
St. Olaf College Music Study and Scholarship Information for 2010–11

Bachelor of Arts in Music • Bachelor of Music • Christiansen Scholarships • Cassler Scholarships

This booklet contains information important to the music major and the scholarship application process. Please read it carefully prior to completing your application.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

More than 100 years ago St. Olaf College invited F. Melius Christiansen to its campus to build a music program. Since that initial collaboration, the stories of both the college and its music program have become inseparable. Through the generous support provided by the college's leaders throughout the 20th century, the Music Department at St. Olaf has grown into one of the largest among undergraduate liberal arts colleges in the United States. More important than its size, however, is its quality. The St. Olaf music program provides a rigorous and comprehensive education in music with deep roots in the liberal arts. Our program offers a distinguished and committed faculty, a rich and challenging curriculum, outstanding performance opportunities, and a large community of talented and intelligent student musicians.

The St. Olaf Music Department melds into one program the best of the conservatory and the liberal arts models of music study at one of the leading undergraduate liberal arts colleges in the country. Students who are not majors in music play an important role in this philosophy of a blended model of music education. At St. Olaf, approximately one-third of the student body participates in music on some level. Honoring this tradition, the music scholarships described in this brochure provide important recognition of outstanding musical talent in both music majors and non-music majors. Should you choose to major in music, you will study and make music as one of a select group of students, chosen by audition to determine who will best meet the academic and performance challenges encountered by St. Olaf music majors. St. Olaf has many exciting elements for you to discover, and I am pleased that you are interested in learning more about them.

We look forward to receiving your audition materials.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alison Feldt".

Alison Feldt
Chair, Department of Music

MUSIC DEGREES AT ST. OLAF

The Music Department offers Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music degrees, both accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music. Students should consult the St. Olaf College Academic Catalog for specific degree requirements for each of the programs listed. Students who wish to major in music are admitted to the program by audition, either as part of their application process or after beginning studies at St. Olaf.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN MUSIC

A liberal arts degree with approximately one-third of the course work in music, the music major is offered with or without emphasis in the following areas:

- History–Literature
- Theory–Composition
- With teaching credential in K–12 instrumental or vocal music

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

This highly-specialized, professional music degree requires approximately two-thirds of the course work in music. Students may pursue the following majors under the Bachelor of Music degree:

- Performance (collaborative piano performance emphasis also offered for piano and organ majors)
Students who wish to major in performance are admitted to the program by audition, either as part of their application process or after beginning their studies at St. Olaf.
- Music Education (K–12 instrumental or K–12 vocal)
Students who wish to major in music education audition to enter the program as B.A. music majors and make formal application to the B.M. Program and Education Departments in their sophomore year.
- Church Music (Organ emphasis)
Students who wish to major in church music are admitted to the program by audition, either as part of their application process or after beginning their studies at St. Olaf.
- Church Music (Choral emphasis)
Students who wish to major in church music (choral) audition on voice to enter the program as B.A. music majors and make formal application to the B.M. program in the spring of their first year.
- Theory–Composition
Theory–Composition students enter as B.A. music majors and are admitted to the program based on a composition portfolio and interview, typically after being enrolled in a composition course at St. Olaf.

FIVE-YEAR DOUBLE-DEGREE PROGRAM

The nature of a strong liberal arts program, which is a hallmark of St. Olaf College, and the existence of the professional degree in music create a distinctively effective environment for nurturing study in music and the liberal arts. Under the five-year double-degree program, students earn both Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts degrees. The program involves the following provisions:

