

DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama

Junior Music Programmes



Website: www.dit.ie/conservatory
Email: conservatory@dit.ie
Telephone: 01 402 3572/7815



arts@dit



@DITConservatory

Welcome to DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama

– the home of Ireland's future musicians and actors!

For over 120 years DIT Conservatory has been setting standards of excellence in music education in Ireland. We are the leading national provider of music and drama education, and we are a hub of performance activity in Dublin.

Our Junior Conservatory of Music offers the highest quality music education for children and young people aged 3-18. We also provide full-time degree programmes and part-time Continuing Education for students over 18.

It is essential that musical talent is identified early and developed to its fullest potential by the best teaching, in a stimulating and supportive environment. At DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, we have the professional expertise and a proven track record of educating high calibre musicians, many of whom enter the profession here and abroad.

To find out more and to submit an application, see us online at
www.dit.ie/conservatory

***You're sure to find something interesting at DIT Conservatory:
come and join us – get ready to have fun
and be transformed!***



Dr Gordon Munro
Head of Conservatory

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DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama

What is a Conservatoire?

DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama is a conservatoire – a place of highly specialized learning in music and the performing arts. The conservatoire learning environment is quite different from school, with an emphasis on 1:1 or small group learning and teaching. Studying at the Junior Conservatory requires a high degree of commitment and motivation, intensive daily practice and, especially in the early years, support at home to nurture and develop emerging talent.

What you can expect of us ...

- high quality music education from experienced professionals
- a structured and individualized approach to music education
- a quality-assured system of graded examinations, recognising progress and achievement
- a stimulating and performance-centred learning environment

What we expect of our Junior students ...

- dedication and enthusiasm!
- regular daily practice
- regular performances
- listening at home and homework

What we expect of our Junior students' parents/guardians ...

- active support for your child's musical education
- encouragement and monitoring of practice
- the provision of books and learning materials and access to a suitable instrument and practice space



Music Classes for Children

A child-centred approach underpins our Music Classes for Children, which emphasize holistic development: each child has the opportunity to nurture and develop musical, physical, conceptual and social skills appropriate to her/his age. Children learn through active music making.

Our Music Classes for Children take place on Saturdays in our Rathmines Road campus.

Kids' Club for pre-school children and children in Junior Infants

For 45 minutes per week children participate in singing, movement, musical games, storytelling, percussion and much more with specialist teachers. Places for this course are allocated on a 'first come, first-served' basis, so apply early to avoid disappointment!

Pre-Instrumental Classes for Children in Senior Infants

In preparation for learning to play an instrument, these 45-minute weekly classes engage children with music in stimulating and playful ways. The child-centred approach emphasizes holistic development – each child has the opportunity to nurture and develop musical, physical, conceptual and social skills. Through active music-making, the course is carefully structured to introduce children to the basic elements of music fundamental to learning to play an instrument. These include the development of competence in singing, awareness of pitch and a strong sense of rhythm, as well as preparation for music literacy. Classes consist of singing, games, movement, playing percussion instruments and listening to music. In addition, children get an opportunity to meet and hear the instruments of the orchestra. Places for this course are allocated on a 'first come, first-served' basis, so apply early to avoid disappointment!

Recorder classes for 7–9 year olds

Recorder classes provide children with the opportunity to develop skills in playing a wind instrument. Children who participate in the course will be offered priority enrolment (subject to audition) as students of wind and brass instruments in the following academic years. Applicants should normally reach their 7th birthday within the first term. Older children can apply for recorder ensemble classes where they will learn to play the larger recorders and ensemble repertoire. Classes take place on Saturday mornings and afternoons in Rathmines. Places for this course are allocated on the basis of audition.

The Junior Conservatory Music Curriculum

All Junior students take a Practical Lesson (instrument or voice) and a Musicianship class. In addition, orchestral and vocal students participate in ensembles. The Practical Lesson is the core activity for all students. Weekly lessons are delivered on a 1:1 or group basis from September to May/June. Through these lessons, students learn essential performance techniques and the skills of musical communication. See p. 8 for information about Musicianship classes.

