

Music at Swarthmore

Swarthmore's Department of Music is a vibrant community of performers, creators and critical thinkers who share a passion for music. Our academic courses invite students to think deeply about music; our ensembles bring talented students together to perform challenging and varied repertoire; our masterclass and residency programs bring some of our country's most distinguished musicians to campus for ongoing collaborations with our students; and our program of private instruction enables students to study with some of the finest teachers from Philadelphia to New York City.

Swarthmore's Department of Music has eight student ensembles (Chinese Music Ensemble, Chorus, Critical Mass, Gamelan Semara Santi, Garnet Singers, Jazz Ensemble, Orchestra, and Wind Ensemble) as well as our Fetter Chamber Music Program that facilitates music making in small groups in a wide variety of styles.

Through our varied programming, we are thrilled to present an exceptional 24-25 season, featuring world class artists and scholars DuPont Brass, Aubrey Logan, Jeremy Dutcher, Jasper String Quartet, Roderick Williams OBE, Julius Drake, Hans Lüdemann and Trio Ivoire. All of our events are free and open to the public.



Featured Artists

Each year Swarthmore Music hosts performances, residencies and masterclasses by distinguished musicians and dancers from around the world. The Featured Artist series presents each artist as performer and teacher, leading masterclasses, giving solo performances, and collaborating in performances with Swarthmore College student musicians.



Trombone-playing singer-songwriter Aubrey Logan has toured extensively with her band across Europe and the US, performing her music to students and fans alike through engaging clinics and performances at various institutions. Her musical prowess has also led her to collaborate with symphonies and orchestras nationwide, with both her original compositions and covers being brought to life by esteemed orchestras like the Seattle Symphony, Boston Pops, and Cincinnati Symphony. Notably recognized as a top trombone player by Downbeat magazine, Aubrey has graced stages globally, touring alongside renowned artists like Dave Koz & Postmodern Jukebox.

Celebrated as one of the preeminent American string quartets of the twenty-first century, the prizewinning Jasper String Quartet is hailed as being "flawless in ensemble and intonation, expressively assured and beautifully balanced" (Gramophone). The Quartet regularly collaborates with some of today's leading artists, including tenor Nicholas Phan, clarinetist Derek Bermel, pianists Amy Yang, Natalie Zhu and Myra Huang, and the Jupiter String Quartet. Collaborations and commissions with living composers include Lera Auerbach, Derek Bermel, Patrick Castillo, Vivian Fung, Brittany J. Green, Aaron Jay Kernis, Akira Nishimura, Reinaldo Moya, Michelle Ross, Caroline Shaw and Joan Tower.



Roderick Williams is one of the most sought-after baritones of his generation with a wide repertoire spanning baroque to contemporary. He enjoys relationships with all the major UK and European opera houses also performs regularly with leading conductors and orchestras throughout the UK, Europe, North America and Australia. Festival appearances include the BBC Proms, Edinburgh, Cheltenham, Aldeburgh and Melbourne. As a recitalist he is in demand around the world and appears regularly at venues including the Wigmore Hall, Concertgebouw and Musikverein and at song festivals including Leeds Lieder, Oxford International Song and Ludlow English Song.



Recitals and Masterclasses

In addition to the Featured Artist Program, the Swarthmore Music Program is thrilled to present worldclass musicians in a range of masterclasses, lectures, and performances.



DuPont Brass is a one-of-a-kind, brass-driven supergroup from the D.C. Metropolitan Area. Originally composed of five music majors from Howard University trying to raise money for tuition during the Christmas season, they have grown to a 10-piece ensemble consisting of brass, a rhythm section, and vocalists. Through their training in classical and contemporary styles, DuPont Brass has developed a sound they've coined "Eclectic Soul" that mixes varied genres of music, including jazz, hip-hop, and R&B.

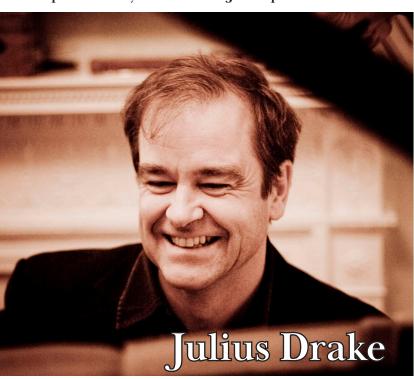
Performance Friday, September 6, 2024 @ 6pm Lang Performing Arts Center

*sponsored by the William J. Cooper Foundation in collaboration with the Office of Student Engagement

The TRIO IVOIRE is unique in instrumentation and musical scope, melting personal roots of African, European and Jazz traditions and uniting African balafon with piano, drums and electronics to create a contemporary sound that is without comparison.

