## **Setnor School of Music Faculty Handbook** (last revised June 2025)

## Welcome to the Setnor School of Music!

The Setnor School of Music is a vibrant and supportive musical and learning community. We are committed to encouraging an environment in which everyone interacts with kindness, collaboration, creativity, and fairness. We expect everyone to treat each other with respect - free of racial, ethnic, religious, ableist, gender, sexual orientation-based, or other forms of discrimination or exclusion. In addition, respect for others is shown through basic courtesies such as punctuality, preparation, making expectations clear, and participation in activities that strengthen the community. We all share in the use of the facilities and equipment and ask that everyone be responsible in the use and care of our shared resources and our shared commitment to the students and the field of music.

It is our hope that this handbook will facilitate a productive academic and music experience. This information is not intended to override or conflict with any university contracts, handbooks, directives, or collective bargaining agreements.

## Resources, Technology, and Equipment

**Setnor Resources**

[Setnor Resources](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/) contains useful information and forms for faculty and staff as well as music and non-music majors. In addition to the Faculty & Staff link, faculty may find some of the documents in the student resource section useful, such as student handbooks, Advising Degree Check Sheets, and Student Recital Information. Plan to use these resources often! Please send any updates to [mjtaylor@syr.edu](mailto:mjtaylor@syr.edu).

The College of Visual and Performing Arts ([VPA](https://vpa.syr.edu/about/)) and [Setnor School of Music](https://vpa.syr.edu/academics/music/) websites include important information that is regularly updated. Other useful links and valuable information for Syracuse University employees can be found online here: [For Faculty and Staff](https://www.syracuse.edu/life/faculty-staff/) and [Answers - Syracuse University](https://answers.syr.edu/).

**E-mail**

Faculty, staff, and students will have a Syracuse University e-mail account ([username@syr.edu](mailto:username@syr.edu)), sometimes referred to as the netID. **All official University and School of Music correspondence is sent through syracuse university syr.edu e-mail ONLY!!** Although you may also maintain another personal e-mail account, you should check your syr.edu e-mail on a regular basis.

**DO NOT USE YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS FOR UNIVERSITY-RELATED EMAILS.** This is for security and student privacy reasons and is required. Syracuse University has established email as a primary vehicle for official communication with students, faculty, and staff. An official email address is established and assigned by Information Technology and Services (ITS) for each student, and current faculty and staff members. All University communication sent via email will be sent to this address. Every user of SU email accounts should be aware of the Syracuse University email policy. For contact information for Setnor faculty and staff, visit the [Setnor School of Music Directory](https://vpa.syracuse.edu/faculty-staff/?vpa_people%5BfiltersOpen%5D=open&vpa_people%5BrefinementList%5D%5Ball_organizations%5D%5B0%5D=Setnor%20School%20of%20Music).

**Identification Cards (SUID)**

Once a contract is signed, returned, and the faculty member has been put on the university system, an SUID card can be obtained. This can be used for access to Crouse College, the university library, and other services. **Please be sure you have your physical SUID card, and visit this link if you need a new or updated ID:** [**ID Cards - Housing – Syracuse University**](https://housingmealplans.syr.edu/idcards/).

**Computers, Network connection, Printers, etc.**

The Office of Information Technology supports the College of Visual and Performing Arts’ technological needs efficiently and effectively. The office is responsible for equipment owned by SU:VPA and located on campus. Off-campus service is not provided. To contact them with questions or concerns, please e-mail vpahelp@syr.edu. Please be sure to respond promptly if they send emails so they can assist with your concerns.

**Technical Assistance in Classrooms**

For assistance with classroom technology, please call the help desk at 443-2677 for an efficient response. Support hours are Mon-Thu 8 am-8 pm, and Fri 8 am-5 pm. The Learning Environments staff is also happy to help meet with individual faculty in their teaching location to assist with specific needs regarding the classroom technology. Please also e-mail [mjtaylor@syr.edu](mailto:mjtaylor@syr.edu) if you have any problems so she can follow up with the Learning Environments staff in case there are any repairs needed.

## Facilities

**Building Access (24-hour access to Crouse College and Shaffer Arts)**

For access to Crouse College or Shaffer Arts when locked, faculty and music students have been added to the building access system through their SUID. For any problems, please email [mjtaylor@syr.edu](mailto:mjtaylor@syr.edu). If you have a non-major in a class, please email [mjtaylor@syr.edu](mailto:mjtaylor@syr.edu), so their SUID number can be entered into the system, enabling the person to make use of the card reader at the south entrance of the building.

**Please be sure you have your SUID!  Visit this link if you need an updated ID:** [**ID Cards - Housing – Syracuse University**](https://housingmealplans.syr.edu/idcards/)

**Room usage**

Faculty or students may reserve time in addition to lessons and classes for rehearsal, if space and time is available. Please send in requests to Michelle Taylor [mjtaylor@syr.edu](mailto:mjtaylor@syr.edu). PLEASE PLAN AHEAD! Do not ask a work study student to reserve a room – they cannot reserve spaces.

**USE OF FACILITIES for activities outside of university assignments:**Use of campus spaces for programs that are not part of the academic program (current classes, ensembles, and lessons for which people are registered through the university) cannot take place without prior written approval from the university. Faculty, staff or students requesting this use will need to register the program and may be required to enter into a short term license for use of the facilities and assume various liability. If the use involves minors, personnel will be required to have a background check and to take training. If faculty, staff or students are earning money outside of campus earnings while on University owned, operated or controlled property, there may also be tax implications for which personnel will be responsible. It is the Party’s responsibility to comply with all campus policies, federal, and state laws and regulations. Due to limited space and availability, the School of Music is generally able to permit use of facilities only by current faculty, staff, and students. For more information or an agreement for usage, please contact Michelle Taylor ([mjtaylor@syr.edu](mailto:mjtaylor@syr.edu)).

**Scheduling an Ensemble Concert or Faculty Recital**

To arrange a date, attend the annual scheduling meeting or contact [Michelle Taylor](mailto:mjtaylor@syr.edu) to schedule an event and auditorium time for the dress rehearsal (1-2 hour maximum if available). Be sure to submit all forms and paperwork, available on [Setnor R](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/faculty-staff/)esources. When possible, we will accommodate recital dates for current faculty. These are not paid, but we do not pass along staffing costs, etc. PLEASE NOTE: We list events on the VPA calendar, Setnor facebook, etc, display posters in Crouse, and provide the information to all internally, but we are not able to market individual events such as faculty recitals. Please be aware of this so any expectations on audience development can be managed. For inclusion on websites and calendars, submit performance information and any related photos (high-res jpegs) three weeks in advance.

**Practice Room Rules and Regulations**

Practice room use is restricted to music majors and students registered for Applied Music lessons for credit in the Setnor School of Music or enrolled in a School of Music ensemble or class. Music Majors will be provided keys through Bryan Watson. Non-music majors, after registering for private lessons, will fill out a Practice Room Key Request Form found at [Non-Music Majors - VPA Setnor School of Music – Syracuse University](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/non-music-majors/) to be turned in to the staff in room 301 to receive the appropriate practice room key. All keys are to be returned at the end of the year by the posted deadline. Failure to do so will result in a $25 replacement fee charged to the student’s bursar account. Use of most practice rooms is on a first-come, first-served basis. Some of the rooms are sign-up only.

SMOKING, EATING AND/OR DRINKING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Please be sure to turn off the lights, close the windows, and close the door when you are through. DO NOT leave instruments or other valuables in an unattended room. Close any doors that you find open. If you remove chairs, benches, music stands or other equipment from practice rooms, please RETURN them when you are finished. Rooms are NOT to be used for private teaching. Any damages or problems must be reported to the Operations Office, Room 301. Problems with pianos should be brought to the attention of the Piano Technician in Room 101.

When classrooms are used for individual or small group rehearsals, all of the above policies apply. Please adhere to all noted guidelines – room usage may be suspended for violations of the guidelines.

**Keys**

Keys are issued in Crouse 301 by [Bryan Watson](mailto:bwatso02@syr.edu) or [Michelle Taylor](mailto:mjtaylor@syredu). Do not request keys from a work-study student – they cannot access or provide them. To arrange use of a key, please e-mail IN ADVANCE. We apologize that last minute requests cannot be accommodated. Please keep in mind that security is an on-going concern - do not provide your keys or codes to anyone else. Faculty have been given a door code to access room 301 for use during non-office hours - please do not give out to anyone else. Faculty will be issued keys to teaching and office spaces. Please do not allow others to use your keys.

**Practice Room Keys**

Music Majors & Minors

* Keys are distributed in operations 301 by staff only. Lost key replacements can only be arranged with Bryan and will result in a fee to the student’s bursar account. All keys are numbered, so returned key must match distributed keys

Non-Music Majors

* To be considered for a practice-room key, students who are not music majors submit the **[Practice Room Key Request](https://syracuseuniversitysetnorschoolofmusic.formstack.com/forms/key_request)**. Students should print the form and bring it to 301 to retrieve a key, if eligible. Only students currently registered in a music class in Crouse/Shaffer are eligible for keys.

**Other keys**

* If a faculty member or student is looking for any other key besides a practice room key, they MUST email in advance – only [Bryan Watson](mailto:bwatso02@syr.edu) or [Michelle Taylor](mailto:mjtaylor@syredu) can arrange room keys other than practice rooms.
* Please return keys to them, or place in an envelope with your name noted in the key return mailbox.

**Non-music Majors**

Music Majors pay a fee for the use of practice rooms which is used for instrument purchase, tuning, and maintenance. Practice rooms are for the exclusive use of music majors, students taking private lessons, and students participating in ensembles or classes within the School of Music. A list of students participating in each major ensemble or class will be provided by the conductor/professor of that ensemble/class to the Assistant Director of Operations by the end of the second week of the semester.

**Equipment and Maintenance**

The school provides equipment and instruments that are necessary for classes, rehearsals, events, and recording that require care, training, and maintenance. We understand that equipment can fail, and things can break, and ask that you be sure to report anything that is not working, and advise students of this policy, as this could result in loss of work or injury. If a piece of equipment breaks or is not functioning properly, let us know right away so no one is using something that is unsafe. We do not want someone expecting to use a piece of equipment to find it not working or in an unsafe condition.

Care of the pianos is extremely important. If you move a piano for a class or rehearsal, be sure to put it back in place and plug the system back in. Do not allow items to be placed on or in pianos and remove items if you see any on an instrument. Inform the Piano Technician, Bob Lee (315-371-6560), immediately of any problems with pianos.

Pianos should be plugged in, windows and doors closed and locked. Please be courteous and return the set up to the standard configuration and remind students to clean up. Do not leave trash or food in rooms.

