UMBC DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

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Monthly Newsletter

Through individual attention from extraordinary faculty, a supportive community, and real-world experience, we develop forward thinking musical citizens who make a positive impact in their communities and the world.

Upcoming Audition Dates

November (Priority Consideration for Departmental and Linehan Scholarships)
Saturday November 1, 2025 (instrumentalists only)
Friday November 7, 2025 (vocalists only)
Audition Applications Due October 19, 2025
January (Priority Consideration for Departmental and Linehan Scholarships)
Friday January 23, 2026 (vocalists only)
Saturday January 24, 2026 (instrumentalists only)
Audition Applications Due January 4, 2026







Upcoming Concerts





10/5 **Harmony Across Borders**UMBC Choirs Homecoming Concert, 5:00PM

10/12 UMBC Jazz Ensemble, 3:00PM

Livewire 15: Blazing Trails

10/16, RUCKUS: Trailblazers, 7:30PM

10/17, Emerging Artists Concert, 12:00PM

10/17, Julius Eastman's Femenine, 7:30PM

10/18, Alison Knowles, Proposition #2:

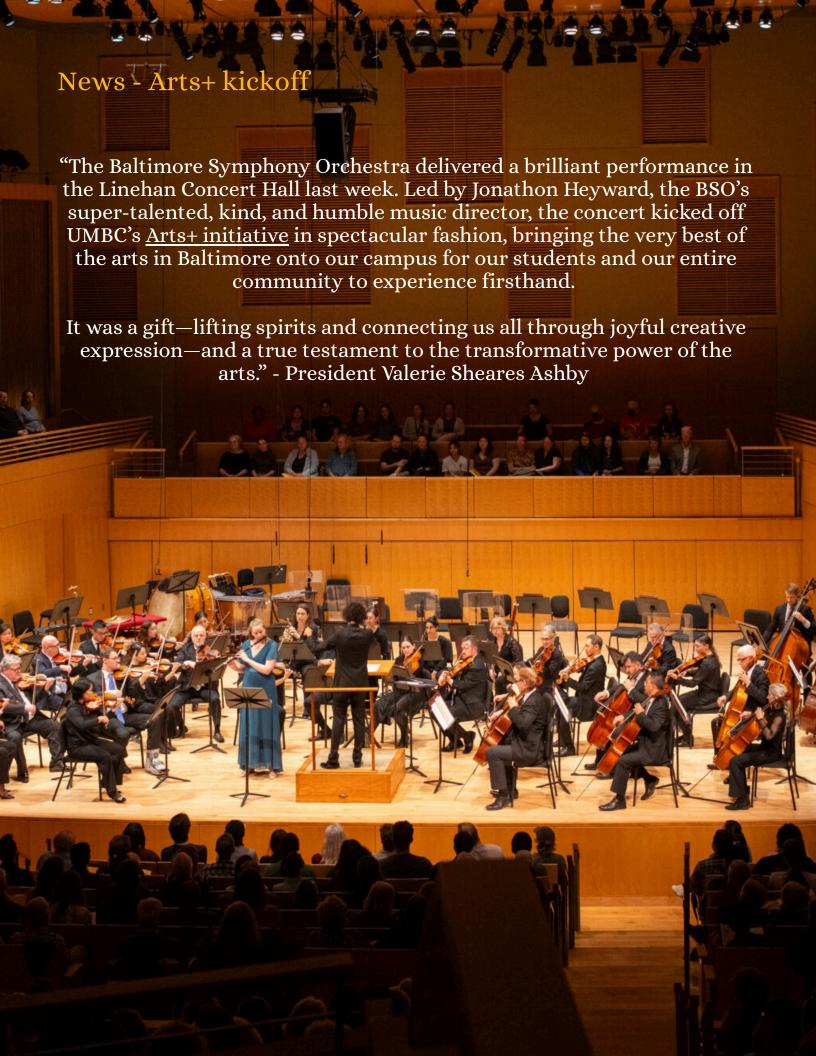
Make A Salad, 12:30PM

10/18, Ensemble Bravura, 7:30PM

10/22, **Relic**, 7:30PM

10/23, **A Harlem State of Mind**Fall 2025 Humanities Forum featuring the UMBC Jazz ensemble, 6:00PM

10/26, **Faces of Love**, 3:00PM



Current Students



Nema Robinson '26 was recently featured on NPR alongside renowned conductor Marin Alsop. In an interview with Scott Simon, the two discussed the importance of mentorship in classical music and the impact of guiding and supporting young musicians. The segment spotlighted Robinson's artistic voice and her commitment building community to through music. The segment was titled "Meet the musicians investing their time in mentoring the next generation".

Nguyen '25, winner of the 2025 UMBC USO Composer Competition. Their original work, Blue Hour, was selected for its exceptional creativity and musicality. The piece will be premiered by the UMBC Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Dr. Philip Mann in spring 2026. We look forward to hearing Jean's music brought to life on stage!



Alumni

John Loreg II '22 graduated from Peabody in May 2025 with a Masters in Euphonium performance. He graduated from UMBC in 2022 with a Bachelors in Euphonium performance. He is currently teaching low brass at Music and Arts in Crofton, MD.





