

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

DEVELOPING THE MUSICIANS OF TOMORROW

WHY MUSIC?

In keeping with the NAFA spirit of creativity, exploration and resilience, the Faculty of Performing Arts, School of Music, continues the strong legacy of our founders, constantly challenging and supporting our students and staff to reach new frontiers in our practice. Through practice-led and industry-focused training, you will leave our halls with unparalleled aptitude, attitude and performing experience to take centre-stage in the fast-evolving performing arts landscape.

Train under renowned professional musicians, researchers and pedagogues from all over the world, whose experience spans different genres, cultures and continents.

Benefit from our extensive network in Singapore and international conservatories, enhancing your practical skills and knowledge through performances, attachments, and immersions for your career development.

Expand your musical knowledge through contextualized lessons and the exploration of historical performance practices and instruments like harpsichord and fortepiano, while engaging in multidisciplinary collaborations across various art forms.





Photo credit: Lim Shao Yong

INTERNSHIP & INDUSTRY COLLABORATIONS

Our practice-led and industry-based environment offers regional and international music students a nurturing environment to study and perform. In addition to regular performance opportunities on campus at the Lee Foundation Theatre, you can look forward to additional performance projects and events at renowned venues such as the Victoria Concert Hall, Esplanade Concourse and Esplanade Recital Studio.

Supported by our strong links with professional arts organisations in Singapore and renowned music conservatoires like the Royal College of Music in London and the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, you can seize internship placements at or collaborate with the best locally and internationally.



STUDENT LIFE

Dive into the NAFA life—where learning meets fun!

At NAFA, student life is an invigorating blend of learning, self-expression and fun. From the NAFA Makers' Market to International Student's Night, our lively calendar keeps your campus life engaging and exciting. Join student-led clubs, such as the Basketball Club and K-Pop Dance Club to bond with like-minded peers and network within the creative student community. Through our Student Leader Training Camp, you will gain leadership skills and become role models within our community.



OVERSEAS ENGAGEMENT

Immerse in enriching experiences with our student exchange programmes and international collaborative projects for expanded classroom learning. You will gain an international perspective and insights from visiting professors and artistes from all over the world through regular masterclasses, workshops, lectures, residencies online classes as well as specialist support.

As a final-year Bachelor of Music (Honours) or Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Instrumental & Vocal Teaching student, you will spend seven weeks at London's Royal College of Music. Those specialising in Chinese instruments will spend 10 weeks at Beijing's Central Conservatory of Music. At both placements, you will engage in lessons and gain performing opportunities in orchestras and ensembles.

CAREER PATHWAYS

NAFA's School of Music programmes prepare you for dynamic careers in the world of music. Further broaden your possibilities with our Bachelor of Music (Honours), Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Instrumental & Vocal Teaching, Master of Composition, or Master of Performance.

Career for Diploma & Degree graduates:

Accompanist
Administrator for Music School
Band Director
Choral Director
Composer/Arranger
Conductor
Music Reviewer
Music Teacher
Music Workshop Facilitator
Music Producer/Presenter
Orchestra Player
Performer

Career in the following industries & areas:

Event & Concert Management
Film and Television Production
Music Education Institutions
Music Production & Recording Studios
Music Publishing & Distribution
Music Magazines & Online Media Platforms
Music Therapy & Rehabilitation Centres
Performing Arts Centres & Theatres
Radio & Television Broadcasting
Symphonies & Orchestras

STUDENT VOICES



Erlyn Alexander

Alumna
Diploma in Music

I spent close to 15 hours in classes and practicing daily, so NAFA was like a second home to me. We often had friendly competitions, which pushed us to become better. No matter the outcome, the NAFA family was always there to support one another through successes and even failures. If you are planning to come here, the NAFA family will always welcome you!



Danielle Ong Min Lee

Alumna
Bachelor of Music (Honours)

Music is extremely versatile, and through NAFA, I gained from my peers' experiences and cultivated my own ideas and methods to teach and learn. We had experienced countless failures and triumphs together as a section, and most importantly, seen each other grow from amateurs to professionals. This camaraderie carried me through and made me the person and musician I am today!



Teo Ya Qi

Alumna
Diploma in Music Teaching

I pursued my passion and woke up every morning feeling motivated to become a better me. I found myself fully immersed in music and decided to pursue my dream at NAFA. Being Singapore's pioneer arts education institution, it provided a holistic experience, and the biggest gain was the friendships I had forged with people who love music just as much as me. They were the ones who picked me up at my lowest and completed this journey with me together.



Lee Wen Xiang

Alumnus
Bachelor of Education (Honours) in
Instrumental & Vocal Teaching

NAFA's curriculum enhanced my teaching through real-life examples and developing a teaching portfolio, prompting deeper reflection on teaching methods. At RCM, I gained insights into effective music teaching techniques, witnessed professional conduct, and adopted a systematic, positive approach. Both experiences have profoundly influenced my current teaching practice.



Photo Credit: Nathanael Tan

EDUCATION PATHWAYS

Gain a symphony of skills at NAFA's School of Music.

