CSUB Music

The mission of the CSUB Music Program is to prepare students to be musicians, scholars, or teachers and to provide musical performance, scholarship, and education for the community.

This mission is realized when the music student completes the curriculum for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music, following either the General Music or Music Education tracks. This curriculum is set within a liberal arts context ensuring that music students receive a broad education in the arts and humanities as well as their highly specialized professional training in music. Students who complete the Bachelor of Arts in Music will be prepared for graduate study, music teaching, and/or a variety of career options in the field of music and other professional areas.

The Music Program contributes to the musical, intellectual, cultural, and aesthetic environment of the California State University at Bakersfield and its community through the programs of study provided for music majors, music electives for non-majors, and concerts, recitals, workshops, and festivals produced by the program.
Performing Opportunities

The CSUB Music Program serves the campus as the center for the performance and study of music. Music ensembles at CSUB are open to all students, regardless of major.

University Singers
University Singers is open to any student enrolled in the university who enjoys singing. Faculty and community members are welcomed. No audition required.

Chamber Singers
Chamber Singers is an auditioned ensemble. Performing music from around the world, and from time periods spanning from the Renaissance to the 21st century, this is CSUB’s advanced choral ensemble. Open by audition to students registered in University Singers.

Opera Theatre
The CSUB Opera Theatre presents fully staged and costumed scenes programs, featuring excerpts from opera, operetta, and musical theatre, and full opera productions with orchestra. The program also brings in distinguished opera professionals to conduct master classes, providing training in all musical aspects of opera theatre. Open by audition.

Jazz Collective
Open by audition to all university students, the CSUB Jazz Ensemble specializes in performance of representative repertoire for medium to large jazz ensembles. This advanced jazz ensemble performs on campus each year and is often contracted to perform at outside events in our region. Former members have won Downbeat awards, Betty Carter Kennedy Center awards, Chamber Music of America grants, highest awards at competitive jazz festivals, and selection to the California Collegiate All-State Big Band.

Jazz Combos
These combos are open by audition to all university students, faculty, staff, and members of the community, instrumentalists and vocalists alike. These groups focus on performance of traditional and contemporary jazz styles in ensembles ranging from trios to septets. There are regular performances at the CSUB Jazz Coffeehouse Concerts, and the creation and performance of original works is strongly encouraged.

Concert Band
Open by audition to all university students, faculty, staff, and members of the community, the Concert Band is the premier large instrumental ensemble at CSUB. The Concert Band performs the highest quality literature for winds, as well as outstanding
new repertoire. The Guest Composers Series has facilitated performance of over 40 works by guest composers in residence over the last decade.

**Symphonic Band**
Open to all university students, faculty, staff and members of the community with consent of the conductor, the Symphonic Band is an ensemble geared towards a quality musical experience for all. The group rehearses and performs works from the standard wind band literature. The Symphonic Band encourages those with any instrumental music background to join, with no audition required. The group performs up to four concerts per year.

**Chamber Orchestra**
Open to all students and members of the community with consent of the conductor, this ensemble performs the rich and diverse repertoire of both string and chamber orchestra.

**Chamber Music**
The Chamber Music Program focuses on the study of small ensemble performance. Students will have the opportunity to perform in a variety of instrumental ensembles in which they will develop both performance and listening skills as they play one-on-a-part with their peers.

**Pep Band**
Open to all university students, the Pep Band performs at home basketball games, select volleyball games, and occasional pep rallies. The group travels annually to Las Vegas for the Western Athletic Conference Basketball Tournament. In 2016, the Pep Band traveled to the NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament in Oklahoma City. Scholarship opportunities are available for members of the band.

**Piano Performance**
Piano students perform in studio classes and recitals, participate in large and small ensembles, and collaborate with instrumentalists and/or singers. There are valuable opportunities to perform in master classes by acclaimed visiting pianists.

**Guitar Ensemble**
Open to all University students, faculty, staff, and members of the community, this ensemble focuses on the performance of music composed or arranged for multiple guitars. Program selections include a variety of duets, trios and quartets.
Faculty

Dr. Joel Haney, Ph.D. Music History, Yale University, teaches courses in music history and literature, and co-directs the Chamber Music Program.

Dr. Soo-Yeon Park, D.M.A. Keyboard Collaborative Arts, University of Southern California, is coordinator of Piano Studies, co-directs the Chamber Music Program and directs the Opera Program.