If you have a problem in a room that requires maintenance, repair, or custodial assistance, please call the office in 301 at extension 9691 or e-mail [mjtaylor@syr.edu](mailto:mjtaylor@syr.edu). If you need assistance after hours for an emergency, such as a leak, plumbing problem, etc., please call 315-443-1234 immediately.

**Mailboxes**

Mailboxes for faculty are located in room 301 Crouse College. Please check and empty your mailbox regularly. Packages are left in the cart just inside of room 301. If you are expecting a large delivery, please inform the staff in 301, and note that notice that something has arrived on campus may mean it is in materials distribution and has not yet arrived at Crouse College.

**Office and Classroom Supplies**

Standard office and classroom supplies are available in 301 Crouse College. If we do not have something that you need, please follow the Purchasing policies on the [Setnor Resources](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/faculty-staff/) page to request what you need. Please follow the instructions carefully to avoid delays. Requests will take some time to process.

**Printer/Copier**

The Printer/Copier/Scanneris in Crouse 301 for instructional use. Copies for personal use are not authorized. Students may print to the machine with their student printer queues, so the machine is extremely busy - please plan ahead. The machine tracks the copies made. In an effort to save trees and keep copying costs down, faculty are encouraged to make use of e-mail attachments, Blackboard on-line classroom methods, web pages, or created “readers” as alternate means of distributing searchable handouts to students. Larger copy jobs may need to be sent out to a printing company and would require advance planning and budgeting. **Please be VERY conscious of copyright concerns.**

To make copies or to scan, tap your SUID card on the left side of machine, input your net id (the start of your SU email, without the @syr.edu) and Create a pin. After the first use, you will just tap your SUID and input your pin

Faculty and students who work for areas (graduate student workers, work study) will not be charged for copies. If a student working needs to be added to the list, inform [Michelle Taylor](mailto:mjtaylor@syredu) to be added in the system and not charged on their personal university printing account (the screen may note an amount for your printer queue, but you are not being charged).

**Be sure you have your SUID! Visit this link if you need a new or updated ID:** [**ID Cards - Housing – Syracuse University**](https://housingmealplans.syr.edu/idcards/)

**Alcohol Policy**

No alcohol is to be served at any Setnor School of Music events, regardless of location. This prohibition is School of Music policy and stands even when Campus Catering may be willing to provide alcohol. It is recognized that we share the building with the administrative offices of VPA, who may have different policies.

**Lockers**

Lockers are available for storage of music and instruments for music majors on their primary instrument. Students will receive their assignment from Operations at the beginning of their first year. Space is extremely limited, so additional lockers, or lockers for non-music majors may not be available. Students can request to be placed on a waiting list at [bwatso02@syr.edu](mailto:bwatso02@syr.edu). Please be reminded that the school is not responsible for lost or stolen items, including musical instruments.

## Parking

Applications for faculty/staff parking permits are available through MySlice or via the form on the [Parking and Transportation Services](http://parking.syr.edu/permits/employee-parking-application/) website. Location of parking is determined by seniority and availability. Significant fees are charged.

Faculty wishing to arrange parking during non-event hours for Guest Artists/VIPs must complete the IRVING GARAGE PARKING REQUEST in advance. The form is located on the [Setnor Resources](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/faculty-staff/) page. Do not send e-mails, call-in requests or contact parking with these requests. Last minute requests cannot be accommodated. As a reminder, we are not able to arrange special parking for employees of Syracuse University.

Parking for concerts is generally available in the Quad lot, but specific information for events will be listed on the [VPA Events Calendar](https://vpa.syr.edu/calendar/).

## Financial

**Program Fees**

Setnor students are charged a music program fee that covers a variety of expenses such as guest artists, master classes, travel, classroom supplies, equipment, technology, lessons, and so forth. The music program fee covers principal and secondary performance area lessons required in BS, BM, and MM degree programs. Any other elective lessons a student takes beyond those required for their degree program requires an additional lesson fee. Additional fees are also charged for courses requiring rental, replacement, or repair of instruments.

**Paychecks**

Checks are issued on the 15th and the last banking day of each month. When the 15th falls on a Saturday, checks are available the previous day. When the 15th falls on a Sunday, checks are available the following day. You are encouraged to make arrangements for direct deposit, which you can do through MySlice. For those without direct deposit, paychecks will be placed in your mailbox when possible.

**Payments**

All expenditures must be pre-approved by the Setnor School of Music Director via the proper forms on the [Setnor Resources](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/faculty-staff/) Faculty & Staff page. Payments to individuals require information such as name, country of citizenship, permanent address, and social security number and take approximately four weeks to process. Note that non-resident aliens from countries without signed tax agreements with the US will have a percentage deducted from their payment for taxes. All invoices from vendors must be billed to Syracuse University and invoices should not have faculty names on them.

**Forms for Faculty Funding (Travel, Additional Pay, Guest Artists, Purchases, etc)**

**All forms and processes for faculty funding are located on the** [Setnor Resources](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/faculty-staff/) Faculty & Staff page.

**Adjuncts United**

Part-Time Faculty are encouraged to request funding for travel through Adjuncts United. Please see the website for more information and check with them directly with any questions about the process. [Welcome to the Wiki of Adjuncts United - Adjuncts United (wikidot.com)](http://adjunctsunited.wikidot.com/). The Adjuncts United paperwork must be completed and emailed to the Setnor School of Music Director for approval. It will then be returned to the adjunct for them to forward to Adjuncts United. At this time, the Setnor School of Music does not fund travel for part-time instructors since funds can be requested through Adjuncts United.

## Faculty Leaves

**Leave of Absence Application**

The Setnor School of Music Director must provide a letter of support to accompany faculty applications for a Leave of Absence (aka sabbatical). The Director needs time for discussions with the appropriate department’s faculty members and the Executive Committee before making a decision. Therefore, those faculty members wishing to apply for a Leave of Absence must submit the full proposal to the Director as follows:

* Spring Semester Leaves of Absence: must submit by October 15 of the preceding year (e.g., 15 OCT 2025 for an LOA in Spring 2027)
* Fall Semester Leaves of Absence: must submit by March 15 of the preceding year (e.g., 15 MAR 2026 for an LOA in Fall 2027)

**Course Load Reduction for Research, Scholarship or Creative Activity**

Faculty members may apply for a load reduction to provide time to conduct research or engage in scholarly or creative activity beyond what can be accomplished normally. Such projects might include a book project, major commission, recording projects, major concerts, and so forth. There are the following three options for a course release:

* Buy Out: The faculty member pays the salary and fringe for a replacement instructor(s).
* Departmental Redistribution: A member (or members) of the faculty member’s department take on overloads to replace the work that the faculty member would have accomplished.
* Reduction Grant: The faculty member is granted a reduction and the school bears the cost of hiring a replacement instructor.

Procedures:

* Faculty member should discuss a reduction with his/her department chair well in advance.
* Faculty member presents plan for his/her replacement (A, B or C option, covering teaching and service, etc.).
* The department chair, working with faculty as appropriate, recommends a plan to the SSoM Director to replace the individual.
* The Setnor School of Music Director takes all applications to the Executive Committee for review and recommendation.

NOTE: It is best if a load reduction is planned far in advance (at least a semester ahead of time).

## Student Assistance and Resources

**Health and Wellness**

The university provides a number of services to support student health and wellness. Faculty can direct students to support services at [Home - Barnes Center at The Arch – Syracuse University](https://experience.syracuse.edu/bewell/?_gl=1*1pkgg4b*_ga*MjA4MzE1MjYxNy4xNjM3MTcwODk2*_ga_QT13NN6N9S*MTY2MDU5OTI4Ni4yOTYuMS4xNjYwNTk5OTU4LjYw).

**Musician Health and Wellness**

Musicians should be aware of particular health concerns that can be a part of the study, performance, listening, teaching, and other areas of music education and the industry. These concerns can include vocal, hearing, repetitive strain injuries and musculoskeletal issues, respiratory issues, and mental health issues. Preventative care, such as ear protection and proper practice techniques and self-care can be of great help. For more information, students are encouraged to talk with applied teachers, department chairs, or the music school director. Although many of these issues may be discussed in lessons, classes, and ensembles, it is important to seek medical or counseling advice for any concerns. For resources, including assistance regarding mental health, substance abuse, and sexual assault and relationship violence-related services visit [Setnor Musician Health and Wellness](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/musician-health-and-wellness/).

**Career Development**

Web: <https://vpa.syr.edu/student-services/career/>

Where: 200 Crouse College

The Office of Academic and Career Advising supports undergraduate and graduate students in all stages of their professional journey. Offerings include resume/cover letter reviews, developing an outstanding LinkedIn profile, finding an internship or job, networking tips, preparing for interviews, and guidance on career discernment.

**Center for Disability Resources (CDR)**

Web: <https://disabilityresources.syr.edu/about/>

Where: 804 University Ave.

The Center for Disability Resources (CDR) mission is to engage the University Community to empower students, enhance equity and provide a platform for innovation and inclusion. They provide individual academic adjustments when environmental barriers cannot be eliminated and assistive technology that fosters independent, self-determined learners.

**Center for Learning and Student Success (CLASS)**

Web: <https://class.syr.edu/>

Where: Bird Library - Room 014

The Center for Learning and Student Success (CLASS) provides and facilitates comprehensive, high-quality academic support services in partnership with offices and academic departments across Syracuse University. CLASS services are updated annually to meet the changing needs of the university’s diverse student body. Services include group and one-on-one tutoring, academic coaching, and academic integrity education and training designed to help students use research-based learning strategies to achieve their academic goals.

**The Writing Center**

Web: <https://thecollege.syr.edu/writing-center/>

Phone: 315.443.5289

Where: H.B. Crouse Hall - Room 101

The primary aim of the Writing Center is to help you become a stronger, more accomplished writer. No matter which form of support you choose, writing consultants will work with you at any stage of your writing process.

## Academic Affairs

**Academic Information** is available in a variety of publications, including:

* [SU Course Catalog](http://coursecatalog.syr.edu/)
* SU Bulletin - tuition, fees, and other policies [Tuition, Fees, and Related Policies Bulletin - BFAS – Syracuse University](https://bfas.syr.edu/bursar/tuition-fees-and-related-policies-bulletin/)
* Syracuse University Student Handbook [Student Handbook - Community Standards – Syracuse University](https://experience.syracuse.edu/community-standards/conduct-handbook/?_gl=1*9c7o0o*_gcl_au*MjA2OTk5MTAzNS4xNzQxMTAzOTQz*_ga*ODQ0MzA4NDUwLjE2NzAyNTIwODU.*_ga_65S0N1FWNY*czE3NDg2MTU2NjgkbzEzODQkZzEkdDE3NDg2MTcwMTgkajYwJGwwJGgw*_ga_S5CXSPXYHM*czE3NDg2MTU2Njgkbzk2MCRnMSR0MTc0ODYxNzAxOCRqNjAkbDAkaDA.)

## Syllabus Template

The university requires that every student receive a syllabus for every class each semester.

