

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 to uphold the legacy of our founders as we empower students to challenge boundaries and explore uncharted territories in their artistic journey. 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.

World-class International Faculty

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

Exposure to Industry

Benefit from our extensive network of industry and educational partners here in Singapore and internationally. Develop practical skills and enhance your knowledge through performances, projects and attachments for your career development.

Multidisciplinary Training Opportunities

Expand your musical knowledge and enhance your musical prowess through contextualised lessons and experiential learning opportunities. Collaborate and engage in multidisciplinary art forms across various artistic platforms.





Photo credit: Lim Shao Yong

INTERNSHIP & INDUSTRY COLLABORATIONS

Our vibrant 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 and other spaces, 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 work and collaborate alongside top industry professionals both 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 overseas study trips and international placement programmes 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.

Final year students in all degree programs will embark on a transformational journey as they spend seven weeks on International Placement at London’s Royal College of Music. Students specialising in Chinese instruments will spend seven weeks at Beijing’s Central Conservatory of Music. In both placements, you will engage in lessons and gain valuable performing opportunities.

CAREER PATHWAYS

NAFA's 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:

Administrator for Music School
Band Director
Choral Director
Collaborative Musician
Composer/Arranger
Conductor
Music Reviewer
Music Teacher
Music Workshop Facilitator
Music Producer/Presenter
Orchestral Player
Solo or Ensemble 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
Professional 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

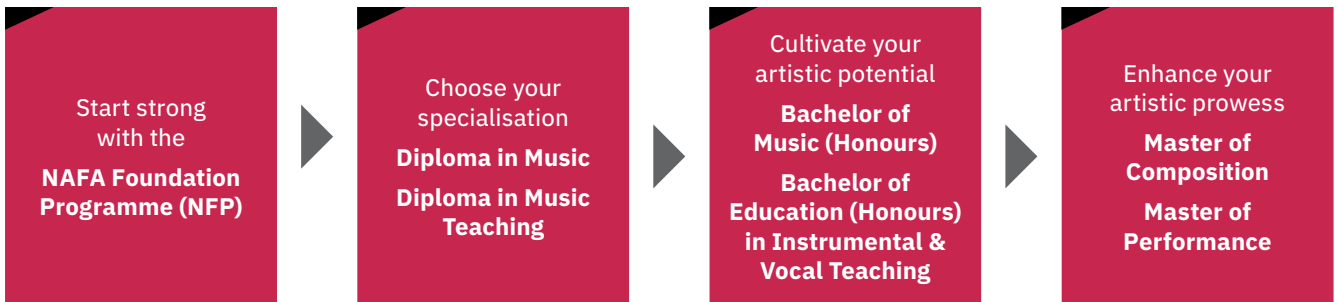
Gain a symphony of skills at NAFA's School of Music.

Distinguished Partner in Music Excellence



ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC

London



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



DIPLOMA IN MUSIC

Embark on a pivotal journey with our three-year Diploma in Music program, designed for individuals aspiring to develop their skills in performance or composition.

Our high-level training in your principal study through a practice-led curriculum will nurture your musical abilities, preparing you to thrive in the music world.

Specialise in Western or Chinese Music Practices: Engage in focused pathways that offer professional training in either Western or Chinese music. Rooted in our rich heritage, the program provides a well-rounded perspective on music in Southeast Asia and beyond.

Develop Versatility as a Musician: Master the melodies of the musical world with an emphasis on theoretical, technical, and contextual knowledge through practice-led training in your principal study.

Enhance Your Employability: Stay ahead in your career with our robust training, complemented by interdisciplinary projects and professional opportunities. You will refine your abilities in collaboration, communication, and problem-solving.

Find out more



Photo credit: Lim Shao Yong

DIPLOMA IN MUSIC TEACHING

Begin a transformative journey with our three-year Diploma in Music Teaching program, designed for those dedicated to developing the next generation of musicians.

Engage in Comprehensive Pedagogical Training: Our curriculum is rooted in effective teaching methodologies that enhance your pedagogical skills, preparing you to inspire and educate aspiring musicians.

Cultivate Versatility as an Educator: Navigate the complexities of music education through a balanced focus on theoretical, practical, and pedagogical knowledge. Engage in hands-on experiences that will deepen your understanding of effective teaching practices in your primary area of study.

Enhance Your Employability: Equip yourself with valuable skills through our innovative training, complemented by interdisciplinary projects and real-world teaching opportunities. You will develop essential competencies in collaboration, communication, and problem-solving, positioning you to lead in a dynamic educational landscape.