Distinguished Partner in Music Excellence



ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
London

Start strong
with the
**NAFA Foundation
Programme (NFP)**

Choose your
specialisation
**Diploma in Music
Diploma in Music
Teaching**

Sharpen your finesse
**Bachelor of
Music (Honours)
Bachelor of
Education (Honours)
in Instrumental &
Vocal Teaching**

Flex your
artistic prowess
**Master of
Composition
Master of
Performance**

NAFA FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

TAKE YOUR FIRST STEP INTO THE ARTS WITH NAFA FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

Designed as a bridge for Secondary 4 Normal (Academic) students, the NFP readies you for successful completion of a diploma course.

PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING

Dive into a hands-on learning experience tailored to let you acquire and apply essential foundational skills in your chosen artistic field.

SKILLS FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION

Build a robust foundation of the arts, research techniques and language and communication abilities. Equip yourself with the crucial academic skill sets that pave the way for successful tertiary education.

FOUNDATIONAL DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC SKILL SETS

Through elective modules spanning visual and performing arts as well as arts management, refine and develop skills in your area of interest.

Find out more



Photo credit: Yong Junyi

DIPLOMA IN MUSIC

Write a new soundtrack of your life with our three-year Diploma in Music programme, tailored for those who wish to develop their skills in either performance or composition.

Our high-level training in your principal study through a practice-led curriculum will help you refine your musicianship skills to flourish in the musical world.

Specialise in Western or Chinese Music Practices: Delve into specialised pathways to explore training in Western or Chinese music. Rooted in our diverse heritage, this exploration offers an all-rounded perspective of music in Southeast Asia and beyond.

Develop Versatility as a Musician: Navigate the melodies of the music world with a strong focus on theoretical, conceptual and contextual knowledge through a practice-led training in your principal study.

Boost Your Employability: Stay ahead of the curve with our robust training, complemented by interdisciplinary projects and professional studies. You will future-proof your abilities with skillsets in communication, collaboration and problem-solving.

Find out more



Photo credit: Lim Shao Yong

DIPLOMA IN MUSIC TEACHING

Step up and train the next generation of musicians with our three-year Diploma in Music Teaching programme that prepares you for the dynamic world of music education.

Working with professionals and institutions in the education system, you will acquire the technical proficiency in performance or composition as well as the pedagogical skills and strategies to shape the next generation of musicians.

Learn about Both Music and Teaching: Discover the art of being both a musician and a teacher, with a curriculum that strengthens your performance skills and imparts effective pedagogical skills.

Understand the Mind of a Musician: Gain a holistic view of what musicians need and how to nurture them, through curated modules and activities offered by NAFA and the National Institute of Education (NIE).

Future-proof Your Skills: Deepen your understanding of music with core units in contextual studies, aural and musicianship classes. You will be ready to lead the next symphony of musicians in an ever-evolving industry.

Find out more



BACHELOR OF MUSIC (HONOURS)

Scale new heights in the music industry with our Bachelor of Music (Honours). This two-year top-up degree is offered in collaboration with the illustrious Royal College of Music, London.

Study and perform in our multicultural environment, deepen your understanding of the music industry and gain versatility to navigate its changing landscape.

Embark on Overseas Exchanges: Experience a transformative seven weeks at the Royal College of Music in London (for Western instrumentalists) or ten weeks at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing (for Chinese instrumentalists).

Learn from the World's Best: Be in the company of the best in the industry, learning intricacies of the craft, enriched by masterclasses and artist residencies, including sessions with the RCM Visiting Professor and through NAFA's Artist in Residence Programmes.

Curate a Unique Learning Journey: Engage in one-on-one principal study sessions, performance classes, masterclasses and concerts to develop your composition and performance skills, eventually emerging as a versatile professional. Instrumentalists may consider a second study on a related instrument, pursuing joint principal studies.

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Photo credit: Lim Shao Yong



BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (HONOURS) IN INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL TEACHING

Shape the learning pathways for future musicians with our Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Instrumental & Vocal Teaching programme. This two-year top-up degree is offered in collaboration with the illustrious Royal College of Music, London and is designed for those who wish to become professional instrumental and vocal teachers or musicians in educational contexts.

Gain a Global Perspective: Enrich your learning with a seven-week international placement at the Royal College of Music, London. Experience world-class expertise at one of the world's top conservatoires with state-of-the-art resources and facilities.

Immerse in a Holistic Learning Experience: Benefit from one-on-one lessons, seminars, consultations, masterclasses and industry visits in Singapore and the United Kingdom. Further apply and hone your teaching methodologies with a mentor.

Develop Versatility as an Educator: Deepen your understanding of the socio-historical and pedagogical value of music through weekly seminars. You will learn to tailor your teaching to a wide range of repertoires and develop instrument-specific approaches to each student's unique needs.

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Photo credit: Chung Ee Yong





MASTER OF PERFORMANCE

Develop your performance skills to the highest level with a Master of Performance. Acquire specialised and intensive training necessary for a world-class musician and position yourself as a vanguard in the realm of global music.

