



SHENANDOAH
UNIVERSITY

Shenandoah Conservatory



Shenandoah Conservatory

2025 Graduate Programs





Pursue your
passion
for artistic
excellence

The arts provide us with the opportunity to tell the story of our lives. Through music, theatre and dance we express emotion, attempt to understand life's meaning, and share our humanity. Experiencing the arts firsthand is a uniquely human experience. Shenandoah Conservatory is committed to enhancing life stories through the arts.

Music, theatre, dance and performing arts leadership and management is what we do - in classrooms and clinics, in rehearsal spaces, on stages, through scholarship and throughout our communities. We ourselves are an extraordinary community of teaching artists, performers, composers, designers and scholars who care deeply about our students.

For 150 years, Shenandoah Conservatory has played a prominent role in educating arts practitioners. Our uniqueness lies in a diverse range of nationally recognized programs, yes, but also in the collaboration that happens between them. And while artistic and academic excellence is at the core of your conservatory experience, faculty are committed to furthering the artistic growth and creative aspirations of students in a caring and supportive learning environment.

What's next at Shenandoah Conservatory? You are. As arts professionals you will lead and shape the future in innovative and impactful ways.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey Marlatt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffrey Marlatt, Ph.D.
Interim Dean and Professor of Music
Shenandoah Conservatory

OUR MISSION

As a visionary and collaborative arts community, we educate motivated students in a supportive and inclusive environment and equip them for professional success.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

Performance
Pedagogy - Voice

MASTER OF MUSIC

Composition
Conducting
Pedagogy - Voice
Performance

MASTER OF MUSIC EDUCATION

MASTER OF MUSIC THERAPY

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Performing Arts Leadership & Management

ARTIST DIPLOMA

Post-Master's Certificate

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Church Music
Professional Studies Program for
Music Therapy Certification Eligibility





“Performance is about who we are as artists and humans. It’s how we share our gifts and add beauty to the world. On a deeply human level, it’s the time that we take our most cherished personal skills and add, adapt and collaborate with the skills of others.”

– Tim Robblee, Ph.D., Director of Bands;
Associate Professor, Conducting

PERFORMANCE & CONDUCTING

Shenandoah Conservatory offers talented performers intense, specialized, professional training at the highest levels. Students have extensive opportunities to interact with our accomplished faculty, perform with outstanding professional musicians and engage with world-class artists at premier concert venues.

Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance

- Brass
- Chamber Music
- Conducting
(Choral, Orchestra, Wind Ensemble)
- Guitar (Classical)
- Harp
- Percussion
- Piano
- Strings
- Voice
- Woodwinds
- Woodwind Doubling

Master of Music in Performance

- Brass
- Guitar (Classical)
- Harp
- Percussion
- Piano
- Strings
- Voice
- Woodwinds
- Woodwind Doubling

Master of Music in Conducting

- Choral
- Musical Theatre
- Orchestra
- Wind Ensemble

Artist Diploma

- Post-Master’s Certificate

DISTINGUISHED ARTIST FACULTY

Shenandoah Conservatory's dynamic faculty members are active and highly connected within the artist community. They perform roles at the Metropolitan Opera, compose music for the stage and concert hall and serve on international competition juries. They perform as soloists and guest artists in jazz and chamber ensembles and in orchestras throughout the United States and abroad. They also spend summers teaching at prestigious festivals, including the Chautauqua Institute, Kniesel Hall, Aspen Music Festival, the Pierre Monteux School, Interlochen and Adamant. Our faculty are as passionate about performance as they are about teaching.



Julietta Curenton, D.M.A., Assistant Professor of Flute, has been praised for her “bold and dramatically characterized playing” by the Dallas Morning News and “great artistic sense” by the Philadelphia Inquirer. She has established herself as a leading soloist, chamber musician and orchestral flutist of her generation, collaborating extensively with acclaimed groups such as the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and the Soulful Symphony, the Baltimore-based ensemble acclaimed for its performances of classical, jazz, gospel and popular music.

