

# Jazz Studies



## Program Overview

Capital's jazz studies degree was first introduced in 1976, making it one of the longest-established programs in the nation. Since then, the degree has produced countless outstanding musicians who have achieved success in the music industry. Our definition of "Jazz" includes everything from traditional/straight ahead, big band, funk, fusion, afro-Cuban, Brazilian, rock, and the avant-garde. This performance-based degree focuses on diverse ensemble experiences and myriad playing opportunities found in our two big bands, small combos, rock ensemble, world music labs and more.

The jazz area faculty, led by Capital alumni Julie Licata, consists of a veritable "who's who" in the local Columbus scene—all of whom can be found gigging in clubs, venues, and concert halls across the country. In addition, the program hosts guest artists and clinicians throughout the year, culminating in the annual Jazz & World Music Festival which brings world-renowned musicians to work with students for a whole week. Recent guests have included Patrick Bartley, the Bobby Floyd Trio, Rebeca Mauleón, the DIVA Quintet, and Jaak Sooäär. Each student will find a truly one-one-one connection with their studio teachers, class professors, ensemble directors, and peers, giving them all of the tools and experiences needed for an active career in the music industry.

## Careers and Placement

Columbus offers all of the benefits of a major music city—venues, jam sessions, recording studios, private gigs and much more. It is also home of the Jazz Arts Group, Columbus Jazz Orchestra, A Tribe for Jazz, and many jazz festivals and performance series. Our graduates can be found teaching at universities, playing with professional big bands, touring around the world with pop artists, recording their own music, hosting podcasts, and working with non-profit arts organizations.

## Conservatory Admission and Audition

Admission into this program will require you to complete a two-part process to gain admittance to both Capital University and the Conservatory of Music. Once you are academically admitted to Capital, you will be required to participate in an audition with your specific instrument or in your area of interest. This will help the Conservatory determine your musical qualifications and placement.

### What Our Grads Are Doing Now:

**Touring Worldwide**

**University Professor**

**Recording Engineer**

**Non-Profit Work**

**Church Music Director**

**Composer**

### You'll Be Prepared To:

- Demonstrate the application of technical skills and music analysis in interpreting music
- Contextualize and communicate music through the lens of current and past cultures and societies
- Broaden an understanding and appreciation of artworks by exploring their historical and cultural contexts
- Develop, practice, and implement professional knowledge
- Articulate musical knowledge through speaking, writing, and critical listening

## Notable Capital Graduates

- Matt Billingslea - Nashville-based drummer for Taylor Swift since 2013 and adjunct professor at Lipscomb University.
- Zach Compston - Columbus-based drummer and Executive Director of Education and Programming at the Jazz Arts Group.
- William Flynn - Wichita-based guitarist, composer, and Director of Jazz Studies at Wichita State University.
- Matthiessen Nisch Quan - Columbus-based drummer for Spencer Sutherland, avid hip-hop producer, and composer of a large library of sync licensed music.
- Elliot Scozzaro - Buffalo-based alto saxophonist who has played extensively with the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Al Stewart, Louis Prima Jr., and professor at Buffalo State University and SUNY Fredonia.
- Monica Shriver - Nashville-based saxophonist, educator, composer, and host of the “Brave Musician” podcast.
- Zakk Jones - Cleveland-based guitarist, composer, and tours often with Doc Robinson and his own trio.

### Interfraternal Music Council

### Program Specific Organizations

### Ensembles and Events

### Capital Jazz Outreach Society

### Music Fellowship Club



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**Learn More**



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