Piano & Vocal Workshop: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 @ 11am Drums & Percussion Workshop: Friday, February 28, 2025 @ 10am Collisione Mondiale: Saturday, March 1, 2025 @ 8pm Hans Lüdemann - Aly Keita - Christian Thomé TRIO IVOIRE, with Tamara Lukasheva - Mark Feldman - Bobby Zankel - Nick Dunston *sponsored by the William J. Cooper Foundation





Pianist Julius Drake lives in London and enjoys an international reputation as one of the finest instrumentalists in his field, collaborating with many of the world's leading artists, both in recital and on disc. His passionate interest in song has led to invitations to devise song series for Wigmore Hall, London; The Concertgebouw, Amsterdam; 92nd Street Y, New York; and the Pierre Boulez Saal, Berlin. He curates an annual series of song recitals – Julius Drake and Friends – in the historic Middle Temple Hall in London. Julius Drake is Professor of Collaborative Piano at the Guildhall School of Music in London and he is regularly invited to give masterclasses worldwide.

Recital with Roderick Williams OBE Friday, February 7, 2025 @ 8pm Masterclass Saturday, February 8, 2025 @ 1pm

*sponsored by the William J. Cooper Foundation

Jeremy Dutcher is a Two-Spirit song carrier, composer, activist, ethnomusicologist and classically-trained vocalist from New Brunswick, Canada who currently lives in Montréal, Québec. A Wolastoqiyik member of the Tobique First Nation in North-West New Brunswick, Jeremy is best known for his debut album, Wolastoqiyik Lintuwakonawa (The Songs of the People of the Beautiful River), recorded following a research project on archival recordings of traditional Wolastoqiyik songs at the Canadian Museum of History. Jeremy transcribed songs sung by his ancestors in 1907 and recorded onto wax cylinders, transforming them into "collaborative" compositions. The album earned him the 2018 Polaris Music Prize and Indigenous Music Album of the Year at the 2019 JUNO Awards. His 2019 NPR Tiny Desk Concert has over 85,000 views.



Concert Friday, March 21, 2025 @ 8pm

The Swarthmore College Lab Orchestra will perform Sergei Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf" with special guest the Jasper String Quartet. Delight in Peter, the Wolf, the Bird, the Duck, the Cat, the Grandfather, and the Hunters: all performed and narrated by Swarthmore College students. The performance will be followed by an opportunity for children to see the instruments used in the concert: violin, viola, cello, bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, French horn, trumpet, trombone, and percussion. The program will begin with "Winter" from Antonio Vivaldi's Four Seasons.

Peter and the Wolf: Saturday, December 7, 2024 @ 11am



The choral programs at Swarthmore and Haverford/Bryn Mawr Colleges have engaged in a unique and collaborative commissioning project to unfold throughout the 2024-2025 academic year. The choirs have commissioned composers Colin Britt and Arianne Abela to jointly create a 10-minute choral work, in partnership with poet Ruthie Prillaman, on themes of hope, fear, and faith. Student contributions will shape the creative process, beginning with masterclasses with the composers on the campuses of Swarthmore and Haverford in September. In March, singers from both choirs will gather with the composers as well as student collaborators from area high schools for an opportunity to sing and connect with one another as the creative process reaches its close. The premiere performances of the new piece will take place at Swarthmore and Haverford in April.

Premiere Performance by Swarthmore College Chorus: Friday, April 25, 2025 @ 8pm





In addition to our ensemble performances in Lang Concert Hall, Swarthmore Music is proud to present Lunch Hour Concerts. This popular midday concert series takes place weekly in Parrish Parlour, a cozy and intimate room located at the heart of Swarthmore's campus. It provides an informal venue for students, faculty,

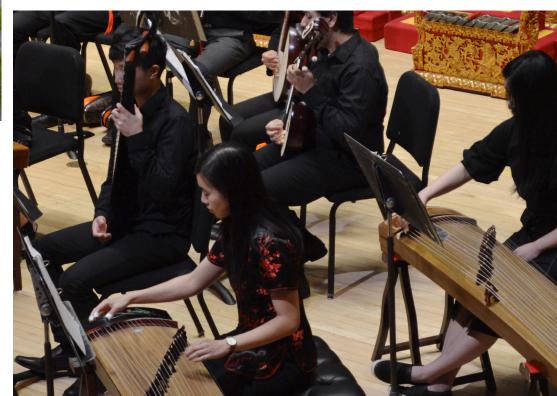
Making Music at Swarthmore

Swarthmore Music has eight student ensembles including <u>Chinese Music Ensemble</u>, <u>Chorus</u>, Critical Mass, <u>Gamelan Semara Santi</u>, <u>Garnet Singers</u>, <u>Jazz Ensemble</u>, <u>Orchestra</u>, and <u>Wind Ensemble</u>, as well as our <u>Fetter Chamber Music Program</u> which facilitates music making in small groups in a wide variety of styles. Most ensembles are open to Swarthmore students and community members at large no matter their experience level or musical background. These ensembles can introduce students



and visiting professional musicians to experiment with performance techniques, try out new pieces, and preview works which might later be performed at the Lang Concert Hall. Swarthmore community members from all over campus are able to stop by and take in these short, impromptu performances on the way to their next class.

to musical genres they have no prior experience in or even knowledge of. Students learn about the historical context and cultural connections of the pieces they perform, which helps them relate the music to the world around them. Each ensemble performs at least once per semester in the Lang Concert Hall.



