

Performance Ensembles

One of the important competencies in music is ensemble performance. In an ensemble, the student learns teamwork – following the director, listening and cooperating with other players or singers, balancing the aspects of playing or singing foreground parts and background parts alternately, working as a multi-person unit, rather than as an individual. CCRI Music Department offers the following performance ensembles. Four semesters of performance ensemble credits are required for graduation with an A.F.A. Music or Jazz Studies degree.

- Chamber Singers** For those who enjoy part-singing in a small group, this is an interesting close-knit ensemble. The Chamber Singers ensemble offers an opportunity to explore a variety of choral repertoire, including a cappella polyphonic music, spirituals, and contemporary styles. Performances include fall concerts on campus and in the community, a choral festival, and an annual spring concert. Auditions for placement within the group are held at the first two rehearsals each semester. We rehearse weekly on Tuesdays, 12:00 pm to 12:50 pm and Thursdays, 11:00 am to 12:50 pm in Room 0562. This 1-credit course meets the AFA Music degree semester requirement for ensemble credit.
- Chamber Ensemble** The Chamber Ensemble is CCRI's classical music instrumental group. Members of the club meet three times a week to rehearse. There is also opportunity for guitarists to play in a guitar ensemble and for those who desire to play in the *CCRI Pep Band*. The Ensemble gives a full performance at the end of the semester and often performs for College and other functions during the semester. Instrumentalists of different skill levels are welcome; musicians must be able to read music. Pianists and all acoustic instruments are welcome. Rehearsals: Monday and Wednesday from 1:00 pm to 2:15 pm in Room 0540. This 1-credit course meets the AFA Music degree semester requirement for ensemble credit.
- Chorus** A marvelous opportunity for those who enjoy singing to learn vocal technique while having fun rehearsing varied and interesting styles of choral music. A one-credit course, the Chorus meets Mondays from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, and Wednesdays from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Auditions for placement for each section (soprano, alto, tenor, and bass) are held during the first meeting of each semester. This 1-credit course meets the AFA Music degree semester requirement for ensemble credit.
- Jazz Ensemble** The CCRI Jazz Ensemble is an active, performing musical organization. The group meets and rehearses on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Rehearsal times are published each semester in the course schedule bulletin. The group gives several performances each semester, both on and off campus. In the past, the CCRI Jazz Ensemble has performed at the Williams College Jazz Festival, MIT's New England Collegiate Jazz Festival, the U-Mass Dartmouth Jazz Festival, and the URI Jazz and World Music Festival. The Ensemble has made several recordings, and has sponsored field trips to jazz performances in Boston and New York City. The CCRI Jazz Ensemble welcomes students who are

interested in performing Jazz, and who are willing to make a strong commitment to a hard-working and rewarding musical organization. Membership is open to any CCRI student. Auditions are held during each semester's first two scheduled classes. This 1-credit course meets the AFA Music degree semester requirement for ensemble credit.

Opera Workshop

The Opera Workshop is a two-semester opportunity to develop the techniques and skills of operatic performance. Emphasis will be placed equally on singing and acting skills. Each student will be assigned at least two opera scenes for study and preparation. During the Fall term, the scenes are musically prepared and memorized. The Spring term will be devoted to the dramatic preparation of the assigned scenes studied in the preceding Fall. Blocking, staging, stage movement, improvisation techniques, character analysis, pantomime, and concentration exercises will be included. The year will culminate in a public performance of the prepared scenes at the end of the Spring term. This is a 1-credit plus 1-credit September to May curriculum.

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Instrument Loans

The CCRI Music Department owns a limited number of orchestral string instruments, brass and woodwind instruments which may be borrowed during a semester by students while participating in strings class, woodwinds class, chamber ensemble, or jazz ensemble. An **Instrument Loan Agreement** form must be completed and signed by each student borrower, and the instrument must be handled carefully according to guidelines given by the faculty member who issues the instrument to the student. This includes avoidance of extremes of temperature – that is, **do NOT leave an instrument in a vehicle for any length of time**. An instrument should be in a vehicle *only* while it is being transported. In the case of instrument damage of any description, the student must bring the instrument to his/her CCRI teacher for assessment and repair, and the student will be charged for repairs. Students **MUST** refer all instrument damage issues to a CCRI Music faculty member. Instruments must be turned in promptly at the end of each semester.