

## **Arts Initiative RLC: Music Appreciation**

### **Overview**

In the Music Appreciation Program, our goal is to create a learning environment in which students are afforded the opportunity to experience and educate themselves about music in all of its aspects. Members of the program will be involved in performance, both casual playing with other members of the program, performance within the L/L Community, and performance within the UVM community. In addition to playing, members will have the opportunity to attend live music performances of artists who travel both to the UVM campus and the local venues surrounding the campus. Furthermore, program members will actively engage in research about many different genres and styles of music that exist throughout the world. The main goal of the program, thus, is to engage students in the world of music, through playing, listening, and learning.

All students in the Arts Initiative will enroll in a self-paced, one-credit course designed to help them get the most out of their experiences residing in the Arts building of L/L and the wider Arts community.

### **Learning Objectives**

**Program members will explore music through active performance. Students will have the opportunity to apply what they've learnt about multiple genres and styles in their playing while also contributing to the cultural output of the L/L and UVM community. Performance will engage students in the organization of events and collaborative effort with members of the music program and members of additional L/L programs.**

#### Action Steps:

- We will organize and work to create compilations of the program members' performances and provide them to such L/L events as Grab Our Goods. We will also coordinate with L/L to try and allot time and space within the building for live performances given by our program members, either once or twice a semester, but certainly one performance a semester at the very least.
- We will collaborate with other programs within L/L to promote the exchange of knowledge concerning various art forms to other members outside of our program. This will lead hopefully to collaborative projects that can be displayed within the L/L community and the University community as a whole.
- The program will meet bi-monthly, to discuss and organize potential events within the L/L community and spend time playing and learning about music through the unique musical background each student provides.

**Program members will learn the importance of active listening as a way for understanding, learning, and enjoying music. Through the attendance of live performances both on and off campus, members will be immersed in a variety of musical genres and come to find that they may have interest in a musical genre they never expected to enjoy. Members will be expected to make time in their schedules to attend performances and be vocal and informative with other members about performances that occur around the Burlington area.**

Action Steps:

- We will meet bi-monthly, discussing as a program the many opportunities to see live music and use the program's budget to organize potential trips to major centers of music, such as Boston, New York, or Montreal (one trip at the least, two at the most), as well as attending local events here in Burlington.
- As program director, I will be responsible for providing information to the members of the programs about events that occur in the area. This will be achieved through posting venue schedules every couple of weeks and posting university event schedules to create awareness of performances occurring on and off campus. Students will be encouraged use this opportunity to be vocal with each other about creating awareness of the many performances available here in the Burlington.
- Members of the program will be asked to create mix CDs throughout both semesters, over potentially a two to three week interval in between each cycle, and exchange them with other members to aid in the broadening of each person's musical background.
- Students will be encouraged to participate in the open- mic in order to display their musical tastes through performance and spread knowledge about various musical genres to students outside of the music program.

**Program members will also learn the historical aspect of music, through interaction and academic research into the various genres of music. Each student, having their own unique background with music, will be provide a basis for every member to work from and at the year's end, each student will have a far greater range of knowledge about multiple genres and styles of music from all over the world.**

Action Steps:

- Members will use the resources in the Bailey-Howe Library to research the various musical genres and styles throughout the world and take this research back to the program to teach others.
- The program will invite University professors and outside musical figures to speak, to both members of the program as well as anyone in the L/L or General UVM community, about their specialized areas of research and

knowledge. This will aid in providing a way for students to learn more of the historical aspect of music in its many forms.

- Students will create presentations on specific musical genres/artists to bring greater intellectual exchange as well discussion of these styles/peoples to broaden each student's knowledge of music history.

### **Community Service**

Our goals for interacting with the community involve bringing of awareness and appreciation for music for students both within L/L and on the UVM campus as a whole. We will invite people from outside the university to participate and attend events sponsored by the music program. Such events would include: organizing performances by local artists and members of the music program; arrangement for the performance of a well-known band to play at no cost to the community; providing information about events in the Burlington area and on the UVM campus as well; organizing workshops that involve teaching to other members of the community aspects of music including history and performance/technique; organizing screenings of films that relate to the subject of music; and others. The ultimate goal of our community interaction is to arouse interest and excitement over music as an interest, activity, way of life, and do our best to provide our services and knowledge to members of the community perhaps unfamiliar with music and who wish to learn and students who have backgrounds in music and simply enjoy participating in activities involving music.

### **Plans for interaction with other L/L programs**

Our program hopes to collaborate with other L/L programs in artistic projects that would include joint submissions of works to events such as Grab Our Goods, as well as performances/presentations within the L/L community. Other ideas for interacting would include but are not limited to: organizing dinners with other programs for discussion and activity utilizing both programs themes; film screenings involving themes of each of the programs involved and discussing the effect each theme has upon the film itself and the larger context of reality; and joint efforts between programs to bring public awareness and interest towards the talents and creations of each of the members of every program, to promote artistic creation and to aid in introducing these talented people to the public eye.

### **About the Arts Initiative RLC**

This program is a part of the Arts Initiative Residential Learning Community. The Arts Initiative RLC was formed, in part, due to ongoing feedback and requests from students within the arts-related programs in L/L for more interaction and enhanced opportunities for cross-programming efforts between the arts. The Arts Initiative enhances the ability for students and staff members involved in the RLC to create opportunities for exploration and outreach involving the arts across disciplines.

The primary goals for the Arts Initiative are:

1. To develop cross-program involvement. Allowing students in one branch of the arts to interact with, learn from and engage with students in another Arts area. The “Artist to Artist: Expanding Your Medium” program is one opportunity for students to pair with each other in order to facilitate strong community connections. This is designed to facilitate students’ involvement in the Arts through one-on-one interactions with a member from a different program.
2. To enhance access to and interaction with arts-related communities within L/L, at UVM, in Burlington and in Vermont in order to support our creative and conceptual practices.
3. To support the creative growth of all members through informal and formal discussions, community events, performances and program designed activities.

All students in the Arts Initiative will enroll in a self-paced, one-credit course designed to help them get the most out of their experiences residing in the Arts building of L/L and the wider Arts community.

Examples of course requirements include attending arts-related events at UVM and in the Burlington area, interactions with other student artists and reflective writing based on your overall experience. Students are expected to enroll in the self-paced, one-credit course in the fall semester.

More information about the Arts Initiative RLC can be found at <http://www.uvm.edu/rlc>