

# MUSIC

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS



### MAJORS

- Music (BA)
- Music Education (BM)\*
- Music Performance (BM)
- Music Therapy (BM)\*\*

### MINORS AND CERTIFICATES

- Chamber Music Performance
- Music
- Music for Education
- Music for Education: Early Childhood
- Music for Education: Marching Arts
- Music for Education: Vocal Music
- Music History
- Certificate in Culturally Relevant and Sustaining Music Education

\*Slippery Rock University (SRU) is required by the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement and US Department of Education to notify you whether our program meets the academic licensure/certification requirements in another state. All jurisdictions have their own requirements for licensure/certification eligibility. SRU is approved to offer programs that may lead to licensure/certification in Pennsylvania. We are unable to determine our program's eligibility in states other than PA. Please review the licensing board contact resource at [www.sru.edu/licensure-certification](http://www.sru.edu/licensure-certification) to seek guidance on the requirements of licensure in your home state or where you would like to practice professionally. Note that state requirements are subject to change at any time and without notice.

**SlipperyRock**  
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System  
of Higher Education

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[www.sru.edu](http://www.sru.edu)

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MUSIC DEGREE?

Slippery Rock University music majors have gone on to pursue a variety of fulfilling careers. Recent music education graduates are working as teachers of Pre-K through 12 in both public and private schools. Music therapy graduates are employed in schools, nursing homes, psychiatric treatment centers, correctional facilities, rehabilitation centers, shelters or in private practice. Music performance majors often work as performers and private teachers. SRU students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree have been successful in careers in music merchandising, church music, the marching arts, and the television and radio industry. Many of SRU's music students, regardless of degree program, go on to graduate school to pursue advanced degrees in music and related areas, some becoming university professors themselves.

### MUSIC AT SRU

Music degree programs at SRU are designed to appeal to the interests and career goals of today's students. All programs are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music, and the music faculty consists of some of the finest performing artists and master teachers in the region. Many factors blend to create an excellent learning environment, including a family-like atmosphere and ample facilities for study and practice.

### WHY CHOOSE MUSIC AT SRU?

- 1. World-class faculty:** Students will be taught by faculty who are recognized throughout the state, region, nation and world as top performers and teachers in their fields. No graduate assistants teach classes, lessons or ensembles in the Music Department.
- 2. Career and graduate school opportunities:** We are pleased to be able to say that we have an impressively high success rate in job placement of recent music therapy and music education graduates who go directly into the profession. Our music majors also have success in gaining entrance to the nation's most prestigious graduate schools, winning military band auditions, starting music publishing companies and being hired to teach music at colleges and universities throughout the country.
- 3. Ensembles performance opportunities:** Our ensembles have toured and performed throughout the United States and internationally, including Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, France, Russia, Switzerland and Germany. Ensembles at SRU have performed world premiers of works by leading composers in multiple genres and have several full-length recordings to their credit. With no graduate students on campus, our undergraduate music majors can audition for and perform in any of our ensembles. In 2023, the SRU Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Singers gained entrance to some of the most highly-competitive jazz festivals around the world - the Jazz à Juan Festival (France) and the Gezmataz and Umbria Jazz Festivals (Italy).
- 4. Applied Lessons:** All music majors, regardless of degree choice, receive a weekly, hour-long lesson on their major instrument by our expert faculty.
- 5. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music:** Accreditation means that our programs meet or exceed the industry standards developed by experts in the music field.

## INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Music Therapy students have completed internships at various locations including:

- UPMC Children's Hospital and Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
- Penn State-Hershey Medical Center (Hershey, Pennsylvania)
- Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital (St. Petersburg, Florida)
- Mary Cariola Children's Center (Rochester, New York)
- Atascadero State Hospital (Atascadero, California)
- Sounding Joy (Honolulu, Hawaii)

Music Education students have the following opportunities:

- Collaboration with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Early Learning Connections, and the SRU/SGA Preschool through the Early Childhood and Elementary Music Community Engagement Initiative
- Partnership with Santa Fe Public Schools, Santa Fe Indian School, and New Mexico School for the Arts for students to experience immersion in a diverse class setting
- Students work as band staff and assistant directors at area schools and choir directors at various local churches
- Multiple partnerships with local area schools for teaching experience

## CAREER OUTCOMES

Graduates have secured careers in the following areas:

- Military Band Musician, U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force
- Education Market Manager, PreSonus Audio Electronics
- Professional Musician, Atlanta, Georgia
- College Professor, Texas Woman's University, Emory University, Sacred Heart University, Baldwin Wallace University and others
- Broadway Touring Company Musician, Cinderella and Mamma Mia
- Professional Music Educators in Pennsylvania and beyond
- Practicing Music Therapists throughout the country

## CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Music Theatre Society
- Music Therapy Club
- Mu Phi Epsilon: International Professional Music Fraternity
- Tau Beta Sigma: Honorary Band Sorority
- Pennsylvania Collegiate Music Educators Association
- Student National Association of Teachers of Singing



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

**Kayla Karenbaer, '22**

*Music teacher at Shannock Valley Elementary School, Armstrong School District*

"Slippery Rock's impact on my career and life in music education is massive. The real-world teaching experience throughout the program and thorough faculty evaluations prepared me to work with students of all ages and backgrounds. Upon graduating, I left with a network of connections to supportive mentors and colleagues, who I will always be grateful to know, both personally and professionally."

**Sean Murphy, '11**

*Assistant Professor of Arts Management and Entrepreneurship, Baldwin Wallace University*

"Attending SRU was extremely beneficial for my development as a musician and professional in the field. As a student, I was encouraged and supported to grow into the best musician and educator possible. The faculty are invested in the success of each student and provide meaningful mentorships that last a lifetime."

**Nicole Steele, '05**

*NICU Music therapist, Children's Hospital of UPMC, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

"My experience in the music therapy program at SRU was one of the most influential and pivotal times of my life. It not only provided me with a wonderful foundation in music therapy, but my professions embodied a high level of passions and drive for the field and for education."

### ACADEMIC CONTACT:

Swope Music Hall  
Christopher Scott, chairperson  
christopher.scott@sru.edu  
724-738-2984

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[www.sru.edu/majors](http://www.sru.edu/majors)

### ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

North Hall Welcome Center  
asktherock@sru.edu  
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