Grade Examinations and Competitions

Entering graded music examinations (in instrument/voice and musicianship) and performance competitions are an important and integral part of learning in a conservatoire environment, and they help us to monitor your child's progress. The Conservatory's graded music examinations are recognised by and pegged against the National Framework of Qualifications (www.nfq.ie).

Concerts

The Conservatory holds regular public concerts, including lunchtime concerts (normally given by third-level students), musical evenings, and evening/weekend concerts featuring students of all levels. We also promote our ensembles through our annual 'All Together Now' concerts in the National Concert Hall.

Our Campuses

Our teaching and rehearsals take place at two main locations in south central Dublin: Chatham Row and Rathmines Road. We also have a superb 400-seater concert hall in the DIT building on Kevin Street. If you would like to visit us, come along to one of our Open Days, or one of our events.

Additional Needs and Disability

The Junior Conservatory welcomes applicants who may require additional support. If your child has a disability or additional support needs, please contact the Head of Conservatory to ensure that any necessary reasonable adjustments are put in place for audition.

Department of Keyboard Studies

Head of Department: Dr David Mooney

JUNIOR PROGRAMMES

The Junior Conservatory caters for piano students up to 18 years of age. Beginners on piano are welcome to audition up to the age of 9 years. Beyond this age applicants are expected to demonstrate previous experience of piano playing. The Continuing Education division caters for experienced piano students aged 18 and over.

The Conservatory also offers tuition in organ, harpsichord and accordion. Applicants without any previous experience should normally have reached a minimum of Grade 6 in piano.

LESSONS

Keyboard Students attend:

- Individual Practical Lesson
- Musicianship Class

INSTRUMENTS

All keyboard students must have daily access to an acoustic piano. A digital or electronic instrument is not acceptable. Offer of a place is subject to candidates obtaining a suitable instrument for practice.



Department of Vocal, Opera and Drama Studies

Head of Department: Mairead Hurley

JUNIOR PROGRAMMES

Part-time applicants should be between the ages of 16 and 25.

LESSONS

Vocal students attend:

- Individual practical lesson
- Musicianship Class
- Vocal Ensemble, as required



Department of Orchestral Studies

Head of Department: Dr Clíona Doris

JUNIOR PROGRAMMES

In the Orchestral Studies Department each student follows a comprehensive programme of instrumental lessons, musicianship classes and ensemble playing in the following instruments:

- Strings (violin, viola, cello, double bass, harp and guitar)
- Woodwind (flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, bassoon, recorder)
- Brass (trumpet, trombone, horn and tuba)
- Percussion

The Junior Conservatory caters for students up to 18 years of age. The Continuing Education division caters for experienced students aged 18 and over.

Below are recommended age guidelines to start each instrument:

Strings

Violin/Viola/Cello:	5-9 years
Viola/Cello:	6-10 years
Double-Bass:	9 years or older
Classical Guitar:	8 years or older
Harp:	6 years or older

Completion of at least one year of pre-instrumental class is recommended.

Recorder Classes: 7-9 years

Completion of at least one year of pre-instrumental class is recommended.

Woodwind/Brass: 9 years or older

Completion of at least one year of recorder class is recommended.

Percussion: 9 years or older

Completion of at least one year of pre-instrumental class and/or recorder class is recommended. At least one year of piano is also advised.

LESSONS

Orchestral Studies students attend an instrumental lesson, a Musicianship Class and ensemble (as required). Instrumental lessons for beginners are 30 minutes in duration and are mostly in small groups. From Grade 2 level, 30-minute lessons are on an individual basis. From Grade 6 level, lessons are extended to 45 or 60 minutes.

MUSIC EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME

This is a specialist programme in performance for 4th–6th year students of orchestral instruments considering an undergraduate degree in music performance. The Programme is ideal for a transition year student. Applicants are expected to have attained a high level of performance on their orchestral instrument. The objective of the programme is to challenge the student creatively through individual expert tuition, classes in performance and musicianship, and ensemble playing, so that they can progress and achieve their true potential.

INSTRUMENTS

Students must provide their own instruments, having first sought the advice of their teacher. A limited number of instruments is available on short-term hire from the Conservatory. Details are available from Ronan Grant, Ensembles and Concert Manager.

