MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Department of Music at Winthrop University to provide opportunities for graduate students to continue to refine and enhance their creative and musical skills, prepare students for advanced professional careers in music, prepare students for doctoral programs in music, continue its historic leadership role in music education in the region, serve the larger community through programs of national distinction, be responsive to change, and be committed to on-going self-evaluation.
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Winthrop offers the following master’s degrees in music: the Master of Music (M.M.) in performance (all band and orchestral instruments, piano, organ voice, and guitar), the Master of Music (M.M.) in conducting (wind conducting and choral conducting), and the Master of Music Education degree (M.M.E.). The department also offers the Master of Arts in Teaching degree (M.A.T.) with initial certification in music through the Richard W. Riley College of Education. Master’s degrees in music have been offered at Winthrop since 1970. Over the years, the department has developed a fine reputation in the region for offering high-quality graduate degree programs.

ACCREDITATION
Winthrop University’s Department of Music has been a full, institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music since 1940. NASM accreditation guarantees that curriculum and admission policies meet rigorous standards. It also ensures that faculty who teach in the graduate program are highly qualified and properly credentialed.

Additionally, Winthrop University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
In addition to meeting Winthrop University’s general admission requirements for all graduate students, applicants for admission to a graduate program must demonstrate a potential for music study at an advanced level by: submitting an acceptable score on the verbal and quantitative sections of the General Test of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), the Miller’s Analogy Test (MAT), or the PRAXIS II Exam in music education; taking the entrance diagnostic examinations in music theory and music history/literature; performing an entrance audition on the major instrument; and successfully completing a writing sample as directed by the Graduate Program Advisor. Applicants for all degrees must also show evidence of completing a keyboard proficiency.

WHY CHOOSE WINTHROP?
Students cite our quality programs, convenient location, and value as some of their primary reasons for choosing Winthrop for graduate school. Additionally, the Department of Music at Winthrop University features:

- The only comprehensive, fully accredited music program in the region
- A convenient location in the upstate region of South Carolina in the Charlotte metropolitan region
- Small classes, which foster more personalized engagement among faculty and students
- Excellent relationships with music organizations and school systems in the region