

MUSIC PERFORMANCE (B.M.)

This Major emphasizes performance proficiency and applied study of a Major instrument or voice. It prepares students for careers in performance, independent teaching, or graduate study leading to the Master of Music degree. Program objectives are located at: <http://www.keene.edu/catalog/programs/detail/music-performance-bm/outcomes/>.

Upon successful completion of an audition into the program, students declare a primary instrument or voice; 32 credits of Applied Music must then be taken in the primary instrument or voice. All students must pass a basic piano proficiency test and a basic aural skills test before the end of the sophomore year or they will not be permitted to proceed with the junior recital. A 30- to 40-minute recital on the primary instrument in the junior year and a 60- to 70-minute recital in the senior year are required. Participation in at least one large ensemble appropriate to the student's program (chosen from MU-172 KSC Concert Choir, MU-173 KSC Chamber Singers, MU-174 Orchestra, MU-175 Jazz Ensemble, MU-177 Concert Band, or MU-178 Guitar Orchestra) is required each semester of applied music study¹. Additionally, students are required to take three semesters of a chamber ensemble appropriate to the student's program (MU-171 Chamber Ensemble).

A grade C or higher must be earned in each music course counted toward the Major.

¹ Pianists/organists may substitute up to two semesters of MU-171 Chamber Ensemble for these ensembles.

Mid-Level Review

All music Majors must complete a Mid-Level Review prior to the junior year. The Review is normally conducted during the student's fourth semester of study, with adjustments made for transfer credits, participation in national and international exchange programs, and official leaves of absence. The Mid-Level Review consists of an application (information form, transcript, and reflective essay) and an assessment meeting between the candidate and the Faculty Review Panel. Application forms and additional information are available from the Music Department Office.

The purpose of the Mid-Level Review is three-fold:

1. to assess the student's academic progress,
2. to assess the student's artistic progress, and
3. to advise the student on academic, artistic, and career goals.

Music Education and Music Performance Majors whose academic record and/or artistic growth are not at an appropriate level based on state and national standards cannot continue in either of those two Bachelor of Music degree programs, but may continue to be a music Major in the Bachelor of Arts in Music program.