

Voice and Opera Program Goals

The Department of Voice and Opera provides singers with the high quality training, emphasis on vocal technique, and repertoire necessary to achieve their fullest vocal potential. Individual performance progress is closely guided through private lessons and vocal juries. Each singer studies vocal development, diction and language, musical styles, and vocal technique in order to achieve a polished ease in performance.

Master's voice majors present a final recital, while Master's opera majors appear in adjudicated major roles in opera productions. The Department of Voice and Opera supports the Opera Theater Program whose productions are staged on campus and other Delaware Valley venues. Courses in opera are open to qualified undergraduate as well as graduate singers.

I. Goals: Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance

The training provided by the Voice Department emphasizes vocal technique and repertoire in a challenging program of vocal development. Performance progress is closely guided through private lessons, juries, and recital performances. The program of study prepares singers for careers in concert and recital performance, opera, and private teaching.

Students who successfully complete the Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance program will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate vocal technique and skill.
- B. Develop oratorio and opera aria repertoire in all four singing languages (Italian, English, French, German) with appropriate pronunciation and comprehension. Repertoire will include oratorio and opera arias.
- C. Develop a sense of appropriate vocal pedagogy including anatomy, physics, and teaching methods.
- D. Student will demonstrate advanced musicianship.
- E. Develop skills necessary to achieve communicative, musical and dramatic performance of the senior recital and opera workshop scenes.

II. Goals: Bachelor of Music Voice Concentration (Music Education, Theory, History, Therapy)

Students who successfully complete the Bachelor of Music Voice Concentration program will be able to:

- A. Develop and demonstrate a basic vocal technique.
- B. Sing in English, Italian, French, and German with proper pronunciation and comprehension.
- C. Develop stage presence, demonstrating understanding of posture and communication on stage.
- D. Cultivate musicianship, accurately and musically performing selected repertoire.

III. Goals: Master of Music in Voice

The master's degree in voice performance prepares singers for multifaceted careers as well-rounded performers on concert and operatic stages and/or as teachers of voice. The ultimate goal of the program is to produce singing artists capable of competing successfully in the professional world of music.

Students who successfully complete the Master of Music in Voice Performance program will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate vocal skills necessary for a singing or teaching career.
- B. Demonstrate mastery of advanced vocal skill.
- C. Develop oratorio and opera aria repertoire in all four singing languages (Italian, English, French, German) with appropriate pronunciation and comprehension. Repertoire will include oratorio and opera arias.
- D. Develop a sense of appropriate vocal pedagogy including anatomy, physics, and teaching methods. Student will develop advanced musicianship.
- E. Develop skills necessary to achieve communicative, musical and dramatic performance of recital and concert repertoire, opera scenes and roles, and professional auditions.

IV. Goals: Professional Studies Certificate in Voice

The central purpose of the Professional Studies program is to provide intensive training in voice for students who are already performing at the Master's exit level and who are seeking special preparation for the professional world. Professional Studies is rooted in the conservatory tradition with its strong emphasis on advanced performance study. Students are required to complete a minimum of eighteen credits, two semesters of full-time study.

Students who successfully complete the Professional Studies Certificate in Voice program will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate vocal skills necessary for a singing or teaching career.
- B. Demonstrate mastery of advanced vocal skill.
- C. Develop oratorio and opera aria repertoire in all four singing languages (Italian, English, French, German) with appropriate pronunciation and comprehension. Repertoire will include oratorio and opera arias.
- D. Develop a sense of appropriate vocal pedagogy including anatomy, physics, and teaching methods. Student will develop advanced musicianship.
- E. Develop skills necessary to achieve communicative, musical and dramatic performance of recital and concert repertoire, opera scenes and roles, and professional auditions.

V. Goals: Master of Music in Opera

The Master of Music in Opera is designed to prepare qualified performers for professional careers as singer-actors on both national and international operatic stages. The faculty only admits singers who demonstrate outstanding potential for the operatic stage, both vocally and dramatically, and strives to provide as thorough a graduate training as is possible within a two-year framework. The ultimate goal is to produce singing artists capable of competing successfully in the professional world of opera.

Students who successfully complete the Master of Music in Opera program will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate vocal skills necessary for a singing or teaching career.
- B. Demonstrate mastery of advanced vocal skill.
- C. Develop oratorio and opera aria repertoire in all four singing languages (Italian, English, French, German) with appropriate pronunciation and comprehension. Repertoire will include oratorio and opera arias.
- D. Develop a sense of appropriate vocal pedagogy including anatomy, physics, and teaching methods. Student will develop advanced musicianship.
- E. Develop skills necessary to achieve communicative, musical and dramatic performance of recital and concert repertoire, opera scenes and roles, and professional auditions.

VI. Goals: Professional Studies Certificate in Opera

The central purpose of the Professional Studies program is to provide intensive training opera for students who are already performing at the Master's exit level and who are seeking special preparation for the professional world. Professional Studies is rooted in the conservatory tradition with its strong emphasis on advanced performance study. Students are required to complete a minimum of eighteen credits, two semesters of full-time study.

Students who successfully complete the Professional Studies Certificate in Opera program will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate vocal skills necessary for a singing or teaching career.
- B. Demonstrate mastery of advanced vocal skill.
- C. Develop oratorio and opera aria repertoire in all four singing languages (Italian, English, French, German) with appropriate pronunciation and comprehension. Repertoire will include oratorio and opera arias.
- D. Develop a sense of appropriate vocal pedagogy including anatomy, physics, and teaching methods. Student will develop advanced musicianship.
- E. Develop skills necessary to achieve communicative, musical and dramatic performance of recital and concert repertoire, opera scenes and roles, and professional auditions.

VII. Goals: Doctor of Musical Arts in Voice

The objectives of the D.M.A. program in voice performance are to foster growth and development of the highest and most sophisticated musical interpretation through performance and scholarly activity under the guidance of a very highly specialized faculty.

Students who successfully complete the Doctor of Musical Arts in Voice program will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate the skills necessary for a professional singing or university-level teaching career.
- B. Demonstrate mastery of advanced vocal technique.
- C. Demonstrate an understanding of the various aspects of vocal pedagogy including anatomy, physics, teaching methods, and the standard literature of the field.

- D. Demonstrate knowledge of the history and style of music from all periods of vocal literature, along with representative repertoire.
- E. Demonstrate an ability to discuss in detail the history, theory, styles, and sources of music.
- F. Demonstrate the research and writing skills necessary to do scholarly work in the chosen field.