The Unique Partnership Between NAFA, RCM and CCOM: Gain exposure to global artistic and cultural practices through a seven-week international placement at London's Royal College of Music or Beijing's Central Conservatory of Music. Acquire international perspectives and valuable learning experiences to deepen musical practice and learning.

NAFA's Artistic and Cultural Diversity: Western and Chinese instrumentalists and composers will co-exist in a synergetic relationship, experiencing a rich cultural environment for performance and research. For the first time, Chinese instrumentalists can also take a performance degree course at the Master's level in Singapore.

Opportunities for Interdisciplinary Collaborations: Elevate your understanding of multidisciplinary arts while collaborating across various disciplines within the academy and the new University of the Arts Singapore.

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MASTER OF COMPOSITION

Develop your skills with confidence to achieve excellence in your compositions with a Master of Composition. Build your technical flair and achieve professional and vocational excellence to enter the profession as practitioners at the highest level.

The Unique Partnership Between NAFA and RCM: Take your composition skills beyond boundaries in a seven-week international placement at London's Royal College of Music, immersing you in a diverse artistic and cultural environment.

NAFA's Artistic and Cultural Diversity: Western and Chinese instrumentalists and composers will engage synergistically, experiencing and reflecting on cultural arts practices in performance and research, offering composers a rich environment for collaboration.

Opportunities for Interdisciplinary Collaborations: Engage in collaborations across different artistic disciplines within the academy and the new University of the Arts Singapore. Bring a richer depth to your compositions informed by a spectrum of artistic perspectives.

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SCHOLARSHIPS, FINANCIAL AID AND AWARD SCHEMES

Discover a multitude of financial schemes designed to support your fee payment and study expenses at NAFA.

GOVERNMENT-FUNDED SCHEMES

TUITION GRANT SCHEME

Permanent Residents (diploma and degree) and international students (diploma only) may apply to help with the cost of their tuition fees. Grants awarded are based on merit. Eligible Singaporean Citizens are automatically awarded the grant for their first MOE-funded Diploma or Degree programme.

TERTIARY TUITION FEE SUBSIDY SCHEME FOR MALAYS

Malay Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents can apply for the education subsidy from Yayasan Mendaki to fund their tuition fees at NAFA.

CPF EDUCATION LOAN SCHEME

Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents can apply for a loan from their own or a parent's CPF savings account for MOE-funded NAFA programmes.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION SCHEME

Eligible students with sufficient funds in their or sibling's Post-Secondary Education Account (PSEA) can use them to fund tuition fees or related study expenses at NAFA.

SKILLSFUTURE CREDIT

Singapore Citizens over 25 years of age can apply to use their SkillsFuture credits to fund eligible programmes at NAFA.

SKILLSFUTURE MID-CAREER ENHANCED SUBSIDY

Singapore Citizens over 40 years of age can apply to pursue their first MOE-funded diploma or degree programme.

HIGHER EDUCATION BURSARY & HIGHER EDUCATION COMMUNITY BURSARY

Singapore Citizens from the low to middle-income families can apply to receive a bursary from the Ministry of Education to fund their studies at NAFA.

DIPLOMA FOUNDATION PROGRAMME BURSARY

Singapore Citizens pursuing the NAFA Foundation Programme can apply for additional help with tuition fees.

GOVERNMENT LOAN SCHEMES

Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents may apply for the Tuition Fee Loan (TFL) to fund their tuition fees. Applicants who met PCI income criteria and have fully exhausted the TFL quantum may apply for a Study Loan to fund their remaining unpaid tuition fees plus annual living allowance.

FINANCIAL AID SCHEMES

NAFA-KWAN IM THONG HOOD CHO TEMPLE STUDENT RELIEF FUND

Students from families facing unexpected financial crises can receive partial support for programme fee and study expenses.

NAFA STUDENT ASSISTANTSHIP SCHEME

Students may work on campus for extra pocket money to fund necessary education expenses.

NAFA STUDENT NOTEBOOK SUBSIDY SCHEME

Students from lower-income households can apply when purchasing a personal notebook for their programmes.

NAFA OVERSEAS PROGRAMME TRAVEL SUBSIDY

Students on NAFA-approved overseas programmes or study trips can apply.

INTERNATIONAL PLACEMENT TRAVEL GRANT

Degree students who have acquired international placements through NAFA and our partner universities can defray expenses with this grant.

EXTERNAL STUDY LOANS

Students may apply for loans from private financial institutions, banks to fund your education at NAFA.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AWARD SCHEMES

NAFA IN-HOUSE SCHOLARSHIPS, MERIT AWARDS AND BURSARIES

Diploma and degree students with outstanding academic results and an excellent track record of achievements in related arts and creative industries may apply for the Scholarships and Merit Awards. Bursaries are available for students who require financial assistance based on household income.

DARE TO DREAM SCHOLARSHIP

Medically certified special needs students with limited financial resources can apply to receive support for their studies at NAFA.

EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS, BURSARIES AND STUDY LOANS

Students may apply to external organisations for awards and financial schemes, as well as study loans from private financial institutions which are available all year round.

Scan for more details



ADMISSIONS ENQUIRIES

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www.nafa.edu.sg

Find out more



International students may approach our overseas education counsellors.



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