SU requires that all new and significantly revised course proposals use the current university Course Syllabus Template, which contains information required by the University Senate including the required statements regarding Disability, Academic Integrity, and Religious Observance. User-friendly versions of syllabus templates for courses and private lessons are distributed prior to the start of each semester.

**Final Examinations** may not be given on the last day of class or during reading days – they should be scheduled during the exam period on the university schedule. Juries are scheduled by the School of Music and take place after the last day of classes.

## Advising

**Faculty Advisor Responsibilities**

Faculty assigned as advisors have responsibilities including:

* Establishing and maintaining clearly posted regular office hours.
* Making time available during Advising periods, usually during the first week in November for spring registration, and the first week in April for fall registration.
* Monitoring each advisee in Degree Works/Orange SUccess during advising meetings in order to determine if the student is making adequate progress toward degree completion in a timely manner.
* Becoming fluent in all aspects of the academic program for which one is responsible, including familiarity with the Undergraduate and Graduate Course Catalogues.
* Reporting students who fail to be advised to the Academic Operations Coordinator ([Bryan Watson](mailto:bwatso02@syr.edu)).

**“At-Risk” Students**

Students are at risk of leaving the community if they:

* Exhibit a general lack of understanding of subject matter
* Score poorly on texts and quizzes
* Fail to complete assignments in a timely manner
* Do not attend class on a regular basis
* Are not prepared for lessons and classes
* Show signs of personal/health problems that affect their performance

When a problem is suspected, faculty should first speak directly to the student in person, if possible, or submit a comment via the Orange SUccess application located on their MySlice Faculty Services page. Faculty are encouraged to help the student solve the problem by such actions as:

* Facilitating (or recommending) tutoring, assigning extra work, meeting with the student, etc.
* Contacting the student’s Faculty Advisor
* Contacting the VPA Staff Advisor for the Setnor School of Music ([Meggy Park](mailto:mpark17@syr.edu))
* Contacting the Academic Operations Coordinator ([Bryan Watson](mailto:bwatso02@syr.edu)) to meet with the student.
* Contacting the Assistant Director for Student Services ([Vicki Smith](mailto:vrsmith@syr.edu)); this is especially helpful when the problem is ‘bigger than the student can handle’ (family and personal problems such as eating disorders, problems in classes outside the School of Music).

**NOTE: Faculty may NOT discuss student problems with people outside of the faculty and administration directly involved with the student. Faculty who share a student’s academic history, even with a parent, without the written consent of the student are in violation of the Buckley Amendment regarding student confidentiality of records, and risk legal action on the part of the student.**

## Majors and Advising – Undergraduate Students

The Setnor School of Music offers Bachelor of Music degrees in composition, music education, music industry, performance, and sound recording technology as well as the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degree in music.

**Students are assigned an advisor based on their intended major.**

## General Degree Requirements and Adequate Progress for all BA, BS, and BM Music Majors

The following policies apply to all BA, BS and BM students and are designed ensure that all members of the Setnor community are progressing toward satisfactory completion of their degree requirements:

* Ensembles: All students are required to participate in a large ensemble every semester they are in residence.
* **Musicianship Core: No student will be allowed to continue as a music major if the following courses have not been passed by the end of their second year as a music major: MTC 145, MTC 146, MTC 147, MTC 148, PNO 121, PNO122, and at least two of the following music history courses: MHL 185, MHL 267, MHL 268.**
* Keyboard Proficiency: All students must demonstrate keyboard proficiency equal or superior to that achieved in two years of study (one year for Music Education instrumental students) in the Setnor School of Music’s piano proficiency program.

* Grade Point Average: All students except music education majors must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (C). Music education students are dually enrolled in the Setnor School of Music and the School of Education. They must have achieved a 3.0 average in music and education courses, with an overall GPA of at least 3.0, before being permitted to enter into the upper division sequence (junior year) and to student teach (senior year).
* Lessons and Juries: **Music majors must achieve a grade of at least C- in private lessons. Any student falling below that grade is put on probation by the School of Music.** Students who fail to meet this standard after one semester of probation will be referred to the Director for advisement and may be required to leave the School of Music. This standard applies to all music students, regardless of major.

Students in all bachelor’s degrees share the lower division program for the first two years and confirm admission to a specific major at the end of the sophomore year.

The lower division music degree programs consist of four semesters each of: ear training, theory, history, principal instrument private instruction, keyboard skills, and large ensemble participation.

In addition, lower division students take two semesters of writing and selected academic courses (including several special courses that are degree specific for Composition, Music Education, Music Industry, and Sound Recording Technology majors).

**Sophomore Evaluation**

Admission to the upper division programs is based on the following criteria that is typically assessed at the end of the second year of study:

* Composition: Students present a portfolio of their compositions to the composition faculty at the semester-end jury.
* Music Education: Students apply to the music education department, including a personal statement. The lower division transcript is reviewed, and the student is interviewed by the music education faculty.
* Music Industry: Students are interviewed by the music industry faculty and the lower division transcript is reviewed.
* Performance: Students are evaluated at the second semester sophomore jury.
* Sound Recording Technology: Students are interviewed by the sound recording faculty and the lower division transcript is reviewed.
* B.A./B.S. in Music: Students meet with the advisor to review their academic progress and discuss future plans.

**Large Ensemble Participation Requirement**

Students in the bachelor’s degree programs in the School of Music are required to participate in a large concert ensemble on their major instrument every semester they are in residence as a full-time student. They must participate in the ensembles to which they are assigned. The large concert ensembles include University Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, University Singers, Oratorio Society, Crouse Chorale, and Setnor Sonority. Most large ensembles require auditions. Students may elect to participate in other large or small ensembles as their time permits.

## Undergraduate Music Minors

The Setnor School of Music offers minors in **Jazz Studies, Music Industry, Music Performance,** and **Private Music Study.** Information on each minor including application instructions and contact details can be found on the [Setnor Minors](https://vpa.syr.edu/academics/music/minors#s:jazz-studies) website.

## Majors and Advising - Graduate Students

The Setnor School of Music offers Master of Music degrees in composition, conducting, music education (via the School of Education; M.S. also offered), performance, and voice pedagogy, as well as the Master of Arts degree in Audio Arts (in conjunction with the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications).

**Students are assigned an advisor according to their degree program.**

After the results of the entrance diagnostic examinations are obtained, students should meet with their advisor for assistance in designing a program of study and completing a class schedule for the first semester and each semester thereafter. In addition, the advisor assists the student in completing arrangements for the final written and oral examinations.

Advisors must work with each of their graduate students to make sure that the meet the minimum threshold for full-time status each semester (9 credits) and that they take the courses needed in the semester offered. Students in MM Voice Pedagogy have the most prescribed curriculum, which must be followed carefully each semester to insure that required courses are taken when offered.

**Grading**

To be a graduate student in good standing, students must comply with the Graduate Grading Standards, which consider passing grades as A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, and C-. The D grade is not an option for graduate students. The minimum GPA for graduate work is 2.8 in the first 30 credits. Certification for an advanced degree requires a minimum average of 3.0 for work comprising the program for the degree and a 2.8 average for all credits earned.

Specific programs in VPA can require the passing of additional reviews, examinations, and assessments of graduate work for a graduate student to be considered in good standing. Such reviews and assessments can result in continuation without reservations, continuation during a probationary period or termination of student status.

Graduate Students may retake a course in which he/she earned a grade of C+, C, C- or F, with the approval of his/her department/college and the Graduate School. Graduate courses may be retaken only once. A repeated course replaces the original course on the student’s degree program of study, but both the original course and the repeated course will appear on the student’s transcript and both courses will calculate, unless the original course is flagged.

For additional information on grading and other academic procedures please visit the [Academic Rules](http://coursecatalog.syr.edu/content.php?catoid=18&navoid=2374#24-0) found in the *Syracuse University Course Catalog.*

## Student Academic Forms

Forms needed to complete various academic moves such as declaring a minor, class withdrawal, petitions to the faculty, etc. are available at the Registrar’s [Student Forms](https://registrar.syr.edu/students/student-forms/) page. Please use this page for the most recent versions of all academic forms.

**Auditing a Course**

Students wishing to audit a course should follow the instructions and complete the [Audit Request Form](https://registrar.syr.edu/wp-content/uploads/form-grading-option-request-for-audit.pdf) located at the University Registrar’s website.

**Independent Study/Experience Credit**

* Independent study/experience credit is available to students who wish to explore a special problem or area of study for which a formal course does not exist.
* Independent study is usually a research project or academic work guided by a faculty sponsor.
* Experience credit is associated with fieldwork or other work experience in your program of study.

**Experience credit and independent study** courses may be elected for one to six credits, depending on individual arrangements with the participating faculty member. In selected topics courses, students may earn one to three credits. Students are advised to check carefully with their faculty advisors and the dean of their school or college before registering for an All-University course to be sure that the course will be accepted toward the completion of their degree requirements.

**Undergraduate and Graduate Students (Application Process)**

To apply for independent study/experience credit, you need to submit a proposal:

1. Download a [Proposal for Independent Study Course](https://registrar.syr.edu/wp-content/uploads/form-independent-study-course-proposal.pdf)
2. Secure the approval of a full-time faculty member who will assist you in planning your work, oversee your progress and grade your final work. Teaching assistants, graduate students and adjunct faculty may not supervise independent study and experience credit projects.
3. Write your plan on the Proposal for Independent Study Course form and have it approved by your faculty sponsor, academic advisor, and Setnor School of Music Director.
4. Return the completed and signed form to the VPA Office of Student Success to get approval from the assistant dean. This needs to be done by the published Add Deadline.
5. The signed form serves as your enrollment form for independent study or experience credit. The VPA Office of Student Success will forward the approved proposal to the Registrar’s Student Records Office, where the course will be added to your schedule.

## Applied Music Policies

**Registration**

All undergraduate music majors are required to register for lessons on their principal instrument. BM Composition majors are also required to register for composition lesson. Students wishing to take additional elective lessons are welcome to do so for an additional fee.

All candidates for the MM Performance and MM Voice Pedagogy must register for lessons on their principal instrument each semester. MM Composition candidates must register for composition lessons and MM Conducting candidates must register for conducting lessons. Students wishing to take additional elective lessons are welcome to do so for an additional fee.

It is extremely important for faculty to check their class rosters in MySlice to make sure their lists are correct, as full-time faculty loads as well as the pay for part-time faculty members is based upon these lists. Any discrepancy should be reported to [Megan Carlsen](mailto:mecarlse@syr.edu) and [Bryan Watson](mailto:bwatso02@syr.edu). Class lists are updated until the academic/financial drop deadline, which can be found in the [Academic Calendar](https://www.syracuse.edu/academics/calendars/) through the Registrar’s Website. After this date, students who drop will be charged for the full semesters applied music fee. All full- and part-time faculty will be required to sign off on lesson rosters.

