Welcome Friend,

Congratulations on your acceptance to Carleton College! We are delighted to learn of your interest in studying Music at Carleton. The Music Department is a vibrant center on campus that enrolls over six hundred students every term in a flexible and broad curriculum. We offer courses in composition, theory, history, jazz and popular music, ethnomusicology, electronic music, film music, new media, and many other areas. We offer an extensive array of performing experiences in traditional ensembles, such as Carleton Orchestra, Symphony Band, Carleton Choir, Jazz Ensemble and Chinese Musical Ensemble, as well as private lessons in all orchestral instruments, voice, and many folk and non-Western instruments. All of these offerings are available to you regardless of your major.

Carleton music students enjoy artistic and academic collaborations across the curriculum, with a wealth of opportunities for unique and personal creativity. The personal attention each student receives as a music major is from faculty members who represent excellence and diversity in various scholarly communities on stages all over the world. Many of our instructors are working performers. Academic faculty have given presentations at the top conferences in their fields. Our department is particularly strong in the study of American music and has strong international ties to China, New Zealand, United Kingdom, and Japan.

Carleton offers a major in music, a flexible major well suited to a double major, and we offer three minors: one in American music, another in general music studies, and a third specialized minor in music performance. Our students have presented work at national conferences, and recent graduates have continued their studies at Harvard, The Royal College of Music (London), New York University, and the Boston Conservatory, among others. Alumni have also continued on to law school, medical school, and other professions where the unique skills of an undergraduate music major are highly valued, and where the choice to study music has been integral to their continued personal growth and professional success.

We regularly host internationally acclaimed guest artists and scholars, and these guests often work with our students in master classes and through campus residencies. Recent guests have included Vijay Iyer, Sō Percussion, Van Cliburn gold medal pianist Jon Nakamatsu, Jeff Zeigler (Kronos Quartet), DJ Spooky, Greil Marcus (critic for Rolling Stone magazine), early music icon Malcolm Bilson, The Bad Plus, Musicians of the Sichuan Conservatory (China), and the Minnesota Orchestra.

The Music Department is housed in the beautiful Weitz Center for Creativity. We have a state of the art 410-seat performance hall suitable for music, dance, theater, and electronic music, an 80-seat recital/rehearsal hall, a dedicated chamber music room, an Electroacoustic Lab, and all-new practice rooms and rehearsal spaces with built-in A/V recording capabilities.

For more information about music at Carleton, contact me with any curiosities the website has not yet answered. Once again, I congratulate you on your acceptance to Carleton College, and hope to see you on campus in the fall.

Sincerely,

Andrew Flory, Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Music