ENSEMBLES

The Conservatory is committed to the educational and social value of ensemble performance and there are weekly ensemble rehearsals in the following ensembles:

- Junior Ensembles: Junior Orchestra, Intermediate Orchestra, Prelude Winds
- Intermediate Ensembles: Sinfonia, Concert Band
- Senior Ensembles: Camerata, Chamber Winds, Chamber Brass, Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Big Band
- Choirs: Preliminary Choir (6–10 years), Junior Choir (10–14 years)

CHAMBER MUSIC COACHING

Advanced Junior students have the opportunity to receive chamber music coaching from the Vanbrugh Quartet, Resident Lecturers in Chamber Music at DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama.

Department of Academic Studies

Head of Department: Dr Kerry Houston

Musicianship Co-ordinator: Dr Lorraine O'Connell

JUNIOR PROGRAMMES

The Department of Academic Studies provides:

- Musicianship Classes (Initial, Primary, Grades 1 to 8)
- Junior Certificate (1 year course)
- Leaving Certificate (1 year course)

MUSICIANSHIP CLASSES (Initial, Primary, Grades 1 to 8)

All instrumental/vocal part-time students attend a musicianship class. In providing a holistic music education, the purpose of these classes is to support learning and teaching in the instrumental/vocal lesson. Students develop a range of musicianship skills including aural awareness, sight-singing, theoretical understanding, critical listening and appreciation of music. Students attend a weekly class at the appropriate level, and study for Conservatory grade examinations. The duration of the class varies according to grade.

Musicianship classes are reserved for instrumental/vocal students of DIT Conservatory in the first instance. However, a limited number of places may be available for students who are not enrolled for instrumental/vocal lessons. To apply please complete the online application at www.dit.ie/conservatory.



JUNIOR CERTIFICATE AND LEAVING CERTIFICATE MUSIC COURSES

The Conservatory of Music and Drama offers a one-year course in Music at both Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate levels.

The Junior Certificate course is suitable for students in their 3rd Year at school and applicants should normally have reached a minimum standard of Grade 2 Musicianship/Theory. The Leaving Certificate programme is suitable for students in 6th year. Applicants should normally have reached a minimum of Grade 4 Musicianship/Theory. DIT instrumental/vocal students are given priority enrolment on these courses. However, a small number of places may be available to other applicants. All students wishing to attend one of these courses should submit a separate online application at www.dit.ie/conservatory.

Please note that both the Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate courses prepare the students for the 'Listening' and 'Composing' components of the syllabus. The 'Performing' requirements are prepared in the instrumental/vocal lesson.





DUBLIN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Music and Drama

Part-Time Adult Music Programmes

DIT CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC AND DRAMA

Allegro for Adults

NFQ Level 6 (5 ECTS)

Innovative musicianship courses for adults

Allegro 1

Aural Training, written skills and listening.

No musical experience needed.

Allegro 2 and 3

Aural training, composition, listening.

Musical experience required.

Jazz Improvisation

NFQ Level 6 (5 ECTS)

The course provides an introduction to the concept of jazz improvisation and performance through ensemble playing.

Technical proficiency on an instrument or voice is required.

Advanced Vocal Studies

The programme is open to students who have completed an undergraduate or post-graduate degree in vocal performance. The emphasis is on preparing students for auditions and consolidating vocal technique.

www.dit.ie/conservatory



DUBLIN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Music and Drama

Undergraduate and Postgraduate

Bachelor of Music

- Classical Performance • Irish Traditional Music Performance
- Composition • Pedagogy • Musicology

Bachelor of Music Education

(Joint Course with Trinity College, University of Dublin)

- Classical Music • Irish Traditional Music

Bachelor of Arts in Drama (Performance)

Bachelor of Arts in Commercial Modern Music

in association with BIMM Dublin (www.bimm.co.uk/dublin)

CPD Diploma in Musical Theatre (subject to validation)

in association with The Irish College of Music Theatre
(www.theirishcollegeofmusictheatre.com)

Master of Music (Opera)

- Opera • Repetiteur

Master of Music (Performance/Conducting)

- Classical Music • Irish Traditional Music • Jazz
- Chamber Music • Piano Accompaniment
- Conducting

Master of Arts in Scoring for Film and Visual Media

in association with Pulse College (www.pulsecollege.eu)

MPhil/PhD by research

www.dit.ie/conservatory

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for instrumental/vocal lessons?

