



DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama



A composite image featuring a young man in the foreground on the left, wearing a black mask with red accents and having black tattoos on his neck and torso. He is looking upwards. In the background on the right, a young woman is seated at a piano, playing. The background is dark and out of focus. A thick yellow diagonal line runs from the top left towards the bottom right, separating the man from the text and the woman.

Our vision

DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama embodies international standards of excellence in the performing arts, while shaping and enriching Ireland's culture, society and economy

Welcome to

DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama

— Ireland's future in performance

DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama is a conservatoire centre of excellence for education in the performing arts. We nurture talent in a vibrant and challenging atmosphere.

The Conservatory was founded in 1890 with 51 students. Today we are the second largest conservatoire provider of music and drama education in Ireland, with around 1200 students.

The Conservatory offers high quality, performance-based study programmes in music from age 3 through to doctoral study, an undergraduate programme in drama performance, and courses for adults.

We cover the broadest range of performing arts disciplines of any specialist institution in Ireland with degree programmes in classical and Irish traditional music, composition, musicology, music education, jazz, opera, drama and (in association with partner colleges) rock and pop music, and film scoring.

We work with national and international performing companies, venues and conservatoires to give you the best professional experience possible. Our graduates go on to make successful careers and significant contributions in the performing arts and cultural industries, in Ireland and beyond.

Come and study at DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama – the home of Ireland's future in performance!



Dr Gordon Munro,
BEd(Mus) PhD FRSA
Head, DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama

The Conservatory

and Dublin Institute of Technology

At DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama we foster the unique potential, creativity and talent of each of our students. This demands a level of personal attention to student development which is unparalleled in universities. Your learning journey is tailored to your individual needs. In return, we expect from our students a high degree of commitment and motivation, and intensive daily practice.

The Conservatory is one School in the College of Arts and Tourism at Dublin Institute of Technology. DIT is one of Ireland's largest higher education institutions with around 22,000 students. We have our own degree awarding powers up to PhD level. As well as providing world-class education in business, engineering, science and health, we are Ireland's largest provider of education in visual, performing and media arts.

The College offers a stimulating learning environment which specialises in interdisciplinary, collaborative research and creative practice that seeks to meet the changing needs of society and education in the 21st century.

What do our graduates say?

During my four years of study, I developed as both a performer and a teacher. The encouraging lecturers and teachers and the friendly classes in both DIT and TCD made it such a positive and rewarding experience. The opportunities to perform both in ensembles and as a soloist, along with the teaching practice in a range of different schools gave me all the experience I needed to survive in the real world! - **Helen Mahon BMusEd**

The importance of team work became evident while working in the Glyndebourne chorus. It's very difficult to prepare someone for the 'real operatic world', but thanks to the skills that the Conservatory gave me, I felt ready for it. Being a team player was an essential part of my study at DIT. - **Jennifer Hughes BMus**

The three years are really intensive ... the course is indispensable for those looking to pursue a career in drama. - **Gavin Fullam BA Drama (Performance)**

What do employers say?

DIT instrumental and vocal students demonstrate a high degree of musicianship, technical skill and professionalism when they work with RTÉ Orchestras, Quartet and Choirs. It is vital for the future of orchestral music and music in Ireland that institutions such as DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama continue to produce students of the highest calibre for the profession. - **Seamus Crimmins, Executive Director, RTE Performing Groups**

Our success – your success

We attract the best talent from Ireland and around the world to study with us. Many of our students go on to become prize winners:

- ♦ **Iulian Pusca** (panflute) won the Irish Freemasons' Young Musician of the Year competition in 2012 (worth €5000)
- ♦ **Kelley Lonergan** (soprano) won the Royal Dublin Society Music Bursary in 2013 (worth €10,000)
- ♦ **Jennifer Davis** (soprano) won the Bernadette Greevy Bursary Award in 2013 (worth €5000)
- ♦ The **Chatham Saxophone Quartet** won the Music Network Young Musicwide award in 2012 featuring performance opportunities in prestigious venues and a CD recording
- ♦ The **Quintessential Saxophone Quartet** were appointed Apprentice Ensemble to the Galway Music Residency in 2013
- ♦ **Adam McDonagh** (piano) won second prize in the Irish Freemasons' Young Musician of the Year competition in 2013 (worth €3000)