**Secondary or Elective Instrument Registration**

Required secondary lessons will be covered by the Student Program Fee and there will be no extra charge. Students should review with their academic advisor whether they need to register for lessons on a secondary instrument. Students are always welcome to take additional elective lessons; however, should note that there will always be a fee charged for elective or non-required secondary lessons.

\*\*Please feel free to copy and paste the paragraph below to give to any students who may contact you regarding lesson registration. Department Chairs and Area Coordinators, who typically get student requests for lessons may wish to keep this paragraph handy.

*Should you wish to take either required, secondary, or elective lessons, you need to complete and SUBMIT ONLINE a Private Music Instruction Registration Form (*[*Music Major Form*](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/music-majors/)*;* [*Non-Music Major Form*](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/non-music-majors/)*). Once the form has been submitted, a copy will come to the School of Music, and you will be assigned an instructor and registered for your lesson(s). If there are any issues with your form, someone from the School of Music will contact you.*

**Assignment of Instructors**

In areas with multiple instructors (e.g., piano, voice, etc.), a student’s request for a specific instructor will be considered based on that instructor’s availability. The request for a specific instructor should only be made to the appropriate Area Coordinator. Changes are generally only approved between semesters. In unusual cases where a student seeks a change of studio instructor during the course of a semester, these steps should be taken, in the following order:

1. The student should attempt to resolve any problem/conflict directly with the instructor.

2. If the conflict is not resolved, or if for any reason the student is uncomfortable discussing the issue with his/her instructor, the student should consult the appropriate Area Coordinator.

3. If the Area Coordinator, in consultation with the Chair of the Department of Applied Music and Performance and the Setnor School of Music Director, believe that the conflict cannot be satisfactorily resolved, the student may be moved to another studio.

**Lesson Attendance**

A semester of applied study consists of fourteen private lessons. Hour lessons may be given in two weekly half-hour lessons at the discretion of the instructor, but regularly combining lessons from different weeks may only be done by petition. Missed lessons must be made up prior to the end-of-semester jury; lessons missed by the instructor should be made up, and lessons missed by the student may be made up at the discretion of the instructor. If an instructor feels that student has accumulated an excess of absences by the end of the semester, the student may:

* enter the jury exam, if scheduled, with an instructor’s grade of 75 or lower based on work completed, or
* withdraw from the course, or
* receive a grade of “F” in the course, or
* in cases of extreme medical or personal circumstances, request an incomplete grade for the semester. Missed lessons would be made up during the next semester, and the instructor would decide on how a final grade for the previous semester would be calculated. The Request Incomplete button is available on the faculty grade roster in MySlice.

**Jury Examinations**

All Music Majors enrolled in applied music lessons will be required to perform a formal jury examination at the end of each semester as scheduled on their principal instrument, regardless of the number of credits for which they are enrolled. Jury exams are not required in secondary performance areas, if lessons are taken as an elective, or of students who are not music majors, but may be taken at the discretion of the instructor. The smallest allowable jury consists of the instructor and two other faculty members.

The combined (average) grade of the jury counts for 25% of the final grade. Repertoire requirements vary from area to area and can be obtained from the area coordinator. Students may be required to present a score of the piece or pieces played/sung at the jury; check with the area coordinator concerning these possible requirements. The student is given written evaluations of the performance by each juror following the jury. No late or make-up juries are given. If illness forces the cancellation of a jury, it must be documented by a medical practitioner; the instructor’s semester grade then stands as the final grade. If a student misses a jury for any other reason, the jury grade will be 0, and that 0 counted as 25% of the final grade. It is to be noted that receiving a grade of less than 70 automatically places the student on academic probation by the Setnor School of Music for the following semester.

**New Music Requirement**

In the hope of ensuring that all undergraduate music majors develop knowledge of music of the present time, it is required that:

1. All students perform a work composed within the last 100 years on at least one jury per year. A different contemporary compositional style must be represented on each successive jury.
2. All Performance and Performance Honors students must perform one work composed within their lifetime, or a work by a living composer on one recital, **OR**
3. Performance and Performance Honors students may elect, instead of #2, to perform at least one work by a School of Music student composer either as part of a solo recital, or on a school-sponsored concert of student compositions. To substitute #3 for #2, approval must be obtained both from the composition professor and the applied professor involved.

Students will be asked to indicate on their end-of-semester jury repertoire sheets which work will fulfill their New Music Requirement for the year. Student recitalists will be asked to indicate on their PRJ Form how they are fulfilling their New Music Requirement for the academic year.

**Performance Honors**

* Performance Honors is an upper division program for non-performance music major students that wish to meet performance requirements at or near those required of performance majors. Students are eligible to apply for the program during the sophomore year, with an approved jury serving as the program audition.
* Students accepted into the performance honors program must give both a junior and senior recital commensurate with the requirements for degree recitals in the performance major.
* Official recognition of Performance Honors program participation and completion appears as a milestone on student transcripts but does not appear on the diploma.
* Auditions for Performance Honors occur during the sophomore year. Most students audition during the spring semester jury. Students interested in pursuing Performance Honors should discuss the requirements with their private lesson instructors prior to auditioning.
* In order to audition, students bring the [Application for Performance Honors](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/PERFORMANCE-HONORS-FORM-Fall-2022-Update.pdf) form to the jury. If the student is denied admission to Performance Honors, the Area Coordinator may petition the Chair of the Department of Applied Music and Performance for a re-audition.
* For those students going abroad in the spring semester of their sophomore year, the fall semester jury will act as the preliminary audition for PH. Should the jury feel the student is qualified and worthy, a conditional acceptance will be given, and a brief 10-minute audition will be required in the first week of the fall semester, junior year, once they return to campus. Due to registration restrictions, this audition must happen in the first week of classes, no exceptions. Those students not accepted conditionally in the fall will still have the option to take an audition at this time but will play a full 20-minute audition for acceptance into Performance Honors.

## Grading Procedures

**Undergraduates:**

Each primary lesson instructor will submit (as requested) end-of-semester grade forms for each of their primary instrument/voice students that includes a grade for each of the following areas: one for lesson work, one for the jury, and a composite grade of the two, weighted 75% lesson work and 25% jury. While only the composite appears on the grade report, all three remain on record in the student’s permanent file. All grades are numerical and converted to a letter grade. There is no lower limit to grades assigned for either lesson work or juries. Students must achieve a grade of 70 in both lesson and jury each semester after the first semester of study. Any student falling below that grade is put on academic probation by the School of Music. Students who fail to meet this standard after one semester of probation will be referred to the Director for advisement and may be required to leave the School of Music. This standard applies to all music students, regardless of major. The following chart shows the conversion of numbers to letters for undergraduate students:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Numeric Grade**  93-100 | **Letter Grade**  A | **Numeric Grade**  77-79 | **Letter Grade**  C+ |
| 90-92 | A- | 73-76 | C |
| 87-89 | B+ | 70-72 | C- |
| 83-86 | B | 60-69 | D |
| 80-82 | B- | 0-59 | F |

**Graduates:**

Each primary lesson instructor will submit (as requested) end-of-semester grade forms for each of their primary instrument/voice students that includes a grade for each of the following areas: one for lesson work, one for the jury, and a composite grade of the two, weighted 75% lesson work and 25% jury. While only the composite appears on the grade report, all three remain on record in the student’s permanent file. All grades are numerical and converted to a letter grade. While there is no lower limit to grades assigned for either lesson work or juries, graduate students cannot receive a grade of D on their transcript. Students must achieve a grade of 70 in both lesson and jury each semester after the first semester of study. Any student falling below that grade is put on academic probation by the School of Music. Students who fail to meet this standard after one semester of probation will be referred to the Director for advisement and may be required to leave the School of Music. This standard applies to all music students, regardless of major. The following chart shows the conversion of numbers to letters for graduate students:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Numeric Grade**  93-100 | **Letter Grade**  A | **Numeric Grade**  77-79 | **Letter Grade**  C+ |
| 90-92 | A- | 73-76 | C |
| 87-89 | B+ | 70-72 | C- |
| 83-86 | B | 0-69 | F |
| 80-82 | B- |  |  |

## Student Recitals

* Juniors and seniors majoring in Music Performance, and those students awarded Performance Honors will perform one recital in the junior year and one in the senior year. The junior recital will consist of a half recital (35 minutes of actual music). The student performing a half recital will typically share the time slot with another junior giving a half recital. Seniors will perform a recital consisting of 50-60 minutes of actual music, one student to a time slot. Composition students will perform one recital in the senior year.
* MM Performance students will perform two recitals consisting of 50-60 minutes of actual music. MM Conducting students will perform two recitals consisting of 30-40 minutes of actual music. MM Composition students prepare works for one recital in the second year of study. MM Voice Pedagogy students present a lecture recital during their final semester of study.
* MM Performance and MM Conducting students must register for recitals for one credit as follows: Recital #1 is PER 994 and Recital #2 is PER 995. The recital grade for each course will appear on the transcript.
* MM Composition students must register for PER 994 for one credit during the semester they present their recital. MM Voice Pedagogy students must register for PER 996 when completing their lecture recital.
* Some students may opt to do an ‘Elective’ (non-required) recital. This type of recital does not receive a grade, however, must be approved and follow the same faculty pre-recital jury process as all other required recitals.
* Recitals generally take place in Setnor Auditorium. Requests for recitals to take place in locations other than Setnor Auditorium must be made in conjunction with the faculty instructor and the Setnor Operations office. Students presenting a lecture recital may wish to do so in a classroom. Recital forms, information, and program templates are located at [Setnor Resources](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/music-majors/).

**\*MM PIANO PERFORMANCE:**

The Graduate Student Handbook states that all MM Performance Majors will perform 2 recitals of 50-60 minutes of actual music. In light of changing standards in the industry, the Keyboard Faculty has adopted the following updates and clarifications to this requirement for pianists pursuing the (solo) performance track:

* The first recital may be 40-50 minutes of music. This includes solo repertoire but may also include chamber music and/or substantive collaborative work(s). Repertoire other than solo material must be approved by the major teacher in consultation with the area coordinator. Solo works should comprise a minimum of 20 minutes of the total recital time.
* The second recital will be 50-60 minutes of music. As with the first recital, this includes solo repertoire, but may also include chamber music and/or substantive collaborative work(s). Repertoire other than solo material must be approved by the major teacher in consultation with the area coordinator. Solo works should comprise a minimum of 30 minutes of the total recital time.
* Chamber music and collaborative performances should be presented using the score.
* For solo repertoire, the use of scores is permitted, but memorization is strongly encouraged. In the case of contemporary or more complex selections, memorization is up to the best judgement of the performer, in consultation with the applied teacher.
* A minimum of 20 minutes or 50% (whichever is greater) of the total time of all solo repertoire presented must be performed from memory at each recital. The PRJ must be in the same format as the recital, i.e., a work may not be presented at the PRJ with the score in hopes of playing that work on the recital from memory.