Applications for part-time Junior and Continuing Education instrumental/vocal lessons open in January each year and close on 31 March. Submit an application online at www.dit.ie/conservatory.

Applicants who apply by 31 March will be called to audition in April/May. You will receive an email indicating the date and time of your audition. There is no audition fee. Applicants who apply after 31 March may be charged a late application fee and will be auditioned in June, subject to the availability of places at that time.

How do I apply for Kids' Club, Pre-Instrumental and Junior and Leaving Certificate classes?

Applications for Kids' Club and Pre-instrumental classes and for the one-year Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate courses normally open in March and close at the end of April. **There are no auditions for these classes** – places are filled on a 'first-come, first-served' basis. Submit an application online at www.dit.ie/conservatory.

Do I need to attend an audition?

Places for Kids' Club and Pre-Instrumental Classes are offered on a 'first-come, first-served' basis, apply early to avoid disappointment.

Places for instrumental and vocal lessons are made on the basis of an audition.

What are the audition requirements for Instrumental/Vocal Lessons?

Keyboard Studies and Orchestral Studies Departments:

Beginners

Auditions for Beginners take place in 2 stages:

Audition/Trial mini-lesson: Candidates are invited to take an audition where they may be asked to sing a song, take some simple aural tests and may be given a short trial lesson. If they can play another instrument they should play one piece on this instrument.

They are also expected to take a musical aptitude test. The test is usually administered in groups of 10-15. It is designed for use by small children and involves listening to a recording and responding by circling pictures on a page. A trial run is given before the test begins. It tests rhythmic and pitch response. The result of the audition is added to the result of the aptitude test and those scoring highest are offered places.

Non-beginners

Non-beginners for both the Junior Conservatory and Continuing Education (over-18) division are expected to perform two contrasting pieces appropriate to their standard, and take sight-reading and aural tests. They may be asked to perform scales appropriate to their level. A short, informal interview also takes place at the audition. Continuing Education students are expected to have performance experience.

Vocal Department:

Applicants are asked to prepare two contrasting songs.

What happens next?

You will receive an email informing you of the result of the audition. There are three possibilities: an offer of a place, placement on the waiting list or not being offered a place.

What if I receive an email stating that I am on the waiting list?

This means you have passed the audition, but that an offer cannot be made until a place becomes available in your chosen instrument/voice. Offers to candidates on the waiting list are generally made around the middle of September and continue to be made until all vacant places are filled – usually in early October. Please note that the waiting list status is only relevant for the upcoming academic year and if you do not receive a place you must re-audition to be considered for a place in the following year.

When do classes take place?

Pre-Junior, Junior and Continuing Education classes take place from September until June and are held on weekday afternoons and evenings and on Saturdays.

Do I attend a Musicianship Class?

All Junior Conservatory and Continuing Education students attend a musicianship class to support teaching and learning in the instrumental lesson.

Do I attend an Ensemble?

Students studying an orchestral instrument or voice attend a weekly ensemble rehearsal.

Can I choose to study with a particular teacher?

All of our teachers are highly qualified and experienced. You may request to study with a particular teacher. We will try to accommodate your request but cannot guarantee to do so.



DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama Staff

Head of Conservatory

Dr Gordon Munro

Head of Keyboard Studies

Dr David Mooney

Head of Orchestral Studies

Dr Clíona Doris

Head of Vocal Opera & Drama Studies

Mairead Hurley

Head of Academic Studies

Dr Kerry Houston

Musicianship Co-Ordinator

Dr Lorraine O'Connell

Piano

Mary Breslin
David Brophy
Barbara Dagg
Janet Day
Geraldine Fitzgerald
Claire Flynn
Shirin Goudarzi-Tobin
Edward Holly
Anita Hopper
Ann Heneghan
Paula Hughes
Siobhán Kilkelly
Celine Kelly
Ann Keary
Catherina Lemoni
Dr Mary Lennon
Marian McRory
Yvonne McQuillan
Rosemary Molloy
Barbara Murray
Danusia Oslizlok
Pádraic ÓCuinneagáin
Alison Thomas
Eithne White
Organ
Una Russell
Harpsichord
Rachel Factor
Classical Accordion
Dermot Dunne
Chamber Music
Vanburgh Quartet