Ida Dierker '25 recently was invited to perform at the internationally recognized High Zero Festival in Baltimore City. High Zero is the premier festival of Improvised, Experimental music on the East Coast, being fully devoted to new collaborations between the most inspired improvisors from around the world. Congrats Ida!

Alumni

Cara Jaye Dekelbaum '16 has been actively performing with several tribute acts including The Great American Soulbook, Lady Supreme – A Diana Ross Tribute, and DDXS, a Duran Duran/INXS tribute group. Based in New York City, she recently wrapped up a tour in Florida and continues to perform up and down the East Coast. She looks forward to returning to Maryland with DDXS for a performance on April 11, 2026, at the Barrel House in Fallston.





Over the past year, Gabrielle Franks '20 and have co-organized Etai **Fuchs '**21 produced two significant music projects. Their label Gardenhead Records released Free Palestine: A Benefit Compilation for Gaza on June 28, 2024, featuring 27 tracks from artists A. Savage (Parquet including Courts), HOMESHAKE, Cindy Lee, and Julie Doiron. The compilation is available on Bandcamp as a name-your-price release, with proceeds benefiting the organization Gaza's Roots.

Their band Moon By Moon also released its debut album, It's So Nice In Here, Don't You Think So?, on July 11, 2025. The 11-track record includes Freshman Year, an ode to Gabrielle's challenging first year at UMBC, which was featured in Pitchfork's Selects playlist.



Natalie Groom attended the College Music Society International Conference in Medellín, Colombia, where she premiered a new work by Mojgan Misaghi, presented on syndrome, and made imposter her international debut as a composer with a performance of her original duo for clarinet and bassoon. She also performed with the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival in a production of A Little Night Music by Stephen Sondheim.

Dr. Linda Dusman's composition Corona Bagatelles for cello and piano (2021) was selected by the Library of Congress for inclusion in its permanent collection documenting the COVID-19 pandemic. The acquisition includes emails, sketches, and multiple score versions, preserving both the final work and its creative process. This recognition places Corona Bagatelles among an important national archive of artistic responses to the pandemic.





Oboist **Fatma Daglar** is featured on the new album *Desert Pass* by chamber ensemble Zéphyros Winds. The album includes *The Light is the Same* by Reena Esmail, along with world premiere recordings of Tatu by David Sanford and the title track *Desert Pass* by Tyson Gholston Davis. Drawing from influences including Hindustani music, jazz, and abstract expressionism, the album offers a vibrant snapshot of 21st-century chamber music.

La Scena Musicale called it "an excellent entry point into the world of 21st-century chamber music for woodwinds." Desert Pass is now streaming on all major platforms.

Edryn Coleman, affiliate artist of choral education, co-edited Accessible and Beautiful, an anthology of repertoire for mixed voices specially compiled to encourage connection and growth for singers and their audiences. Each piece is accompanied by detailed pedagogical advice, including warm-up activities and rehearsal notes. The collection is available through Oxford University Press.





Dr. Juan Sebastián Delgado, Assistant Professor of Cello, was recently invited to perform as a soloist and teach at the International Quito Cello Festival Ecuador. He also took the stage at the Festival de Lanaudière with the Juno Award-winning string ensemble Collectif9. With his duo Stick&Bow, he premiered a multidisciplinary show at renowned Orford Music Festival, featuring new works written especially for them. He also wrapped up the final recording sessions for his upcoming solo album, Tangos Imaginarios, with sessions in Paris and Zurich with celebrated bandoneon player, Marcelo Nisinman and composer and DJ Philippe Cohen Solal.

Dustin Donahue taught and performed at the 2025 Yarn/Wire International Institute in New York this August, presenting 8 premieres and multiple masterclasses. The Institute is an incubator for new sonic collaborations by composers and creators, that serves as an ecosystem for emerging and world-class artists to collectively push the boundaries of music, performance and sound.





Dr. Lindsay Johnson attended the Viola da Gamba Society's Summer Conclave in Ohio, where she collaborated with a number of viol players from across North America in a week-long intensive set of masterclasses and play-ins. She even had the opportunity to play an electric, seven-string bass viol!

Dr. Johnson also presented a paper entitled "Leveraging AI to teach Critical Thinking and Writing" at the American Musicological Society's Teaching Music History Conference in New York, where she spoke about her recent adaptations to her Music History classes in light of the rapidly evolving AI landscape.

Patrick Crossland took the stage Baltimore's internationally renowned High Zero Festival, delivering a completely improvised and electrifying solo trombone set. He also participated in the festival's celebrated "night of randomization," an evening of spontaneous collaborations among experimental artists. High Zero is known for pushing the boundaries of sound Crossland's and performance, and contribution was a powerful representation of UMBC's presence in the world of experimental Congratulations, music. Patrick!



Thank you!

Please send your updates to the music office so we can share your accomplishments with the community!

https://forms.gle/Mz9dPRfVRmkGCLhy5



For more information and to view our 2025 arts + concert series, visit us at

music.umbc.edu