Our graduates go on to make successful careers and significant contributions in the performing arts, in Ireland and beyond. Some of our well known alumni include:

David Adams organist **Alyson Barber** composer and traditional flautist **Patricia Bardon** mezzo-soprano **Clare Barrett** actor **Edward Beckett** flautist **Orla Boylan** soprano **David Brophy** conductor **Peter Browne** traditional piper and flautist **Alison Browner** contralto **Sinead Campbell** soprano **Aoife Courtney** actor, director, producer **Doreen Curran** mezzo-soprano **Vivian Coates** opera director **Roland Davitt** baritone **Susan Doyle** flautist **Ben Dwyer** guitarist and composer **Kenneth Edge** saxophonist **David Fennessy** composer **Gavin Fullam** actor **Cormac Henry** flautist **Gerard Gillen** organist **Mairead McCrann** violinist **Veronica McSwiney** pianist **Hugh Maguire** violinist **Ann Murray** mezzo-soprano **Paula Murrihy** mezzo-soprano **Suzanne Murphy** soprano **Regina Nathan** soprano **Donnacadh O'Briain** actor **Laoise O'Brien** recorder player **John O'Connor** pianist **David O'Doherty** violinist **Geraldine O'Grady** violinist **Miceal O'Rourke** pianist **Michael O'Toole** guitarist **Adam Traynor** actor **Ailish Tynan** soprano



A close-up photograph of a woman with dark hair and glasses, focused on playing a violin. The lighting is warm, highlighting the wood of the instrument and her features.

Our programmes

Our high quality degree programmes will ensure you receive the best career-focussed education possible.

- ◆ **Bachelor of Music with Honours (DT501)**
our main undergraduate programme for aspiring professional musicians specializing in classical and Irish traditional music; 4 years, full-time
- ◆ **Bachelor of Music Education with Honours (TR009)**
our unique programme for the education of classroom music teachers, delivered jointly with Trinity College Dublin (www.tcd.ie); 4 years, full-time
- ◆ **Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Commercial Modern Music (DT506)**
Ireland's first undergraduate programme for musicians specializing in commercial modern music, delivered in association with BIMM Dublin (www.bimm.co.uk/dublin); 4 years, full-time
- ◆ **Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Drama (Performance) (DT529)**
our main undergraduate programme for actors and drama practitioners; 3 years, full-time
- ◆ **Master of Music with Honours in Performance or Conducting (DT543)**
our main postgraduate programme in music performance (classical, jazz and Irish traditional music); 1 year, full-time; 2 years, part-time
- ◆ **Master of Music with Honours in Opera or Repetiteurship (DT9501)**
our specialist postgraduate programme for opera singers and repetiteurs; 1 year, full-time
- ◆ **Master of Arts with Honours in Scoring for Film and Visual Media**
Ireland's only postgraduate programme for composers and musicians working in film and visual media, delivered in association with Pulse College (www.pulsecollege.eu); 1 year, full-time
- ◆ **Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy**
our postgraduate qualifications in research and composition; 3+ years, full-time/part-time

Our undergraduate programmes are all Level 8 Honours degree programmes; all of our masters programmes are Level 9 qualifications, and our doctorate degree is Level 10 on Ireland's National Framework of Qualifications (www.nfq.ie).

Find out more about our programmes at www.dit.ie/conservatory > Undergrad or Postgrad.

We also offer part-time study options for adults.

Find out more at www.dit.ie/conservatory > Part-Time Study

Why you should study at

DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama

Our teaching

Our teachers are chosen from among the best in Irish performing arts education. Many of our staff have reputations of national and international standing and regularly work with performing companies in Ireland and abroad, so your learning is grounded in the professions from the start.

Contact us at conservatory@dit.ie to arrange a consultation lesson!

You will receive the highest quality education, tailored to your needs, and you will learn through doing – by being involved in performances throughout your studies. Music students receive weekly one-to-one lessons of 1.5 hours per week, as well as performance classes.

In addition to our regular teaching staff, we are proud to work with a number of artists-in-residence, including Barry Douglas, the Vanbrugh Quartet, Concorde Contemporary Music Ensemble and the Chatham Saxophone Quartet.