ACCOMPLISHED ALUMNI



Elisabeth Stimpert '13, D.M.A., is a founding member of the critically acclaimed new music ensemble Alarm Will Sound. She has performed across the country and internationally at major venues. Dr. Stimpert works regularly with many of today's leading and emerging composers, having presented world premieres of works by John Adams, Steve Reich, John Luther Adams, David Lang, Wolfgang Rihm, Michael Gordon, Augusta Read Thomas, Stefan Freund, Robert Pound, John Orfe, David E. Chávez and many others. A dedicated collegiate music educator, Stimpert teaches clarinet, single reed methods and aural training as an assistant professor of music at the University of Central Missouri.



Annie Wong '17, D.M.A. is currently on faculty at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada, and is a member of the RCM College of Examiners. Dr. Wong is equally at home as soloist, chamber musician, and collaborative pianist and she has worked with not only her esteemed teachers, but also Richard Goode, Jon Kimura Parker, Antonio Pompa-Baldi, Ieva Jokubaviciute, Martin Katz, Craig Sheppard, Robin McCabe, Henri-Paul Sicsic, Hiromi Okada, Prisca Benoit and Eve Egoyan.



“Shenandoah Conservatory’s pedagogy degrees are student-centered and industry focused. We are passionate about giving our students the tools to be culturally responsive teachers who are equipped to help learners of all backgrounds, levels, and styles become the artists they want to be.”

– Matt Edwards, Artistic Director of the CCM Vocal Pedagogy Institute, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Musical Theatre Voice

VOICE PEDAGOGY

Doctor of Musical Arts

- Leadership
- Voice Research

Master of Music in Pedagogy

- Classical Voice
- Contemporary Commercial Music

Voice pedagogy is a discipline that combines teaching, research and performance to give students the tools necessary to be highly effective teachers. Shenandoah Conservatory was the first institution in the United States to offer graduate courses in CCM voice pedagogy and continues to innovate and push boundaries in the world of voice pedagogy.

Voice pedagogy students engage in focused study of voice science, repertoire, teaching methods, studio management, and technology. They generate new knowledge and develop their instrument through supervised and applied instruction with Shenandoah’s faculty and guest speakers. Graduate degrees in voice pedagogy prepare students of diverse backgrounds to enter academia and/or the private sector as leaders in a world where classical, jazz, commercial and musical theatre styles all exist as artistically relevant genres. Our Master of Music in Voice Pedagogy degree is available both online and on-campus. Our DMA combines in-person and online learning and is open to singers of all styles.

CONTEMPORARY COMMERCIAL MUSIC (CCM) VOCAL PEDAGOGY INSTITUTE

Offered during the summer months, Shenandoah Conservatory's CCM Vocal Pedagogy Institute offers online and in-person courses grounded in voice science, voice medicine and tested methods of CCM pedagogy. Participants learn to work at the intersection of identity, technique, and artistry to mentor the next generation of vocal artists.

ACCOMPLISHED ALUMNI

Marita Stryker, '24 D.M.A. (Voice Pedagogy) serves as assistant professor of music - contemporary voice, musical theatre at St. Olaf College and completed the NATS Intern Program in 2022.

Kate Elmendorf, '23 M.M. (CCM Voice Pedagogy) serves as an artist in residence - musical theater at Temple University.

Justin Delong, '21 M.M. (CCM Voice Pedagogy) serves as assistant professor of commercial music voice, music technology, and musical theatre at Tiffin University and completed the NATS Intern Program in 2023.

Kailee Fulmer '21 and Seth K. Lowery '19, M.M. (CCM Voice Pedagogy) are members of the faculty at The Voice Lab, a private studio based in Chicago, Illinois that focuses on gender-affirming care for the LGBTQ+ community.

Maddie Tarbox, '20 M.M. (CCM Voice Pedagogy) runs a successful voice studio in Washington, D.C. and serves as auxiliary adjunct assistant professor of music for Shenandoah Conservatory's musical theatre program and completed the NATS Intern Program in 2022.

