

What can I do with a degree in Music?

Music.



Career planning: what do I need to know?

Knowledge of yourself is important for career decision making. Start by looking at your personal goals, abilities, values and interests to explore study and career options that are relevant to you. Some of these may change over time, so it is important to self-reflect and evaluate your career on an ongoing basis.

What do employers look for?

Many employers look for generic skills such as communication, customer-focus, bicultural competence, cultural awareness and teamwork. With technology and globalisation changing the nature of society, skills such as resilience, problem solving and adaptability are valuable at work as well as in life.

How can I develop these skills?

- Some skills are developed through your degree

- Extra-curricular activities can help, for example getting involved in clubs, mentoring, cultural groups, part-time work or volunteering
- Be open to professional and personal development opportunities. Whether it is undertaking an internship, overseas exchange, skills seminar, or joining an industry group — these activities will enhance your employability.

What else should I know?

The career options in this brochure are examples only and the list is not exhaustive. Some careers may require further study beyond a first degree or additional work experience. Some pathways and degrees have a recommended school background. Find more subject details at www.canterbury.ac.nz/subjects/music

If this brochure does not answer your questions, talking to an expert such as a career consultant can help you to identify the next steps in your career decision making journey.

www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

What is Music?

The music industry is a dynamic employment market, offering paid work to a vast array of practitioners around the world. This is befitting of an art form that has prevailed across all cultures.

Much of the rapid development of the music industry has occurred very recently, in the last 30 years, and is the result of the explosion of digital technology and the redefinition of social communities and culture. This has opened up new areas of employment for music professionals alongside the more traditional roles of teaching, composing, music leadership and performance.

Recent developments in musical work include collaborations with digital artists, music for film and gaming, international collaborations through the Internet, and home-based music production.



AT A GLANCE

2.3b

added to
Aotearoa
New Zealand's
economy by
the performing
arts*

33.4%

of performing
artists are self
employed

1000+

events for
New Zealand
Music Month**

What skills have UC graduates gained?

Through their Music degree graduates can develop a valuable set of skills that includes

- Communication techniques
- Technical skills needed to write, produce, perform and record music
- Analysing complex textual and cultural phenomena
- Thinking critically and creatively, and challenging ideas
- Collaborating effectively in groups of differently talented people
- The ability to receive and apply feedback
- Problem solving
- Creative skills such as composing, arranging, song writing, and music production
- Time management, planning and organisation
- Use of sophisticated software to create, record, manipulate and develop musical outputs.

Opportunities to apply your learning outside the classroom are available in this major. Undertaking an internship, for example, can deepen your skillset, awareness of others, working knowledge, and employability.

Where have UC graduates been employed?

As a Music graduate you can pursue work:

- As a freelance performer, composer, arranger, producer, technician, or event manager
- In choirs, orchestras and theatre productions
- In organisations such as Creative New Zealand, Toi Māori Aotearoa and local government bodies
- Teaching in schools in Aotearoa New Zealand and overseas
- In fields such as journalism, publishing, TV and radio
- In the technical or digital departments of any type of organisation, looking after such aspects as recording, instruments, technology, audio-visual, digital content, e-resources
- In libraries and sound archives
- In music therapy roles.

* Skills Active Performing Arts Workplace Scan 2020

** www.mmf.co.nz/news-pages/2018/4/26/the-countdown-is-on-nz-music-month-2018

What jobs and activities do graduates do?

Graduates with this degree are employed in a range of jobs – see some examples below.

Note: Some of the jobs listed may require postgraduate study. See the 'Further study' section.

Musician, performer

- Creates and/or performs musical works
- Records music
- Performs in a studio or in front of an audience

Secondary school teacher, primary school teacher

- Plans and delivers instructional lessons
- Evaluates performance and provides feedback
- Sets and marks assignments and tests

Private music teacher / tutor

- Plans and teaches music lessons
- Communicates student progress to whānau
- Arranges public performances and recitals

Music director

- Directs groups of performers and may accompany them
- Recruits and auditions new members and fosters development
- Arranges and directs performances and events

Sound technician / engineer

- Creates sound effects or alters sounds
- Records and balances sounds
- Assembles and operates sound equipment

Composer

- Creates new musical works by writing scores, collaborating with others and using computers.
- Brings musical and cultural worlds together in creative ways

Arts administrator / manager

- Plans logistics, provides office support, and manages budgets/schedules for events, venues, performers, managers
- Contributes to marketing materials and media
- Develops new projects and initiatives

Music therapist

- Uses music creatively to help people address social, emotional or physical difficulties
- Devises and monitors therapeutic strategies
- Encourages patients to express themselves through music and effect positive changes

Event manager

- Develops and plans events

- Co-ordinates the performers, technical staff, venue hire and publicity
- Creates and maintains an event budget

Content specialist

- Plans, produces and edits online or print content
- Manages social media accounts and campaigns
- Liaises with others eg. production staff, digital communities, media

Music Leader

- Runs music organisations
- Leads community music making

Entrepreneur & self employment

Entrepreneurship and innovation are an increasing part of the working landscape. Through generating a business idea, or getting involved in a start-up/business venture, you have the potential to create a work opportunity that aligns with your knowledge, skills, values and risk profile. To get started on how to establish, run and grow a new business, go to Te Pokapū Rakahinonga, Centre for Entrepreneurship at the University of Canterbury www.canterbury.ac.nz/uce

What professional organisations can I engage with?

