

On behalf of my faculty and staff colleagues, I'm thrilled to welcome you to the Department of Music and the Claire Trevor School of the Arts at UC Irvine!

Our department offers a unique program of artistic and intellectual training in the context of a leading research university, and features a faculty of world-class artists and scholars working across an incredibly wide range, from ancient traditions to cutting-edge innovations. We are proud of our alumni, who have been successful across many types of career paths, and we look forward to helping you build a foundation for your unique creative and professional journey.

I encourage you to review the page "[New Music Major Info](#)" on our department website, which is the first link under the "Current Students" menu. An especially important part of that page is the information on the theory placement test you'll take in Welcome Week, including links to online, free resources that can help you prepare. Many entering music majors have had some theory instruction and place directly into our first quarter theory course (MUS 16A), but some who arrive without fundamental knowledge about scales, chords, intervals and basic roman numeral analysis are placed instead into MUS 25 Fundamentals, and must therefore start the MUS 16 sequence in their second year. Regardless of their initial theory placement, all students still have time to complete the degree, but arriving with this core theory knowledge benefits you in various ways, so we encourage you to review that material before the fall.

I look forward to meeting you in person during Welcome Week, which includes the mandatory placement exam for music theory, auditions for ensembles, and some brief but important meetings with members of our faculty and staff. Please review the Welcome Week Schedule, a detailed list of department and school activities for all music students. I also encourage you to visit the department website at <https://music.arts.uci.edu>, where you can find important information, forms, policies and an Undergraduate Music Majors Handbook.

All of our faculty and staff are committed to ensuring your success. Your studio teacher will be a key mentor, but I also encourage you to reach out to other faculty for advice during your time here, especially those whose professional work resonates with you. Our department is a friendly place, and if you cultivate a curious ear and mindset, attend diverse events, and seek ways to connect with the broader department community, you will help to ensure your success at UCI and open up many new possibilities for the future.

If you ever have any questions about the Music Department, please contact us at [music@uci.edu](mailto:music@uci.edu) or (949) 824-6615. We look forward to seeing you soon! Warm wishes,



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