Violin

Gregory Ellis
Sebastian Liebig
Maria Mason
Lisa Gnemmi
Odhran O Casaide
David O Doherty
Keith Pascoe
Gillian Williams

Viola

Simon Aspell
David O Doherty

Violoncello

Christopher Marwood
Arun Rao

Double Bass

Waldemar Kozak

Viola da Gamba

Andrew Robinson

Harp

Denise Kelly-McDonnell
Dr Clíona Doris

Guitar

Leslie Cassidy
Alan Grundy
Michael Nielsen

Flute

Julie Maisel
Ciaran O Connell

Recorder

Laoise O'Brien

DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama Staff

Clarinet/Saxophone

Antonio Cafolla
Kevin Hanafin
Paul Roe

Oboe

Sile Daly
Albert Soliveres
David Agnew

Trumpet

Eamonn Nolan

French Horn

Ian Dakin

Trombone/Euphonium

Jonathan Clifford

Tuba/Euphonium

Conor O' Riordan

Percussion

Noel Eccles

Irish Traditional Music

Peter Browne
Tom Doorley
Kevin Glackin
Grainne Hambly
Kieran Hanrahan
Tommy Hayes
Seosaimhin Ní Bheaglaoidh
Odhran O Casaide
Antaine Ó Faracháin
Michael O'Raghallaigh
John Regan

Jazz

Michael Nielsen

Voice

Robert Alderson
Jennifer Hamilton
Emmanuel Lawler
Colette McGahon-Tosh
Derval O Sullivan
Sinead Campbell-Wallace
Stephen Wallace

Toni Walsh

Repetiteurs

Trudi Carberry
Mairead Hurley

Celine Kelly

Aoife O Sullivan

Mary Scarlett

Early Years Music

Helen Byrne

Drama

Paul Burke
Ella Clarke
Susie Kennedy
Peter Mc Dermott
Mary Moynihan
Vinny Murphy
Vivienne O Kelly
Miriam O Meara

Academic Studies

David Brophy
Dr Marian Deasy
Dermot Dunne
Dr Mark Fitzgerald
Dr Philip Graydon
Dr Kerry Houston
Paula Hughes
Helen Kane
Ann Keary
Dr Maria McHale
Paul Mc Nulty
Marian Mc Rory
Dr Grainne Mulvey
Dr Lorraine O Connell
Pádraic Ó Cuinneagáin
Dr Jane O Leary
Bernie Sherlock
Eoin Tierney
Shigeto Wada

Student Services - Conservatory

Mary Grant

Conservatory Administration

Fiona Howard
Geraldine Kelly

Events Manager

Claire Connell

Ensembles and Concerts Manager

Ronan Grant
Audio/Visual
Technician
Ben Rawlins
Piano Technician
Marc Venturier

Support

DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama

Every year DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama mounts an exciting series of public events, including:

- operatic productions
- plays
- concerts featuring our ...
 - symphony and chamber orchestras
 - chamber choir and choral society
 - Irish traditional music ensemble
 - big band, concert band, wind and percussion ensembles
 - junior music ensembles
- and an International Masterclass Series, featuring some of the world's finest performers

We are also very proud to work in partnership with the Ballymun Music Programme, bringing music to the lives of schoolchildren in an area of social and economic disadvantage in north Dublin.

How you can help us ...

We are always looking for ways to support our students, and enhance their performance opportunities. You can help us to do this by:

- supporting our Junior Conservatory and outreach work
- sponsoring our opera and drama productions
- offering student scholarships and prizes
- helping us to improve our facilities
- supporting the purchase of instruments

Every grant, donation and ticket

bought for our performances helps our students. If you would like to help us help them, or if you would simply like to find out more about the Conservatory, please please get in touch:

conservatory@dit.ie



arts@dit



@DITConservatory

Keep up-to-date with Conservatory news by:

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