

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**

KATHRINE G. McGOVERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Moores School of Music



# COMPOSITION, MUSIC THEORY and MUSICOLOGY

Moores School of Music Director

**Courtney Crappell**

Composition Area Coordinator

**Rob Smith**

Music Theory Area Coordinator

**Timothy Koozin**

Musicology Area Coordinator

**Matthew Dirst**

## ABOUT THE MOORES SCHOOL

### Moores School of Music

The University of Houston's Moores School of Music (MSM) is one of the premier comprehensive music schools in the nation. Its remarkable faculty — of internationally recognized performers, composers and scholars — outstanding student body, modern facilities and broad range of programs make MSM the natural choice for nearly 600 students annually. The school's commitment to academic excellence and the highest performance standards has ensured its role as a vital resource in the educational and cultural life of Houston and beyond.

## ABOUT THE COLLEGE

### Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts

The Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts at the University of Houston is a dynamic home of creativity and collaboration in one of America's most artistically vibrant and culturally diverse cities. Bringing together the performing and visual entities at the University of Houston, the college has the ability to harness the power of the arts to ultimately impact our world. Our award-winning, internationally distinguished faculty provides top-quality instruction to the talented, emerging student artists from more than 30 programs of study. The Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts seeks to positively impact the community and to empower our students to use their talents to change the world.



### Questions? Contact:

Composition  
Area Coordinator

—  
**Rob Smith**  
robsmith@uh.edu  
713-743-3163

Musicology  
Area Coordinator

—  
**Matthew Dirst**  
mdirst@uh.edu  
713-743-3150

Music Theory  
Area Coordinator

—  
**Timothy Koozin**  
tkoozin@uh.edu  
713-743-3318

## DEGREES

### Composition

Bachelor of Music in Composition  
Master of Music in Composition  
Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition

### Music Theory

Bachelor of Music in Music Theory  
Master of Music in Music Theory

### Musicology

Master of Music in Musicology

*Qualified undergraduate and graduate students may also pursue extensive study in composition, music theory or music history while seeking another music degree.*

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

### Scholarships

Scholarships are available for students at all levels of study who demonstrate outstanding accomplishment and promise. For out-of-state students, scholarships activate in-state tuition.

### Teaching Assistantships

Numerous teaching assistantships in music theory, musicology and with the AURA Contemporary Ensemble are available to qualified graduate students. Teaching assistants receive a stipend and scholarship. For out-of-state students, teaching assistantships activate in-state tuition.

Teaching assistants in music theory gain valuable professional experience teaching classes in the core undergraduate music theory program under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Teaching assistants in music history support musicology faculty in undergraduate history courses and the AURA teaching assistant serves as the ensemble's assistant director, learning important professional skills for managing and directing a chamber ensemble.

## APPLY

### Admissions and Recruiting Coordinator

admissionskgmca@uh.edu  
713-743-3314

### Applications, Guidelines and Additional Information

music.uh.edu

### Graduate Advisor

gradmusic@uh.edu  
713-743-5934

# COMPOSITION

Under the guidance of our award-winning faculty, composition majors develop a diverse portfolio of original concert music, gain fluency in contemporary repertoire and techniques, and engage with the diverse communities of Houston. Graduate students have the opportunity to hone their pedagogical skills through the many teaching assistantships available, and all degree programs culminate in a full-length recital of the student's works. Our graduates have consistently garnered admission to high-level graduate programs, careers in academia, and national and international awards and commissions. In addition to the resources available on campus, students are often engaged for performances, commissions and internships with arts organizations in Houston. Recent collaborators have included the Houston Grand Opera, Houston Symphony, DaCamera, Musiqa and River Oaks Chamber Orchestra. As Texas's most vibrant city for contemporary music, esteemed composers are frequent visitors to our campus. In recent years, we have welcomed Kaija Saariaho, Joan Tower, John Adams, John Corigliano and others for lectures, presentations and masterclasses. Our aim is to maximize our resources to produce alumni who are at the forefront of the ever-changing contemporary music scene.