Each year we host a series of international masterclasses given by eminent visiting artists such as:

Alison Balsom trumpet **Prisca Benoit** piano **Alison Browner** voice **Linda Chatteron** flute **Evan Christopher** clarinet **Con Tempo Quartet** chamber music **Steve Cooney** traditional music **Robert Dean** voice **Kenneth Edge** saxophone **Gregory Ellis** violin **Nuccia Focile** voice **Alice Giles** harp **Monica Huggett** baroque violin **Douglas Humpherys** piano **Vanessa Latarche** piano **Julian Lloyd Webber** cello **Donald Maxwell** voice **Barry McGovern** voice **Sergei Nakariakov** trumpet **Valerie O'Connor** drama **Dennis O'Neill** voice **Ben van Oosten** organ **Pascal Rogé** piano **Sonic Art Saxophone Quartet** chamber music **Thomas Trotter** organ **Raphael Wallfisch** cello

Our performances

Our students learn in and through performance. Our events, from concerts through to full-scale productions, are central to your learning experience. We put on a varied programme of over 100 public performances each year, in our own venues, the National Concert Hall and other prestigious venues around Dublin and Ireland. As a music student, you will be involved in some of our large ensembles, including the Symphony Orchestra, Big Band, Camerata, Concert Band, Sinfonia, Irish Traditional Music Ensemble, Chamber Choir, Choral Society and Early Music Ensemble and various chamber ensembles.

Our international opportunities

Through the European Association of Conservatoires (www.aec-music.eu) we provide student exchanges in a range of European institutions, most recently in France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK. We also have strong connections with institutions in the USA.

Our facilities

The Conservatory has city-centre locations in Dublin with excellent facilities including a recital hall, a small drama theatre, and a 350-seater theatre/concert hall. We have around 60 teaching and practice studios and 92 pianos, as well as a dedicated performing arts library (one of the best in Ireland), a music technology lab, recording studio and editing suite.

In 2017, the Conservatory will move to a brand new, purpose-built facility at DIT's Grangegorman campus in north central Dublin. There, we will be co-located with disciplines such as fine art, visual art, design, languages, journalism, film and broadcasting, photography, digital media, public relations, communications, social care and event management, offering great scope for interdisciplinary learning.

More than music and drama

As part of a large university-level institution, Conservatory students have access to a wide range of student clubs and societies, from the Aeronautical Society to the Sci Fi Society, and from baking to samba! The DIT Sports & Recreation Service gives you access to over 40 sports clubs including Yoga, Scuba Diving, Rugby, Basketball and Soccer; and you have access to fitness clubs, gyms and a swimming pool. We are the only conservatoire in Ireland to have a partnership with dedicated health specialists. The Dublin Performing Artists' Medical Centre provides comprehensive treatment of problems that occur in instrumentalists, singers, dancers and actors at all performance levels. The Conservatory also offers Pilates Classes and classes in Alexander Technique.

Our research and composition

Research and composition play an important role in the Conservatory, providing a foundation for teaching and learning. We place a strong emphasis on reflective and critical intellectual inquiry resulting in traditional scholarly publications and creative practice, including music performance and composition, and practice-based research.

The Conservatory has the largest music research department in Ireland, and is home to the Research Foundation for Music in Ireland (www.musicresearch.ie) – the national centre of excellence for the study and performance of music in Ireland.

The diverse nature of the research and performance practice interests of staff offers opportunities for specialist and interdisciplinary research projects which are not available in smaller university departments.

About Ireland and Dublin

Ireland is a small island – a place rich in history, culture and mythology, full of natural beauty and friendly, welcoming people. The Celts arrived here around 2000 years ago and Christianity was established in the 5th century, around the time of St Patrick.

Ireland has had a reputation for excellence in scholarship and education since the middle ages. Today, our higher education ('third-level') system is similar to the UK and many other European countries, and Irish graduates are highly sought after. Find out more: www.educationinireland.com.

There are excellent transport links, with direct flights from Dublin to London, Glasgow, Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, Stockholm, Vienna, Rome, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Orlando, and easy connections to Asia, Australia, India, South America and New Zealand.

