

# Music Opportunities

## AT BETHANY COLLEGE

Bethany's music groups have performed in 29 states and four European countries. In 2008, Bethany Choir took its sixth European tour and is currently planning a seventh in 2012.

At Bethany, you make music a valuable part of your college experience. Music majors and non-majors take advantage of the many opportunities Bethany offers, and all students are eligible for performance awards.

More than 20% of students participate in campus music ensembles, lessons and classes. Large choral and instrumental ensembles tour both regionally and internationally. Lessons and classes can be taken for general education credit.

As members of the Bethany Oratorio Society, students join in the tradition of performing Handel's *Messiah* and J.S. Bach's



*St. Matthew Passion* every year during Holy Week. Bethany hosts the longest-running annual Messiah performance in North America.

In addition, students are invited to participate in joint musical productions with the theatre department, including one-act operas, opera scenes and a biennial Interterm musical.

With up to 18 small and large ensembles, students of all levels of ability can develop their musical skills, find personal enjoyment and become part of Bethany's close musical community.

Bethany offers performance awards in music to new full-time and transfer students, who are recommended by a faculty member after an audition.



### Music Mission Statement

The mission of the Bethany College Music Department is to nurture, challenge and guide developing musicians, to train the future educators for both classroom and studio areas, and to provide performance opportunities for students, faculty, and community members. In addition, the Music Department strives to educate and engage audience members in the central Kansas region and beyond.

Being a member of the concert band, brass ensemble, college choir and community orchestra made me aware of how my individual instrument and involvement was part of a greater whole. Playing in churches was special because of how our music would heighten the spiritual experience for us and for the congregations. People really appreciated it, and I made friendships that continue even now.

—Patrick Merkel '05, B.A. in management and marketing

Music was, and continues to be, an integral part of my life. At Bethany I was able to be involved in music but at the same time pursue my major and be involved with other activities. I value my involvement because it helped me to learn who I am—I've been able to take what I learned from music and apply it to other areas of my life.

—Kelsey Ekstrum '09, B.A. in elementary education

While I was not a music major at Bethany, I was very involved in the music department through choir, voice lessons and, of course, the Messiah Festival. I had the best of both worlds—studying towards my major and taking part in a group of talented individuals to make gorgeous music. Our mutual love of music and all the time spent traveling together helped us form life-long friendships. Music allowed me to take a break from my major-related courses and leadership responsibilities and collaborate with others, which used a different part of my brain and skill set. Not only did my involvement in music add variety to my Bethany experience, but also it helped me grow into a more well-rounded professional.

—Jennifer (Engler-Key) Meeks '04, B.A. in communication

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### Ensemble Opportunities

#### Instrumental

- Symphonic Band: the oldest and largest wind, brass and percussion ensemble at Bethany; performs a wide variety of styles during four to five annual concerts on campus
- Jazz Ensemble: plays the very best of jazz, rock and popular music within a concert framework; performs both on and off campus, and provides opportunities for students to perform improvise solos and write or arrange music
- College Community Orchestra
- Blue Dozen
- Brass Ensemble
- Jazz Combo

#### Vocal

- Chapel Choir: open to all students; performs a wide range of sacred choral literature and participates in concerts and in the worship life of the Bethany community and Lindsborg region
- Bethany Choir: selected by audition; features voices representing nearly all disciplines on campus; has performed over 500 concerts in 29 states and four European countries, including performances in Alice Tully Hall at the Lincoln Center
- Opera Scenes
- Musical Theatre
- Chamber Choir
- Oratorio Society

#### Chamber Ensembles

- Handbell Ensemble
- Clarinet Trio
- Percussion Ensemble
- Flute Choir
- Saxophone Quartet
- Brass Quintet
- Chamber Strings
- Woodwind Quintet

### Come visit us!

Let us talk with you about our program, show you around and treat you to lunch! Call our admissions office to set up an appointment and make plans to audition for a performance award.

For audition dates, requirements, and more information, go to [www.bethanylb.edu/music](http://www.bethanylb.edu/music)

### Contacting Music Faculty:

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### Academic Advising and Faculty

Your success in college depends on a close relationship with your academic advisor. At Bethany College, the academic advisor is an active partner with the student in designing an interesting and challenging academic program, encouraging the growth and development of gifts and talents to a higher level, and providing personal and professional support beyond graduation.



OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS  
(800) 826-2281 OR  
(785) 227-3380, EXT. 8113  
FAX: (785) 227-8993

EMAIL: [admissions@bethanylb.edu](mailto:admissions@bethanylb.edu)  
WEB SITE: [www.bethanylb.edu](http://www.bethanylb.edu)

### Fast Facts

**About Bethany:** a four-year, undergraduate liberal arts-based college with a blend of professional programs

**Location:** Lindsborg, Kan.; 20 miles southwest of Salina, 70 miles north of Wichita, and 200 miles west of Kansas City; within a seven hour drive of St. Louis, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Dallas, Denver, Omaha, and Sioux City.

**Founded:** 1881 by Swedish-Lutheran settlers

**Religious Affiliation:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

**Degrees and Programs:** 40 academic discipline majors and programs of study, 11 education majors within various academic disciplines, and contract majors

**Enrollment:** About 600 students from 30 states and 14 foreign countries

**Student-Faculty Ratio:** 10:1; average class size is 12

**Athletics:** 18 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) varsity sports

**Accreditation:** Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association  
[www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org](http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org)  
800-621-7440

**Bethany Mission Statement:** The mission of Bethany College is to educate, develop and challenge individuals to reach for truth and excellence as they lead lives of faith, learning and service.