The faculty may revisit these requirements from time to time and update them.

**Recital Date Selection**

During the spring, those students with an upcoming fall recital will be contacted to select dates, then other students will be contacted, generally starting with second year grads and collaborative pianists and ending with junior recitals. Moving the date for any reason, other than emergency or cancelation may not be possible within the same semester. Students, faculty, and collaborators should all be in communication about dates that work with the schedules of all involved.

There are many steps to presenting a recital, and forms that must be completed. **Please note: completing all aspects of recital preparation, including the paperwork, are critical to a successful event and professional development.**

In general, undergraduate degree recitals are scheduled as follows:

* BM Composition - Composition Recital: Senior recital - Fall or Spring of Senior year
* BM Composition Performance Honors- Fall or Spring of Junior year; Senior recital - Fall or Spring of Senior year
* BM Performance: Junior recital - Spring of Junior year; Senior recital - Spring of Senior year
* BM/BS Performance Honors: Junior recital - Fall or Spring of Junior year; Senior recital - Fall or Spring of Senior year pending possible internship/study abroad semester
* BM Music Education Performance Honors: Junior recital - Fall of Junior year; Senior recital - Fall of Senior year

**Recital Repertoire**

Recital repertoire selections typically should represent what the student studies in lessons on their primary instrument (i.e., classical repertoire for students who take traditional lessons and jazz/commercial repertoire for students who take jazz/commercial lessons). Students who want to be assured that their recital repertoire is appropriate are welcome and encouraged to bring their planned repertoire list to their Area Coordinator for review. Students who arrive to the PRJ with performance material deemed unsuitable by the faculty jury will risk having the works in question eliminated from the recital and replaced. When choosing recital repertoire, please be sure to keep in mind **required recital length** and the undergraduate **New Music Requirement**.

**Lecture Recitals**

Lecture Recitals are an option for MM/MS degree programs and serve as a requirement for the MM Voice Pedagogy degree. While the Lecture Recital for the MM Voice Pedagogy degree (AMC 799) has its own stand-alone syllabus and requirements, the standard lecture recital for all other degrees typically includes three elements (3 P’s):

* a research **PAPER** that serves as the basis for the presentation
* a **POWER POINT PRESENTATION** that gives a bullet point summary of the research presented in the lecture
* a **PERFORMANCE** that includes the researched work(s) accompanied by the Power Point presentation

In all majors except for Voice Pedagogy, the lecture recital may substitute for the final oral comprehensive examination.

It is important that students work with their private instructor in order to establish target deadlines regarding the progression of the research paper and Power Point presentation.

**Recital Jury Panels and Recital Responsibilities**

Recital Jury Panels are required for all undergraduate and graduate degree-required and elective recitals. The only exception to this is the music education graduate lecture recital, which requires no jury panel.

A minimum of 3 faculty members are required for a recital jury panel. This includes the student’s primary instructor, an instructor from their immediate area, and a third instructor either from, or outside of their area. Faculty members chosen for a student’s recital jury must be present at the student’s Pre-Recital Jury (PRJ) and should agree to be present at the recital. Typically, Pre-Recital Juries should not last more than one hour.

Students giving a recital must complete a [PRJ Form](https://syracuseuniversitysetnorschoolofmusic.formstack.com/forms/student_prj_form). Recital paperwork and guidelines are available at [Setnor Resources](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/).

In order to provide the Setnor Operations Office adequate time to prepare for the needs of each recital, PRJ Forms must be completed and submitted online no later than **2 months prior to the PRJ date.**

**The completed PRJ FORM will need to be printed by the student and brought to the pre-recital jury**. All faculty jurors will need to sign the PRJ form following the successful completion of the jury. As soon as the PRJ is passed, the student should be prepared to visit 301 Crouse in order to arrange for the recital dress rehearsal date and time.

Pre-Recital Juries are held approximately **3 weeks prior to the date of the student’s recital** in order to allow adequate time for incorporation of suggestions, or if necessary, a second jury for material that did not pass. Students will be given an approximate PRJ date once they have chosen their recital date. The actual PRJ date should fall within 3 days before or after this date. If this date falls during a vacation, then plans should be made to do the PRJ prior to the vacation time. If a chamber group is planned for the recital and all performers cannot attend the PRJ, then at minimum, a recorded performance must be submitted prior to the scheduled PRJ date for faculty evaluation.

Students should consider the PRJ as the date in which their recital is as close to performance ready as possible.

**Faculty-Specific Recital Jury Panel Responsibilities**

**Faculty members who agree to be on a student’s jury panel must attend the PRJ and should make every effort to plan to attend the student’s recital performance in order to offer support, commentary, and to represent the Setnor faculty for the student’s visiting family and friends.**

If a faculty member knows that they will be unable to attend a student’s recital, they should decline the request to serve on the jury panel. If a conflict should arise after the commitment has been made, the faculty member should let the student know in advance of the PRJ so that the student has the opportunity to select another juror that can be in attendance. If an unexpected situation arises where a juror suddenly is unable to be in attendance at a recital, then viewing the stream with supportive comments would be allowed. Listening to recordings post-recital date is not recommended.

Prompt submission of recital grades (including added comments for student review) is encouraged upon receipt of the follow-up recital grade request email.

**Undergraduate** recital grades will be averaged by the Academic Operations Coordinator and then sent to the student and instructor along with any faculty comments. The final undergraduate recital grade is factored into the final lesson average (25%) by the lesson instructor in place of the end-of-semester jury grade if the recital falls after the semester mid-term and no jury was performed, or if the recital grade is higher than the final grade from an end-of-semester jury that does take place.

**Graduate** recital grades will also be averaged by the Academic Operations Coordinator and then sent to the student and instructor along with any faculty comments. The final recital grade will then be entered by the Academic Operations Coordinator via the corresponding PER994, PER995, or PER996 course that the student is currently enrolled in. The recital grade is **not** averaged into the graduate student’s final lesson grade.

**Recital Jury Waiver**

If an undergraduate student has played a recital in the second half of the semester (following Midterm and thus leaving inadequate time to prepare new repertoire) they may have the jury waived for that semester. In this case, the recital grade will stand as 25% of the final grade, with the instructor’s grade counting for the other 75%. That student may, however, elect to play a jury, and in that case, either the recital grade or the jury grade can be used as 25%, whichever is higher. A student who has played a recital in the first half of the semester must play a jury, but that student may also choose either the recital grade or the jury grade, whichever is higher.

If a graduate student has played a recital in the second half of the semester (following Midterm and thus leaving inadequate time to prepare new repertoire) they may have the jury waived for that semester. In this case the instructor’s semester lesson average will stand for the final lesson grade. A student who has played a recital in the first half of the semester must play a jury.

Faculty should guide students and encourage them to closely follow the procedures for students performing recitals – updated information is available on [Setnor Resources](https://setnor-resources.vpa.syr.edu/faculty-staff/)

## Collaborative Piano Guidelines

Pianists play an essential role in facilitating performance at music schools. Their skills and services are required for playing in orchestra and wind ensemble concerts; chamber music; special events and approved instrumental and vocal degree recitals.

Given the dual constraints of an expanding non-pianist student population coupled with severely limited resources for maintaining a collaborative keyboard staff, the school has set priorities for facilitating repertoire preparation at the highest level for upper-division and graduate students, in juries and in performance.

All vocal and instrumental students are responsible for procuring capable pianists for their lessons, juries, and any other performance events. It is advised that students be proactive and plan accordingly, in consultation with their applied teachers. Students are free to choose whomever they wish to engage, and all terms should be established upfront with their pianist. Some collaborations may arise with fellow students who may or may not be piano majors. An updated list of recommended SU and Syracuse area pianists will be provided by the piano faculty.

The only exception to the above guidelines is that the Setnor School provides support for qualifying upper-division and graduate degree recitals. Graduate performance majors are awarded this support when they are accepted to the school. Undergraduates must pass their performance or performance honors jury (normally at the end of the sophomore year). Collaborative support for this group of students is provided mainly in two ways, as described below.

**Recital Accompanist Payment information**

If a Teaching Assistant (TA) is assigned to a student for their required recital, the TA will NOT receive any additional funds for this service from the School of Music. The student performing the recital must still complete the Recital Accompanist Agreement, so the information can be kept on file. If a TA is assigned to a student, and the student chooses not to work with that TA, it will be up to the student to find an accompanist and to fund them on their own.

If an approved accompanist (not a TA) has been assigned to the student, the School of Music will pay the accompanist the following for REQUIRED Recitals as outlined in the [Recital Accompanist Pay Request - Formstack](https://syracuseuniversitysetnorschoolofmusic.formstack.com/forms/recital_accompanist_pay_request):

Undergraduate Junior Recital = $250.00 ($50 per hour for 5 hours total)

This fee will cover:

Pre Recital Jury = 1 hour

Dress Rehearsal = 1 hour

Recital = 1 hour

Rehearsals/Lessons = 2 hours

Senior and Graduate Recital FULL\* = $400.00 ($50 per hour for 8 hours total)

This fee will cover:

Pre Recital Jury = 1 hour

Dress Rehearsal = 1 hour

Recital = 1 hour

Rehearsals/Lessons = 5 hours

COMPOSITION STUDENTS = TBD - Please contact Megan Carlsen [mecarlse@syr.edu](mailto:mecarlse@syr.edu) to discuss fee

\* Senior/Graduate Recitals requiring an accompanist for only half of the program will be compensated at the $250 fee.

The accompanist and student are expected to come to rehearsals prepared. Any issue raised by the lack of preparation on the part of the accompanist that may result in need of extra rehearsals should be resolved between the student/teacher team and the accompanist. In this instance, if warranted, the extra rehearsals will be the responsibility of the accompanist.

If a student wishes to have more rehearsals, in order to achieve the desired performance quality, the extra rehearsals may be planned and agreed upon between the student and the accompanist. All rehearsal hours beyond the number covered by the School of Music will be the responsibility of the student.

Recital fees listed above are reviewed at the end of each semester and may be adjusted at the discretion of the Director of the School of Music.

**Instrumental Recitals**

Required **Graduate** and **Senior** Instrumental Recitals (Performance and Performance Honors)

If a Teaching Assistant (TA) has not been assigned to the student, then the School of Music will contribute a maximum of $400 for a qualified accompanist. It is the student’s responsibility to engage the pianist him- or herself, negotiating the total fee directly with the contracted pianist, including lessons, rehearsals, pre-recital jury and the performance, with a provision for extra rehearsals.

Additional hours required of the accompanist are the financial responsibility of the student and are to be paid at an agreed upon rate with the pianist.