**Rob Smith**

The highly energetic music of Rob Smith is frequently performed throughout the United States and abroad. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including a 1997 Fulbright Grant to Australia, a Copland House Residency and prizes from the National Band Association and ASCAP. Commissions have come from the Texas Music Festival Orchestra, American Composers Forum and the NY Youth Symphony Chamber Music Program, among others. He holds degrees from the University of Texas at Austin (D.M.A., M.M.) and Potsdam College (B.M.), and Boosey & Hawkes, Carl Fischer and C-Alan Publications publish his music.

*Professor of Composition and Area Coordinator // Director, AURA Contemporary Ensemble*  
robsmith@uh.edu // 713-743-3163



**Marcus Karl Maroney**

Marcus Karl Maroney studied composition and horn at the University of Texas at Austin and Yale School of Music. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Music 2000 Prize from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and two residencies at the Copland House. His works have been commissioned, premiered and recorded by such performers as Eighth Blackbird, River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, saxophonist Timothy McAllister and the Gryphon Trio.

*Associate Professor of Composition*  
mkmaroney@uh.edu // 713-743-9477



# MUSIC THEORY

Under the guidance of our highly respected faculty, music theory majors receive instruction in music theory research and teaching pedagogy. Graduate students have the opportunity to hone their pedagogical skills through the many teaching assistantships available, and all degree programs culminate in the creation of a thesis document. As part of our commitment to presenting the most current research trends, we annually invite nationally known scholars to speak on campus through the Martha Suit Hallman Lecture Series. Our graduates have consistently garnered admission to high-level graduate programs, careers in academia and have published research.



**Timothy  
Koozin**

Timothy Koozin holds a Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati. His research interests include music and meaning, popular music, film music and music instructional technology. He has published in journals including *Perspectives of New Music*, *Contemporary Music Review*, *Music Theory Online* and *The Journal of Film Music*, and in collected essays published by Cambridge University Press, Ashgate and Routledge. Koozin is co-author of two music theory textbooks published by Cengage: *Techniques and Materials of Music* and *Music for Ear Training*. He is the former editor of the Society for Music Theory's electronic journal, *Music Theory Online*.

*Professor of Music Theory and Area Coordinator*  
tkoozin@uh.edu // 713-743-3318



**Ji Yeon Lee**

Ji Yeon Lee received her Ph.D. from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and holds master's and bachelor's degrees from Seoul National University, with additional studies at the University of Munich as a German Academic Exchange Service scholar. Her primary research area is analysis of opera from the Romantic to the present era, climax and highpoint in music, and musical gesture. She has presented papers at national and regional meetings of the Society for Music Theory and the American Musicological Society, the European Music Analysis Conference and the International Conference on Music Since 1900, among others.

*Assistant Professor of Music Theory*  
jlee136@uh.edu // 713-743-9452



**Nancy  
Murphy**

Nancy Murphy received her Ph.D. in music theory from the University of British Columbia, and holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Western Ontario. Murphy's research focuses on issues of meter and timing flexibility and their relation to lyrical meaning, especially in singer-songwriter music from the 1960s and 1970s. She regularly presents at regional, national and international conferences, and from 2015 to 2017 she served as the chair of the Society for Music Theory's Popular Music Interest Group. Before coming to Houston, she served as a lecturer in the Department of Music at the University of Chicago.

*Assistant Professor of Music Theory*  
nemurphy@uh.edu // 713-743-7446



**John L.  
Snyder**

John L. Snyder holds a Ph.D. in music theory from Indiana University, and M.M. and B.M. degrees from Michigan State University. His research focuses on musical analysis, the history of music theory and the music of Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. He has published articles in national and international journals and presented papers at regional, national and international conferences and symposia. He has published critical editions of Theinred of Dover's *De legitimis pentachordorum et tetrachordorum* (2006), the *Musica of Hermannus Contractus* (2015) and Coleridge-Taylor's *Symphonic Variations on an African Air, op. 63* (2007) and *Symphony in A Minor, op. 8* (2013).

*Professor of Music Theory and Musicology*  
jlsnyder@uh.edu // 713-743-3143

# MUSICOLOGY

Under the guidance of our distinguished faculty, music history majors receive instruction in musicological, and in some instances ethnomusicological, research aimed to prepare graduates for advanced Ph.D. programs and professional pursuits in music. The creation of a thesis document serves as the culmination of the program. Degree candidates typically hold a music history teaching assistantship, and graduates have consistently garnered admission to doctoral studies at major institutions.



