Students enjoy the impromptu music-making opportunities the living environment inspires





An abundance of student organizations, within and outside of music, that allow for an inclusive and fulfilling student experience.

- Student-created, student-run groups specific to Music

- More than 1,000 registered student organizations function on campus with most open to all students

DISCOVER LIFE
AT MSU, WHERE OUR
CLOSE-KNIT MUSIC
COMMUNITY THRIVES
WITHIN THE ENERGY
OF A BIG TEN
UNIVERSITY.

QR CODE

LIVE, CONNECT, EXPLORE

MSU COLLEGE OF MUSIC STUDENTS

45%
MICHIGAN
RESIDENTS

30%
OUT-OF-STATE
33 STATES

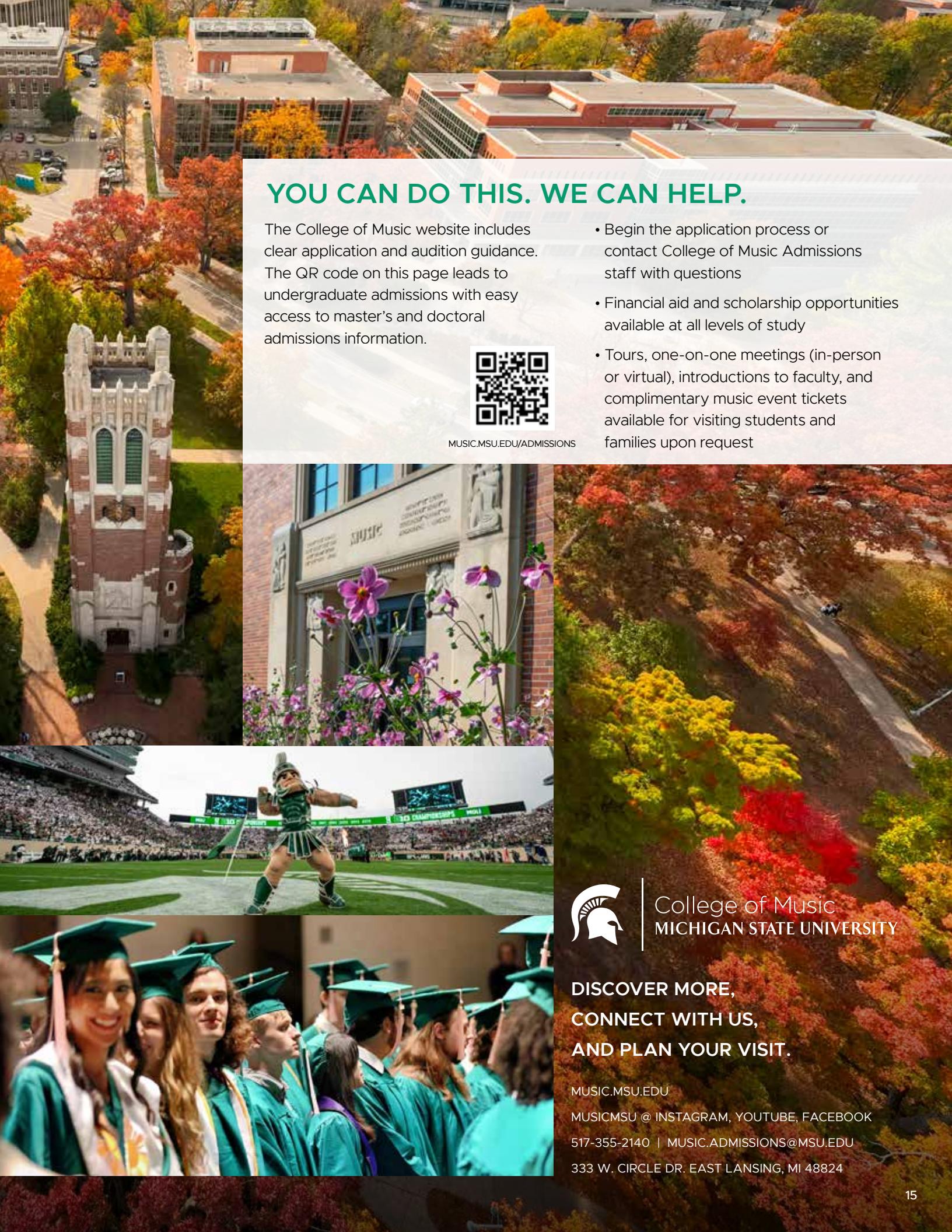
25%
INTERNATIONAL
15 COUNTRIES



The beautiful, classic university feel of the College of Music's north campus setting adds to the charm of the location while offering many benefits including close proximity to fitness and library facilities, lush gardens and beautiful scenery, and the arts-friendly environment of downtown East Lansing all within a short walk.

Just north of the iconic Red Cedar River, the College of Music maintains a small campus feel but with easy access to athletics, classroom buildings, and everything a big campus offers.





YOU CAN DO THIS. WE CAN HELP.

The College of Music website includes clear application and audition guidance. The QR code on this page leads to undergraduate admissions with easy access to master's and doctoral admissions information.



MUSIC.MSU.EDU/ADMISSIONS

- Begin the application process or contact College of Music Admissions staff with questions
- Financial aid and scholarship opportunities available at all levels of study
- Tours, one-on-one meetings (in-person or virtual), introductions to faculty, and complimentary music event tickets available for visiting students and families upon request



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DISCOVER MORE,
CONNECT WITH US,
AND PLAN YOUR VISIT.

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Michigan State University is a community where bold minds build a better tomorrow. Rooted in a legacy of innovation, integrity, and public impact, Spartans explore their passions, challenge boundaries, and grow as leaders and creators. At MSU, you'll find a place that values both intellectual rigor and creative expression—a university where you can pursue discovery and make meaningful contributions to your world and beyond.

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