Required **Junior** Instrumental Recitals (Performance and Performance Honors)

The School of Music will contribute a maximum of $250 for a qualified accompanist. It is the student’s responsibility to engage the pianist him- or herself, negotiating the total fee directly with the contracted pianist, including lessons, rehearsals, pre-recital jury and the performance, with a provision for extra rehearsals.

Additional hours required of the accompanist are the financial responsibility of the student recitalist and are to be paid at a rate agreed upon up front by both parties.

Non-Degree Recitals

The student is completely responsible for procuring the services of a pianist of his or her choice and no additional funds will be available from the School of Music.

**Vocal Recitals**

For Required **Junior, Senior, and Graduate** Vocal Recitals (Performance and Performance Honors. Lecture Degree recitals are not paid):

If a Teaching Assistant (TA) is assigned to a student for their recital, the TA will NOT receive any additional funds for this service. The student performing the recital must still complete the Recital Accompanist Agreement, so the information can be kept on file. If a TA is assigned to a student, and the student chooses not to work with that TA, it will be up to the student to find an accompanist and to fund them on their own.

Other Accompanying

Additional hours or services (e.g., convocation, master classes, competitions, travel to off-campus events, etc.) required of the accompanist are the financial responsibility of the voice student based upon mutual agreement upfront between the voice student and the pianist.

Non-Degree Recitals

As above, the student is completely responsibly for procuring the services of a pianist of his or her choice.

## Teaching Assistant Guidelines

Teaching assistantship guidelines are established by Syracuse University and call for a maximum workload of 10 hours per week for a half TA, or 20 hours for a full TA. With this in mind, the following allotments have been established for piano TAs, who will also have some responsibilities supporting the Keyboard area by assisting with piano classes, tests, and other administrative duties:

Full Assistantship

7 vocal recitals, with a maximum of 4 per semester (with the same terms as half TAs, listed above)

Staffing of the opera/opera workshop will be considered the equivalent of 2 recitals. The ½ TA who has primary responsibility for the opera workshop may be assigned two or three recitals, depending on the needs of the opera during the spring semester.

This arrangement allows for a maximum of 18 vocal degree recitals per year, although the maximum in the spring semester could be as low as 11 (if there were 2 Full TAs plus one half TA handling the opera workshop) to a high of 15 (if there were 3 half TAs plus one full TA) due to the need to hold any one pianist’s load in the spring semester to 4, to ensure adequate progress in his or her own performance program.

It will be up to the voice area how to allocate the pianists’ total available hours and recital accompanying. In consultation with the piano faculty, the voice area may elect to reassign a pianist to a choral ensemble (in exchange for 2 recital credits).

Summary

Students with a full assistantship provide up to 7 vocal degree recitals (or equivalent\*) per academic year (with a maximum of 4 in the spring semester). Students with a ½ assistantship provide up to 4 vocal degree recitals (or equivalent\*) per academic year.

“Equivalent” refers to other needs of the voice area such as opera workshop, choral ensembles, etc., that may be staffed instead of recitals, at the voice area’s discretion. In consultation with the keyboard faculty, a TA’s load may be adjusted based on recital scheduling and the perceived difficulty of the assignments. (E.g., a ½ TA who plays 3 [shorter] junior recitals by the middle of February, including one that took place in November, may have additional duties assigned vs. another TA who is playing considerably longer programs that are scheduled in March and April.)

In the event that the voice area does not need the full TA allotment of hours, the TAs may be assigned to play for instrumental recitals or other performance service.

**Collaborative Courtesies**

* Faculty should guide students in collaborative work. Efficient communication is essential. Collaborative partners should: exchange e-mail addresses, phone numbers, and basic schedules so that each collaborative partner can plan ahead and avoid scheduling problems; respond immediately to all messages from one’s partner; be professional, courteous, and collegial in every circumstance; welcome constructive suggestions for the improvement of the performance as well as the effective management of rehearsals.
* Collaborative partners should inform each other of lessons, rehearsals, and performances well in advance, as well as the repertoire for those events. Collaborative partners should enter all appointments agreed upon in a planner immediately and be punctual for those appointments. If a scheduled appointment must be cancelled, all personnel should be contacted, preferably at least a day in advance.
* Each partner should come to rehearsals and lessons with the music well prepared. No partner should find it necessary to teach another notes and rhythms, unless this part of the relationship is established upfront.
* Copies given to a pianist should be copied or taped back-to-back with holes punched. Two-page pieces should be punched on the inside edge in such a way as to eliminate any need for a page turn. It may be necessary to provide a ring binder for the pianist as well. All copies should be prepared this way; no pianist should be given unprepared loose copies.
* Measure numbers should be marked at the beginning of each line, especially for instrumental music.
* Providing the pianist with recordings of pieces may be very helpful and is encouraged.

## Graduate Degree Programs

For information on requirements for MM degree programs in Composition, Conducting, Performance, Voice Pedagogy, and the MA Audio Arts please visit the [Setnor School of Music Degree Programs](https://vpa.syr.edu/academics/music/programs/).

For information on requirements for MM and MS degree programs in Music Education please visit the [School of Education Graduate Course Catalog](http://coursecatalog.syr.edu/content.php?catoid=36&navoid=4600#Academic_Offerings).

## Graduate Degree Program Terminal Requirements

**Master’s Thesis in Music Education**

The content of the thesis should clearly state the following:

• Statement of the problem or definition of the topic which is the subject of the thesis;

• Examination or review of previous research or related literature;

• Description of the purpose of the thesis including questions and/or hypotheses which will be explored by the writer;

• Methods/procedures by which information contained in the thesis was gathered.

The format of the thesis must be consistent. One style manual should be used. Students writing an experimental or descriptive thesis will use the current edition of the publication manual of the American Psychological Association. Students, in consultation with their thesis advisor, should request other pertinent information from the Graduate School office before submitting a final draft.

The student is cautioned to work closely with their thesis advisor and program advisor in preparation of the thesis. It is advisable to seek help from the committee members when problems in style or content arise. At a time determined by the thesis advisor, a prospectus or rough draft of the thesis will be circulated to the student’s committee (three members of the faculty, including the program advisor). Committee suggestions for the final draft should be assimilated prior to the oral defense.

Final decisions regarding the content of the thesis are made by the thesis advisor.

Copies of the thesis should be provided for the thesis advisor and members of the thesis committee. Other copies may be required for the library and/or the Graduate School. The student should also make a copy for personal use.

**Style Manuals**

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Seventh Edition. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association, Inc., 2019.

Turabian, Kate L. A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018.

**Oral Defense of Thesis**: It is the student’s responsibility to make arrangements for the oral examination, after consultation with the advisor. The panel for the oral examination will be the student’s thesis committee. The student should prepare a thirty-minute presentation summarizing the content of the thesis. The presentation may be made as a public presentation. This presentation will be followed by an oral examination defense of the thesis with the committee only. Once consent has been reached by the committee members on the acceptance of the completed thesis, the Department Chair is responsible for filing the completion of thesis form and submitting it to the appropriate academic advisor in 111 Waverly Avenue, Suite 230.

**Master’s Degree Comprehensive Examination Guide for Music Education**

Graduate music education students who do not write a thesis are required to complete written and oral comprehensive examinations. The comprehensive exams demonstrate to the faculty that the student has a scholarly and sophisticated understanding of the content of the degree program. The timeline is as follows:

**Beginning of final semester of classes**

* Pick the examination committee in consultation with the Department Chair. It should consist of \*\*full-time faculty members including:
* The Department Chair
* Another music education faculty member (preferably someone with whom you have studied).
* One other School of Music or School of Education faculty member (again, someone with whom you have studied).
* Schedule the actual times of the exam. The written exam requires three weeks of your time. The oral exam (if requested by your committee) takes place at least five days after the written exam, and generally lasts about an hour.
* Remember that faculty schedules can be difficult to coordinate; while scheduling the written exam time will be relatively easy, the oral portion of the exam requires the full committee to meet together with you, and it may require some effort to find a mutually agreeable time.
* After securing the members of the committee, the student should discuss possible question areas with each committee member. Committee members are then responsible for providing the student two questions each (for a total of 6 questions for the student) via the Department Chair two days prior to the start date specified.

**One week before the written examination**

* Remind the committee members that their questions are due via e-mail to the Department Chair two days prior to the actual exam start date.

**The 3 weeks of the written examination**

* You will receive all six questions and exam instructions from the Department Chair via e-mail which will signify the start of the examination process. Once the student answers all six questions, they should return three typed copies of both questions and answers to the Department Chair’s office by the date and time specified within the exam instructions. All aspects of the exam answers must be formatted in APA or Turabian Style.

**3 days after the written answers were submitted**

* Check with the Program Chair to see if committee members have read the answers and are willing to proceed with the oral examination. Committee members may ask for questions to be re-written prior to the oral examination. If this happens, the oral examination may need to be re-scheduled.

**The oral examination**

The oral examination takes place at least five days after the written answers have been submitted and generally lasts about an hour. Questions for the oral examination are based upon the written answers and previous course work or experiences. After the oral examination, the committee may:

* Require the entire comprehensive exam process be repeated with new questions. The student may elect to use the same committee or may choose a new committee.
* Require that the written and/or oral portions of the exam be repeated with the same questions.
* Require that the answers to certain questions be re-written. The committee will decide a deadline, as well as which committee member(s) will need to approve the new answer(s).
* Require that the oral portion of the exam be repeated for either some questions, or all questions. The committee may determine which committee member(s) will be present at the new oral examination.
* Based on the quality of the student’s answers, will choose to pass the student, and not hold the oral portion of the comprehensive examination.
* Upon unanimous consent, assign a grade of pass or fail to the examination. Once consent has been reached by the committee members, the Department Chair is responsible for filing the completion of exam form and submitting it to the appropriate academic advisor in 111 Waverly Avenue, Suite 230.

**Master’s Degree Comprehensive Examinations for Composition, Conducting, Performance, and Voice Pedagogy**

Graduate students who do not write a thesis are required to complete written and oral comprehensive examinations. The comprehensive exams demonstrate to the faculty that the student has a scholarly and sophisticated understanding of the content of the degree program. These exams can be very stressful. Faculty members who serve on examination committees must set aside the appropriate time so that these procedures are followed. The timeline is as follows:

**Beginning of final semester of classes**

* Pick the examination committee. It should consist of \*\*full-time faculty members including:
* Your major teacher, or the Department Chair
* Another faculty member from your area of specialization (preferably someone with whom you have studied).
* One other School of Music or Department of Art and Music Histories faculty member (again, someone with whom you have studied).
* Schedule the actual times of the exam. The written exam requires three weeks of your time. The oral exam takes place at least five days after the written exam, and generally lasts about an hour.
* Schedule the exams AFTER your final recital (if applicable).
* Schedule the exam at least two months in the future to allow you adequate time to study.
* Remember that faculty schedules can be difficult to coordinate; while scheduling the written exam will be relatively easy, the oral portion of the exam requires the full committee to meet together with you, and it may require some effort to find a mutually agreeable time.
* After providing a list of courses taken to each committee member, the student should discuss the possible question areas in general terms with each committee member. The faculty will provide specific questions at the actual exam. (An example of a general question would be: “What were the primary developments in woodwind construction in the nineteenth century?” You have two months to study this information. At the actual written exam, the faculty might specifically ask, “What significant changes happened in flute construction between 1820 and 1860?”). Each committee member is responsible for two questions (for a total of 6 questions) and committee members may want to discuss the questions with the other two committee members. Remember that questions may:
* pertain to the content of your degree recitals, course work, and general experiences.
* require you to study areas of importance which have not been covered in the curricula.