Dr. Robert Provencio, D.M.A. Literature and Performance of Choral Music, University of Colorado, teaches music courses in the General Education program.

Dr. Leo Sakomoto, D.M.A. Instrumental Conducting, UCLA, conducts the Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Chamber Orchestra, directs the Pep Band, and teaches instrumental conducting and various instrumental music education courses.

Jim Scully, M.F.A. Jazz Composition, University of California, Irvine, directs the Jazz Collective, teaches courses in theory, jazz studies, composition and technology, and is the Director of the Bakersfield Jazz Festival.

Dr. Angel M. Vázquez-Ramos, Ph.D. Music Education/Choral Conducting, Florida State University, conducts the University Singers, and Chamber Singers, and teaches choral conducting and various choral music education courses. He is co-director of the CSUB Kodaly Institute.

Special Events

Bakersfield Jazz Festival
Since its first year in 1987, this festival has featured internationally acclaimed artists, raised money for scholarships for deserving students, and given local artists an opportunity to share their creativity with members of their community. Now, in its 31st year, this two-day celebration showcases 13 bands on two stages, and raises roughly $20,000 in scholarships annually for students studying music, nursing, geology, physics, engineering, liberal studies, and education. Guest artists over the years include Freddie Hubbard, Christian Scott, Tower of Power, Diane Reeves, Arturo Sandoval, Mike Stern, Christian McBride, Gordon Goodwin’s Big Phat Band, Dave Douglas, Poncho Sanchez, Pete Escovedo, Delfeayo Marsalis and many more. For more information, visit bakersfieldjazzfest.com.
**Special Events (Cont’d)**

**Visiting Artists**

Through the auspices of the Pelletier Foundation, hundreds of guest artists of world renown have performed at CSUB including: pianists David Burge, Billy Childs, and Chick Corea; composer-conductor Nicholas Slonimsky; soprano Irene Gubrud; composers Sammy Nestico, Nolan Stolz and Jennie Brandon; saxophonists Michael Brecker and Bennie Wallace; trumpeters Freddie Hubbard, Jens Lindemann and Wynton Marsalis; guitarists Carlos Pérez, Johannes Möller, and Jonathan Kreisberg; conductors Anton Armstrong, Albert McNeil, and Bradley Ellingboe, and chamber music ensembles Trio Céleste and The Los Angeles Percussion Quartet. Over the years, these residencies, classes and performances have augmented our curriculum in a profound way.

**Kodály Institute**

The summer of 2017 will feature the first year of the CSUB Kodály Institute, where Kodály Level 1 certification coursework will be offered. Subsequent years will add Level 2 and Level 3 certification. The program meets all criteria set by the Organization of Kodály Educators.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Do I need to be a music major to participate in ensembles?**

Not at all! Some ensembles require an audition, but most welcome all CSUB students.

**Do you offer scholarships?**

Absolutely. Auditions help to determine awards for incoming students, while continuing students remain eligible for continued support.

**Can I receive private lessons?**

Every music major receives four years of private instruction on their instrument with one of our accomplished applied faculty. Music minors receive one year of private instruction.

**I have other questions; who should I contact?**

We are more than happy to talk with you about our programs, degree offerings or anything else. Feel free to contact the faculty member in your area of interest:

**Choral/Vocal Studies, Music Education:**
Dr. Vázquez-Ramos, avazquezramos@csub.edu

**Instrumental Studies, Music Education:**
Dr. Sakomoto, LSakomoto@csub.edu

**Jazz Studies:** Mr. Scully, jscully@csub.edu

**General Music:** Dr. Haney, jhaney@csub.edu

**Piano Studies:** Dr. Park, spark18@csub.edu

**Auditions:**

At CSU Bakersfield, the audition is the primary way that we get to know prospective majors and minors as musicians. Auditions enable the faculty to place students in the private lessons, ensembles, and classes that will best support their musical development and success.
Please keep an eye on our audition website (csub.edu/music/auditions/index.html) for details and specific audition dates.

**How to Apply to CSUB:**
All prospective students must apply through CSU-Mentor (csumentor.edu), the California State University website designed to help students through each phase of their application process. CSUMentor is also a great way to begin planning for college and to keep track of your academic progress. Many college planning resources are available on CSU-Mentor.