

**EARN YOUR DEGREE**

**DOING WHAT YOU LOVE.**

Music at NU



**Northwest**  
UNIVERSITY



*introduction to*

# **MUSIC DEGREES AT NORTHWEST UNIVERSITY**

Our music programs are designed to prepare students for careers in music, specifically in the fields of music ministry, music education, and contemporary music industry. We also offer a general Bachelor of Arts in music is also available to students who wish to explore the area of music without committing to a specific vocational objective.

The music department offers majors that prepare students for careers relating to musical arts. These majors include general music, music ministry, music education, and contemporary music industry.

*Bachelor of Arts in*  
**MUSIC**

Music as a discipline encourages the development of analytical skills and the ability to create through the synthesis of theory and technique. These skills can apply to a variety of occupations, depending on the creativity of the graduate. Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Evaluate musical genres based upon their stylistic characteristics
- Create music utilizing an undergraduate proficiency level of music theory
- Translate notes into sound and sound into notes, utilizing their education in ear training
- Integrate the study of music and the Christian faith

*Bachelor of Arts in*  
**MUSIC MINISTRY**

Graduates of this program will be competent to serve as the minister of music or worship pastor at a local church and to effectively develop and lead all aspects of a church music program. In addition to the general outcomes for all music majors, graduates of this major will be able to:

- Design an effective plan to serve the musical needs of the church
- Lead a team of musicians and vocalists
- Lead and arrange various pieces of worship music

## WHERE HAVE STUDENTS INTERNEED?

- Tooth and Nail Records in Seattle, Washington
- University Presbyterian Church in Seattle, Washington
- Snohomish High School in Snohomish, Washington

*Bachelor of Arts in*  
**MUSIC EDUCATION**

Graduates of this program will be qualified to teach music at public or private schools of Washington, along with states that accept Washington certification on a reciprocal basis. Students may choose from endorsements in choral music, instrumental music, and/or general music. Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Organize, recruit, rehearse, and direct performing ensembles in grades K-12, utilizing appropriate repertoire for elementary, middle, and high school
- Teach courses in general music, music history, music appreciation, or music theory
- Assist local schools in extra-curricular productions involving music, such as musicals, parent-teacher meetings, commencement, and more.

*Bachelor of Arts in*  
**CONTEMPORARY MUSIC INDUSTRY**

This degree builds on general music knowledge and skills to prepare students to produce and record musical performances. Students will choose between tracks in music production or recording engineering depending on their interests in the creative and technical sides of recording music. In addition to the outcomes for a BA in music, graduates with a degree in contemporary music industry will be able to:

**Producer Track:**

- Create a live musical event or recording project

**Recording Technology Track:**

- Apply recording technology in the production of a live music event or recording project that meets industry standard

Joy graduated in 2017 and **quickly received a job as a choir teacher at Mountain View Middle School in the Bremerton school district.** Joy teaches two sixth grade beginning choirs, one seventh and eighth grade intermediate choir, and one seventh and eighth grade auditioned choir. Her role includes a myriad of other responsibilities, including teaching a general music class, directing the spring musical, and touring with her choirs and individual students to festivals and contests.

#### **JOY DINIUS**

Nancy, class of 2015, **received a position as the choir director and symphonic band co-director at Glacier Peak High School in Snohomish, Washington.** Nancy wears many different hats in her role. As a director, she focuses on curriculum decisions, concert preparation and coordination, and rehearsals with students. As a teacher, she trains students to be self-reliant in music preparation as well as encourages them to explore different musical styles. Nancy is also responsible for communicating openly with parents about their student's growth, as well as recruitment for the school's choral program.

#### **NANCY ERICKSON**

Taking a different route with her degree, Bree'anna **accepted a position as the worship and arts associate at Westminster Chapel in Bellevue, Washington** upon her graduation in 2015. Bree'anna plans and leads musical worship for Sunday services and for special events, as well as the rehearsals for the chapel choir. She also works with various instrumentalists and vocalists for larger services like Christmas and Easter and maintains the music library for all worship services.

#### **BREE'ANNA WALBERG**



# ENSEMBLES

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**NU Concert Choir** is a 40–65 voice choir, which performs sacred choral music. Each year, the NU Concert Choir performs at Benaroya Hall in Seattle with the NU Chamber Choir, Coro Amici, and the Kirkland Civic Orchestra. Additionally, they perform an annual spring concert on campus and minister in local churches once or twice a year. Every two to three years, the NU Concert Choir takes an overseas tour with the NU Chamber Choir, which in the past has included places such as Italy, Ireland, and the United Kingdom.

**NU Chamber Orchestra** exposes string musicians (violin, viola, cello, and bass) to a variety of orchestral music from Baroque to contemporary. The ensemble performs several times per semester both on campus and in the nearby communities.

**Northwest Choralons** is a 130-voice gospel choir with a five-piece rhythm section that performs gospel music, hymns, and contemporary worship. Each year, Northwest Choralons go on tour to various local churches on six Sundays during spring semester, with a couple on-campus concerts built into their schedule. They also tour domestically for five days during spring break, to places such as Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Las Vegas. Each spring, Choralons records a new EP to be distributed the following year on tour.

**NU Wind Ensemble** is a five- to 15-piece group comprised of wind and percussion instruments performing pieces from a variety of musical genres. The ensemble performs once each semester on campus.

**NU Jazz Ensemble** is a 12- to 17-piece ensemble that plays a variety of jazz music, including big band swing, bebop, fusion, Brazilian and Afro-Cuban, ballad, and cool jazz. Every year they partner with Northwest Vocal Jazz for a Christmas and spring concert, and occasionally perform at off-campus events, which in the past have included the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival and local schools and venues.

**NU Chamber Choir** is a 20–36 voice choir that performs advanced sacred choral music. The ensemble is mainly comprised of upperclassmen and those with significant choral experience, although any student may audition. The NU Chamber Choir participates in the concerts at Benaroya Hall and travels alongside the NU Concert Choir.

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## **William Owen**

**Associate Professor**

- Directs Concert Choir and Chamber Choir
- Teaches Music History I and II, Conducting I and II, and Hymnody

## **Brenda Rasmussen**

**Instructor**

- Directs Northwest Choralons
- Teaches Worship Team Methods, Beginning Theory, Philosophy and Administration of Church Music, and Music Ministry Internship

## **Mizue Fells**

**Associate Professor**

- Teaches Written Theory I–IV, Ear Training and Sight-Singing I–IV, Classic Piano, and private piano lessons

## **Naomi Fanshier**

**Assistant Professor**

- Directs Chamber Orchestra and Wind Ensemble.
- Teaches Written Theory, Woodwind Methods and Woodwind private lessons.



**PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS TAUGHT BY FULL-TIME  
AND ADJUNCT FACULTY:**

- Piano
- Guitar
- Strings
- Percussion
- Voice
- Brass
- Woodwinds

YOUR FUTURE IS CALLING. WE CAN HELP YOU ANSWER.



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