Martina Bingham '18 D.M.A. (Voice Pedagogy) is a lecturer of voice at University of Hawaii at Mānoa.

Warren Freeman '14, M.M. (CCM Voice Pedagogy) teaches voice at New York University and has published in the Journal of Voice and the Journal of Singing.

Troy Castle '14, D.M.A. (Voice Pedagogy) serves as associate professor of music at Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois.

Barbara DeMaio '13 D.M.A. (Voice Pedagogy) is an associate professor of voice at University of Central Oklahoma.





MUSIC EDUCATION

Master of Music Education

Music education has been a cornerstone of Shenandoah Conservatory's 150-year legacy, providing musicians from Virginia and beyond with access to exceptional training and professional development. Our summers-only schedule allows practicing music educators to pursue a graduate degree while maintaining their careers.

Students study assessment strategies and reflect on professional classroom practices, as well as innovative curricular and contemporary issues in music education. The program culminates with a research-based teaching project rather than a graduate thesis, uniting academic studies and the practice of teaching.

Dr. Alice M. Hammel '87, '99, earned her bachelor's degree and doctorate in music education. A recognized expert on music for students with special needs, she has published her fourth book through Oxford University Press.





“Students gain valuable insights from collaborative interactions with faculty and community-based music therapists as they pursue deeper knowledge, clinical expertise and career-centered outcomes.”

– Tony Meadows, Ph.D., MT-BC, LPC, Director of Music Therapy

MUSIC THERAPY

Master of Music Therapy

Professional Studies Program for Music Therapy Certification Eligibility

The Master of Music in Music Therapy (MMT) prepares music therapists to practice at an advanced level with a counseling and mental health focus. Advanced knowledge and skill are fostered through integrated classes that build in-depth clinical and musical competence.

The Professional Studies Program prepares students with an undergraduate degree in a field other than music therapy to practice as a Board-Certified Music Therapist. Students develop comprehensive knowledge and skills to practice as a music therapist in a dynamic environment that supports individual growth and community connections.



Kerry Devlin, '18, MMT, LPMT, MT-BC, is a senior music therapist at Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland, overseeing the music therapy program while also actively engaging in research. In addition to completing her Ph.D. at Aalborg University in Denmark, Kerry recently co-edited the text “Music Therapy and Music-based Interventions in Neurology.”



Shana Oshiro '13, '21, MMT, MT-BC, received the Professional Excellence in Music Therapy award as well as the Dean’s Graduate Scholar award for her research project, “Race and #RealTalk: Engaging in Dialogue about Racism in the Community.” She is the co-founder and executive director of HALO (Harmony’s African American Legacy Organization) Incorporated, through which she leads her community music therapy work with her quartet.



“It’s not just the incredible talent of Shenandoah’s composition faculty — it’s also the amazing array of A-List guest composers brought to the school for private lessons. You will also have your compositions critiqued and played live by world-class, touring soloists and ensembles! There’s simply no substitute for this fully immersive approach and I, for one, believe I’m a better composer and more sensitive musician for the experience.”

– Christopher Inman '21, Master of Music in Composition

COMPOSITION


Master of Music



Grounded in its commitment to the creation and performance of new music in a variety of contemporary idioms, the Master of Music in Composition enhances the skills of art music composers and prepares them for professional work. Through creation, performance, study, research, and direct interaction with guest Pulitzer Prize-winning composers and guest artists of Shenandoah New Music, graduate student composers advance their skills in the presentation of their music in professional and competitive venues.

As a capstone for their studies, composition graduate students complete a large-scale culminating project, and fulfill an oral examination and defense of project material.

**FULLY
ONLINE!**



“The PALM program is unique among its peers in graduate arts management education. With our fully online, asynchronous format, our focus on leadership training for students who come with a performance background, and a faculty who are experienced in both the profession and teaching, PALM provides the ideal setting for student success without relocation.”