Friday, September 6, 2024 @ 6pm DuPont Brass (Lang Performing Arts Center)

Saturday, September 28, 2024 @ 1pm Chorus Commission Workshop

Monday, October 21, 2024 @ 2pm Jasper String Quartet Masterclass

Friday, October 25, 2024 @ 10am Piano Masterclass with Daniel Shapiro

Sunday, October 27, 2024 @ 7:30pm Aubrey Logan and Friends in Concert

Monday, October 28, 2024 @ 1pm Aubrey Logan Masterclass

Friday, November 15, 2024 @ 8pm Swarthmore College Wind Ensemble

Sunday, November 17, 2024 @ 3pm Swarthmore College Gamelan Semara Santi

Sunday, November 17, 2024 @ 7:30pm Swarthmore College Jazz Ensemble with special guest Aubrey Logan

Thursday, November 21, 2024 @ 2pm Roderick Williams Composition Workshop

Friday, November 22, 2024 @ 8pm Swarthmore College Chorus & Garnet Singers with special guest Roderick Williams

Sunday, November 24, 2024 @ 3pm Fetter Chamber Music Concert

Concerts & Events

All events in Lang Concert Hall unless otherwise noted

Sunday, November 24, 2024 @ 7:30pm Fetter Chamber Music Concert

Friday, December 6, 2024 @ 8pm Fetter Chamber Music Concert

Saturday, December 7, 2024 @ 11am Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf" & Vivaldi's "Winter" from The Four Seasons with the Lab Orchestra and Jasper String Quartet

Saturday, December 7, 2024 @ 3pm Swarthmore College Critical Mass

Sunday, December 8, 2024 @ 3pm Swarthmore College Chinese Music Ensemble

Sunday, December 8, 2024 @ 7:30pm Swarthmore College Orchestra

Thursday, February 6, 2025 @ 1pm Roderick Williams Masterclass

Friday, February 7, 2025 @ 8pm Roderick Williams with Julius Drake

Saturday, February 8, 2025 @ 1pm Julius Drake Masterclass

Wednesday, February 26, 2025 @ 11am Piano & Vocal Workshop with Hans Lüdemann and Tamara Lukasheva

Friday, February 28, 2025 @ 10am Drums & Percussion Workshop with Aly Keita & Christian Thomé Saturday, March 1, 2025 @ 8pm Collisione Mondiale - songs from inner and outer space

Friday, March 21, 2025 @ 8pm Jeremy Dutcher in Concert

Sunday, April 6, 2025 @ 3pm Swarthmore College Gamelan Semara Santi

Sunday, April 6, 2025 @ 7:30pm Swarthmore College Jazz Ensemble

Friday, April 11, 2025 @ 8pm Swarthmore College Wind Ensemble

Friday, April 25, 2025 @ 8pm Swarthmore College Chorus & Garnet Singers

Saturday, April 26, 2025 @ 3pm Fetter Chamber Music Concert

Saturday, April 26, 2025 @ 8pm Swarthmore College Orchestra

Sunday, April 27, 2025 @ 3pm Swarthmore College Critical Mass

Sunday, April 27, 2025 @ 7:30pm Fetter Chamber Music Concert

Friday, May 2, 2025 @ 8pm Fetter Chamber Music Concert

Saturday, May 3, 2025 @ 3pm Fetter Chamber Music Concert

Sunday, May 4, 2025 @ 3pm Swarthmore College Chinese Music Ensemble

All Events are Free and Open to the Public

Directions to Lang Music Building (from the North Entrance to the College)

The North Entrance is accessed by turning right onto Elm Avenue from Route 320 (2nd street on the right after the traffic light at Rt. 320 and Chester Road). Stay on Elm as it crosses Cedar; the next left hand turn will be Whittier. Follow Whittier all the way to the Science Center, making a right hand turn and then a left as the road goes around the Science Center. Parking is in the Water Tower lot on your right.

Swarthmore College encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, Please contact Susan Smythe, ADA Program Manager at 610-690-2063 in advance of your participation or visit.

The GPS address for the Lang Music Building is: 99 Whittier Place, 19081

Swarthmore Music Live Streaming



Join us on Facebook!

Join us on Instagram!

Join us on YouTube!

Subscribe to our newsletter!