

Musicians and Singers

Careers

Musicians, singers, and related workers play musical instruments, sing, compose or arrange music, or conduct groups in instrumental or vocal performances. They perform solo or as part of a group, mostly in front of live audiences in nightclubs, concert halls, and theaters. They also perform in recording or production studios for radio, TV, film, or video games. Regardless of the setting, they spend considerable time practicing alone and with their bands, orchestras, or other musical ensembles.

Musicians play one or more musical instruments. Many musicians learn to play several related instruments and can perform equally well in several musical styles.

Singers use their knowledge of voice production, melody, and harmony to interpret music and text. They sing character parts or perform in their own individual styles.

Music directors and conductors conduct, direct, plan, and lead instrumental or vocal performances by musical groups such as orchestras, choirs, and glee clubs. These leaders audition and select musicians, choose the music most appropriate for their talents and abilities, and direct rehearsals and performances. Choral directors lead choirs and glee clubs, sometimes working with a band or an orchestra conductor. Directors audition and select singers and lead them at rehearsals and performances to achieve harmony, rhythm, tempo, shading, and other desired musical effects.

Composers create original music such as symphonies, operas, sonatas, radio and television jingles, film scores, and popular songs.

Job Outlook

Employment of musicians, singers, and related workers is expected to grow 8 percent during the 2008–18 decade, as fast as the average for all occupations. Most new wage-and-salary jobs for musicians will arise in religious organizations. The Internet and other new forms of media may provide independent musicians and singers alternative methods for distributing music.

Earnings

Median hourly wages of wage-and-salary musicians and singers were \$21.24 in May 2008. The middle 50 percent earned between \$11.49 and \$36.36. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$7.64, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$59.92. Median hourly wages were \$23.68 in performing arts companies and \$12.50 in religious organizations.

Median annual wages of salaried music directors and composers were \$41,270 in May 2008. The middle 50 percent earned between \$26,480 and \$63,200. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$16,750, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$107,280.

Related Careers

- Musical instrument repairers and tuners
- Musicians, singers
- Actors, producers, and directors
- Announcers
- Dancers and choreographers

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Educational Opportunities in Musicians and Singers at LCCC

Associate of Arts

The associate of arts degree is designed for students who intend to continue their education after LCCC. The associate of arts degree does not have a specific major, but elective courses can be used as transfer credits toward a number of different majors at the bachelor's degree level at the LCCC University Partnership and other universities.

The associate of arts degree is awarded to a student successfully completing programmatic requirements. Candidates completing the associate of arts degree may transfer with junior standing to the four-year college or university of their choice. Since requirements at transfer institutions vary widely, each student should consult the catalog of the transfer institution and plan her/his program with a college counselor. There are virtually no limitations to the programs that can be pursued as LCCC can customize associate of arts programs to meet the transfer college/university's requirements.

Students pursuing the associate of arts degree may also select electives, or complement their curriculums, by choosing from such courses as communication, performance, film appreciation, introduction to American cinema, civic and collegiate chorale, civic concert and jazz bands, civic orchestra, fundamentals of music, piano, vocal ensemble, instrumental ensemble, music theory, sight singing and ear training, music history, music appreciation, music as a world phenomenon, introduction to theater, introduction to stagecraft, introduction to lighting, techniques of acting, voice and movement, directing workshop and theater laboratory.

About Lorain County Community College

Lorain County Community College continues to experience enrollment growth because attending LCCC is the most economical way to reach educational goals that help graduates become valuable players in the future economic growth of the county and region. Because of the variety and quality of learning opportunities LCCC provides, enrollment has grown 78 percent since 2000.

Lorain County Community College, which opened in 1963, is one of Ohio's leading colleges delivering credit programs at its Elyria campus and outreach centers in downtown Elyria, Lorain, Wellington and Brunswick. Plus more than 200 courses are offered via distance-learning education options, and the Associate of Arts degree can be completed entirely online.

Students can choose from more than 80 educational programs. Students can complete the first half — and sometimes more — of a bachelor's degree through LCCC's University Partnership, which brings eight universities to the LCCC campus offering 40 bachelor's and master's degree programs. Students can upgrade, retrain and improve current life skills.

In addition to providing a great education for those who enter college with aspirations of a degree, LCCC helps those who have changed their career goals, who want to broaden their horizons, and who want to return to work. LCCC provides learning and training for those who want to move up but find they need new or improved skills for the kind of professional opportunities they seek.

LCCC faculty is recognized locally and nationally for their work as professors and in other areas. They all have advanced degrees and real world experience and understand their primary responsibility at LCCC is to teach classes.

LCCC is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, which is the regional accrediting authority for Ohio colleges and universities. Since opening its doors, LCCC has served more than 300,000 people. More than six million students enroll annually in credit courses at America's community colleges, representing about 46 percent of all students in higher education and about 56 percent of all first-time college entrants.



*Lorain County
Community College*



**The University
Partnership**

of Lorain County Community College

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