













Oberlin Conservatory of Music is the only major music school in America that focuses on undergraduate education.



#### NICHOLAS KING MAJOR: PIANO

Nicholas King is playing a Liszt piano sonata during a lesson with his teacher, Angela Cheng, incorporating her advice and improving his performance. But then he leans in to read her score and discovers handwritten notes in its margins.

"Why don't I just steal your score," he jokes. "It has most of the answers I need."

"The problem with that," Cheng counters, "is you haven't lived the life that I've lived!"

The life Cheng has lived includes an illustrious performance career along with full-time teaching. And her charming

admonishment is a reminder for King to develop his own path.

King already has founded a nonprofit to expose young people to classical music. "When I chose Oberlin, I didn't choose it for any entrepreneurial hopes I had," he says. "But it has turned out to be very instrumental for me in that way."

# JOSHUA BLUE MAJOR: VOICE Professor Salvatore Champagne invited Joshua Blue to explore Oberlin's Vocal Studies program after hearing him compete at a national voice competition. A visit to campus sold Blue on Oberlin.

"I felt Oberlin would be right for me because this is solely an undergraduate program. I knew I would have opportunities to perform," he says.

In his first year, Blue earned the lead in Oberlin Opera Theater's production of *Die Fledermaus*. Since then, he has performed in five

#### **Degrees and Majors**

#### Conservatory **Degrees**

Bachelor of Music (BM) Master of Music (MM) in Performance on Historical Instruments Integrated 5-year BM and MM in Conducting

or Historical Performance

Performance Diplomas (PD) and Artist Diplomas (AD) in select programs

AD in Piano Technology

AD and Certificate in Recording Arts and Production

#### **Double Degree Program**

Completed in five years or fewer, leading to both BM and Bachelor of Arts (BA)

#### Conservatory **Majors and Minors**

Performance Historical Performance (MM)

Jazz Studies (Composition or Performance)

Contemporary Chamber Music (MM)

Composition

Conducting (5-year BM/MM integrated with Performance. Composition, or Musicology)

Technology in Music and Related Arts (TIMARA)

Musicology

Vocal Accompanying (double major with Piano Performance) Individual Major Music Theory (minor)

Piano Pedagogy (minor)

Ethnomusicology (minor)

#### Interdivisional **Studies**

#### **MINORS**

Music and Cognition Music and Popular Culture Interdisciplinary Performance Arts and Creative **Technologies** 

#### CONCENTRATION

Arts Administration and Leadership

#### Performance **Private Study**

#### **INSTRUMENTAL** AND VOCAL

Flute Oboe Clarinet Bassoon Trumpet Horn Trombone Tuba Violin Viola

Cello

**Double Bass** Harp Percussion Classical Guitar

Organ Piano Voice

#### **HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE**

Baroque Flute Baroque Oboe Recorder Baroque Violin Baroque Cello Viola da Gamba Lute Fortepiano

Harpsichord

Organ

Historical Keyboards

#### JAZZ PERFORMANCE

Trumpet Saxophone Trombone Guitar Piano **Double Bass** Percussion Voice

more operas and taken part in Oberlin in Italy, a summer program in opera and Italian language. Shortly after graduating, Blue won first prize in the Oratorio Society of New York's annual competition at Carnegie Hall.

"Gaining practical experience on stage has been the best thing for me," he says. ■





#### Highlighted Special Collections

- The Selch Collection of American Music History
- The James and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection
- The Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton Papers
- Violin Society of America/Herbert K.
   Goodkind Collection
- Oberlin Conservatory Library Collection of Musicians' Autographs and Photographs

#### Oberlin's campus boasts exceptional facilities:

nine inspiring concert halls, 150 practice rooms (including 13 organ practice rooms), and 240-plus Steinway pianos. Students have access to important instrument collections, five electronic and computer music studios, two studio workstations dedicated to jazz composition, one of the top conservatory libraries in the nation, and remarkable collections in jazz and American music history.



#### **OBIE FACTS**

100,000

recordings in the James and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection

345,000

books, scores, and periodicals in the Oberlin Conservatory Library, one of four libraries on campus 20

harpsichords, part of an extensive collection of historical keyboards

32

practice and performance organs, representing the complete history of the instrument









Oberlin is the only major music school in the country that shares a seamless campus with a preeminent liberal arts institution. It's no surprise that the double degree was invented here more than a century ago. Each year, about 40 new students elect to pursue degrees in both the Conservatory of Music and the College of Arts and Sciences. With practiced guidance from experienced advisors, students complete these degrees within five years. The double degree opens the door to an enormous array of professional possibilities for life after Oberlin.



