Auditions and Scholarships:

The Music Department awards Talent Grants to incoming students on the basis of competitive auditions. Talent Grants are renewable for four years. We encourage the student to remain active in music by taking applied music lessons, by performing in one of our ensembles, or by taking a music course.

Auditions are held once in the Fall and twice in the Spring (prior to March 1). To schedule an audition, click here:

http://www.muhlenberg.edu/main/academics/music/join_us/

If you are unable to audition in person, you may submit a CD or DVD. Please include two contrasting pieces. For singers, one piece in a foreign language is highly recommended.

Declaring a Major:

Students who are interested in declaring a major in music are strongly encouraged to do this in their first or second years. Waiting longer may make completion of the degree in four years difficult or impossible.

In order to declare a major in music the College Catalog stipulates that “a student must maintain at least a 2.00 cumulative GPA in courses prescribed by the department.” The courses prescribed by the music department are:

MUS 111, Music Theory I OR
MUS 221, Music History I OR
MUS 222, Music History II

To declare a major in music, a student must have successfully completed or be currently enrolled in one of the courses above. Students who are currently enrolled may declare at anytime past midterms.
After consulting with the instructor of the course in progress the department chair will sign the declaration of major form if the student is showing evidence of appropriate progress in the course.

**Declaring a Minor:**

Students declaring a music minor are subject to the same procedures.

**Concentrations:**

The music major offers three areas of concentrated study: Performance, Music Theory and Composition, and Music in History and Culture. Each of the concentrations includes the core curriculum plus an area of specialization.

If a student chooses not to pursue a concentration, the major may be completed with the core curriculum plus two additional music courses chosen by the student in consultation with the student’s Academic Advisor and two additional semesters of applied music.

The core curriculum includes three courses in music theory, two courses in music history, four semesters of applied study on the student’s primary instrument, and a culminating undergraduate experience (CUE). Completion of the core curriculum will ensure that each music major receives a thorough grounding in the three disciplines that comprise the study of music.

Details are in the College Catalog, available here.


**Applied Music:**
The Music Department offers individual instruction for one-half (.5) course unit per semester in most orchestral instruments, voice, piano, organ, and guitar. There is a fee for this instruction. Lessons are normally 45 minutes weekly, and students are expected to practice a minimum of five hours per week. The instructor may require performance on Student Recitals. At the end of the Spring term, music majors will perform for the music faculty (see Juries below). A jury may be required of other students at the instructor’s discretion. Notification of jury times will be posted in the Music Office.

Registering for Applied Music:

Students must register for Applied Music in the Music Office. Your signature on the Applied Music form indicates your intention to register for the course under the provisions stated here. If approved by the department, you will be enrolled for the course and charged an Applied Music fee, which is non-refundable after the close of the add-drop period in the second week of classes. Students taking lessons on more than one instrument in the same semester should register for the Additional Area applied course for their second instrument.

You must complete an Applied Music form each semester at the same time you register for all your other course work. Students failing to register for applied music during the regular registration period cannot be assured of instruction. If you wait until you return for the next semester, a teacher may not be available and you will not be able to take lessons that semester.

NOTE: The Applied Music Fee is waived in the primary performance area for declared Music Majors.

Arranging Lesson Times:

Students should arrange with the appropriate instructor and consult with the Music Office about lesson times. Lesson times must be arranged either before the term begins or within the first few days of classes. Note: if students have neither had a first lesson nor confirmed their lesson time with their teacher by the end of add/drop, the department may drop the student from lessons. That student will not take applied music that semester.

Auditing Applied Music:

Applied Music may not be taken as Pass-Fail. It may be taken as Audit only when it constitutes an overload, when it is not the initial term of applied music study, or with permission of the instructor and department head. The one-half course credit counts as part of the academic load, which is limited to 4.5 courses for freshmen and 5.5 courses for upperclassmen per semester. Each student is graded on progress made during the term. There is no grade advantage due to competency at the time instruction is begun.
Concert Attendance:

If you are taking individual lessons, you must attend at least 7 music events in the course of the semester. Attendance is recorded by means of a sign-up sheet at Music Department sponsored events. If you attend any other music event, please tell the Music Office. Free tickets to paid concerts may be available for some events by showing your student ID card. Failure to meet the recital attendance requirement may result in a reduction in the course grade.

Missed/canceled lessons:

Student cancels: If for some reason you need to cancel a lesson, it is your responsibility to contact your teacher directly to let them know. Contact information can be found in the schedule notebook kept in the Music Department office. Please write down this contact information and use it. Contacting the music office does not constitute contacting your teacher. If you cancel your lesson, the instructor is not obligated to make up that lesson for you.

Instructor cancels: Some instructors may e-mail you to advise of cancellations; others will have a note posted on the door of their teaching studio if unable to attend. If an instructor has to cancel, they will attempt to make up that lesson.

Voice Students, please note this! Those voice students who wish to take more than 4 semesters of individual lessons will be put on a waiting list if not a Music Major or Minor or in a Music Department Ensemble. If an instructor has openings after all incoming students have been assigned, then those on the waiting list will be assigned.

Instrument lockers are available for those who wish them. Details are available in the Music Office.

Juries:

Juries provide an opportunity for each student to interact with the music faculty and for the faculty to get to know the student better as a performer. Juries are held on Performance Day in the Spring semester.

It is expected that ALL Applied Music students who are music majors will do a Jury, regardless of area of concentration. There are some exceptions: First-year students will not do a Jury. If a student is performing a Senior Recital, s/he need not do a Jury. Also, students who are studying more than one area of Applied Music will only do a Jury in their primary instrument of study. Lastly, in rare instances, a student may be exempted from doing a Jury at the discretion of the instructor. An example might be a student who has had extended physical difficulties or illness.
Beginning Spring, 2014, non-majors taking Applied Music in Voice are also invited to participate in Juries. Please check with the Music Office for details.

The student must complete a Jury Sheet and give a copy to each juror at the beginning of the Jury. Jury Sheets are available in the Music Office.

An accompanist will be provided, but the student must supply the music and meet with the accompanist for a rehearsal prior to the jury.

**Ensembles:**

Students of all music abilities are encouraged to participate in one or more of the many ensembles that are available on campus. College Choir, Chamber Singers, Opera Workshop (Spring only), Chamber Orchestra, and Wind Ensemble each meet two times a week. All other ensembles meet once a week. Ensembles are non-credit courses but appear on the student's transcript as a record of participation.

Auditions are required for entrance into the College Choir. Auditions are held during first-year advising in June and as needed prior to the start of the semester. Members of Chamber Singers are auditioned from members of the College Choir. For the other ensembles, please contact the ensemble director and/or come to the first rehearsal of each semester. First rehearsals are posted in the Music Office.

Completing the enrollment form for an ensemble is the same as registering for a course. If a student decides not to participate, s/he must complete the add/drop or withdrawal procedure prior to the deadlines for each.

**College Choir:** Large mixed ensemble performing music from all eras. Concerts each semester may include choral masterpieces with instrumental accompaniment. Traditional Candlelight Carol services in December. Contact Michael Schnack.

**Chamber Singers:** Contemporary repertoire including jazz. Concerts each semester, participation in Candlelight Carols, and on- and off-campus events. Contact Michael Schnack.

**Women's Ensemble:** Women-only vocal group. Performs music from around the world in original languages. Contact Ed Bara.

**Opera Workshop:** Spring only. Advanced singers. Scenes or entire works, semi- or full-staged performances at end of semester. Contact Megan Monaghan.

**Collegium Musicum:** Early music on period instruments and voices. One concert each semester. Contact Dr. Ted Conner.

**Chamber Orchestra:** Open to all string players; also includes winds, brass, and percussion. One concert each semester. Contact Daniel Boring.
**Musica da Camera:** Chamber music for winds and strings. One concert each semester and special events by request. Contact Dr. Diane Follet.

**Wind Ensemble:** Traditional and contemporary concert music for winds and percussion. One concert each semester. Contact Al Neumeyer. (A student-organized **Pep Band** performs at athletic events on campus and for other functions.)

**Jazz Big Band:** Big band jazz. One concert each semester. Contact Anthony Gairo.

**Jazz Improv Ensembles:** Two groups available; each explores traditional, progressive, and experimental forms of jazz improvisation. Each group gives one concert each semester. Contact Dr. Ted Conner and/or Tom Kozic/Gary Rissmiller.

**Percussion Ensemble:** Performs on Student Recitals and in conjunction with other ensemble concerts. Contact James Thoma.

**Small Ensembles:** Various types of small groups as interest arises.

**Recitals:**

**Student Recitals:**

The Music Department offers opportunities for students to perform on Student Recitals throughout the year. Three or more student recitals are held each semester. Students should consult with their applied music teachers about performing on recitals.

An accompanist will be provided. The student will supply the music two weeks prior to the recital and must meet with the accompanist for a rehearsal prior to the recital.

**Senior Recitals:**

Music majors concentrating in Performance will perform a Senior Recital. Seniors should schedule their recitals in the semester prior to the performance, i.e., Fall for a Spring recital. Repertoire will be chosen in consultation with the applied music teacher. The student is expected to provide a program, including translations and program notes. Consult with the Music Office for other requirements. The complete program will be submitted to the Music Office at least one month in advance of the recital.

It is the responsibility of the student to secure and pay an accompanist. The applied music teacher may recommend one, or the Music Office can supply a list of names.
Student Organizations:

**BOOM/MMA** (Berg Organization of Music/Muhlenberg Music Association) is open to all students who have an interest in music. BOOM/MMA sponsors cultural trips to experience live performances in the Lehigh Valley and beyond, sponsors talent shows on campus, and serves the Music Department by ushering at selected concerts.

**Kappa Kappa Psi** - The Mu Xi Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, the national co-ed band fraternity, is dedicated to providing service and leadership to the Muhlenberg College band program and surrounding Lehigh Valley communities while upholding the highest levels of musicianship in various ensembles associated with the College.

Student Ensembles, including A Cappella Groups:

Note: These groups are student organizations that operate under the auspices of Student Activities under Student Life. Some groups specialize in particular types of repertoire, such as vocal jazz, musical theatre, or gospel. Look for posters around campus and click here for more information:

http://www.muhlenberg.edu/main/campuslife/activities/organizations/list.html

**Acafellas** - all-male a cappella.

**Chaimonics** - co-ed a cappella (frequently performs at Hillel functions).

**Dynamics** – co-ed a cappella.

**Girls Next Door** – all-female a cappella.

**InAcchord** - co-ed a cappella.

**Live in Color** - show choir.

**Noteworthy** - co-ed a cappella (musical theater).

**Rejoice** - Gospel choir.