

Music Performance Opportunities at Union College

CHOIR

The Union College Choir (AMU 016) is open by audition to all members of the College community. The Choir performs at least one concert each term, and repertoire is chosen from five centuries of the choral tradition, performed both a cappella and with accompaniment. In the past the Choir has toured to Canada and throughout New England, and sometimes joins with other choirs in the region to perform major works. Academic credit is available by singing with the Choir. The Choir rehearses Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00-6:30 p.m. in Emerson Auditorium. For an audition please see Professor Victor Klimash in TMC 222 or contact him at 388-8326 or vklimash@aol.com.

ORCHESTRA

The Union College and Community Orchestra (AMU 017) performs three concerts each year, and is open by audition to all members of the College, as well as the community at large. Students are often featured as soloists with the Orchestra, and usually occupy principal chairs in the sections. The repertoire of the Orchestra is made up of the standard orchestral literature, with occasional world premieres of compositions by Union College students and faculty. The Orchestra also joins forces with the Choir in the performance of large-scale sacred and secular works. Academic credit is available for playing in the Orchestra. The Orchestra rehearses Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in Memorial Chapel. For an audition please see Professor Victor Klimash in TMC 222 or contact him at 388-8326 or vklimash@aol.com.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

The Union College Jazz Ensemble (AMU 015) is comprised of Union College students and alumni as well as members of the Capital Region community. The group uses winds (sax, flute, clarinet), brass (trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium), rhythm section (piano, guitar, bass, drums, percussion, vibes) and vocalists. The ensemble draws upon the whole history of jazz—dixieland, big band swing, bebop, cool jazz, funk, Latin—and often features student compositions and arrangements. Improvisational skills are not required but are encouraged and developed in rehearsal and performance. The Jazz Ensemble performs at least one formal concert on campus each term and plays informal gigs on campus, at area clubs and community functions, and at venues throughout the Northeast. The Jazz Ensemble rehearses Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in Emerson Auditorium. For an audition please see Professor Tim Olsen in TMC 204 or contact him at 388-6563 or olsent@union.edu.

TAIKO ENSEMBLE

In the Union College Taiko Ensemble (AMU 012) students will learn to perform on a variety of Japanese traditional drums. The ensemble offers one concert each term and may give additional performances both on- and off-campus. No previous musical experience is required, though students will need to audition/interview at the beginning of each term to determine enrollment. The Taiko Ensemble rehearses Thursdays from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the World Music Room. For more information, see Professor Jennifer Matsue in TMC 208 or contact her at 388-8075 or matsuej@union.edu.

LESSONS

Individual music lessons (AMU 010) are available in voice, piano, organ, guitar and all orchestral and band instruments. Highly qualified instructors are available on campus, and performers with the Choir, Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble are encouraged to pursue individual instruction. The cost of lessons is the responsibility of the student, and will vary depending on the teacher. Academic credit is available for individual music lessons. For more information please see Professor Tim Olsen in TMC 204 or contact him at 388-6563 or olsent@union.edu.

INSTRUCTORS

The following is a list of instructors who have taught individual music lessons at Union in the last several years. Students interested in studying an instrument not listed below should contact Prof. Tim Olsen.

Judy Avitabile, *voice*
John Malthouse, *voice*
Victor Klimash, *voice*
Aniko Szokody, *advanced piano*
June Russell, *beginning piano*
Elizabeth MacFarland, *beginning piano*
Tim Olsen, *jazz piano/jazz trumpet*
Dianne McMullen, *organ*
Paula Shaw, *violin/viola*
Jill Panitch, *flute*
Tom Gerbino, *clarinet*
Lori McAllister, *bassoon*
Eric Walentowicz, *jazz saxophone*
Tom Ross, *jazz/rock/blues guitar*
Maria Zemantauski, *flamenco guitar*
Ray Jung, *electric bass*
Lou Martin, *mandolin*
Tom Wadsworth, *mandolin*
George Ward, *fiddle*

WHAT IS A PRACTICUM?

