

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR IN****MUSIC****OVERVIEW OF MAJOR**

At the undergraduate level, Concordia University's Department of Music offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in Music as well as a major in Electroacoustic Studies. Minors are offered in both programs. There are three specializations: jazz studies, music performance and music composition. At the graduate level besides Interdisciplinary Studies options, the Department offers a Diploma in Advanced Music Performance Studies. It also offers a Graduate Certificate in Technical Production for Live Performance (CPTP) which is given jointly by the departments of Theatre, Music, and Contemporary Dance. For the latest information these and all other programs, go to the Department of Music's website at:  
<http://music.concordia.ca>.

**CELEBRATED MUSIC MAJORS**

**Violet Archer.** Canadian Composer/Pianist/Organist.

Member of the Order of Canada

**Julian Armour.** Canadian Cellist. Founder of Ottawa

Chamber Music Festival

**Leonard Bernstein.** Composer. 1st Conductor in U.S. to

Receive World-wide Acclaim

**Judith Forst.** Canadian Mezzo-soprano. Awarded the

Order of British Columbia

**Juanita Kidd Stout.** First African-American Woman

Federal Judge in the U.S.A.

**EXAMPLES OF JOBS ACQUIRED BY  
CONCORDIA GRADUATES**

The following job titles are representative of the types of entry-level positions for which Concordia University students are qualified upon graduation. Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>

- Actor/ Actress (5135)
- Art Animator (5241)
- Choir Instructor (5132)
- Community and Cultural Assistant (5254)
- Composer (5132)
- Disc Jockey (5231)
- Guitar Teacher (5133)
- Music Facilitator
- Music Librarian (5111)
- Music Teacher (4131, 4141, 4142, 5133)
- Music Therapist (3144)
- Music Tutor
- Musical Instrument Salesperson (6421)
- Musician (5133)
- Radio Station Manager (0512)
- Singer (5133)
- Sound Designer (5243)
- Sound Technician (5225)
- Violinist (5133)
- Vocal Coach (5135)

## MORE JOB TITLES

A major in music provides diverse opportunities in the entertainment industry. Some popular job titles include musician, lyricist, singer, sound designer, music producer and composer. Besides careers in performance, there are also opportunities in education, music publishing, music production and distribution, music retail and musical instrument manufacture and repair. The titles below are not meant to be exhaustive but are representative of fields which music majors pursue. Keep in mind that some occupations require further education (e.g., a higher degree, second degree, diploma). Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>.

- Advertising Specialist (1122)
- Art Director (5131)
- Band Leader (5132)
- Booking Agent (5124)
- Cantor (4217)
- Concert Singer (5133)
- Conductor (5132)
- Copyright Manager (0512)
- Film Music Director (5132)
- Liturgist
- Luthier
- Music Adviser
- Music Copyist (5132)
- Music Critic (5123)
- Music Dealer
- Music Editor (5225)
- Music Industry Lawyer (4112)
- Music Journalist (5123)
- Music Publicist (5124)
- Music Publisher
- Music Software Programmer (2174)
- Musical Instrument Maker (9498)
- Musicologist
- Orchestra Artistic Director (5132)
- Organist (5133)
- Promoter (5124)
- Radio Program Director (0512)
- Recording/ Sound Engineer (5225)
- Recording Technician (5225)
- Songwriter (5132)
- Sound Mixer (5225)
- Special Events Coordinator
- Studio Musician
- Studio Owner

- Talent Agent (5124)
- Technical Writer (5121)
- Tour Manager

## POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

Many people with a degree in music work in the private, for-profit sector, especially in the music and entertainment industries. However, a significant proportion of those in the field are also either self-employed or work for educational institutions. To research specific employers who hire those in the field, there are many resources available in such locations as the Career Resource Centre, the Webster Library, Vanier Library and the Internet.

- Advertising Firms
- Booking and Talent Agencies
- Choral Groups
- Colleges and Universities
- Community Services
- Entertainment Companies
- Film Industry
- Hospitality Industry
- Jingle Production Companies
- Multimedia Studios
- Music Camps/Summer Music Schools
- Music Festivals
- Music Libraries
- Music Publications/ Publishers
- Music Schools
- Music Stores
- Music Studios
- Musical Instrument and Sound Equipment Suppliers
- Musical Theatres
- Opera Companies
- Orchestras and Bands
- Performing Arts Centers
- Promotion and Publicity Companies
- Radio and Television Stations
- Record Companies
- Religious Institutions
- Schools
- Video Distribution and Production Companies

## SKILLS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Some of the required skills for a successful music career, especially for those considering performance, are talent, confidence, versatility, creativity, hard work and the ability to express emotions and ideas through music. In addition, students will find the following skills, interests, values and other characteristics valuable for succeeding in the field.

