Ready to let your music sing?

MUSIC MAJORS: positioned for success

Music studies at Walnut Hill provide a solid foundation for continuing your artistic journey while also developing skills like confidence, collaboration, and persistence that will serve you well in any number of future endeavors. We couple these skills with a rigorous academic program, and as a result, you are poised for success.

Walnut Hill Music students have continued their studies at some of the world’s finest colleges, universities and conservatories including:

- New England Conservatory
- The Juilliard School
- Colburn School
- Eastman School of Music
- Oberlin College and Conservatory
- Bard College and Conservatory
- Wellesley College
- Harvard University
- Northwestern University
- Notre Dame University
- Boston University
- Berklee College of Music
- Indiana University
- New York University
- Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University
- San Francisco Conservatory
- Royal Academy of Music (London)
- Boston Conservatory
- McGill University
- University of Southern California

We’re guessing that you already have a passion for classical music or jazz. Maybe with your schedule now, it’s hard to find time to practice enough. Maybe you dream of performing in a world-class venue like Jordan Hall in Boston, or studying with top-notch faculty who will nurture and inspire you.

Here at Walnut Hill, we educate dedicated young musicians in a creative community that believes in the power of music as a force for good in the world. Our unique partnership with the New England Conservatory will engage you in a comprehensive music curriculum delivered at both schools.

HAVE MORE QUESTIONS OR WANT TO SCHEDULE A TOUR?

ADMISSION OFFICE: 508.650.5020 • admissions@walnuthillarts.org
walnuthillarts.org
Walnut Hill School for the Arts
12 Highland Street | Natick, MA 01760
Day in the Life of a Music Major @ Walnut Hill

BREAKFAST
LUNCH
BLOCK STAGING FOR OPERA
HOMEWORK
DORM FUN
GUEST JAZZ BAND AT ASSEMBLY
CHAMBER MUSIC COACHING
PRACTICE
DINNER

MORNING NOONISH AFTERNOON EVENING

frequently asked QUESTIONS

How much time will I have to practice?
Our academic and arts schedules are designed to allow for more practice time than you might expect at a typical high school. Our block scheduling means fewer, longer academic classes each semester and breaks in your day for practice, homework, or rest. Optimal daily practice time is highly individualized and varies widely depending on your instrument and major. You are encouraged to work hard while also learning the importance of healthy practice habits and the value of time for reflection.

What types of performance opportunities will I have?
Our partnership with the New England Conservatory (NEC) means that all of our Music majors perform regularly both at Walnut Hill and in Boston at NEC. At NEC, music students participate in orchestra, piano seminar, choir, or jazz combo on Saturdays and perform regularly with those ensembles. Chamber music, solo recitals, jazz ensemble, and weekly master classes with prominent artists are our focus at Walnut Hill. Composers also have the opportunity to showcase their original works in concerts twice a year. In the spring, all Voice students participate in a fully staged opera, and seniors present individual recitals on campus as their capstone project.

Can I major in more than one instrument?
Though you are required to major in only one instrument, we also offer secondary lessons in voice and piano on campus and in other instruments at NEC.

What music classes will I take on campus?
Our program offers a comprehensive curriculum for all students that includes both ear-training and solfège. In addition, we offer an introductory Musical Literacy class for incoming students and Music History for seniors. Classical Instrumental students take chamber music each semester, including weekly coaching. Jazz students study Jazz Arranging and perform with our Jazz Ensemble on campus. Composers take an intensive Composers Seminar each semester, and Voice students take diction and translation, voice skills, and vocal repertoire. Most students have their private lessons with faculty at New England Conservatory (Prep or College). However, Voice and Composition students study with faculty on campus at Walnut Hill.

What are some of the benefits of being here?
When you get here, you’ll be pursuing music with other like-minded people—a whole group of students from across the globe who are passionate about their chosen art.

The Walnut Hill Music Department is the only high school program linking a major conservatory, New England Conservatory (NEC), with an independent school.

This partnership engages our students in a comprehensive music curriculum delivered both at NEC and at Walnut Hill. The curriculum is enhanced by innovative performance projects, master classes by dynamic guest artists, and the thoughtful integration of contemporary topics such as entrepreneurship and civic engagement. Walnut Hill’s proximity to Boston allows students to attend a wide variety of concerts by major ensembles and soloists at the city’s world-class concert halls.

CHOOSE ONE OF 4 DISTINCT PROGRAMS:
Classical Instrumental
Voice
Composition
Jazz

MUSIC CLASSES

Primary Instrument
Chamber Music
Concerto
Sinfonia
Sinfonia for Non-Majors
Departmental Master Class
Diction for Singers
Ear-Training
Form and Analysis
Janeway Project

Secondary Instrument
Jazz Ensemble
Music History
Music Theory I & II
Musical Literacy
Solfège
Voice Master Class
Voice Repertoire
Voice Skills (5 or 6 Weeks)