Practicum (plural "practica") is the term Union College uses to describe hands-on experiences in music, theater, dance, and ceramics. To gain transcript recognition for participation in these

activities, students must register with the Registrar early in the term and achieve a passing grade from the teacher, director, or conductor. Requirements for achieving a passing grade in a music ensemble include, but are not limited to, full participation in rehearsals and performances. Requirements for achieving a passing grade in individual music lessons include, but are not limited to, attending ten one-hour lessons per term and making satisfactory progress on one's voice or instrument. Requests to register for practicum transcript recognition after the drop-add period will not be honored. Each full music credit is accumulated from three previous passing grades in the same practicum (AMU 010, 012, 015, 016, or 017). There are no limits on how many practicum credits can appear on the student's transcript. At most two of these credits can be used towards graduation in the event that the student is behind in credits. Full music majors must accumulate at least two years of practicum credit, one year of which must be in an ensemble; ID majors and minors must accumulate at least one year of practicum credit in an ensemble.

TIDMARSH SCHOLARSHIP

The Tidmarsh Scholarship is available to help defray the cost of individual music lessons for music majors, ID majors, and minors. Students interested in this competitive scholarship should submit an application no later than the first week of the term for which support is requested. Application forms are available from (and should be returned to) Linda Goodman or Kathie Herrington in Visual Arts 101.

MUSIC FACILITIES

Music facilities at Union College are located in the Taylor Music Center, which opened in January 2007. The centerpiece of the building is Emerson Auditorium, an intimate performance space that seats 100. In addition to classrooms, the TMC also contains a music technology studio, faculty offices, and practice rooms. Memorial Chapel, seating over 900, is used for orchestra rehearsals and large choral and orchestral performances. Union College became an All-Steinway School in 2007.

FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Prospective students are strongly encouraged to include supporting material—in the form of a cassette, compact disc, or video recording—when they are applying for admission to Union College. The most important thing to remember is that the recording clearly show the student's musical abilities. Be sure to list the titles of the works performed. A resume or biography of musical experiences is also very useful. Prospective students are welcome to sit in on a music class or ensemble rehearsal if it fits into their schedule during a campus visit. Please contact Prof. Tim Olsen for more information.

ENSEMBLE DIRECTOR BIOS

Professor Victor Klimash serves as Director of Performance at Union College, where he conducts the Union College Choir and the Union College and Community Orchestra. Prior to joining the Union faculty he served as Artistic Director and Conductor for the Music Society of The Midland Center for the Arts in Michigan, where he was also Director of Education and Outreach. His teaching experience includes more than twenty years on the faculty of The Louisiana State University School of Music, and five years at The Saratoga-Potsdam Choral Institute. He was also on the conducting staffs of The New Orleans and the Baton Rouge Symphonies. He has given masterclasses in performance at Indiana University, Central Michigan University, Delta College and Iowa State University. He holds two degrees from The Eastman School of Music and a Doctorate from The Florida State University School of Music. He currently serves as Chair of Music and Worship for the Eastern Division of the American Choral Directors Association.

Professor Jennifer Matsue joined the Union faculty in 2003, and teaches courses in Japanese music and culture, ethnomusicology, and anthropology. Prof. Matsue holds a Ph.D. in ethnomusicology from the University of Chicago. The author of *Making Music in Japan's Underground: The Tokyo Hardcore Scene* (Routledge, 2008), her research interests include women in traditional Japanese performing arts as well as aspects of Japanese popular music. Before coming to Union, she taught at Dartmouth College, the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Chicago, and Sophia University in Japan.

Professor Tim Olsen is Associate Professor of Music and Chair of the Department of Music. He holds degrees from Washington University (B.M., music theory/composition) the University of Minnesota (M.A., music theory/composition), and Yale University (M.M., M.M.A., and D.M.A., composition). He is an active performer on trumpet, piano, and organ, and can frequently be heard at jazz venues throughout the Capital District. His compositions and arrangements have received performances throughout North America and Europe. In addition to his work with the Union College Jazz Ensemble, Prof. Olsen is also Director of Music and Organist at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Schenectady.

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