# CELINE OPDYCKE MAJORS: JAZZ VOICE AND BIOLOGY

It's Thursday afternoon in La Tanya Hall's Kohl Building studio, and Oberlin's teacher of jazz voice is reviewing a few scat-singing subtleties with Celine Opdycke.

Try leaving a bit more space between your long legato lines, Hall suggests after playing a few phrases of a Richard Whiting tune on the piano. And Opdycke picks up on it immediately.

"The greatest thing for me has been to witness Celine's hard work," Hall beams with pride. "It has resulted in an experience of incredible growth for her here."

Now in her third year, Opdycke recalls the reasons she settled in Oberlin as if her decision had been made earlier today. There was the opportunity to earn a double degree, which has kept the Seattle native's career passionssinging and surgeryequally wide open. There was the unfailingly supportive vibe on campus, where competition among students means striving to bring out the best in each other. And there was Hall, with whom Opdycke quickly bonded. Last year, they even shared the spotlight in a performance of Billy Childs' Voices of Angelswith Childs himself in attendance.

Like so many of her faculty peers, Hall deftly balances time with students and the stage; for years, she has toured extensively with Steely Dan. "I live vicariously through her stories," Opdycke says, praising Hall for the road-warrior wisdom she routinely imparts.

And on those days when her mentor happens to be on the road?

"I listen to Steely
Dan records while she's
gone!" ■

#### ANDREW SANTIAGO MAJORS: FLUTE, PHYSICS, AND CHEMISTRY

Like many who choose Oberlin, Andrew Santiago was attracted to the groundbreaking Double Degree Program.

"Of all the schools I looked at, Oberlin has the strongest double-degree option by far in terms of its continuity and its flexibility between the college and conservatory," he says.

His passions result in a considerable—and considerably varied workload, and that's part of the reason he is so grateful to have caring mentors like flute professor Alexa Still.

"My friends always say that Alexa is the mom to all of us," Santiago says. "She's always there to talk through whatever we're going through. She's even there to help us out with other academic departments. She's really invested in our lives, instead of just Well, how is your flute playing? I really love that about her."

For Still, the feeling is mutual. "One of the true joys of teaching is the opportunity I have to get to know each student so well," she says. "And they are just amazing—I've yet to meet an Oberlin student who I wasn't entranced by."

"What I've loved is that throughout our lessons we're always laughing," says Santiago. "We're creating music, and we're learning to create better music. That should be an enjoyable experience. Even if what we're conveying through music isn't always a happy emotion, we should always be happy doing it." ■

**OBIE FACTS** 

580

students in the Conservatory of Music

2,300

students in the College of Arts and Sciences

180+

students pursuing double degrees in the college and conservatory



Performance is an integral part of Oberlin life. Each year, students, faculty members, and guest artists present more than 500 solo and ensemble concerts spanning the last five centuries of music. With more than two dozen ongoing ensembles and a focus on small ensemble culture, you will find ample opportunities to perform in a variety of styles on campus—and around the world.

In recent years, the critically acclaimed Oberlin Orchestra and Contemporary Music Ensemble have played in Carnegie Hall and important venues in Singapore, Beijing, Seattle, San Francisco, Chicago, and Los Angeles. Small jazz ensembles have recently performed in Italy and South Africa. In nearby Cleveland, student singers regularly appear with the Cleveland Orchestra at its home venue, Severance Hall, and the Contemporary Music Ensemble has replicated its campus series at the Cleveland Museum of Art.





#### **Conservatory Ensembles**

Oberlin Orchestra
Oberlin Chamber Orchestra
Contemporary Music Ensemble
Oberlin Sinfonietta
Oberlin Baroque Orchestra
Oberlin Jazz Ensemble
Oberlin Sonny Rollins Jazz
Ensemble

Javanese Gamelan
Oberlin Percussion Group
Trombone Choir
Brass Ensemble
Chamber Music Ensembles
Baroque Ensembles
Viola da Gamba Consort
Collegium Musicum
Oberlin Musical Union
Oberlin College Choir

Oberlin Gospel Choir
Oberlin Opera Theater
Opera Chorus
Small Jazz Ensembles
Recorder Ensemble
Performance & Improvisation
(PI) Ensembles
Genre Nova Ensemble
Oberlin Improvisation & New
Music Collective

OBIE FACT

performances (most of them free) on campus each year



#### **Conservatory Faculty**

William Quillen
Dean

# Conducting and Ensembles

**Chris Anderson** Jazz Ensemble

Tiffany Chang Arts & Sciences Orchestra

Raphael Jiménez orchestras

**Gregory Ristow** vocal ensembles

Robert Spano

Timothy Weiss Sinfonietta and Contemporary Music Ensemble

#### **Instrumental Studies**

#### **WOODWINDS**

Alexa Still

Robert Walters oboe and English horn

Richard Hawkins clarinet

**Drew Pattison** bassoon

#### **BRASS**

Roy Poper trumpet

Jeff Scott horn

John Gruber trombone

Dennis Nulty tuba

#### **PERCUSSION**

Michael Rosen

#### **STRINGS**

Sibbi Bernhardsson violin

David Bowlin violin

Francesca dePasquale violin

Marilyn McDonald violin

William van der Sloot violin

Kirsten Docter viola

Peter Slowik viola

Darrett Adkins cello

Dmitry Kouzov cello

Tracy Rowell double bass

**Derek Zadinsky** double bass

Yolanda Kondonassis

Stephen Aron classical guitar

Verona Quartet quartet in residence

#### **PIANO**

Angela Cheng Alvin Chow

Dang Thai Son

Stanislav Ioudenitch

**Robert Shannon** 

**Haewon Song** 

Peter Takács

William Grant Naboré Oberlin-Como Academy

#### **PIANO PEDAGOGY**

**Scott Cuellar** 

Andrea McAlister

## INSTRUMENTAL ACCOMPANYING

James Howsmon

Yu Sakamoto

#### ORGAN

Jonathan Moyer

#### **Vocal Studies**

#### VOICE

Salvatore Champagne

**Kendra Colton** 

Katherine Jolly

Timothy LeFebvre

**Lorraine Manz** 

Marlene Rosen

Marilyn Horne

Distinguished Visiting Professor

#### **OPERA THEATER**

Jonathon Field director of Oberlin Opera Theater

**Christopher Mirto** 

## VOCAL ACCOMPANYING AND COACHING

**Thomas Bandy** 

Tony Cho

Javier Gonzales

**Evan Hines** 

Elena Loskova

Daniel Michalak

#### Historical Performance

Michael Lynn Baroque flute and recorder

Kathryn Montoya

recorder and Baroque oboe

Marilyn McDonald Baroque violin

Rebecca Landell Reed viola da gamba and Baroque cello

Michael Manderen

lute

David Breitman fortepiano

Mark Edwards harpsichord

Jonathan Moyer organ

**Steven Plank** director of Collegium Musicum

#### **Jazz Studies**

Eddie Henderson trumpet

Gary Bartz saxophone

Robert Ferrazza guitar

**La Tanya Hall** voice

Dan Wall piano

Gerald Cannon bass

Billy Hart percussion

Jamey Haddad

advanced improvisation and percussion

Jay Ashby jazz arranging, composition, and trombone

Paul Samuels small jazz ensembles

#### **Contemporary Music**

#### **COMPOSITION**

Stephen Hartke Jesse Jones

Jesse Jones

Elizabeth Ogonek

#### TECHNOLOGY IN MUSIC AND RELATED ARTS (TIMARA)

Abby Aresty

Aurie Hsu Tom Lopez

Peter Swendsen

# CONTEMPORARY MUSIC AND IMPROVISATION

Dana Jessen

Pedagogy, Advocacy, and Community Engagement (PACE)

Dana Jessen professional development

Jody Kerchner music education

#### Andrea McAlister

piano pedagogy

Louise Zeitlin

community engagement and string pedagogy

#### Musicology

Courtney-Savali Andrews

David Breitman

Jennifer Fraser

Charles McGuire

Kathryn Metz

James O'Leary

Steven Plank

#### Music Theory

**Brian Alegant** 

Arnie Cox

Jared Hartt

Kara Yoo Leaman

Rebecca Leydon

Megan Kaes Long

Joseph Lubben

Jan Miyake Bryan Parkhurst

Andrew Pau

# English for Speakers of Other Languages

Larissa Fekete

#### Piano Technology

John Cavanaugh Robert Murphy

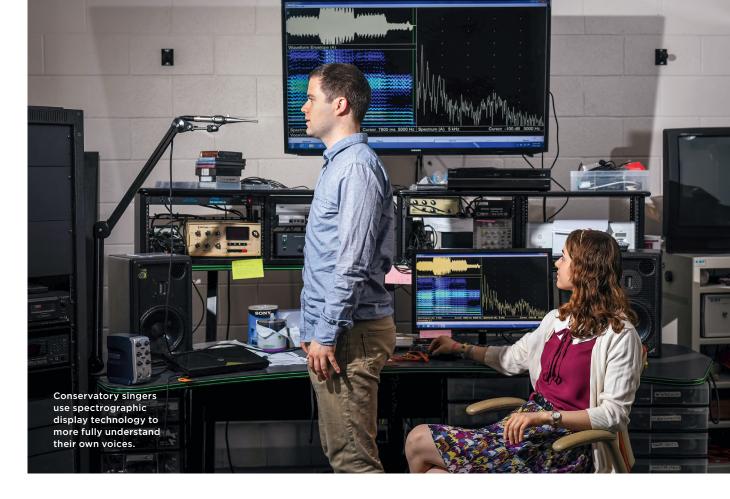
#### **Music Journalism**

Daniel Hathaway Mike Telin

# Recording Arts and Production

Paul Eachus Andrew Tripp





Oberlin Conservatory students benefit from being part of the intellectual ecosystem of a liberal arts college, and they emerge from Oberlin as informed artists with a broad worldview.

Students experience an Oberlin Conservatory education in three distinctive ways:

- As pre-professional musicians fully immersed in studies toward a Bachelor of Music degree.
- As dedicated conservatory musicians who also pursue coursework in the College of Arts & Sciences, including minors in college programs and in five interdivisional programs.
- As one of nearly 200 participants in Oberlin's
   Double Degree Program, through which they earn
   a Bachelor of Music in the conservatory and a
   Bachelor of Arts in the college, both in five years
   or fewer.

# THESE DISTINCTIVE COURSES OF STUDY DRAW UPON INTERDISCIPLINARY RESOURCES AND CHART PATHS TOWARD 21ST CENTURY CAREERS.

#### **Music and Cognition**

explores cutting-edge issues in the cognitive science of musical experience—how music gets inside our heads and influences our thoughts and feelings.

Music and Popular Culture studies the effect of music on mainstream cultural practices throughout history, as well as the impact of cultural factors on music from a given era or region of the world.

# Interdisciplinary Performance encourages creativity through a broad range of performance

practices and related subjects, including audience interaction, improvisation, and dynamics among performers.

Arts and Creative Technologies focuses on participation in global conversations about the expressive potential of technology old and new.

Arts Administration and Leadership examines pathways toward administrative careers across a variety of artistic fields, from museum administration to rock band management to the film industry.

# **Applying to Oberlin**

### How to Apply to the Conservatory of Music

Candidates who wish to prepare for careers as professional musicians need only apply to the Conservatory of Music using the conservatory application found at go.oberlin.edu/con/apply. The conservatory application fee is \$100.

The most important factor in admission to the conservatory is the performance audition or, in the case of composition and TIMARA applicants, the compositions, interview, recordings, and supporting materials submitted.

Information about audition and interview processes, required materials, and performance audition repertoire can be found at the web address listed above.

## How to Apply for the Double Degree

Oberlin offers a unique opportunity to combine rigorous pre-professional musical training with a broad liberal arts education in a program that can be completed within five years (and in as few as eight or nine semesters), leading to both BM and BA degrees. Students interested in pursuing both degrees must submit two separate applications (one to each division) and meet each division's distinct deadlines and application requirements.

For details, visit admissions.oberlin. edu/double-degree.

Conservatory Application Deadlines and Notification Dates

Application Due: December 1

Notification: April 1

Reply/Deposit Due: May 1

Conservatory of Music Admissions

#### Beth Weiss

Director of Admissions and Enrollment Management

Joshua Teaster Associate Director

Ryan Dearon Assistant Director

#### Alice Davis

Administrative Assistant

#### Web:

oberlin.edu/ admissions-and-aid

#### Email:

conservatory. admissions@ oberlin.edu

#### Phone:

440-775-8413

**2020-21 Expenses** 

**Tuition: \$57,654** 

Room: \$8,600 (double)

Board: \$8,734 (average)

Fees: \$900 Total: \$75,888

Expenses for 2021-22 will be announced by May 2021.