- Students must meet the application and admission requirements for both the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music degree programs.
- Students pursuing the double-degree option may choose any of the four Bachelor of Music majors (church music, music education, performance and theory-composition) and any of the Bachelor of Arts majors except music.
- Students shall meet the requirements for the Bachelor of Arts major and Bachelor of Music major, as well as the general and comprehensive graduation requirements for the two degrees.
- The duration of the double-degree option may vary among disciplines but will be less than the sum of the durations of both degree programs if undertaken separately. For most students, pursuit of a double-degree option will require five years of study. It should be noted that in a few cases (notably when the Bachelor of Arts major is in the natural sciences), completion of all requirements in five years may not be possible.
- Students required to continue study in a fifth year to complete two degrees are eligible for continuing financial aid from St. Olaf College.
- Graduating double-degree students receive two diplomas — one for each degree.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

St. Olaf music scholarships are merit-based scholarships that are awarded to students with exceptional musical talent. Students also may qualify for additional need-based aid, in which case the music scholarship becomes part of the student's financial aid package.

CHRISTIENSEN SCHOLARSHIPS

Awards of \$10,000 per year are open to music majors and non-music majors. These are renewable scholarships that require the recipient's continued enrollment in performance studies (private lessons), participation in a St. Olaf College music ensemble, and the recommendation of the music faculty. It is potentially a four-year, \$40,000 scholarship.

PERFORMANCE STUDY (LESSON) SCHOLARSHIPS

Available to music majors, awards cover the cost of required private lessons on the student's principal instrument. These scholarships may be awarded in addition to a Christiansen or Cassler Scholarship.

CASSLER SCHOLARSHIPS

Awards of \$6,000 per year are open to music majors and non-music majors. This is a renewable scholarship that requires the recipient's continued enrollment in performance studies (private lessons), participation in a St. Olaf College music ensemble and the recommendation of the music faculty. It is potentially a four-year, \$24,000 scholarship.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Auditions are required for the following:

- Music scholarships
- Admission to the music major (B.M. or B.A.)

The complete music application must be submitted by Dec. 15, 2009, and shall include all of the following:

- St. Olaf Application for Music Scholarships and/or Music Major
- A separate audition CD for each instrument/voice for which you are applying, to include the following:
 - a) Repertoire requirements as shown in this publication
 - b) CD recording (vocalists also may submit a DVD or VHS recording as additional information). Please note that all recordings must be unedited and unaltered. CDs should be playable on a standard CD player.
- Music résumé (see FAQ at right)
- One letter of recommendation for each instrument/voice for which you are applying. A letter from your current private teacher is preferred.

Audition materials received after the Dec. 15 deadline cannot be guaranteed full consideration. Audition materials will not be returned.

COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINE

In addition to the music audition materials that are due by Dec. 15, 2009, your completed college application must be on file in the admissions office by Jan. 15, 2010 (includes transfer students).

LIVE AUDITIONS

From the CD submissions, the audition committees will choose a group of finalists for scholarships and/or the music major. These students will be invited to campus Feb. 26–27, 2010 for a live performance audition, interview and special events. This on-campus experience is an important part of the music scholarship application process, and finalists are urged to make every effort to be here on these important days. If you are invited and cannot attend, you will be asked to submit a videotaped audition (DVD or VHS — U.S. format only) that must be received in our office by Feb. 25, 2010.

LIVE AUDITION REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise noted, repertoire requirements for the live audition are the same as the CD requirements. With the exception of voice, all finalists can expect sight reading at the live audition.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR MUSIC MAJORS

Finalists for the music major will undergo additional aural and piano skills screenings when they are on campus for their live auditions.

NOTIFICATION

Applicants who complete their college application by Jan. 15, 2010, and who apply for admission as music majors by Dec. 15, 2009, will receive notification of their music major entrance on or about March 19, 2010.

EARLY DECISION CANDIDATES

Early Decision applicants will be evaluated with all other music applicants with a final notification on or about March 19, 2010. Admission to the college under Early Decision does not guarantee admission to the music major. *It is important to note that the terms of the Early Decision Agreement are binding upon the applicant, whether or not the student is subsequently admitted to the music major.*

If you have questions about the audition process contact:

Mary Hakes, music@stolaf.edu or 507-786-3297

FAQS FOR MUSIC ADMISSIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

How important is the quality of the recording?

