



## GRADUATE STUDIES IN MUSIC

Middle Tennessee State University awards the Master of Music (M.M.) degree with eight concentrations: collaborative piano, conducting, jazz studies, music composition, music composition for contemporary media, music education, musicology, and performance. A minimum of 30-36 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the M.M. degree program, depending upon the concentration.

### Requirements for Graduate Music Applicants

- Submit an Application for Admission to the College of Graduate Studies. You may do this online for a non-refundable fee of \$35.
- Have the following sent to the College of Graduate Studies, Box 42, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132:
  - All official transcripts, including an undergraduate transcript showing that you have received or are about to receive an undergraduate degree in Music.
  - Your official score from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
  - Three letters of recommendation – see link to form on page 2.
- Submit the following, with respect to your specialization to the appropriate music faculty:
  - Collaborative piano, jazz studies, and performance: *Audition in person, via audio or video, or web links to suitable performances.*
  - Conducting (choral, orchestral, wind): *Audition, either in person or via video as above.*
  - Composition and Composition for Contemporary Media: *Scores and recordings of three to five of your compositions.*
  - Musicology: *Two research papers, one of which is on a music topic.*
  - Music Education: *30-minute video in English demonstrating your teaching ability.*

### Financial Assistance

The School of Music annually awards graduate assistantships in a variety of curricular areas. Applicants will not be considered for an assistantship without full acceptance to the School of Music. Applicants who submit all materials by March 1, 2017 will be given first priority for assistantships. In some cases, students may receive additional scholarships from individual studios.

### Stipend and Tuition Waiver

A full-time Graduate Assistantship (GA) includes a full tuition-waiver, partial waiver of fees, and a stipend of \$6500, payable in eight equal payments from the end of September to the end of April. In return, we will ask you to provide twenty (20) hours of your time per week. A half-time assistantship provides a half tuition-waiver, while the student pays the remaining half at in-state rates. The stipend also is halved, and we ask that you provide ten (10) hours of your time per week. In both cases, you must pay a portion of the student fees when you register. International students may also be eligible for a tuition waiver at the in-state rate.

### Faculty Contacts

#### Brass

Dr. David Loucky  
david.loucky@mtsu.edu

#### Composition

Dr. Paul Osterfield  
paul.osterfield@mtsu.edu

#### Conducting-Choral

Dr. Raphael Bundage  
raphael.bundage@mtsu.edu

#### Conducting-Orchestral

Dr. Carol Nies  
carol.nies@mtsu.edu

#### Conducting-Wind

Dr. Reed Thomas  
reed.thomas@mtsu.edu

#### Guitar

Dr. William Yelverton  
william.yelverton@mtsu.edu

#### Jazz Studies

Prof. Jamey Simmons  
james.simmons@mtsu.edu

#### Keyboard Studies

Dr. Arunesh Nadgir  
arunesh.nadgir@mtsu.edu

#### Music Education

Dr. Jamila McWhirter  
jamila.mcwhirter@mtsu.edu

#### Musicology

Dr. Stephen Shearon  
stephen.shearon@mtsu.edu

#### Opera Theater

Prof. Stephen Smith  
h.stephen.smith@mtsu.edu

#### Percussion

Prof. Lalo Davila  
lalo.davila@mtsu.edu

#### Strings

Dr. Christine Kim  
christine.kim@mtsu.edu

#### Voice

Dr. Christine Isley-Farmer  
christine.isley-farmer@mtsu.edu

#### Woodwinds

Dr. Todd Waldecker  
todd.waldecker@mtsu.edu

#### Center for Chinese Music & Culture

Dr. Mei Han  
mei.han@mtsu.edu

#### Center for Popular Music

Dr. Gregory Reish  
gregory.reish@mtsu.edu

## Auditions

Applicants are urged to contact appropriate faculty members to discuss the audition-interview process. To see a full list of School of Music faculty with contact information: <http://www.mtsu.edu/music/pdf/facultybyarea.pdf>

## Entrance Examinations

All incoming graduate students are required to complete entrance examinations in music history and music theory which are given the week before classes begin each semester. The results of these examinations are used in planning each graduate student's initial course of study. Some specializations require additional proficiency examinations. For more details, please refer to this site: [www.mtsu.edu/music/graduate.php](http://www.mtsu.edu/music/graduate.php)

## About the Middle Tennessee State University School of Music

The MTSU School of Music serves 400 undergraduate and graduate music majors and minors from across the nation and abroad in ten Bachelor of Music and eight Master of Music degree programs, and four specialized minors. Ensembles include five wind bands, three orchestras, three choral ensembles, opera theater, vocal jazz ensemble, two big bands, numerous combos and chamber ensembles, percussion ensembles, steel bands, and a salsa band. Located 35 minutes from downtown Nashville, our School of Music houses an acclaimed faculty of thirty-eight full-time and forty-five adjunct artists/educators. MTSU's faculty perform, compose, teach, conduct, publish and present their research or music continually from South Korea to Costa Rica to Rome. The School's low faculty-to-student ratio enables a high quality of personalized instruction, interaction and learning. Our prime objective is to fully invest in each student's future, providing outstanding educational experiences that will help ensure professional success.

MTSU houses the Center for Popular Music, a nationally recognized repository of recordings, books, music and periodicals for research on popular music in America and the Center for Chinese Music and Culture, which provides numerous opportunities for the performance and study of all aspects of Chinese music. The Centers are directed by professional musicologists who are widely acknowledged as specialists in their respective fields. MTSU is also home to the nationally ranked Department of Recording Industry, which is housed in the College of Media and Entertainment.

The first "All-Steinway School" in Tennessee, MTSU is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music. Guest artists have included the Beaux Arts Trio, Nigel Clark, Peter Erskine, Bill Holman, David Liebman, Jens Lindeman, Robert McDonald, Peter Serkin, and Alexa Still. Our alumni teach thousands of students every day in private studios and schools from the kindergarten through university levels. They perform in orchestras, military ensembles and opera companies, appear in clubs and recording studios with the famous and yet-to-be-known, compose music for Hollywood films and commercial jingles, lead professional music organizations, work in the music industry, serve as church musicians, and continually seek to enrich the lives of others.

## Important web sites:

<http://www.mtsu.edu/music/graduate.php>  
<http://www.mtsu.edu/programs/music-mm/index.php>  
<http://www.mtsu.edu/graduate/pdf/ReferenceForm.pdf>

## Financial Aid information

[www.mtsu.edu/music/graduateaid.php](http://www.mtsu.edu/music/graduateaid.php)

## Apply to MTSU

[www.mtsu.edu/graduate/apply.php](http://www.mtsu.edu/graduate/apply.php)

MTSU is one of 108 colleges and universities nationally recognized by the Chronicle of Higher Education for producing Fulbright scholars in 2012–2013, placing it alongside universities such as Duke, Harvard, and Yale. No other Tennessee college or university was represented.

## For further information, please contact:

Dr. Paul Osterfield  
Director, Graduate Studies in Music  
MTSU School of Music, Box 47  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Email: [Paul.Osterfield@mtsu.edu](mailto:Paul.Osterfield@mtsu.edu)  
Telephone: 615.898.5923

## ***FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE!***

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