

Careers in Music

What are the career options in the music field?

Often young people considering a music career have not looked beyond what they have experienced in school or seen on television. "Well, I'm not sure I'd be a good director or a rock musician, and I don't know if I'm good enough to be a symphony musician or an opera singer, so I'm just not sure what's out there for me."

In reality, there is an endless variety of music occupations, all of which start by beginning music study as a freshman right here at UNI. Let's take a look at your options, keeping in mind many musicians combine two or more of these. See if one or more of the following matches your interests:

Music Teaching

Perhaps the most rewarding of all is giving the gift of music performance and appreciation to others:

- Pre-kindergarten, elementary, middle school or senior high school-choral, instrumental and general music positions
- College teachers - in dozens of highly specialized fields
- Music education administrators - at every level of learning
- Independent teaching - your own private studio for singing or playing
- Community ensemble directing - bands, orchestras and choruses

The Performing Arts

A wide variety of performance opportunities await these professional musicians:

Armed Forces Music

Playing, singing, directing and teaching—in the U.S. or around the world - in the hundreds of organizations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard

Classical

Symphony orchestras, chamber music ensembles, soloists
Opera or choral singing

Music for Worship

Satisfying careers in the choral or instrumental areas

Popular Music

Jazz, musical theatre and current popular fields - competitive, but they all benefit from a good basic music education background

Producing Music

Composer, educational composer (for developing musicians), arranger, copyist, music publisher/editor

Recording Studio Musician

All types of professional music genres

Music Librarianship

- School or private library—aiding scholars and students
- Music ensemble librarian



Music Therapy - using music's healing gifts

- Hospitals
- Retirement homes
- Community and rehabilitation centers

Careers in Music Business, Technology and Arts Management

This is an immense industry that needs trained musicians. UNI School of Music can provide the educational foundation you'll need to succeed as a music industry professional.

Arts Management

- Professional employment opportunities with performing arts centers in marketing, sales, outreach, public relations and technical areas
- Leadership positions with orchestras, operas and choruses
- Community arts administrator, development or recreation specialist
- Office staff for any musical organization or department

Sales, Industry and Service

- Retail salesperson, distributor, wholesaler, importer - for instruments, accessories or electronics
- Recordings, software
- Service - helping your music company supply the needs of your area's school music programs
- Music store teaching
- Operating your own music store
- Music instrument repair - either on your own or associated with a company
- Instrument design and manufacture, manufacturer's representative
- Piano and organ tuning - for private homes, ensembles, school systems and colleges

Music Communications - combining public relations with the arts

- Promotions and marketing
- Artist and repertoire (A&R) person
- Manager/booking agent
- Music critic
- Writer/editor of music books, magazines, technical writer

Television, Radio and Recordings

- Radio or television program director
- Disc jockey/video jockey
- Copyright and music license administrator, royalties broadcast monitor
- Recording engineer, sound mixer, post production scoring
- Video, DVD or CD producer
- Music researcher, composer, editor, etc.

Music Electronics

- Music software programmer, technician
- Synthesizer specialist
- Sound technician

Others

- Music attorney or agent
- Acoustician
- Tour manager
- Music union official or contractor

Remember that UNI's College of Business is one of the finest in the Midwest and you can arrange a combination degree between the two areas, receiving an M.B.A. degree.