Find out more



BACHELOR OF MUSIC (HONOURS)

Elevate your musical journey with our Bachelor of Music (Honours) program. Offered in collaboration with the prestigious Royal College of Music London, this two-year top-up degree is designed for those aspiring to make a significant impact in the music industry.

Engage in an intensive curriculum that emphasises traditional methods of performance and composition, preparing you to master the art of music in a comprehensive and structured manner.

Embark on International Placement: Experience a transformative week at the Royal College of Music in London (for Western instrumentalists) or the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing (for Chinese instrumentalists), enhancing your understanding of global musical practices.

Learn from Renowned Experts: Benefit from the guidance of leading professionals in the field. Participate in masterclasses and workshops that delve into the intricacies of music, providing you with invaluable insights from RCM Visiting Professors and through NAFA's Artist-in-Residence Programmes.

Curate a Unique Learning Journey: Engage in one-on-one principal study sessions, participate in performance classes, and collaborate with peers to develop your compositional and performance abilities, emerging as a versatile musician equipped for the evolving landscape of the music industry.

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Photo credit: Lim Shao Yong

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (HONOURS) IN INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL TEACHING

Shape the future of music education with our Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Instrumental & Vocal Teaching. This two-year top-up degree, developed in collaboration with the prestigious Royal College of Music, London, is designed for aspiring music educators looking to become professional instrumental and vocal teachers or musicians in educational contexts.

Engage in a comprehensive program that integrates both traditional methods with contemporary pedagogical practices. You will develop a rich understanding of music education, equipping you to inspire and guide your students effectively.

Gain a Global Perspective: Enrich your learning through a seven-week international placement at the Royal College of Music, London. Experience world-class expertise and access to cutting-edge resources, gaining insights into educational practices from one of the world's leading conservatories.

Immerse Yourself in Holistic Learning: Benefit from personalised one-on-one lessons, collaborative consultations, masterclasses, and workshops with esteemed faculty and industry professionals. This immersive experience fosters a deeper understanding of teaching methodologies and their practical application.

Cultivate Versatility as an Educator: Deepen your understanding of the socio-historical context of music education. Provide tailored support to students as you develop a wide range of repertoire and innovative approaches to address each student's individual needs.

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Photo credit: Chung Ee Yong



MASTER OF PERFORMANCE

Hone your performance skills to the highest level with a Master of Performance. This specialised course is designed to provide the intensive training and sophisticated techniques necessary for becoming a world-class musician and a leader in the realm of global music.

An Esteemed Partnership Between NAFA, RCM and CCOM: Through a seven-week international placement at London's Royal College of Music or Beijing's Central Conservatory of Music, experience an enriching international exposure that broadens your artistic horizons and deepens your musical practice.

Cultivate Mastery and Finesse: Immerse yourself in rigorous training that emphasises refinement in technique, interpretation, and performance artistry. Our programme nurtures your unique musical voice while ensuring you possess the skills required to excel in diverse musical contexts.

Explore Artistic and Cultural Diversity: At NAFA, Western and Chinese instrumentalists collaborate in a culturally rich environment that fosters interdisciplinary exploration and innovation. This diversity will enrich your artistic expression and expand your performance repertoire.

Opportunities for Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Elevate your understanding of multifaceted art forms by working with peers across various disciplines. This collaborative approach cultivates creativity and prepares you to navigate the complexities of the contemporary arts landscape.

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MASTER OF COMPOSITION

Refine your creative voice and achieve unparalleled excellence in your compositions with our Master of Composition programme. Engage in a rigorous curriculum focused on advancing your compositional techniques through innovative approaches, and critical analysis, elevating your professional practice to the highest standards.

This advanced course is designed to cultivate your technical artistry and elevate your professional practice to the highest standards of the field.

The Unique Partnership Between NAFA and RCM: Benefit from our unique collaboration with the Royal College of Music, London. Immerse yourself in a transformative seven-week international placement, gaining insights from world-class faculty and accessing exceptional resources that enhance your compositional prowess.

Embrace Artistic and Cultural Diversity: Interact with a rich tapestry of musical traditions, as both Western and Chinese instrumentalists collaborate synergistically. Reflecting on diverse cultural contexts enhances your compositions and broadens your artistic perspective.

Opportunities for Interdisciplinary Collaborations: Collaborate across various artistic disciplines within the academy and the new University of the Arts Singapore. Expand the depth of your compositions by integrating insights from diverse expressive forms, enriching your artistic journey.

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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

+65 6512 4071
admissions@nafa.edu.sg
Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts
80 Bencoolen Street Singapore 189655
www.nafa.edu.sg

Find out more



International students may approach our overseas education counsellors.