

*Music is the cornerstone of a liberal arts education and at Virginia Wesleyan, creativity is developed through a nurturing student-focused approach. Students are guided by nationally recognized faculty who are exceptional teachers and gifted artists. A well-rounded liberal arts curriculum ensures that students will develop the skills and knowledge needed to succeed after graduation.*

#### THE PROGRAM

The music department offers students an opportunity to explore, practice, and celebrate the musician's art in a program that unites artistic standards with the academic breadth of the liberal arts in an atmosphere of free, creative, and critical inquiry. The program of study educates learners in a way that enables them to appreciate as well as critically articulate their responses to this important part of our culture. VWU is dedicated to sharing its musical resources with the entire campus. Private instruction, choral ensembles, and instrumental ensemble participation is available to everyone, whether beginner or advanced, regardless of major. The Susan S. Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center offers performances throughout the year that are available to all students.

#### THE MAJOR

Virginia Wesleyan offers two majors: a Bachelor of Musical Arts and a Bachelor of Arts. The Bachelor of Musical Arts gives students the opportunity to choose a concentration in Choral and Vocal Studies, Applied Music Performance, or Music Composition and Technology. Students who complete a degree with an emphasis in Choral and Vocal Studies can go on to complete the courses necessary for certification in K-12 choral/vocal music education. The Bachelor of Arts degree is designed to allow enough flexibility in the course requirements for music majors to double major or minor in an additional area of interest. There are three tracks available to students in the Bachelor of Arts degree: general music, music production, or entrepreneurship and leadership. The music curriculum can help

prepare students for careers in private music studio, vocal music public school teaching, church music, music merchandising, arts management, music librarianship, music production, or graduate studies in music or humanities.

#### THE COURSES

Classes at VWU are small and interactive. Courses within the music program include applied music lessons (available to both majors and non-majors), choral and instrumental ensembles (available to both majors and non-majors), as well as courses in music theory, musicianship, music technology, and music history and literature.

#### INTERNSHIPS/RESEARCH

Music majors present a formal recital, composition portfolios, or write a historical or critical thesis in their senior year, which is the culminating experience for the student. Using music selected from major historical periods, they demonstrate their ability to apply knowledge gleaned from their studies to their performances or investigations of the chosen repertoire. Students who are interested can also complete internships in church music, music management, recording and engineering, or with one of the many area non-profit arts organizations.

#### BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The music major at Virginia Wesleyan University will prepare students for a variety of careers in music. Music majors and minors are prepared to become professional musicians, educators, arts managers, and church musicians. Alumni of the department have careers as performers, church musicians, and in vocal music education. Students can also prepare for careers in music business and arts management, or go on to graduate school in musicology, music therapy, or performance.

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#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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