

MUSIC AND THEATER ARTS

Music and Theater Arts invites students to explore these disciplines as artistic practices and as cultural, intellectual, and personal avenues of inquiry and discovery. Students may pursue concentrations, minors, or majors in either Music or Theater Arts, as well as joint majors with Engineering or Science.

The Music program develops students' creativity, talent, research ability, and aesthetic sensibility through performance, composition, history, culture, technology, and analysis. Understanding of the various facets of music is cultivated through both the making and the study of music, in close contact with professors, performers, conductors, coaches, and scholars. The scope of musical investigation and experience incorporates classical, vernacular, and experimental traditions from a wide range of eras and cultures, western and non-western.

Classes are tailored to the prior experiences of students who take them, from introductory subjects for students with no previous background to advanced seminars, private lessons, and performance opportunities for musicians ready to work at near-professional levels. The program integrates and deepens connections between music and technology, science, society, and other humanities disciplines, creating an experience that is intensely rich and uniquely MIT.

Theater Arts is taught as a mode of inquiry into self and society with the intention that such an inquiry can become the vehicle for transformation of one or both. The Theater Arts program is process-oriented and committed to diversity of creative forms. The curriculum is designed to help students acquire the necessary artistic, technical, and intellectual skills to create theater of quality and imagination.

Performance is the testing ground for what is learned in the classroom. Performance and design experiences range from student-generated workshops in the studio to fully-realized productions on the stage. These curricular activities are guided by professional faculty and staff, often with enriching participation of guest artists.

Music and Theater Arts is united in our pursuit of artistic, intellectual, creative, and technical excellence. This requires intense focus and dedication by all members of our community. We value diversity and practice inclusion with regard to identities, backgrounds, opinions, and beliefs. Because we see our students as whole people, we prioritize their mental, emotional, and physical health above the quality of their work. This ethos extends to both our advisory and pedagogical relationships. Diversity, wellness, and inclusion are likewise central to our curriculum and hiring. We are therefore committed to recruiting a diverse faculty and staff to enhance the educational experience of the students we serve.