



Welcome to Our Program

Dr. Jordan Cox
Associate Dean, School of Performing Arts
Assistant Professor of Music
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Welcome to

MBU SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

The Music program at MBU offers courses of undergraduate study that provide students with knowledge and skills to equip them to achieve excellence in music teaching, music ministry, and music performance. We are committed to preparing students to assume roles that require heightened aesthetic awareness of music. In addition, classes, ensembles, and music instruction for students majoring in other fields offer cultural experiences for both the university and the community.

The Music Department of Missouri Baptist University is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).



Music Majors

- Music (B.A.)
- Music Education
- Music Performance (Vocal or Piano)
- Music with Elective Studies in Business
- Worship Leadership

Music Minors

- Music
- Worship

MBU SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

MUSIC MAJORS

Music

This degree focuses on the theory and history of music, providing students a broad understanding of the fundamentals of music. Students study voice, piano, and a declared secondary instrument, ensuring a well rounded and broad music education.

Music Education

This degree program focuses on preparing students for careers in Music Education leading to certification by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (K-12). Students choose between vocal, piano, or other instrument for their concentration.

Music Performance

This degree requires the student to concentrate in one of two applied areas: piano or voice. While the core of the degree provides the student with the theory and history of music, classes aid the student in honing their performance skills in either vocal or piano performance.

Music with Elective Studies in Business

This degree requires core courses through the Business department and a performance concentration in instrument, piano, or voice. The student gains a foundation in business and in music for a combined degree.

Worship Leadership

This degree seeks to train musicians for service in a church setting. Students receive training in music, theology and the arts, enabling them to lead a worship ministry that is Christ-centered.



GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

All music degrees require the student to have a primary performance concentration that leads to a Senior Recital and a secondary performance concentration.

Recital Requirements

- Recital hours is required for all music students. Seven (for Music Education) or eight (for all other music majors) semesters must be passed.
- Music, Music Ministry, Music with Elective Studies in Business, and Music Education are required to present a 30-minute recital.
- Music Performance are required to present a 30-minute junior recital and a 50-minute senior recital in their major performance area.

Large Ensemble Requirements

- All persons majoring in any music field are required to participate in a large ensemble.
 - Ensemble may be choral, instrumental or both, depending on the degree sought.
 - Students must earn eight semester hours of large ensemble credit, except Music Education majors, who must earn seven semester hours plus one semester of student teaching.

Music minors must earn four semester hours of large ensemble credit. Only one credit per semester in each area (vocal and/or instrumental) may be applied to this total.

DIRECTOR OF CHORAL ACTIVITIES & MUSIC EDUCATION

Meet Dr. Cox



Dr. Jordan Cox

Assistant Professor of Music

✉ jordan.cox@mobap.edu

Dr. Jordan Cox is Associate Dean of the School of Performing Arts, Director of Choral Activities & Music Education and Assistant Professor of Music at Missouri Baptist University in St. Louis, Missouri. He directs Chorale, Chamber Singers and Choral Society, and teaches various music education and worship courses. A native of Jackson, Missouri, Dr. Cox holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Missouri Baptist University, a Master's of Arts in Religion in Worship Studies from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, and a PhD in Music Education (Choral) from the University of Missouri.

MBU Choirs under Dr. Cox's direction have been invited to perform and collaborate with composers and choirs across the country, including a recent performance at the Getty's *Sing!* Conference serving as a demonstration choir for Dan Forrest's breakout session, *Is Choir Really Worth It?*, as well as performing on the Exhibit Stage and internationally-broadcasted main stage. His choirs have also recently collaborated with Bach Society of St. Louis, Kirkwood Children's Choirs, and Alton Symphony Orchestra, and in 2017 travelled to Ireland. They perform a wide variety of music including an annual masterwork concert along with numerous campus, community, and church concerts singing a wide range of literature from classic to CCM worship choir music. In 2016, his choirs were invited to perform at WinterJam, a National CCM tour, and in 2020, MBU Chamber Singers with the MBU Chorale produced their first Christmas Worship Album, *Let it Shine Bright!*

Before coming to MBU, Dr. Cox served as a choir director in the Jackson R-2 School District, teaching middle through high school vocal music, and at Cape Central High School directing the choral program and teaching AP Music Theory and directing the school musical. He and his choirs received numerous honors and awards, including the Outstanding Beginning Teacher award and the Southeast District Outstanding District Director award from the Missouri Choral Directors Association, along with consistent high ratings at district and state festivals. Dr. Cox continues to serve as an active clinician, adjudicator, and presenter across the region and remains active in the Missouri Choral Directors Association and Missouri Music Educators Association.

In addition to his academic teaching, Dr. Cox has served as a Worship Pastor in both Jackson and St. Louis and currently is the Lead Pastor of College Park Church, a local church that meets on MBU's campus intentionally reaching college students and young adults. Dr. Cox is married to Professor Kasey Cox, MBU's Assistant Professor of Theatre and Director of Theatre & Dance. They love living their arts-filled life with their kids, Noah, Jobi, Katy, & Lawson.

CONNECT WITH OUR MUSIC FACULTY

Dr. Jordan Cox

Assistant Professor of Music
Director of Chorale and Chamber Singers
jordan.cox@mobap.edu

Dr. Melissa Bishop

Assistant Professor of Music
melissa.bishop@mobap.edu

Dr. Jason Mallory

Assistant Professor of Music
Director of Vocal Studies
jason.mallory@mobap.edu

Mr. Shane Williams, M.A.

Associate Professor of Music
Director of Bands
shane.williams@mobap.edu



Dr. Cox

Dr. Bishop

Dr. Mallory

Mr. Williams

ABOUT CHORAL ENSEMBLES

The choirs at Missouri Baptist University exist to...