**Matthew  
Dirst**

Matthew Dirst is the author of *Engaging Bach: The Keyboard Legacy from Marburg to Mendelssohn* (Cambridge University Press, 2012) and the editor of *Bach and the Organ* (University of Illinois Press, 2016). Founder and artistic director of Ars Lyrica Houston, Dirst leads a period-instrument ensemble with several acclaimed recordings, including one Grammy nomination. The Washington Post recently described him as an “efficient, extremely precise conductor who has an ear for detail and up-to-date ideas about performing Bach.” Winner of major international prizes in both organ and harpsichord, Dirst also holds a Ph.D. in musicology from Stanford University.

*Professor of Musicology and Area Coordinator*  
mdirst@uh.edu // 713-743-3150



**Paul  
Bertagnolli**

Paul Bertagnolli’s research focuses on 19th-century program music, with special attention to the roles of mimesis and musical topics in conveying extramusical content. This approach informs *Prometheus in Music* (Ashgate, 2007), *Edward MacDowell’s Path Toward an American Piano Music* (in preparation) and articles in *19th-Century Music*, *Journal of Musicology*, *Journal of the Society for American Music*, *Journal of the American Liszt Society* and the *Oxford Guide to Atheism*, among other publication venues. Topics of recently offered seminars include Schubert, Liszt, Wagner, 19th-century French music and historical performance practice. Former advisees are now completing Ph.D.s in nationally recognized musicology programs.

*Associate Professor of Musicology*  
pbertagnolli@uh.edu // 713-743-3144



**Barbara  
Rose Lange**

Barbara Rose Lange researches and writes about folk and popular music in Central Europe, especially the art of the Romani (Gypsy) people. She is author of *Local Fusions: Experiments with Folk Music in Central Europe at the Millennium* (Oxford, 2018) and *Holy Brotherhood: Romani Music in a Hungarian Pentecostal Church* (Oxford, 2003). A recipient of Fulbright and American Council of Learned Societies grants, she has also done research on avant-garde and improvised music.

*Professor of Musicology*  
rlange@uh.edu // 713-743-3315



**Howard  
Pollack**

One of the country’s preeminent scholars of American music, Howard Pollack has published numerous articles and seven books, including biographies of composers Walter Piston, John Alden Carpenter, Aaron Copland, George Gershwin, Marc Blitzstein and, most recently, lyricist-librettist John Latouche. He has been the recipient of, among other awards, two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. He offers a wide variety of graduate electives at the Moores School of Music, including seminars on leading American and Russian composers.

*John and Rebecca Moores Professor of Music*  
hpollack@uh.edu // 713-743-3165



## AURA CONTEMPORARY ENSEMBLE

Under the direction of Rob Smith, the **AURA Contemporary Ensemble** is dedicated to the performance of chamber music composed in the last two decades. In addition to serving as a training ground for performers interested in careers performing contemporary music, the ensemble serves to present students, faculty and the community with innovative programs that represent the latest classical music trends and styles. Each season, the ensemble presents at least four concerts and premieres two new works by the UH student winners of the annual Sarofim Student Composition Contest.

AURA frequently commissions new works and has brought numerous composers to campus for the performance of their music, including Samuel Adler, Javier Alvarez, Stacy Garrop, Kamran Ince, Stephen Montague, Gabriela Ortiz, Daniel Bernard Roumain, Jeffrey Ryan, Joan Tower and Dan Welcher, among others. Dedicated to collaboration with other disciplines, AURA has presented concerts with student and faculty authors from the creative writing and Hispanic studies departments at UH (*With Words*), the actor Susan Koozin (*Murder Mystery*) and several dance ensembles. Most recently, the ensemble has been presenting programs with the Psophonía Dance Company, with an emphasis on thoroughly integrating music and choreography.



# A PITCH-PERFECT ENVIRONMENT FOR ADVANCED MUSIC STUDY.

Applications, Guidelines and Additional Information  
[music.uh.edu](http://music.uh.edu)

---

For information on upcoming Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts events, visit [uh.edu/artstickets](http://uh.edu/artstickets) or contact the KGCA Box Office at 713-743-3388.

Moore School of Music | 713-743-3009 | [music.uh.edu](http://music.uh.edu)

 @UHKGMarts

  @UHKGM\_arts