- David Edelman, M.F.A., Professor and
Director of Performing Arts Leadership and Management

PERFORMING ARTS LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

Master of Science in Performing Arts Leadership & Management (PALM)

The curriculum of the online Master of Science in Performing Arts Leadership & Management (PALM) prepares future arts executives and artistic leaders with 21st-century industry skills. The program is intended for students who hold a baccalaureate degree in music, theatre, dance or a related field; emerging leaders who hold entry-level arts positions and are seeking to advance their careers; and those looking to change careers to arts leadership and management.

Our program's graduates have found management positions with top-tier arts organizations such as The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Wolf Trap, Opera America, Dallas Summer Musicals, Yale School of Music and many more.

Benjamin Luczak, '09, '12 B.F.A., M.S. PALM, was recently appointed as the chief executive officer of the Westmoreland Cultural Trust in Pennsylvania. Luczak, a Western Pennsylvania native, has overseen development and operations for cultural organizations in Maryland, Nebraska, Texas, Florida, Virginia, and most recently, Iowa, where he was director of development for Des Moines Performing Arts.





A VIBRANT PERFORMANCE CULTURE

Shenandoah Conservatory produces more than 300 music, theatre and dance performances each year. Graduate students have numerous opportunities to perform as soloists and participate in chamber music ensembles for strings, piano, wind instruments and voice. They attend masterclasses with premier guest artists, join faculty members in performance, take advantage of diverse cultural opportunities regionally and travel the East Coast to attend live performances. They are able to nurture professional relationships with arts venues and present at organizations and international embassies throughout the region and abroad.



OUR GLOBAL ARTIST COMMUNITY

Shenandoah Conservatory boasts not only internationally respected faculty, but remarkably talented international students whose performance expertise enhances cultural awareness within our community of artists. Alumnus Peter (Wen Chi) Lee, D.M.A. '13, a gifted countertenor and former graduate teaching fellow, received The Knowledge of the World award from Johns Hopkins University for his exceptional work with the Peabody Baroque Consort and Charm City Baroque.



INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Discover the many ways in which artistic and personal growth is enriched by involvement in the wide variety of travel-abroad opportunities available at Shenandoah University.

- **Global Citizenship Project (GCP)** is a 10-day, expenses-paid trip to one of five international destinations offered each year during spring break. Students, faculty, staff and trustees have traveled to over 65 countries, including Ghana, Bali, Jordan, Bhutan, Cambodia, Morocco, Oman, Australia and South Africa.
- **Global Experiential Learning (GEL)** trips are faculty-led, study-abroad programs specific to a professional discipline. Recent trips included an annual Summer Arts Leadership Institute in Greece and the saxophone studio traveling to the World Saxophone Congress in Zagreb, Croatia.
- Conservatory Choir has **performed at premier concert halls** throughout Germany, Italy, France, Austria, Switzerland and many other countries. In May 2019, a Shenandoah choral ensemble presented a series of concerts in Salzburg, at the Wiener Saal of the Mozarteum.
- Shenandoah Conservatory Symphony Orchestra's **international tours** have taken the ensemble to major concert halls in Spain and Argentina.
- Shenandoah jazz combos have performed in Iceland, Senegal, China, Japan, Spain, Ireland and Germany. In the United States, Shenandoah jazz groups have toured the Pacific Northwest, **performing to sold-out crowds** in Portland, Oregon; Seattle & Ellensburg, Washington and Vancouver, British Columbia.



“It is a fact in practically every major concert venue around the world that the piano on stage will be a Steinway. When Shenandoah Conservatory students rehearse, study and perform on Steinway pianos, they then have the familiarity of greeting an old friend when they go on stage.”

– John O’Conor, Mus.D., Distinguished Artist-in-Residence,
Keyboard Division Chair and Professor of Piano

STEINWAY PIANOS: Cornerstone of a Conservatory Education

Shenandoah Conservatory’s designation as an All-Steinway School reinforces our longstanding reputation as a leader in performing arts education. We are proud to be one of 21 elite conservatories worldwide that have earned All-Steinway status.