- glorify God through worship
- provide a training ground for future music educators, performers, and other arts related vocations
- offer students an opportunity to engage with one another socially and musically, allowing them to be a part of something greater than themselves
- foster a love for life-long singing and music making

We achieve this through...

- careful selection of literature spanning a broad range of musical periods and styles
- maintaining a safe and positive rehearsal environment
- striving for an inclusive atmosphere through which all are respected
- keeping line with the mission and vision of Missouri Baptist University



Chorale

The MBU Chorale is open to all students on campus. Chorale provides singers of all levels to improve their chorus singing and learn new materials. This group is the large ensemble for vocal majors. It does not require an audition for membership. Interested students should contact jordan.cox@mobap.edu for more information.

Chamber Singers

Chamber Singers provides exceptional singers an opportunity to study and perform more challenging sacred and secular choral music from all styles and periods. This is an advanced ensemble that requires an audition for membership. The Chamber singers participate in a week-long spring tour each year, traveling across Missouri and elsewhere to perform for various audiences. Interested students should contact jordan.cox@mobap.edu for more information.

ABOUT INSTRUMENTAL EMSEMBLES



Concert Band

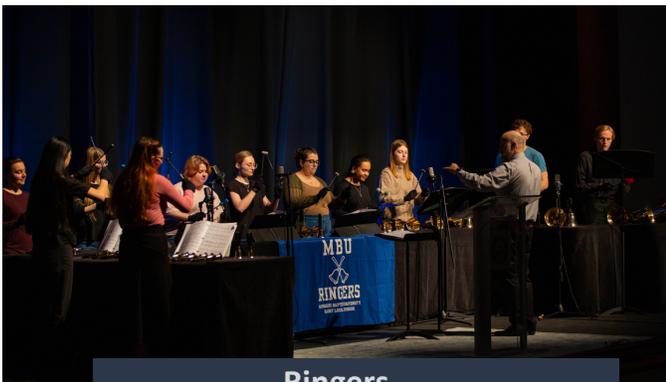
Concert Band is the premiere instrumental ensemble at MBU, dedicated to the quality performance of wind literature, both new and traditional. The Concert Band rehearses three hours per week and performs, on average, one full-length concert per semester, as well as minor performances throughout the course of the year, such as the Christmas program and special Chapel services. Concert band may serve as the large ensemble requirement for music majors. Contact Shane.Williams@mobap.edu for more information.



Jazz Band

Jazz Band is the instrumental ensemble dedicated to all facets of the “American Pop” genre – jazz, rock’n’roll, blues, Latin and R&B. Jazz Band rehearses three hours per week and performs, on average, one full-length concert per semester here on campus, one or two off-campus performances per year for recruiting purposes and minor performances throughout the course of the year such as Chapel services.

Membership in the Jazz Band is by audition only, and is open only to those who play the following instruments: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, piano, bass and drums. Contact Shane.Williams@mobap.edu for more information.



Ringers

The MBU Ringers are an exciting component of the School of Performing Arts. Formed in the Fall of 1997 by Dr. Cathy Benton, this groups adds to the ministry opportunities of MBU. Now, under the direction of Dr. John Francis, the MBU Ringers are a five-octave hand bell choir utilizing the talents of approximately 12 students, who audition for the group at the beginning of the Fall semester. Contact John.Francis@mobap.edu for more information.



Pep Band

Pep Band partners with MBU Athletics to serve at home Football and Basketball games. Committed to enhancing the game day experience, members learn a repertoire of upbeat music, the Spartan Fight Song, and more. Contact Shane.Williams@mobap.edu for more information.

ABOUT SPIRITWING



SpiritWing

SpiritWing has been MBU's leading contemporary Christian vocal group for over 25 years and remains unique in sound, worshipful in approach, and Christ-centered in focus. The ensemble has taken many forms over the years, and currently serves in three teams with different audiences, but that same mission. These groups consist of members whose love for Christ makes as deep an impression as their music. Their eclectic mix of music weaves a narrative of God's love for people and provides a fitting medium for the students to lead others to the greatness of God.

Green Team: Full worship band that travels and leads on-campus events and chapel

Red Team: Acoustic worship band that travels and leads on-campus events and chapel

Blue Team: Primary worship band for chapel

SpiritWing seeks a broad scope of members including vocal, piano, acoustic and elective guitar, bass, drums, and more. SpiritWing is an audition only ensemble. Contact Mark.Roach@mobap.edu for more information.

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

Becoming a Spartan

Applying to Missouri Baptist University is easy and FREE! Please be sure to communicate when you complete your checklist! Your next step after applying is the audition process. Once you have been fully accepted into MBU and completed your audition, you will receive your scholarship offer.

Applications open on July 1 of the corresponding year.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Apply at Mobap.edu/apply
- Send in transcripts from highschool or all colleges and universities attended
- Send in ACT/SAT/CLT Scores
- Complete a letter of recommendation form
- Schedule a campus tour



AUDITION CHECKLIST

- Schedule program audition date - Contact Sarah.Dickey@mobap.edu to schedule.
- Prepare audition materials
 - Vocal: Two selections (one in a language, one in English recommended) representing different styles.
 - Piano: Two selections, representing contrasting styles, memorized.
 - Instrumental
 - Brass, strings, and woodwinds: Play from memory the chromatic scale (full range of instrument), and any the major scales you know. Prepare two études of contrasting styles; memorization is not necessary.
 - Percussion: Prepare a short étude on snare drum, timpani, and mallet instrument; memorization is not necessary.



READY TO BECOME A SPARTAN

What's Next?

- APPLY
- SCHEDULE A CAMPUS VISIT & PROGRAM AUDITION
- AUDITION FOR ENSEMBLES (AS APPLICABLE)
- RECEIVE & ACCEPT YOUR OFFER