



**CONSIDER
A CAREER
IN MUSIC!**

CONSIDER A CAREER IN MUSIC

A career in music includes hundreds of viable choices in addition to the traditional performer and teacher pathways. Music and the creative industries—including pro-audio, event technology, and more—are dynamic and constantly expanding. Team-oriented individuals with creativity, curiosity, technical and organizational skills, and a passion for music are highly sought after.

VARIETY

The creative industry is perpetually evolving with hundreds of exciting and rewarding career opportunities and professional communities. Here's a sample of sectors in the music industry:

- Software and Music Technology
- Sales and Service
- Marketing and Communications
- Live Event Production & Stage Tech
- Engineering and Industrial Arts
- Instrument Making and Lutherie

STABILITY

The music industry holds hundreds of career options that can lead to a life-long, sustainable life in music, and the demand for specific skills in the field is extremely high. For example, music students graduating with teaching credentials experience a 100% placement rate for available jobs.

SUSTAINABILITY

Current annual salaries range from \$50k-\$120k for manager level and tech roles, and \$70k-\$230k+ or leadership and executive level positions. Several career pathways in the creative industry provide opportunities to make well over \$200k.

CAREERS IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY

Advance Events Coordinator
 Artist Relations • Audio Engineer
 Booking Agent • Brand Manager
 Business Manager • Chat-Bot
 Creator • Club-Spins Tracker
 College Professor • Commercial
 Playlist Curator • Concert
 Promoter • Conductor • Copyist
 Cross-Cultural A&R Manager
 Data Jockey • Activities
 Director • DJ • Documentarian
 Ethnomusicologist • Event
 Security • Events Manager
 Instrument Repair and Restoration
 Tech • Instrument Sales Associate
 Lighting Designer • Luthier
 Lyricist • Marketing Manager
 Mastering Engineer • Media
 Host • Meme Designer • Merch
 Wearables Designer • Metadata
 Repair Tech • Multimedia Marketer
 Blogger • Coach • Critic • Industry
 Consultant • Music Educator
 Photographer • Policy Advisor
 Poster Artist • Publisher • Retailer
 Therapist • Video Director
 Videographer • Writer • Musician
 Nonprofit Program Director
 Piano Tuner • Playlist Coder
 Product Designer • Project
 Manager • Promotion Manager
 Publicist • Record Producer
 Recording Artist • Recording
 Engineer • Recording Studio
 Manager • Road Rep
 Royalties Consultant • Session
 Musician • Social Media Manager
 Social Media Music Strategist
 Software Designer • Song
 Monetizer • Stage Designer Stage
 Manager • Streaming Consultant
 Talent Agent • Talent Buyer • Tour
 Manager Venue Manager • Video
 Game Composer • Vocal Coach
 VR Designer • Web Designer

DID YOU KNOW?

Nationally, **673,656 businesses** are involved in the creation or distribution of the arts, **employing 3.48 million people.**

RESOURCES

nammfoundation.org/careers-in-music
artsadvocacy.nfhs.org/careers-in-music
www.bls.gov/ooh/home.htm
berklee.edu/careers



PATHS TO CONSIDER

There are various pathways to pursue a career in music, and the specific route you take depends on your interests, skills, motivation, and goals. Adaptability, perseverance, and a commitment to continuous learning are essential for a career in music. Here are just a few career pathways:

FORMAL EDUCATION

Pursue a degree, major, or minor in music at a conservatory, college, or university; a two-year degree from a community college, or a professional training program.

INTERNSHIPS

Work as an intern at a music or creative industry company or organization during your higher education study. Interns learn a lot about a company.

NETWORKING

Attend The NAMM Show, trade conferences, and workshops that offer opportunities to meet industry professionals and fellow musicians and explore job prospects.

APPRENTICESHIPS

Seek an apprenticeship for jobs in music or the creative sector, especially those requiring focused, technical skills such as instrument repair, graphic design, and event touring and support.

PRIVATE LESSONS/SELF-STUDY

Take private lessons with a skilled music teacher. This pathway provides personalized instruction tailored to specific needs. Some musicians are self-taught or develop their skills through self-study.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Develop entrepreneurial skills to create opportunities. Start a teaching business, develop a product or service, establish a label, organize concerts, or explore other avenues within the music industry.

TEACHING MUSIC: A CAREER CHOICE WITH REMARKABLE IMPACT

Teaching music continues to be one of the most satisfying, sustainable career choices for musicians. Music educators are musical leaders in their communities. A survey by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) found extremely high job satisfaction for K-12 music educators, regardless of where, what, or which grade levels they teach. Music teachers love what they do!



Whether you're on stage, in the studio, in the classroom, or building an instrument, a music career is a journey of passion, creativity, and impact. It's a meaningful choice that shapes lives beyond your own. So, why not consider a career in music? The music industry is ready to welcome you.



“When I was in high school, I enjoyed physics and music but wasn’t sure how those interests would ever align. Within weeks of graduating from college I landed a great position utilizing both. So many people think a life in music is limited to only a few options. Not true. The music industry is vast and constantly evolving. If you love music and are willing to work hard, there is a career path for you...maybe more than one!”

- **ALLY AMARAL**, Electronic Repair Technician, Earthquaker Devices