The quality of the recording is often a factor in selection of finalists. Make sure the recording is such that your performance can be clearly evaluated. It is in the student's best interest to present his or her instrument or voice as naturally as possible.

How do I make a recording?

Most students do not have access to high-end recording facilities, and there are no guarantees that a costly recording will result in a scholarship. We suggest you check with teachers, schools, local churches, or universities to see if they have recording equipment available. Make sure the microphone is placed so you record clearly and use standard CDW (avoid CDR/W) format so that it is playable on a standard CD player. We recommend you have a teacher or other informed musician listen to the recording to make sure that it is a good representation of your abilities.

May I edit my recording?

The recording may be stopped between selections but editing or digital manipulation (including added reverb) within individual pieces is not acceptable.

What CD format should I use?

Please send a CD that will play in a standard CD player.

What should I include on my music résumé?

- Your private study for the past three years and principal and secondary instruments — include teachers' names, dates of study, and repertoire studied and performed
- Large ensemble experiences in the past four years—include school, church, community and regional ensembles, and names of the conductors
- Chamber music experience and repertoire performed
- Musical honors or awards (including all-state ensembles, contests, etc.)
- Other information that you feel is relevant to your application

Most students arrange information either chronologically or by subject. Be succinct: 1 to 3 pages is about right.

Do I need a pianist on my audition recording?

Singers should have a pianist unless they are performing a piece intended for unaccompanied solo voice. Instrumentalists are not required to have a pianist, but a well-prepared pianist can be a positive addition to your recording.

Is there a form for the teacher recommendation?

Your teacher can use the form for academic recommendations (included in the Common Application) or write in letter format. Be sure your teacher's complete contact information is on the letter and that it is signed.

May my teacher send the recommendation separately?

Yes. But to avoid lost pieces, please send the CD, résumé and application together in **ONE PACKAGE**.

How many scholarships are awarded?

Last year we received some 650 applications, and awarded approximately 55 (each) of the Christiansen and Cassler scholarships. The awards are distributed across vocal and instrumental, and vary somewhat each year, depending on the applicant pool and the needs within the department.

How many music majors apply and are admitted?

Our target number is 76 first-year music majors. We generally receive about 360 applications, approximately 140 of whom are admitted to one of the music majors.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Complete the St. Olaf College Application for Admission at: www.commonapp.org. Your completed college application must be on file in the admissions office no later than Jan. 15, 2010 to be considered for music scholarships.
- Complete your application for music scholarships
Scholarship application must be received by Dec. 15, 2009, and must include the following:
 - a) The St. Olaf College Application for Music Scholarships and/or Music Major
 - b) Audition CD (separate CD for each instrument/voice).
Please label the CD with your name and date of recording
 - c) Music résumé
 - d) Letter(s) of recommendation (one for each instrument/voice).
Recommendations may be submitted directly by your teacher, separate from the rest of your package, if desired.
- Mail all music application materials TOGETHER IN ONE ENVELOPE to:

Mary Hakes, Music Admissions Coordinator
St. Olaf College
1520 St. Olaf Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057-1098

PROGRAM TIMELINE

Nov. 1 to Dec 15, 2009

Scholarship and music major applications accepted

Dec. 15, 2009

Scholarship and music major applications must be received

Jan. 15, 2010

Your completed *St. Olaf College Application for Admission* must be on file in the Admissions Office

Jan. 20, 2010

Audition results are mailed to all CD audition applicants

Feb. 26-27, 2010

On-campus auditions for music major and scholarship finalists

March 19, 2010

Audition results are mailed to finalists

May 1, 2010

National Candidate Reply date (date by which all students must respond to offers of college admission and to scholarship awards)

For more information regarding music scholarships and/or admission to the music program contact:

Mary Hakes at music@stolaf.edu or 507-786-3297.