Connecting with professional bodies and organisations can help you to establish professional networks and learn more about different career options in your area of interest. Gaining valuable insight into a profession can assist in making informed career decisions.

- SOUNZ - Centre for New Zealand Music www.sounz.org.nz
- Australasian Performing Right Association www.apra-amcos.co.nz



- Te Rōpū Kaitito Pūoro o Aotearoa Composers Association of New Zealand www.canz.net.nz
- Ako Puoro Institute of Registered Music Teachers of NZ www.irmt.org.nz
- Recorded Music NZ www.recordedmusic.co.nz/about

Having a professional presence on social media networks such as www.linkedin.com and Facebook can help you to keep up to date with important industry developments and trends, networking opportunities, events and job vacancies. Following relevant professional bodies, organisations, companies and thought leaders is a great way to gain a deeper awareness of the industries that interest you. Social media presents an opportunity to build and enhance networks as well as to display your involvement in projects and any academic successes.

Why do further study and what are my options?

Postgraduate study can facilitate career benefits such as specialist skills, entry into a specific occupation, higher starting salary, faster progression rate, and advanced research capability. It is important to determine which, if any, further study will help you in your future career.

Many graduates add on a professional qualification to their degree, such as a journalism, music therapy, teaching and learning, or management degree.

For those interested in further research, UC students can study an honours, master's and doctoral qualification in Music. Postgraduate study can also lead to an academic career pathway in teaching and research. For listings visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/courses

Useful links

- Te Rōpū Rapuara UC Careers www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers
- New Zealand Music Commission www.nzmusic.org.nz
- The Big Idea www.thebigidea.nz
- Creative NZ www.creativenz.govt.nz

Grace



Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Kahungunu
Bachelor of Music in Performance
Bachelor of Music with Honours
Musical Play Specialist, Champion Centre
Support Coordinator, Hōhepa

What has your career looked like so far?

Studying music, I knew I'd never have one job as such, instead I have a career rich in variety and experiences. Currently I work as a Musical Play Specialist, a Support Coordinator and a Programme Delivery Contractor. My work life is never boring and I get to impact peoples lives in a positive way by doing something I'm passionate about. The difference I am making in my career

is really satisfying I work as a Musical Play Specialist at Tamariki Toiora, The Champion Centre, helping provide multi-disciplinary early intervention to young children experiencing multi-developmental disabilities. As a Support Coordinator at Hōhepa I support adults with disabilities to access the community in meaningful ways. The clients I work with have a special interest in music and one client has just finished their second studio album! My work doesn't really feel like a job and I've really learned the value that people with disability have in our society.

What is the relationship between your identity and your music career?

Music is such a big part of Māori culture and it's important we are represented in the music landscape. Sol3 Mio are a great example of this, showing Māori and Pacific people that it's possible to have a successful career in classical music. While studying at UC I experienced challenges from my personal life that impacted my mental health. The music facility really wrapped around me and empowered me to discover my identity not only as a musician, but as a person. My life experience and culture has helped shape who I am and it helps me to connect with my clients in a holistic way. I bring my culture into my workplace through using Te Reo and singing Waiata. Tamariki Toiora, The Champion Centre really promote this.

What classes stood out to you during your study?

We had a lot of master classes and guest lectures which allowed us to hone our skills. The world music class was amazing for learning about music across the globe. Music is a big part of cultural identity as it really is a language of the emotions. This class specifically inspired me to travel and I did a Contiki Tour after my studies. I ended up singing in a beer hall in Munich and alongside a professional opera singer in a monastery in Florence!

What did you gain from studying at UC?

UC taught me to stay on top of research in my field so I can keep current. Canterbury has become my home and the services and connections I built while studying really helped cement that! I would love to return to complete further study at UC.

Read more online

Read more stories about our students' university experiences online. UC alumni make a difference in varied ways around the globe. To find out where graduates are now visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/getstarted/whyuc/student-profiles

The information in this brochure was correct at the time of print but is subject to change.

More information

UC students seeking study advice.

Te Kura Puoro | School of music

The School offers an exciting range of courses in performance, composition, digital music, ethno-musicology, music history and research, musicianship and music education.

Staff are respected composers, researchers, recording artists, musicologists and performers. UC students across all levels take part in concerts and recitals, seminars and workshops throughout the year. Come and find out about our vibrant community.

T: +64 3 369 4411

E: music@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/subjects/music

Anyone seeking careers advice.

Te Rōpū Rapuara | UC Careers

UC offers intending and current students and recent graduates a wide range of services, including individual career guidance, seminars, career resources and student and graduate employment opportunities.

T: +64 3 369 0303

E: careers@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

Prospective students seeking study advice.

Te Rōpū Takawaenga | Student Liaison

The liaison team provide advice to future students who are starting their degree for the first time. They can assist with information on degrees, scholarships, accommodation, and other aspects of university life. We have offices in Christchurch, Auckland and Wellington.

Ōtautahi | Christchurch

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: liaison@canterbury.ac.nz

Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland

T: 0800 UCAUCK

E: auckland@canterbury.ac.nz

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: wellington@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison

