Music at Pacific University

The Department of Music is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), and has offered courses since 1883, open to students of all majors. Degree offerings in music are Bachelor of Arts in Music, Music Education, Music with Performance Emphasis, Music Therapy, and a Minor in Music. In order to fulfill the liberal arts ideal, ensembles are open to all students. They include the University Chamber Singers, Concert Choir, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, as well as various chamber ensembles. Private lessons are taught by highly qualified instructors, and are available to all students on piano, voice, and all standard band and orchestral instruments.

About Pacific University

Founded in 1849, Pacific University is known for providing a variety of options for internships, study abroad, research, community involvement, athletics and co-curricular activities. With 3,800 students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs, the University is small enough for students to get involved, but large enough so that students working together can have a meaningful impact. Whether enrolled in the undergraduate College of Arts and Sciences or the Colleges of Education, Health Professions, or Optometry, Pacific students learn to apply their academic work to their professional, community, and social interests.
FESTIVAL HISTORY
Music in May was founded in 1948 at Pacific University by Richard A. Greenfield to encourage the development of string music in the public schools of the Pacific Northwest. Band and choir were added at the suggestion of high school music directors, who saw in the festival a means of recognizing students whose service to their particular schools was especially noteworthy.

Each year the number of nominees for places at Music in May far exceeds the number who can be accepted. Housing limitations and the natural requirements of each ensemble result in over 500 participants each year, approximately 300 in the choir, 170 in the band and 80 in the orchestra.

Participants’ achievements in three days, under distinguished guest conductors culminating in the Saturday afternoon concert, represent not only their own efforts, but those of approximately 150 high school directors who have developed their students’ talents and recommended them for Music in May.

THE GUEST CONDUCTORS

ORCHESTRA  Dr. James Mick  
Associate Professor of Music Education, Ithaca College

CHOIR  Dr. Gary Kent Walth  
Director of Choral Music Activities, Emeritus, UW - LaCrosse

BAND  Dr. Mark Walker  
Director of Bands, Troy University

2019 FESTIVAL DETAILS

FESTIVAL DATES  MAY 23–25, 2019

FINAL CONCERT  MAY 25, 2019 | 3 p.m.  
Stoller Center

APPLICATION DEADLINE  
All applications must be postmarked by Friday, February 15, 2019

SELECTION PROCESS  
From applications postmarked by the above deadline, participants are selected based on recommendations and ratings of their high school director. Instrumentation/voicing needs of the ensembles are also taken into account. After students are selected, music directors will receive acceptance letters and final registration forms.

THE ENSEMBLES  
300-member choir, 170-member band and 80-member orchestra.

LOCATION  
Rehearsals, meals, overnight accommodations and the final concert are held on the Pacific University campus, Forest Grove, Oregon, 25 miles west of Portland.

COSTS  
$260 ($130 Registration, $70 Meals, $60 Housing)  
All participants will receive a Music in May T-shirt

OPTIONAL COSTS  
$30.00 – private lesson (half hour)

MEALS
Includes Thursday dinner through Saturday lunch.

ACCOMMODATIONS  
Pacific University student housing, two persons per room (there may be some triples and quads).

CHAPERONES  
Pacific University students are employed as mentors. They stay in the dorms with the Music in May participants and attend all rehearsals and events. Mentors are supervised by University faculty and staff.

QUESTIONS?
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