**One week before the written examination**

* Remind the committee members that their questions are due to your Department Chair two days prior to the actual exam. Confirm the times for the oral exam with each committee member.

**The 3 weeks of the written examination**

* Pick up your examination from your Department Chair. You should return three typed copies of both questions and answers to your Department Chair within 72 hours. References and footnotes must be documented in APA, Turabian, or Chicago Manual of Style.

**3 days after the written examination**

* Check with each committee member after they have read the responses to see if they are willing to proceed with the oral examination. Committee members may ask for questions to be re-written prior to the oral examination. If this happens, the oral examination may need to be re-scheduled.

**The oral examination**

The oral examination takes place at least five days after the written examination has been submitted, and generally lasts about an hour. Questions for the oral examination are based upon the written answers and previous course work. After the oral examination, the committee may:

* Require the entire Comprehensive Exams be repeated with new questions. The student may elect to use the same committee or may choose a new committee. In this case, the two month preparation time for the exam may be shortened upon the mutual consent of the student and the committee.
* Require that the written and/or oral portions of the exam be repeated with the same questions.
* Require that the answers to certain questions be re-written. The committee will decide a deadline, as well as which committee member(s) will need to approve the new answer(s).
* Require that the oral portion of the exam be repeated for either some questions, or all questions. The committee may determine which committee member(s) will be present at the new oral examination.

Students should be sure to bring the correct Comprehensive Examination Form, which committee members will sign following the submission of a committee-approved final copy of the Comprehensive Examination responses. Upon unanimous consent, faculty assign a grade of pass or fail to the examination. A pdf of the final approved copy must be emailed to the [Director of the Setnor School of Music](mailto:mrlaufer@syr.edu) and the Academic Operations Coordinator [Bryan Watson](mailto:bwatso02@syr.edu). It is important that the correct form (available in the packet you will receive in early February regarding Comprehensive Exam requirements and at the link above) be signed by all committee members and filed with the Assistant Director for Academic Operations Coordinator ([Bryan Watson](mailto:bwatso02@syr.edu)), room 301.

The Comprehensive Examination milestone (which is evidence that the procedure above was successfully completed) will not be entered into Degree Works without receipt of both the completed Comprehensive Examination Form and the digital version of the final approved copy. Failure to complete this degree-required milestone will delay graduation.

\*\*A student wishing to choose their primary instrument studio instructor to be on their committee may do so even if that faculty member is not part of the full-time faculty.

Admissions

**Recruitment and Admissions**

The recruitment and admission process consists of initial contact, application, audition, and acceptance into Setnor, admission to Syracuse University, cultivation, and matriculation. Faculty members play crucial roles in all steps of the process. In particular, all faculty members are responsible for recruiting students. The interaction students have with applied faculty is a critical part of their college choice.

## Undergraduate Admissions

Students should be directed to contact the Office of Recruitment and Admissions in the College of Visual and Performing Arts (**443-2769, or admissu@syr.edu**).

**Application**

Students should begin the application process as soon as possible following the start of their senior year. Admission requirements and information to apply can all be found at the university website [admissions.syr.edu](https://www.syracuse.edu/admissions/). Students are responsible for submitting an application, application fee, official transcripts, SAT, or ACT scores (not required), and arrange for an audition. Students can submit their Common Application and complete Acceptd profile in any order, but both are due by January 5. **Failure of students to submit all materials in a timely manner will result in a significant delay in their admission process. It will also result in their loss of scholarship consideration for Setnor School of Music awards.**

**Acceptance into the Setnor School of Music**

All students wishing to pursue a degree in the Setnor School of Music must audition, with the exception of the Audio Arts graduate degree.

**Audition Format**

Students should complete the initial SLATE profile by Jan 5 and will receive access to schedule their in-person audition or submit recorded materials for their on line audition once they complete the theory test. All recorded materials are due by February 1. All students will be considered for music scholarships.

**On-Campus Auditions**

Campus Music Audition Days include presentations, auditions, discussions, and a chance to see the campus. It is best that at least two, or if possible, three applied faculty members be present at every audition. This includes scheduled Campus Audition days and individual auditions scheduled outside of the regularly scheduled audition days.

**Off-Campus Auditions**

Auditions may also be held during January in other locations, specifically in New York City. In New York City, there is one day for vocal auditions and one day for instrumental (with the exception of percussion and organ). Off campus auditions are recorded so that applied faculty have the opportunity to audition candidates in their area.

**Music Evaluations**

Faculty members evaluate the suitability of auditionees for acceptance into the Setnor School of Music using specified criteria. The online SLATE program is used for the faculty to provide the assessment to the director. The attention to the detail of ratings in all categories of both musical and personal attributes assists in creating a more accurate picture of the potential candidate. SLATE is reviewed by the Setnor School of Music Director. These ratings, combined with a thorough evaluation of resume and other application materials, culminate in a recommendation from the Director that is submitted to the college and, ultimately, university admissions offices.

Please note that students can ask to see their evaluations under the Freedom of Information Act. Please continue to provide comments, as they are incredibly helpful, but be sure to submit comments knowing the student can access them. Not every student auditioning may be ready for music school, but it would be more helpful for them to read, “Is not prepared to be a music major at this time” rather than “the audition was a waste of time.”

**Audition Procedures**

In order to maintain consistency and follow proper protocol it is important that all faculty observe the audition procedures listed below.

**The audition procedure involves a played/sung audition that must include sight-reading/aural skills, and a brief interview. Students will have completed a written theory test, the audition file paperwork, and the submission of a music resume. This applies to all prospective first year and transfer students.**

While it is appropriate for faculty to give positive feedback to students auditioning, **it is extremely important that faculty NEVER tell students that they are ‘admitted,’ or ‘admissible,’ nor make any promises, implied or specific, about financial aid and scholarships.** Only the university Office of Admissions can admit students and decide upon Academic Merit Scholarships, only the Setnor School of Music Director can award Setnor Music Scholarships, and only the Office of Financial Aid can decide financial aid.

In the case of transfer students, NASM is very clear that it is EXTREMELY important that there be NO discussion whatsoever of possible financial aid or scholarships until the student’s prior institution has sent a letter of release, acknowledging that the student has permission to consider other offers. (This does not apply if the prior institution was a two-year institution.) Scholarships for transfer students are limited.

**Admission to Syracuse University**

**The School of Music never determines whether a student will be admitted to Syracuse University. The School of Music only evaluates a student’s musical ability and potential to be successful in the music program.** A student may be admitted to Syracuse University, but if the student has a weak audition, will most likely not be admitted to the School of Music. Likewise, a student may be strong musically but weak academically and not be admitted to Syracuse University.

Faculty are encouraged to actively recruit prospective students and establish relationships with them. Faculty may offer to give a trial lesson to a prospective student, [arranged through the VPA admissions](https://its-forms.syr.edu/frevvo/web/tn/SUFS/u/742a4d10-e8b5-4343-9c32-8020c6ebd920/app/_jnw5wHhnEeeGKLXfJt0KPA/formtype/_q2YEcBYqEeyXCtwonYUpGQ/popupform?_gl=1*owrp9g*_ga*MTMyMjM1Nzg0OS4xNjY0NTM5MzI0*_ga_QT13NN6N9S*MTY2NDU1Njk1NC4zLjEuMTY2NDU2MzE2MS41NS4wLjA.) (part-time faculty will receive extra compensation for this). **Faculty must NEVER tell a student that they are admitted, or that they are being awarded a scholarship. This information must come via official university channels only.** It is possible to give positive feedback while acknowledging that the final decisions about admissions and scholarships are not in the faculty member’s hands, with statements such as, “I’d love to have you in my studio, but official decisions about admissions are made by the university admissions office and you’ll have to wait until you hear from them.” VPA Admissions works closely with the music school and central admissions to provide as much support as possible, but final decisions do come from the university, and take into account all parts of the application, including the audition but not only the audition.

The first round of admissions decision notifications start to go out in mid to late March and continue through April as needed.

**Early Decision/Spring Transfers**

Each year a small number of students choose to apply for Early Decision to Syracuse University. Students choosing this option are typically doing so because they know that they want to come to Syracuse University, are confident in their ability to gain entry, and wish to go through the admission process early on in order to ensure there is room for them in the following academic year. Some also wish to have their college plans taken care of ahead of time in order to have more planning time before entry.

Spring transfer students are anxious to transfer into Syracuse University at the start of the spring semester during the current academic year. Due to the timetable for the Early Decision and External Transfer students (all application materials, including audition, must be complete by November 15) they must audition in the fall. The Fall Campus Audition Day is provided for this purpose (it is not intended to accommodate regular auditions). Early decision students are given consideration and are occasionally awarded scholarships.

Intra-University Transfer (IUT) students can audition on the regular dates. If they are already taking lessons at Setnor, they may request to have their jury count for the audition.

**Admitted Students List**

Beginning in mid-March, Syracuse University Admissions distributes a list of admitted candidates (this list is updated frequently as subsequent rounds of notifications are sent out). Once we have this list, congratulatory e-mails are sent out by the college’s Dean. The Director then sorts the list and submits various lists of candidates to Area Coordinators and Department Chairs for distribution among the faculty. Students usually receive their admission notification before we get our lists. Their admission notification letter will not include any information about financial aid. Merit scholarship information and need-based financial aid comes later. If students have questions about their need-based financial aid, they should contact the Office of Financial Aid directly. If they have questions about merit scholarships, they should contact the main Office of Admissions directly. These are all sent electronically via email.

Once notified of admitted students, faculty may follow up with individual contact.

**Spring Receptions**

During the time following acceptance and prior to May 1, when all final decisions are due, the university sponsors Spring Reception Days. These days are designed to invite admitted students to visit Syracuse University, some for the first time, or one last time before making their decision. A presentation of a different nature than prior receptions is given in VPA and the School of Music. The college also hosts an afternoon Open House, where families can stop in and chat informally with faculty and student volunteers.

**Matriculation**

Students have until May 1 to make their decision. According to NASM and NACAC standards, no student can be compelled to decide upon an institution prior to May 1. Decisions made by students prior to that time are subject to change without penalty. After May 1, no institution may attempt to lure a student away from the institution to which they have committed.

