George Mason University
Graduate Council NEW Certificate, Concentration, Track or Degree Program
Coordination/Approval

Please complete this form and attach any related materials. Forward it as an email attachment to the Secretary of the Graduate Council. A printed copy of the form with signatures should be brought to the Graduate Council Meeting. If no coordination with other units is required, simply indicate “None” on the form.

Title of Program/Certificate, etc: Artist Certificate in Vocal Performance

Level (Masters/Ph.D.): Masters

Please indicate: ___ Program   X Certificate   ___ Concentration   ___ Track

Description of certificate, concentration, or degree program:
Please attach a description of the new certificate or concentration. Attach Course Inventory Forms for each new or modified course included in the program. For new degree programs, please attach the SCHEV Program Proposal submission.

Please list the contact person for this new certificate, concentration, track or program for incoming students: Professor Patricia Miller

Approval form other units: N/A

Please list those units outside of your own who may be affected by this new program. Each of these units must approve this change prior to its being submitted to the Graduate Council for approval.

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<th>Unit:</th>
<th>Head of Unit’s Signature:</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Submitted by: jcarroll1@gmu.edu
Jim Carroll, Music
Email:

Department/Program: _______________________________ Date: ____________
College Committee: _______________________________ Date: ____________
Graduate Council Representative: ___________________ Date: ____________
The Artist Certificate in Vocal Performance is a specialized, graduate-level program for advanced, classically trained singers who seek to further develop and refine their artistry. Designed for aspiring, professional artists who desire continued growth and career advancement through extensive educational training and performance experience, this program offers opportunities in opera, musical theater, concerts, chamber ensembles and recital. The Artist Certificate program is distinctive because of its strong emphasis on (1) the synthesis of all aspects of the vocal art- singing, acting, interpretation, style, expression, repertoire coaching, foreign language diction, stagecraft, movement, opera and recital performance; and 2) the high level of individual training each student admitted to the program receives from a faculty of experienced, internationally recognized artist-teachers, directors, coaches and master class clinicians. This program is intended for a limited number of exceptional performers who demonstrate strong potential for a successful career in the area of performance.

Admission Requirements
Admission to this program is by application and audition in person only. An enrollment cap will be placed on the number of students accepted in to the Artist Certificate program each year. To enter the program, a student must meet the following requirements:
- An Artist Certificate in Vocal Performance application
- A current résumé
- A Bachelor's degree or equivalent (as evaluated by the Department admissions committee.
- A one page written statement of the student’s goals and interest in the program
- Two letters of recommendation
- A CD (preferred), video or audio tape of two contrasting operatic arias (or one operatic aria one oratorio aria), two art songs (sung in German, French, Italian, Spanish or Russian) and one contemporary art song or aria by a 20th century American composer.
- A formal audition and interview with the audition panel. Applicants will be notified of the date and time of the audition and interview. This final step in the admission process is a thirty-minute vocal audition and fifteen-minute interview with the panel. Specific audition requirements for the audition are attached. Applications may be sent to the Director of Vocal Studies, Department of Music, George Mason University. The Artists’ Certificate program requires the B.M. degree and prefers applicants with the M.M. degree or equivalent vocal and/or professional experience.

Admission Requirements (continued)
Complete applications for both fall and spring semesters are reviewed on a rolling basis, with late applications considered on a space-available basis. Special auditions may be arranged by the Director of the program.

Degree Requirement
Bachelor’s degree required or equivalent (as evaluated by the Department admissions committee). Master’s degree preferred, or equivalent professional/vocal experience as determined by the Department admissions committee).

Voice Faculty
Patricia Miller (Director of the Program). Carla Rae Cook, Kathryn Hearden, Laura Mann, Anastasios Vrenios, Debby Wenner, Additional voice faculty may be added as program dictates.

Program Advisors
Students accepted into the program may request any member of the voice faculty as his/her voice teacher. That voice faculty member becomes the Faculty Advisor and is assigned to guide and mentor the student through the program.
Vocal and Opera/Musical Theater Coaches

To be arranged

Credits required to complete Artist Certificate: 32 credit hours are required to complete the Artist Certificate in Vocal Performance. The course of study may exceed 32 hours depending on choice of electives and any possible remedial courses necessary for the completion of the program (as determined by the admissions committee, the program advisor and the director of the program). Advisor’s approval is required for each semester’s enrollment.

Duration of the Certificate Program: 2 years (maximum 4 years)

Course Requirements for the Artist Certificate in Vocal Performance

To earn an Artist Certificate in Vocal Performance, students must complete 32 credit hours in a combination of core courses (Applied Voice, Vocal Coaching, Performance Seminar & Solo Vocal Repertoire II, and Diction for Singers), required vocal ensembles (Opera/ Musical Theater/solo vocal ensemble), solo recitals and related course electives. All courses and special performance projects should be discussed with the student’s Faculty Advisor or the Program Director. The plan of study includes the following courses:

Course Requirements for the Artist Certificate in Vocal Performance

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studies in Vocal Performance</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 621 - Applied Voice (Private Music Instruction, 3 Credit/Upper level)</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 592 – Advanced Topics in Music: Solo Vocal Repertoire Coaching</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 526 - Performance Seminar &amp; Solo Vocal Repertoire II</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 544 - Diction for Singers I (Italian / English) or MUSI 545 – Diction for Singers II (German / French)</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocal Performance Ensemble</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 688 – Advanced Opera and Musical Theater Techniques</td>
<td>6* - 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 485- Chamber Ensembles –(Solo Vocal/Chamber Ensemble)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>*(option for 3 of the 9 required performance ensemble credits, with Faculty Advisor’s written permission &amp; supervision)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solo Performance Emphasis</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 684-Graduate Lecture Recital</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI-724-Graduate (Certificate) Recital</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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*(Support Studies in Literature, History, Pedagogy, Foreign Languages, Alexander Technique, Acting may be selected for a broader course of study and determined with the faculty advisor or director of the program).

*Internships, Apprenticeships and Performance Projects

*With written permission of the Faculty Advisor and approval of the Director of the Program, a student may receive up to three performance ensemble credits or one chamber recital credit for an off campus professional performance project once during the two year course of study, (not to exceed three weeks during a given semester). With written permission of the Faculty Advisor, a student may receive one
elective or up to three performance credits for participation in an Intensive Language Immersion or Summer Opera, Internship or Opera Apprenticeship Program, (not to exceed six weeks during the school year).

TOTAL 32

**Semester Evaluations / Juries**
At the end of every semester - except the final semester when students in the program are expected to give an hour-long, adjudicated, Graduate/ Certificate Recital – all students enrolled in the Artist Certificate in Vocal Performance Program must give a twenty minute (upper level, three credit) jury of repertoire learned during the semester with the voice teacher and vocal coach in preparation of the chamber/lecture recital or the final Certificate recital. The Chamber and/or Lecture Recital may be given at any time during the course of the program. Certificate students are expected to excel in the area of performance and to maintain a 3.50 average in all core courses. Students falling below this requirement in any given semester will be given one semester probation before expulsion from the program.

**Performance Expectations**
Artist Certificate students are expected to take advantage of the many excellent performance opportunities available in the Department of Music. Students in the program are expected to perform at least twice a year in a staged opera and/or musical theater or scene productions on campus with GMU Opera Theater; to sing in at least one vocal concert each year, and to give two recitals during the course of the program. Students in the program are also encouraged to apply and to audition for summer programs, apprenticeships and vocal competitions.