

POMONA COLLEGE • DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

TOP QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS



What should my application supplement include?

What should I record on the CD? Should I submit a resume?

You should submit a CD with about 10–15 minutes of music and preferably with 2 contrasting historical styles. A resume is not required but it may be helpful. Submitting a resume without a recording is not recommended. Make sure your CD is easily played back through a standard stereo system or computer. Due to the volume of applications, you will not be contacted if the CD you submit is unplayable. Please do not submit a performance tape of a large ensemble with you as a member, unless you are a soloist.



What performance opportunities will I have?

There are many opportunities for performance and they include student recitals, performance classes, large ensembles, chamber music, junior/senior recitals, master classes and workshops, and the PCO concerto competition. Department sponsored ensembles include Band, Choir, Glee Club, Jazz Ensemble, Orchestra, Balinese Gamelan Ensemble, and a rotating Non-Western Ensemble (Afro-Cuban Drumming, Hindustani Ensemble, West African Drumming and Dancing). There are also student-run ensembles, not affiliated with the Music Department, which include a cappella groups and bands.



Do I need to audition for the ensembles?

The Orchestra, Choir and Glee Club, and Jazz Ensemble have auditions at the beginning of the semester.

Will I be able to play chamber music?

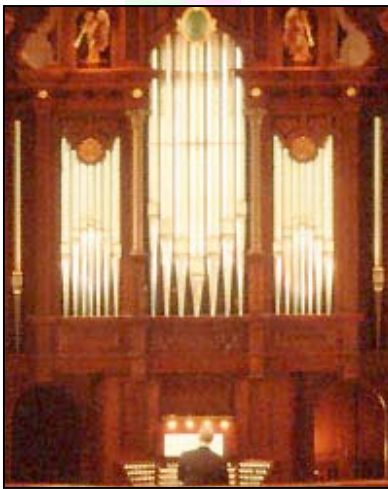
Yes, many students in the large ensembles also form chamber music groups. Students form groups on their own and/or in consultation with faculty to find appropriate players. Faculty members then coach these groups.



I'm thinking about being a music major, how does the program at Pomona prepare me for a career in music?

Students who choose to pursue graduate study receive an excellent education through our curriculum. Recent music graduates are attending schools such as Yale, University of Michigan, Duke, and UC Berkeley.

Do I have to audition to be a music major?



Students do not have to audition to become a music major. However, students must take a qualifying exam in order to take one-hour lessons and potential music majors usually do this within their first year.

How do I sign up for lessons?

Registration for music lessons occurs during the first week of each semester. Students must come to the Thatcher music building to enroll; the Registrar's office receives the registration information from the Music Dept.

Can I take lessons on two different instruments?

Yes, you may take lessons on more than one instrument.

How will I know who will be my teacher? How do I contact that person?

Most instruments have one instructor; piano, voice and guitar have multiple teachers. The faculty will place students with a teacher. If you wish to contact a teacher, please email music@pomona.edu for more information.

Can I use the practice rooms?

Yes, students who take lessons or play in a departmental ensemble may use the practice rooms in Thatcher. Those students can have access to the basement practice rooms 24/7 with a specially validated Pomona student ID.

What are the practice facilities like?

We have practice rooms in the basement of the Thatcher music building. Classrooms with grand pianos are allowed for practice when not being used for classes or lessons. Pomona has all Steinway pianos.

Will I be able to play a sport and still play in an ensemble?

In most cases, the schedules allow students to participate in sports and music without a direct conflict.

Are there any scholarships specifically reserved for music students?

No. All of Pomona College's financial aid is need-based and there are no merit scholarships for music or any other field of study.