Shortly after this time a list of matriculated candidates is generated and given to the Setnor School of Music. These ‘matrics’ are students that have paid their deposit and declared their intention to enroll in the fall. This list may change during the summer, due to late admissions decisions, declined offers, and transfer admits.

**Transfer Students**

The transfer student process is very similar to the first-year applicant process; however, there are less stringent deadlines. Transfers wishing to be considered for admission during the fall of any academic year are wise to begin the process as soon as possible, preferably meeting the same deadlines as first year candidates. Transfers are admitted on a space-available basis.

## Graduate Admissions

For more information on graduate programs, contact the [Director of Graduate Studies for the Setnor School of Music](mailto:jacoggio@syr.edu).

**Degree Programs**

The Setnor School of Music offers the following graduate degree programs:

* Master of Arts in Audio Arts
* Master of Music in Music Composition
* Master of Music in Conducting
* Master of Music in Music Education (application through the School of Education)
* Master of Music in Performance
* Master of Music in Voice Pedagogy

**Procedures**

To be admitted for graduate study in a music or music education program at Syracuse University, one must have:

* An undergraduate degree in music, music education, or satisfactory other degree plus experience.
* A completed [Application to the Syracuse University Graduate School](https://graduate.admissions.go.syr.edu/apply/?sr=2cd7de3d-45e1-4d9e-aeaa-8abdf918a484&_gl=1*ehqsup*_ga*NjAzNTI0NjgwLjE2NzI3NzQ4NjI.*_ga_QT13NN6N9S*MTY4OTk2MjU1Mi4zNjUuMS4xNjg5OTYyNjcxLjMyLjAuMA..)
* A completed SLATE Application
  + Music Education majors need not complete the SLATE Application but instead are encouraged to schedule an interview with the Chair of Music Education, [Dr. John Coggiola](mailto:jccoggio@syr.edu)
* Applicants who apply and complete their audition by the February 1 deadline will be in consideration for assistantships. Interviews are required of all students who are finalists for graduate awards (assistantships, fellowships, scholarships).
* International students for whom English is a second language, or who have earned degrees outside the United States, are required to take the TOEFL, IELTS, or DuoLingo Examination. International students who have received a bachelor’s degree from an accredited United States institution will have the English language requirement waived.
* With students submitting online, faculty are encouraged to set up a real-time communication with the students, as TOEFL scores are not always the best measure of conversational communication. In turn, international students should seek clear information on visa requirements, tuition, housing costs and the limited possibilities for financial aid through the [VPA Graduate Office](mailto:admissg@syr.edu). Also, before applying for graduate study, international students must consider the possibility that they will need special assistance in pursuing their graduate studies in English.
* Current required minimum language testing scores can be found [here](https://vpa.syr.edu/admissions/graduate/international/).
* If a student has not achieved an acceptable score, or if they have, and still do not demonstrate sufficient command of the language, a student can be recommended for ELI (English Language Institute). If we say that a student must go through ELI in order to come to Setnor, they must complete that program at their own expense, and will not be able to take a class in Setnor until they have passed out of it. This should take the equivalent of an academic year but could take longer.

**Audition Requirements**

An in person audition is encouraged, but not required for full acceptance into graduate performance and composition programs. Applications and auditions should be completed by February 1. [Audition requirements](https://vpa.syr.edu/admissions/graduate/music/) should be reviewed carefully as they differ for each program. Accompanists will be available for voice auditions on campus only. Accompanists for other instruments are not required.

**Graduate Awards**

A number of assistantships, tuition reductions, and scholarships are available to qualified graduate applicants. In most cases, graduate students must have completed the application (and, if applicable, audition) process by February 1 to be considered.

## Safety

## University Compliance

The university requires training in a variety of areas for all faculty and staff, and some positions may require additional training and compliance. Please be sure to follow up on all compliance matters in a timely fashion in order to fully participate.

## Programs with Minors

Syracuse University Faculty, Staff, and Students must be in compliance with the[**Safety of Minors Abuse and Reporting Policy**](https://policies.syr.edu/policies/university-governance-ethics-integrity-and-legal-compliance/safety-of-minors-and-abuse-reporting-policy/) provided by Risk Management for any program in which there are minor participants, prior to the start of the program.

* For these purposes, a “minor” is defined as a person under the age of 18 who is not a matriculated Syracuse University student
* A “program” includes auditions, clinics, lessons, rehearsals, performances, and other activities. PLEASE NOTE: these requirements apply to in-person and on-line interactions.

The main areas in which Setnor School of Music faculty, staff and students will participate in these programs this fall are:

* **Recruitment:**  includes auditions, meetings, interviews, sample lessons
* **Events:** includes clinics for students, visiting schools or classes performing with a Setnor group, and any other activities that have participants who are minors. Faculty hosting the event will complete the registration with [**SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY RISK MANAGEMENT**](https://youthprograms.syr.edu/). Management, faculty, staff, and students in the program must complete training and background checks prior to working with minors.
* These requirements also apply to any on-line interactions.
* Guests on campus must comply with all health and safety requirements – refer to [**STAY SAFE**](https://www.syracuse.edu/staysafe/), Setnor, and campus directives for most current guidelines.

**There are two steps to make sure you are in compliance:**

* Minors Safety Training must be completed annually or as needed and be documented and tracked by Risk Management.  **If you completed training and the background check last year, you will need to do so again for the current year.**
* Background checks must be completed within the 6 months preceding the start date of the program. It must be complete (not in the “submitted” or other phase that has not yet returned a successful result) in order to allow for work with minors – no exceptions.
* To complete these steps, [LOG IN](https://youthprograms.syr.edu/mytraining.cfm) with your SU Net ID and password and click on the video training link to watch the video.  At the end of the video be sure to click submit, and it will automatically bring you to the form that will enable you to give consent to move forward with the background check. After completing these steps, you will see a note “*The Youth Programs Compliance Coordinator will email you at the address provided with further information within 2 business days*” and will need to complete that form. Within 2 business days, you will get an email from Sarah Ross Cappella with additional steps to complete the background check.  When you receive that email, please follow the instructions for submission (once submitted, you will receive a confirmation email that the materials have been submitted)
* Risk Management will confirm compliance, and if you have not completed the steps, an email follow up will be sent letting you know you may not participate in programming with minors.
* For more information, visit [**https://riskmanagement.syr.edu/minors-on-campus/**](https://riskmanagement.syr.edu/minors-on-campus/).

## Campus Security

**Your safety is very important. Call Department of Public Safety, 315-443-2224, if you need assistance, or any time there is a security concern. For DPS, dial 315-443-2224 or #78 from a cell or 711 from a campus phone. For a DPS Safety Escort, call 315-443-SAFE. If you need to contact DPS in an emergency situation, but are unable to make a phone call, e-mail, or text the Communications Center at** [**711@syr.edu**](mailto:711@syr.edu)**.**

**In the event of a building evacuation, please instruct the class, co-workers, or guests on the QUAD parking lot side of the building, where there is generally safe space to meet, account for personnel, and safely wait or depart the area.**

Lock rooms when you leave, even if you plan to return shortly. Do not leave unattended valuables, or store instruments or other personal items in public practice rooms. The university is not responsible for lost or stolen items, including musical instruments.

Please contact the University’s Department of Public Safety (DPS) immediately if you are concerned about safety.

For more information, visit the [DPS website](http://publicsafety.syr.edu/).

The following items are a portion of the University’s Safety Plan and have been reviewed for Crouse College activities by Fire and Life Safety Services.

**Medical Emergency**

* In any emergency, contact the Department of Public Safety at 711 from campus phone, dial #78 from a cell phone, or 315-443-2224 from any phone.
* Do not attempt to move the person. Assist by trying to retrieve helpful information for public safety, such as the name and concern of the person. Notify the first responding of location of injured person. Assist by keeping others away from incident so public safety has easy access.

**Fire & Smoke Evacuation Procedures:** *If a fire alarm sounds, take it seriously. If you notice a fire or smell smoke:*

* DO NOT attempt to fight the fire.
* Call the Department of Public Safety at 315-443-2224 or 711. Give your name, the name of the building, exact location, and type of problem. Pull the fire alarm box located next to any stairwell.
* Exit the building using stairwells. Never use the elevators. Close and secure all doors behind you.
* Proceed to the designated meeting area(s). For Setnor, this is the Quad parking lot on that side of the building, or the bottom of the steps if exiting on that side of the building. Keep quiet and listen for directions from Fire and Life Safety Services, the Department of Public Safety, or the fire department.
* Notify first responders of trapped or injured persons or persons with disabilities and their location(s) and/or communicate to the Department of Public Safety at 315-443-2224 or ext. 711.
* **Never** re-enter the building unless directed to do so by Fire and Life Safety Services, the Department of Public Safety, or the fire department.

**General Evacuation Procedures:** *The following procedures apply to any evacuation situation:*

* Become familiar with the building. Know the location of emergency exits.
* In any emergency, contact the Department of Public Safety at 315-443-2224 or 711.
* In the event an evacuation is necessary, you will be directed by the Fire and Life Safety Services, the Department of Public Safety, the fire department, or building coordinators to evacuate.
* Remain calm. Try to keep others calm.
* Exit the building using stairwells. Direct audience and artists to the nearest exit. Never use the elevators. Close and secure all doors behind you.
* Proceed to the designated meeting area(s). For Setnor, this is the Q-1 parking lot on that side of the building, or the bottom of the steps if exiting on that side of the building. Keep quiet and listen for directions from Fire and Life Safety Services, the Department of Public Safety, or the fire department.
* Notify the first responding agency of trapped or injured persons or persons with disabilities and their locations.
* **Never** re-enter the building unless directed to do so by Fire and Life Safety Services, the Department of Public Safety, or the fire department.

In the unlikely event that the auditorium or building needs to evacuate, or DPS / Orange Alert has issued directions, here is some sample language for a rehearsal, performance, or class. be prepared to provide the information to the audience and performers.

**EVACUATION:** *We have been advised of a safety concern in the building and have been asked by DPS to evacuate the building. Please proceed to exits and calmly exit the building and await further information from DPS. Thank you.*

**SHELTER IN PLACE:** *We have been advised of a security issue on campus and have been asked by DPS to remain in the auditorium/classroom. Please remain calm and quiet and silence devices as we wait for further instructions from DPS. Thank you.*

**Disruptive Person/ Intruder Situation:** *It is important that you are safe. Do not approach someone causing a safety concern.* **Call DPS 315-443-2224 for assistance, or any time there is a security concern**.

* If someone causes a disruption or is not complying with school or campus polices, please remind them and/or advise them to be quiet to respect the performance. If they do not comply, please call DPS (department of public safety) to assist.
* If someone enters the building who is unknown and does not seem to be there for a specific reason and/or you are not comfortable, contact public safety.