ENSEMBLE INFORMATION

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Professor James Miley, Director of Willamette Jazz Collective
Professor Héctor Agüero, Director of Wind Ensemble and University Chamber Orchestra
Professor Daniel Roulin, Director of Small Ensemble Program

WIND ENSEMBLE - Tu, Th 4:45-6:15p, (+ 1 Friday sectional each month), Rogers Rehearsal Hall. The Willamette University Wind Ensemble is a large wind and percussion ensemble. This premier wind band performs music from a wide variety of styles, time periods, and traditions. Performances include two or three public concerts per semester. The Wind Ensemble is open to all students regardless of academic concentration. Auditions for the Wind Ensemble are held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the 30th and 31st of August in room 110 of the Rogers Music Center. An audition sign-up sheet will be posted on the band board in RMC one week before the first day of classes. Spring semester auditions occur in the same manner in early January. Those interested in auditioning for the University Wind Ensemble should prepare a short piece of music that best demonstrates their technical ability and tone quality. Students will also be asked to sight-read a short music excerpt. Willamette University students who wish to participate but do not own a personal instrument may rent a school-owned instrument at a rate of $25 per semester. All questions may be forwarded to band-staff@willamette.edu

WILLAMETTE JAZZ COLLECTIVE –M, W, F, 11:30-12:30p Fine Arts West 133 (+ 1 hour sectional each week). The Willamette Jazz Collective performs the finest big band literature of the past and present, with particular emphasis on new music by leading composers in the field as well as contributions from emerging artists and student arrangers. Open by audition to all Willamette University students.

JAZZ COMBOS - 2 hours of rehearsal each week, TBA. Jazz small groups are scheduled according to interest, improvisational ability of students, and availability of rhythm section players. Each ensemble performs on campus each semester as part of the Bistro jazz series. Open by audition to all Willamette University students.

UNIVERSITY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA - M, W, F, 11:30-12:30p, Rogers Rehearsal Hall. The University Chamber Orchestra (UCO) is open by audition to all students of the University regardless of major. The UCO presents one full concert each semester in addition to the annual Parents-Family Weekend concert and special holiday performances. Spring semester may include pit-orchestra experience as part of the Dramatic Vocal Arts production. The UCO features the winner(s) of the WU Concerto/Aria Competition every spring semester. Repertoire for the UCO is comprised of music that encompasses many historical periods, cultural traditions, and compositional styles. Those interested in auditioning for the University Chamber Orchestra should prepare a short piece of music that best demonstrates their technical ability and tone quality. Students will also be asked to sight-read a short music excerpt.

THE SMALL ENSEMBLE PROGRAM – Instrumental chamber ensembles consist of string quartets, piano trios, the woodwind quintet, the baroque ensemble, the contemporary ensemble and the percussion ensemble. These groups meet for 2 hours a week—1 hour for coaching and 1 hour of rehearsal. In addition to performing each semester on campus, several of these ensembles perform off campus for the Camerata Musica series at the Salem Public Library.
Our choral program is structured to provide a wide variety of music opportunities to students who have backgrounds which range from limited experience to years of training. Most of our groups have at least 70% of their membership made up of non-music majors. The audition for all choirs will include (1) an interview; (2) singing scales to find your range, and (3) sight reading both melodies and rhythms.

VOCE FEMMINILE – M,W,F, 11:30a-12:30p, FAW 145 and Hudson Hall.
MALE ENSEMBLE WILLAMETTE – M,W,F, 11:30a-12:30p, FAW 145 and Hudson Hall. These two groups will be of particular interest to those students who may not have had extensive choral experience and want to develop their reading skills and vocal technique. Other students join these groups for the opportunity to perform literature written exclusively for male or female voices or because they may not have the time to commit to our other more intensive ensembles. Each ensemble enrolls approximately 30-40 singers from a broad cross-section of majors on campus. The ensembles perform approximately four times yearly. Literature for Male Ensemble comes from the best of barbershop, doo-wop, popular, and classical music. Voce Femminile performs classical choral literature from a broad spectrum of historical periods. Twice yearly, the men and women combine to sing music composed for mixed voices. For your audition you will be asked to do rudimentary sight reading and vocalize to determine voice placement and group assignment.

WILLAMETTE SINGERS - T,TH, 12:50-2:20p, Rogers Rehearsal Hall. This group of 12 voices and jazz combo will concentrate on vocal jazz. Willamette Singers participates in a yearly tour and in recent years has traveled to Japan, Boston, New Orleans, Indianapolis, Chicago, Washington, Idaho, California and New York. Members must have significant experience in singing and/or instrument playing and are required to audition for entrance. Students interested in playing in the instrumental combo should audition during the special times for jazz instruments.

CHAMBER CHOIR - M,W,F, 4:10-5:40p, Hudson Hall. The choir consists of 36-44 singers and engages in a tour (usually taken during the winter break) as well as frequent on-campus performances. Literature is drawn from the best of classical repertoire from all historical periods. Members must have significant experience in singing and are required to audition for entrance.

WILLAMETTE MASTER CHORUS - M, 7-9:30p, Hudson Hall. Master Chorus combines vocalists from the Salem community with Willamette students to form a 60-member choir. The group specializes in performing large choral works with orchestra and gives concerts three to four times annually. Members have significant experience in singing and are required to audition for entrance.

DRAMATIC VOCAL ARTS - T,TH, 3:30-5:30p, Hudson Hall. The Dramatic Vocal Arts workshop offers students a rich experience with opera performance and production, along with an in-depth integration of singing, stage movement, and character development. The Dramatic Vocal Arts ensemble presents one fully staged production each year, with orchestral accompaniment provided by the University Chamber Orchestra. Recent productions include Puccini’s Suor Anglica, Die Fledermaus by Johann Strauss II, Così Fan Tutte by W.A. Mozart, Our Town by Ned Rorem, Engelbert Humperdinck’s Hansel und Gretel, Bizet’s Carmen, The Secret Garden, a musical, by Lucy Simon and Marsha Norman, The Marriage of Figaro by W.A. Mozart and the most recent production, Gianni Schicchi by Puccini. The ensemble is open to Willamette University students by audition.