



## Mission of Department

The Rochester College Department of Music exists to provide an aesthetic education for all students, and to enhance the aesthetic culture of the college community, its constituency, and the community at large. The faculty seeks to foster an attitude of service, and designs degree programs to prepare students to serve as professional musicians with a Christian perspective, and to prepare them for additional study in graduate schools of music and conservatories.



## Learning Options

**Degree Programs.** At Rochester College, you may pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in music with a track in music education, music ministry, or vocal performance. You may also choose music as one of two student-selected tracks under an interdisciplinary studies major. A music minor is available for all students in bachelor's degree programs requiring a minor. Other tracks are in the planning stages.

**Music Courses.** In addition to various levels of private instruction in voice and piano, Rochester College offers a selection of thirty-six music courses.

**Special Opportunities.** As a music major at Rochester College, you benefit from participation in college performing groups, Celebration in Song, and departmental recitals. The college's location in a metropolitan area allows you to attend performances by orchestras, musical troupes, opera companies, and popular entertainers.



## Rochester College

800 West Avon Road  
Rochester Hills, MI 48307  
1.800.521.6010  
www.rc.edu

Liberal Arts in a Christian Setting



## Music at Rochester College

### Academic Opportunities

Bachelor of Science Degree  
*Music*

Specialized Degree Tracks  
*Music Education*  
*Music Ministry*  
*Vocal Performance*

Music Track under  
Interdisciplinary Studies Major  
Music Minor

### Performing Groups

A Cappella Chorus  
Autumn  
Spectrum  
Jazz Band

### Surrounding Communities

Professional Concerts  
Symphony Orchestras  
Opera and Theatre



## Opportunities for Careers

**Career Tracks.** At Rochester College, you may pursue any one of three career tracks while obtaining your Bachelor of Science degree with a major in music. Those tracks include music education, music ministry, and vocal performance. Each track includes a carefully selected blend of course work to prepare you for a specialized career. Additional career tracks to be offered by Rochester College are in the planning stages.

**Music Education.** Students who pursue studies in music education normally complete educational certification, which qualifies them for positions in public and private elementary and secondary schools as general music teachers, choral directors, or band/orchestra directors. Additional graduate study is recommended for advancement.

**Music Ministry.** Students who complete studies in music ministry are qualified as worship leaders and ministers of music in churches. The music ministry concentration also serves as a good background for service in the field of Christian musical entertainment. Advancement in these fields often is achieved through experience. Graduate study is appropriate, but not always necessary.

**Vocal Performance.** Students who complete studies in vocal performance are prepared to begin pursuit of a career as a professional singer and/or as a studio voice teacher. Opportunities for employment as a singer include opera, music theatre, professional choral ensembles, radio and television advertising, church and community choirs, and the armed forces. Advancement in the field of vocal performance is achieved largely through variety of experience. Additional graduate study is also recommended.

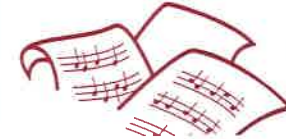


## Performing Groups

**A Cappella Chorus.** The A Cappella Chorus serves as an important musical ambassador for Rochester College. The chorus presents over thirty concerts each year throughout the Midwest and Canada. The group appears regularly with the Rochester Symphony Orchestra, and has performed such works as Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Handel's *Messiah*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, and Verdi's *Requiem*. The Chorus also appears annually with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in classical and pops concerts, and has sung for Neeme Järvi, Jan-Pascal Tortelier, and Erich Kunzel. Choral scholarships are available to singers with strong potential and experience. Membership in the A Cappella Chorus is by audition. Auditions are held throughout the spring and prior to the beginning of classes in the fall.

**Autumn and Spectrum.** Contemporary ensembles with memberships of six to ten singers, Autumn and Spectrum are chosen from the A Cappella Chorus. Their repertoire typically includes contemporary religious music, vocal jazz styles, arrangements of spirituals, gospel music, popular song adaptations, and hymn arrangements. Both groups travel extensively on behalf of the Enrollment Services and Development Offices. Scholarships are available for participation in the groups. Auditions are held in the spring.

**Jazz Band.** The Jazz Band is a small instrumental ensemble that performs various jazz styles. Their primary focus is participation in Celebration in Song, a musical variety show produced in the spring of each academic year. In addition, the Jazz Band performs in the surrounding communities. Membership in the ensemble is by audition. Scholarships are available to instrumentalists with strong potential and experience.



## Full-time Faculty

**Joe Bentley.** Joining the Rochester College faculty in 1986, Joe Bentley, associate professor of music, serves as the college's director of musical activities. He holds a B.A. in music education from Harding University, and a M.M.E. from Northeast Louisiana University. He presently is completing doctoral studies in choral conducting at Michigan State University. He has taught at Christian schools in Florida, Louisiana, and Tennessee. He serves as conductor of the Rochester Community Chorus, and is an accomplished tenor soloist. He is a member of the American Choral Directors Association and an adjudicator for the Michigan School Vocal Music Association.

**Tony Mowrer.** Dr. Tony Mowrer came to Rochester College in 1998 as a professor of music. He holds an A.A. from Northeastern Christian Junior College, a B.A. in music from Lubbock Christian University, a M.A. in music history from West Chester University, and a Ph.D. in music education from Temple University. He has taught at Christian colleges in Pennsylvania and Alabama. Dr. Mowrer is a member of the Music Educator's National Conference and the American Choral Directors Association.

**Frank Pitts.** Frank Pitts, instructor of music, began teaching at Rochester College, his alma mater, in 1995. He was awarded the B.A. in music from Harding University and is nearing completion of a master's degree in vocal performance at Oakland University. Mr. Pitts has appeared in operas with the Michigan Opera Theater and at Oakland University. He also has performed as the bass soloist with regional orchestras, and has been named a district finalist in the Metropolitan Opera Competition.