

Perform with Us—Music, Theatre, and Dance at Drexel

The Department of Performing Arts sponsors a wide range of performing groups open to all Drexel students regardless of major, and over 400 students participate in them every quarter. Each performing group is a variable credit class and can be taken for 1 credit or, if you are on co-op or at the 20 credit maximum, zero credits.

Dance

Drexel Dance Ensemble (sophomores and above)

Dr. Miriam Giguere <danceprogram@drexel.edu>

A professional caliber dance company performing ballet, modern, jazz, and hip-hop twice a year in the Mandell Theater. Choreography is by selected students and guest professionals.

FreshDance Ensemble (freshmen only)

Dr. Miriam Giguere <danceprogram@drexel.edu>

The freshmen only branch company of the Drexel Dance Ensemble. Gives freshmen an opportunity to perform in the dances of professional choreographers and chosen student repertory in performances twice a year.



Youth Performance Exchange Touring Dance Ensemble

Olive Prince <okp23@drexel.edu>

A small company of selected students who perform throughout the year in a dance lecture demonstration program for elementary school students in Philadelphia Schools.



Theatre

Drexel Players—Theatre Troupe

Nick Anselmo <nick.anselmo@drexel.edu>

The Players present a total of seven shows each year in the Mandell Theater and the Black Box Theater. These include musicals, plays, and a professional show that is part of the Mandell Professionals in Residence Project. Students participate in all aspects of theatre performance and production including: acting, directing, playwriting, design, stage management, costumes, lighting, sets, sound, publicity, and box office.

Late Night Series Open Mic

A weekly open-mic that strives to both champion and nurture performing artists featuring music, comedy, poetry, drama and more. Students are involved in all aspects of the production including managing, marketing, artist recruitment, live recording and performance.

Nick Anselmo <nick.anselmo@drexel.edu>

Instrumental Music

Concert Band (MW 5:30–6:50)

An ensemble playing classic and contemporary symphonic band music, including commissioned works and world premieres.

Dr. Wesley Broadnax <broadnax@drexel.edu>

Basketball Pep Band (MW 7:30–8:50)

This band is made up of brass, woodwinds, set drummers and electric bass, largely drawn from the membership of the Concert Band.

Dr. Wesley Broadnax <broadnax@drexel.edu>

Chamber Winds and Brass (times arranged)

Brass and woodwind players are grouped into various chamber combinations such as quartets and quintets and perform prominent chamber repertoire from the classical tradition.

Luke Abruzzo <laa24@drexel.edu>

Jazz Orchestra (TR 5:30–6:50)

A standard big band, performing music by masters of the jazz tradition such as Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Charlie Parker, and others.

Dr. George Starks <starksgl@drexel.edu>



Jazztet (TR 4:30–5:20)

Jazztet performs small group masterpieces including literature associated with Art Blakey, Clifford Brown, John Coltrane, and others.

Dr. George Starks <starksgl@drexel.edu>

Saxtet (TR 4:30–5:20)

A small ensemble of saxophones, usually in quartet configuration drawn from the ranks of the Jazz Orchestra, which performs music in a variety of styles including jazz, blues, spirituals, and ragtime.

Dr. George Starks <starksgl@drexel.edu>

University Orchestra (String Ensemble) (W 7:00–9:50)

The University Orchestra is a full orchestra that performs repertoire ranging from 18th through 20th century classical music. University Orchestra occasionally hosts prominent professional guest soloists as well as showcases student soloists.

Luke Abruzzo <laa24@drexel.edu>

Chamber Strings (times arranged)

String players grouped into trios, quartets, and such who perform a variety of prominent chamber string repertoire from the classical tradition.

Ron Lipscomb <Ronald.Lipscomb@drexel.edu>

Guitar Ensembles I and II

(Ensemble I: M 3:30–4:50; Ensemble II: W 2:00–3:20)

The guitar ensemble is made up of ten to twenty guitarists, playing in styles from classical to rock.

Greg Wright <gjw28@drexel.edu>; Joe Napoli <jmn35@drexel.edu>

Percussion Ensemble (F 3:00–5:50)

The ensemble plays music in all percussion traditions, including world musics. Players from beginners to advanced are welcome to join and play.

Mark Beecher <meb26@drexel.edu>

Fusion Band (Tues 7:00–9:50)

A select group with horns and an electric rhythm section, performing fusion jazz in original and updated arrangements.

Lynn Riley <mcr27@drexel.edu>

Rock Ensemble (M 3:00–5:50)

This ensemble prepares classic rock and acoustic popular music for Music Industry recording projects and for concert performances.

Joe Napoli <jmn35@drexel.edu>

Keyboard Ensemble (Tues 5:30–8:20)

Music for multiple keyboards in classical and popular styles.

Wanda Canfield <wlc22@drexel.edu>

Mediterranean Ensemble (W 3:00–5:20)

This ensemble performs music from the entire Mediterranean area, featuring Greek, Arabic, Turkish, and Israeli traditions.

Bruce Kaminsky <Bruce.Kaminsky@drexel.edu>

Choral Music

University Chorus (TR 5:30–6:50)

Dr. Steven Powell <powellss@drexel.edu>

A fully-auditioned, 60 voice chorus, performing masterworks a cappella and with instrumental accompaniment.

Drexel University Gospel Choir (Thurs 7:00–8:50)

Gregory Ross <rossg@drexel.edu>

DUGG is a group of around 60 singers open to all Drexel Students which performs contemporary gospel music with its own backup band.

All-College Choir (TR 3:00–4:20)

Scott Bacon <sdb33@drexel.edu>

A non-auditioned choir with a repertoire including classical music, musical theatre, popular music, and spirituals.

Chamber Singers (W 5:30–7:20)

Dr. Steven Powell <powellss@drexel.edu>

A select group of 18 singers chosen by audition from the University Chorus. They perform secular music from the Renaissance period (Madrigals).

Naturally Sharp (Vocal Jazz Ensemble) (W 7:30–9:20)

Dr. Steven Powell <powellss@drexel.edu>

A select group of 16 singers auditioned from the University Chorus which performs “anything that swings,” with a three-piece back-up band.



Questions?

Contact the Department of Performing Arts at (215) 895-2451 or visit www.drexel.edu/westphal/minors/PerformingArts/Ensembles/