- Ability to Accept Criticism
- Accuracy
- Concentration
- Dedication
- Determination
- Enthusiasm
- Excellent Hearing
- Good Memory
- Good Stage Presence
- Leadership Skills
- Love of Performing
- Manual Dexterity
- Natural Talent for Rhythm and Pitch
- Outgoing Manner
- Perseverance
- Public Speaking Skills
- Self-discipline
- Self-motivation
- Stamina
- Time Management Ability
- Understanding of Music Theories
- Willingness to Learn
- Willingness to Work Irregular Hours

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER LINKS

Making wise career decisions requires exploring your field. A multitude of Internet sites and other resources will help you do this to the best of your ability. Professional association sites, in particular, are very useful for their career descriptions and job hunting tips. Moreover, these authoritative sites frequently provide links to Internet sites which announce job openings and list potential employers. A few recommended sites are included below.

### CANADIAN

#### **Canada Council for the Arts**

<http://www.canadacouncil.ca/>

This federal government association, which is also a crown corporation, fosters the study and production of works in the arts by supporting professionals, student artists and arts organizations in music, theatre and related industries. It provides funding such as grants, endowments and prizes. Use the Site Map to scroll through the website.

#### **Canadian Arts Presenting Association (CAPACOA)**

<http://www.capacoa.ca/>

This association serves performing arts professionals by promoting the presentation of the Arts in Canada. It provides advocacy efforts and networking opportunities. For the recent graduate, the association's website has sections on Professional Development (under Services) and Job Postings (under News).

#### **East Coast Music Association**

<http://www.ecma.com>

This association promotes Atlantic Canada's music industry. Members include artists, musicians, record companies, studios, etc. Student membership rates are available. Offers members opportunities to volunteer and network at its annual conference/festival.

#### **Fédération des associations de musiciens éducateurs du Québec (FAMEQ)**

<http://www.fameq.org/>

Association created to advance the quality of music education in Quebec. It sponsors training and professional development programs as well as musical competitions. Its conferences and events offer members an opportunity to network in the field. Website provides links to music programs at universities, CEGEPs, camps etc.

## CON'T. – PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER LINKS

### **Professional Music Publishers' Association (PMPA)**

<http://www.pmpa.ca/>

Represents and supports professional publishers in the music industry. Attempts to promote music publishing, both nationally and internationally, through defending their interests, training and conferences. This bilingual site also provides links to related organizations.

### **Guilde des musiciens et musiciennes du Québec**

<http://www.gmmq.com>

The Guild represents the interests of over 3,300 Quebec professional musicians and those involved in the music field. It provides approved contract forms and legal protection for its members. Website includes a directory of members as well as employment and audition opportunities. Click on Benefits under Membership for a complete list of member benefits.

### **Songwriters Association of Canada (S.A.C.)**

[www.songwriters.ca](http://www.songwriters.ca)

Serves songwriters and lyricists in Canada and around the world. Membership offers educational and networking benefits as well as opportunities to develop your songwriting skills. The services provided by the association that might interest students include *Song Assessment Service* and *Canadian Song Vault*.

## INTERNATIONAL

### **American Federation of Musician (AFM)**

<http://www.afm.org>

AFM represents the interests of professional musicians in the United States and Canada. The website's Young Musician section would be of particular interest to recent graduates as it includes a Career Corner for all types of jobs in the music industry and information on scholarships. The Site Map provides an easy overview of what AFM has to offer.

### **International Society for Music Education (ISME)**

<http://www.isme.org/>

ISME represents and promotes music educators, students, researchers and community musicians through publications, seminars and conferences. The website provides links to partner organizations and information resources on music education in general.

## CREATE YOUR AMAZING CAREER – CAREER RESOURCE CENTRE TITLES

For those who need more help with their career and educational planning, the Career Resource Centre (CRC) offers books, pamphlets, DVDs and recommended Internet sites. It is located in the Hall Building, H-440, at 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. The following titles are just a few of the titles available in the CRC.

Beyond Talent: Creating a Successful Career in Music

- Career Opportunities in Music Industry
- Careers in Education
- Careers in Music – Panel Discussion (DVD format)
- Creative Careers: Paths for Aspiring Actors, Artists, Dancers,
- Musicians and Writers
- Creative Careers in Music
- The Giggling Musician
- Great Jobs for Music Majors
- Making and Marketing Music
- Musician's Journey: Crafting Your Career Vision and Plan
- Music Directory Canada
- 100 Careers in Music Business
- Opportunities in Music Careers
- Resumes for Performing Arts Careers
- Song Writer's Market: Where and How to Market Your Songs
- Succeeding in Music
- This Business of Music Marketing and Promotion
- Understanding the Music Business