Dublin (Baile Átha Cliath) is Ireland's capital and a historic European city. Founded by the Vikings in the 9th century, Dublin has two medieval cathedrals: Christ Church (founded around 1028) and St Patrick's, established in 1224. Today Dublin and the surrounding area is home to 1.4 million people, with a young and vibrant population of around 50,000 students.

The city has a long and proud tradition in the arts and culture, making it an ideal place to study the performing arts. Dublin is home to most of Ireland's national performing companies (e.g. RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, RTÉ Concert Orchestra, Irish Baroque Orchestra, Chamber Choir Ireland) and the country's major venues, including the National Concert Hall, the Royal Dublin Society, the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre, and the Abbey Theatre. Dublin is ranked 15th in the Best Student City rankings[§] and 16th safest city in the world[†].

Accommodation

DIT has partnerships with external providers of campus-style accommodation in Dublin. Booking this accommodation helps students coming to Dublin for the first time and settles students into college life quickly. There is also plenty of private rented accommodation in the city. Find out more: www.dit.ie/campuslife/studentssupport/accommodation/

Find out more about Dublin and Ireland: www.visitdublin.com and www.ireland.com.

[§] Quacquarelli Symonds survey (2013)

[†] Mercer Quality of Living Survey (2011)

Normal Entry Requirements

Applicants from ...	Undergraduate	Postgraduate
Ireland	Leaving Certificate with 6 subjects (2 at honours), including passes in Maths, and English or Irish at Junior Cert or Leaving Cert level	an undergraduate honours degree
United Kingdom	3 A-Levels or 2 A-Levels and 2 GCSEs, including passes in Maths and English at A-level or GCSE	
Other countries	qualifications equivalent to the above, plus evidence of proficiency in English: IELTS 6.0, with no individual score lower than 5.0 (IELTS 7.0, with no individual score lower than 6.0 for drama)	qualification equivalent to the above, plus evidence of proficiency in English: IELTS 6.0, with no individual score lower than 5.0

In addition, all applicants are auditioned and/or interviewed. See our website for details for each programme: www.dit.ie/conservatory > Undergrad or Postgrad.

International applicants who are unable to attend an entrance audition in person must supply an authenticated and referenced recording of their performance. The recording should be in video DVD format with professional quality audio. Recordings submitted in other formats will not be accepted; recordings cannot be returned. Applicants whose DVD performances are of a suitable standard will be contacted for an interview, usually via Skype.

How to apply

Applicants to the first year (only) of undergraduate programmes:

- Irish and EU applicants must apply through www.cao.ie
- non-EU international applicants must apply directly to DIT

Applicants to all other programmes must apply directly to DIT.

Refer to our [website](http://www.dit.ie/conservatory/undergrad) (www.dit.ie/conservatory/undergrad or www.dit.ie/conservatory/postgrad) for further details.

International applicants

Nearly 20% of DIT's student population comes from outside Ireland.

EU nationals and nationals of the following countries **do not require a visa** to enter Ireland: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominica, El Salvador, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hong Kong (SAR), Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Israel, Japan, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Macau (SAR), Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Korea, Swaziland, Taiwan, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago, Tuvalu, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Vatican City, Venezuela.

Nationals of all other countries must apply for a visa to enter Ireland. Refer to the website of the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (www.inis.gov.ie) for up-to-date information, or contact international@dit.ie.

Our fees

Our fees are very competitive. Here is what it would typically cost to study for one year on our BMus programme, by comparison with similar programmes in the UK and USA:

	DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama		Average UK conservatoire		Average USA conservatoire
	Home/EU	International	Home/EU	International	
Course Fees	€2,500	€11,250	£9,000	£16,100	\$40,900
Accommodation	€3,480 – €5,000		£5,453 – £8,000		\$10,900
Living Expenses	€5,300		£4,500 – £8,000		\$18,889
Total (Currency)	€11,280 – €12,800	€20,030 – €21,550	£18,953 – £25,000	£26,053 – £32,100	\$70,689
Total (US Dollars) for comparison	\$15,378 – \$17,450	\$27,307 – \$29,379	\$31,106 – \$41,030	\$42,758 – \$52,683	\$70,689

based on 2013/14 course fees

Find out more!

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www.youtube.com/ditconservatory

www.soundcloud.com/ditconservatory



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