Mission Statement

The Artist Diploma in Composition is designed to give a composer training that will qualify him or her to advance in the field to the highest level of accomplishment. It is structured to give a composer the same level of professional and technical acumen as the DMA in Composition, but without a requirement of academic courses outside the concentration (though these may be taken as electives). It accomplishes this through composition lessons, music technology courses, and the creation and performance of a portfolio. The program also serves as a means for talented students who may not have achieved a level of technical polish or academic experience necessary for a DMA, to build their skills to a point where they may transfer to that degree.

Student Learning Goals

1. Students will be able to compose works in a variety of media and genres, including a work of substantial scope that would be competitive at a professional level with any composer of their generation.

2. Students will be able to use music technology for a variety of purposes, including the notation of scores, creation of original electronic and multi-media works, and pedagogy.

3. Students will be able to employ practical music skills to effect the successful performance of their compositions, through coaching, conducting, or performance.