# Transfer Applications

Oberlin welcomes applications from transfer students, including graduates of two-year colleges. For conservatory applicants, the deadline is December 1 for fall entry only.

#### **Preparation**

The Conservatory of Music seeks talented music students who have demonstrated records of achievement, potential for further growth and development, the ability to meet Oberlin's demanding standards, and the dedication required to become professional musicians.

Oberlin College and Conservatory has moved to a testoptional model for domestic applicants and those for whom English is their primary language. SAT and ACT score submissions will still be accepted, but will no longer be required. Non-native English speakers whose secondary school coursework is conducted in languages other than English must still submit results from TOEFL or IELTS exams.

#### **Financial Aid**

Each year, Oberlin Conservatory awards merit scholarships to nearly every admitted conservatory and double-degree student. In 2019-20. those awards totaled more than \$11.7 million in recognition of the students' outstanding musical talent and academic ability. No separate application form is required. We are also committed to meeting 100 percent of the demonstrated financial need of every admitted student. Details of the application process and downloads of all the forms you will need are available at go.oberlin.edu/ financialaid.

To contact the Office of Financial Aid, call 800-693-3173 or 440-775-8142, or email financial.aid@oberlin.edu.

Each year, the
Conservatory Dean's
Scholarship is
awarded to a limited
number of students
in recognition of
their outstanding
musical talent and
academic ability.
Recipients are chosen
in consultation
with conservatory
faculty. No separate
application form is
required.

# **Oberlin at a Glance**

#### **Visiting Oberlin**

See for yourself what Oberlin is all about! You'll find travel directions and information about events, accommodations, and parking at oberlin.edu/visitor. Please confirm the availability of tours and information sessions on specific days by visiting the links below.

#### Conservatory of Music Tours and Information Sessions

Information sessions and tours of the conservatory are held most weekdays. Please note that these tours cover conservatory facilities only; a tour of the College of Arts and Sciences that includes housing, dining, and other campus buildings is also available. Register for both tours at connect.oberlin.edu/portal/visit.

#### Self-Guided Conservatory Tour

If you visit campus at a time when the conservatory admissions office is closed, a printable version of a self-guided tour is available online at go.oberlin.edu/convisit.

#### A COLLEGE OF FIRSTS

Oberlin was the first institution of higher education in America to adopt a policy to admit students of color (1835) and the first college to award bachelor's degrees to women in a coeducational program (1841).

Founded in 1865, Oberlin Conservatory of Music is the oldest continuously operating conservatory in the United States.

Oberlin was the first school in the world to graduate a "doubledegree" student with bachelor's degrees in both music and liberal arts and sciences.

#### ENROLLMENT

**580** 

students in the Conservatory of Music

2,300

students in the College of Arts & Sciences

180+

students pursuing double degrees in the college and conservatory

#### LOCATION

Our 440-acre campus is 35 miles southwest of Cleveland and less than 30 minutes from Hopkins International Airport.

# STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO

6:1

in the Conservatory of Music, with more than 70 full-time faculty members; 9 to 1 in the College of Arts and Sciences, with over 220 full-time faculty members.

#### **PERFORMANCES**

**500**+

performances on campus each year (most of them free)

#### **FACILITIES**

240+

Steinway pianos

9

inspiring performance venues

150

practice rooms

#### CONSERVATORY LIBRARY AND COLLECTIONS

One of four libraries on campus, Oberlin's music library is considered one of the nation's top conservatory libraries, with a collection of materials numbering more than 345,000.

# 100,000

recordings in the James and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection

#### HONORS

Oberlin Conservatory received the 2009 National Medal of Arts—a rare honor among music schools.

#### **RESIDENCE HALLS**

Incoming students can choose from a variety of housing styles: traditional residence halls: program houses centered around a language, culture, or interest; or co-op houses, in which students run the household and share meal prep. Learn more about housing options at go.oberlin. edu/housing.

# WHERE OBERLIN STUDENTS ARE FROM

Oberlin students hail from throughout the United States and nearly 50 other nations (figures represent class entering fall 2020):

21%

MID-ATLANTIC

**25%** 

MIDWEST

**15%** 

WEST

**32%** 

SOUTH

**7%** 

**NEW ENGLAND** 

23%

INTERNATIONAL

27%

U.S. STUDENTS OF COLOR



