Summer 2021
MUSIC NEWS
Arthur Satz Department of Music

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Upcoming Events
August 18 - 24 - Welcome Week
Click to learn more

August 23 - Academic Open House
The Music Department will be represented at the 2021 Academic Open House scheduled from 1 - 5 PM in the Feldman Ballroom in Douglass Commons.

Stop by to meet Music Department Faculty and Staff and ask any questions you may have. Music Major, Minor, Track, and Cluster information will be available at the table.

Elective Spotlight Find all course offerings here.
Electives give students the chance to study face to face with Professors who are experts in their fields in a small and interactive classroom environment.

Gospel Choir
MUSC 158 meets Tuesdays from 6:15 - 7:30 PM in Hutchison 140 with Director Julius Dicks. No experience or ability to read music required. One rehearsal per week. Two concerts per semester. In addition, there may be off-campus performances in local colleges, churches, and other venues in the greater Rochester community. 1 Credit

The Music of Brahms in Context
MUSC 189 meets Tuesday/Thursday from 12:30 - 1:45 PM in Dewey B315 with Professor Sholes. This course provides an examination of the life and works of Johannes Brahms (1833-97). Brahms's symphonies, concertos, chamber works, piano pieces, choral works, and songs will be explored in the contexts of biography and psychology and in relation to trends in music history, aesthetics, politics, religion, literature, and the visual arts. 4 Credits

Opera and Musical Theater
MUSC 126 meets Tuesday/Thursday from 9:40 - 10:55 AM in Dewey 1305 with Professor Cashner. Emphasis on discussion and group work; no prior musical knowledge or ability is required. Since ancient times people have used music to tell stories on stage, from Oedipus and Orpheus to Tosca and Hamilton. This course gives students the opportunity to engage closely with works of musical drama on related themes from multiple global traditions, including American musical theater, Italian opera, and Beijing opera. 4 Credits

Gospel Music in America
MUSC 147 meets Monday/Wednesday from 10:25 - 11:40 AM in Dewey B315 with Professor Hunter. Examine the historical development of gospel music, beginning with 19th century slave spirituals and ending with an examination of 21st century gospel music practices. Attempt to answer the following questions: what is gospel music how are the parameters of the genre defined? How has gospel music participated in constructions of black identity and spiritual formation? How has the sound and presentation of gospel music evolved? 4 Credits

Signed Sealed Delivered - The Deals and Innovations That Changed The Music Industry Forever
MUSC 124 Learn the real story about the history of the music industry from the invention of The Talking Machine by Thomas Edison in 1877 through the innovations of Streaming Music Platforms we will look at all the game changers that sent the music industry on the course it has followed for the last 144 years. We will look innovations in technology; business deals made by labels and managers; immortal music legends who changed music such The Beatles, Elvis Presley, Led Zeppelin, Jimi Hendrix, Jay Z, Lady Gaga; iconic events such as Woodstock, the Disco Era, the take over by Hip-Hop and Rap music. Adjunct Professor Bruce Pilato is a music industry professional, entertainment journalist, and Grammy voting member who has worked with a diverse roster of artists from Ringo Starr of The Beatles to Drake. This in-person class runs 6 consecutive Tuesdays from 5pm-7pm from Sept 14th to Oct 26th (with no class for Oct 12th fall break).

The Arthur Satz Department of Music at the University of Rochester offers a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in music, a minor in music, and a wide variety of both technical and non-technical courses. Students also have the option of taking courses at the Eastman School of Music, which are open to any student with the proper prerequisites.

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Important Dates
(Click to view the official University Registrar Calendar)
August 12 - Registration for First Year Students
August 25 - Fall 2021 Classes Begin
September 6 - Labor Day (No Classes)
September 8 - Last day to add a course without permission
September 15 - Last day to add independent study courses
September 22 - Last day to drop a course for Fall 2021

In the News

Andrew Polec, BA ’12 is one of fifteen finalists in the international Lotte Lenya Competition.

The performances and award ceremony will be streamed live on the Foundation’s website beginning at 11:00am EDT on August 28, 2021. For the first time ever, an edited version of the complete event will be available free and on demand to worldwide audiences beginning Friday, September 10, 2021 via OperaVision, a leading media hub supported by the European Union’s Creative Europe program and under the editorial supervision of Opera Europa. A public screening of the filmed event will take place in Rochester, NY on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at the Eastman School of Music’s Hatch Recital Hall beginning at 1:00pm EDT. The event is free of charge and will be hosted by Eastman School Emeritus Professor and Founder of the Lenya Competition, Kim H. Kowalke.

Kim H. Kowalke, Foundation President and Founder of the Lotte Lenya Competition, remarks: “With theaters and opera houses darkened around the globe, a large number of working professionals were able to enter the Lenya Competition for the first time. The resulting pool was double the norm. Competition for the fifteen finalist slots was fierce, and I predict that the Finals will be hard-fought and at the highest level in the Competition’s 23-year history.” The trailer for the competition can be found here.

More information on Andrew can be found on his website and his video profile can be found here.

Professor Jacquelyn Sholes recently finished guest editing the latest issue of Nineteenth-Century Music Review

This issue features articles on the influence of Beethoven on Brahms, with work by Chris Reynolds, Dan Beller-McKenna, Styra Avins, Bill Horne, and Jacquelyn Sholes, and a preface by Jeremy Yudkin. Professor Sholes has also contributed a score review, and her book is cited in several of the articles. The full contents are available here.

In June, Professor Sholes was the invited featured guest on a Zoom panel hosted by the Center for Historical Keyboards at Cornell, speaking with Roger Moseley, Ji Young Kim, and Mike Lee on material from her book, as part of their series Future Imperfect: Brahms and the Passage of Time. A recording of the panel will be released soon.

Janezic becomes first female UR undergraduate student to achieve Carillonneur Status in the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America

Claire Janezic, a rising Take Five student, passed her exam in 2021 despite COVID 19 restrictions, achieving a continent-wide recognized standard of excellence. For comparison, her work is roughly the equivalent of a master's level concert at Eastman. Janezic’s bell performances are remarkably expressive and her little choices wide ranging.

Janezic has been playing carillon for 4 years, studying at the University of Rochester under Doris Aman. She has also been lucky enough to receive instruction from carillonneurs Lisa Lonie and Tim Sleep.

Claire is an undergraduate Music and History double-major at the University of Rochester and is minoring in Audio Music Engineering. In addition to being a member of the Carillon Society, she plays in the Gamelan Sanjiwani ensemble. Her historical interests are centered in the 20th century United States and Mexico, especially in regards to Pennsylvanian anthracite coal mining culture, and immigration. Extracurricularly, Claire served as Music Director of campus popular music group No Jackets Required (NJR) and Music Director of community theater group Dream Visualize Create (DVC) in 2018. Claire will graduate next year, after completing a Take 5 (fifth-year program) studying art created by incarcerated people. In her free time, Claire enjoys indoor rock climbing and taking care of a growing collection of plants.

Janezic most recently performed the last concert of the Carillon Summer Concert Series at the University on August 4th.

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