Steinway pianos can be found in learning and performance spaces throughout our Conservatory. These instruments exemplify our commitment to excellence in arts education and are found in teaching studios, practice rooms, classrooms, and rehearsal and concert halls.

We also boast a state-of-the-art piano workshop that provides excellent care and maintenance for this impressive fleet of instruments. Learn more at su.edu/steinway.



AUDITIONS & ADMISSIONS

Admission to Shenandoah Conservatory is highly competitive.

Apply at: su.edu/admissions/graduate-students

Find the full list of audition dates, deadlines and requirements, including prescreening in voice, piano, conducting and composition, at su.edu/auditions

Competitive graduate assistantships are available for students at the artist diploma, master's and doctoral levels. Assistantships offer a tuition waiver and stipend for teaching, performing and other duties as assigned. [Learn more at su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid](https://su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Office of Graduate Admissions

 admit@su.edu

 540-665-4581

 540-546-6029

MEET OUR EXCEPTIONAL FACULTY

CONSERVATORY ADMINISTRATION

Jeffrey H. Marlatt, Interim Dean and Professor of Music



MUSIC FACULTY

BRASS

- Mary Elizabeth Bowden, trumpet
- Geoffrey Pilkington, French horn
- Matthew Niess, trombone
- Zach Bridges, euphonium, tuba

COMPOSITION

- Jonathan Newman

CONDUCTING

- Patrick Brady, musical theatre conducting
- Timothy Robblee, wind conducting
- Richard Robbins, choral conducting
- Emanuele Andrizzi, orchestral conducting
- Shaun Evans, wind conducting

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

- Rod Vester

MUSIC HISTORY & LITERATURE

- Laurie McManus, program coordinator
- Christopher Ruth
- Angela Mace
- Alanna Ropchock Tierno
- Ryuji Ueno

MUSIC EDUCATION

- Stephanie Standerfer, program director
- Jeffrey Marlatt
- Hillary Ridgley
- Tristan Blankenship
- Alice Hammel
- Kristopher Ridgley

MUSIC THEORY

- Keith Salley, program coordinator
- Rachel Short
- Matthew Herman
- Matthew Kiple

MUSIC THERAPY

- Anthony Meadows, program director
- Bronwen Landless
- Hakeem Leonard
- Gene Ann Behrens
- Leigh Jenks
- Elizabeth Schwartz
- DeLyn Celec

OPERA DIRECTOR

- Ella Marchment

PERCUSSION

- Karlyn Viña, percussion

PIANO

- John O'Connor
- Heidi Hau
- Marika Bournaki

STRINGS

- Akemi Takayama, violin
- Doris Lederer, viola
- Julian Schwarz, cello
- Donovan Stokes, double bass
- Colin Davin, guitar
- Lynnelle Ediger, harp

VOICE

- Matt Edwards
- Kathryn Green
- Byron Jones
- Lori Sen
- Fotina Naumenko
- Stephanie Higgins
- Natalie Conte
- Nancy Gustafson
- Edrie Means Weekly
- Maja Tremiszewska

WOODWINDS

- Julietta Curenton, flute
- Stephen Key, oboe
- Garrick Zoeter, clarinet
- Timothy Roberts, saxophone
- Ryan Romine, bassoon

PERFORMING ARTS LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT FACULTY

- David Edelman, program director
- Jennifer Green-Flint
- Joel Bassin
- Rebecca Ferrell
- Christine Stanley

Learn more: su.edu/faculty-staff/department/conservatory



Shenandoah Conservatory Facts

- Established 1875
- Located in Winchester, Virginia
- Residential campus in the beautiful Northern Shenandoah Valley
- Located one hour from Dulles International Airport, offering non-stop service to five continents
- 118 graduate students
- 58 full-time faculty
- 37 part-time faculty
- 30+ performing groups
- 300+ performances annually

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