**Music Jobs Are Plentiful for Those Properly Prepared**

October 7, 2019 **Music jobs** – indeed, music careers – are both diverse and plentiful, especially for performers music majors who study at colleges, conservatories, and intense summer programs like the [Philadelphia International Music Festival (PIMF)](https://philadelphiamusicfestival.org/).

According to the website [Best Colleges](https://www.bestcolleges.com/), music jobs can easily be placed into one of four basic categories: Performance, Composition, Music Education, and Music Production.

The **Performance** category accounts for the most obvious jobs:

1. **Instrumentalist** – Plays classical or contemporary music on a brass, woodwind, string, or percussion instrument
2. **Vocalist** – Sings Pop, Jazz, Opera, Rock, Rap, or other music form
3. **Accompanist** – Performs music in concert with other musicians, singers, or dancers
4. **Conductor** – Directs an orchestra or other music ensemble
5. **Disc Jockey** (DJ) – Programs and plays recorded music on the radio, in concert, or at special events like weddings

The **Composition** category involves creating music, with jobs like:

1. **Composer** – Writes music, like Richard Rodgers
2. **Lyricist** – Writes words to accompany the music, like Oscar Hammerstein
3. **Songwriter** – Writes words and music, like Cole Porter
4. **Arranger** – Arranges or organizes a piece of music according to the needs of a performer, orchestra, or conductor
5. **Film or Television Composer** – Creates music (or soundtracks) for movies or television shows
6. **Music Supervisor** – Selects existing music to accompany movies, television shows, commercials, video games, etc.

The **Music Education** category encompasses those who preserve music and musicianship through training, with jobs like:

1. **Music Teacher** – Instructs music students at the primary, secondary or college level in music performance or “music appreciation.”
2. **Competition Coordinator** - Provides opportunities for instrumentalists and vocalists to compete for money and other prizes (especially as a means of sharpening their technical and performing abilities). PIMF enlists competition coordinators in the administration of their international music festival.
3. **Archivist** – Maintains a music catalog or collection, often for purposes of music preservation
4. **Journalist or Critic** – Comments on or critiques the quality of music or music performance
5. **Music Therapist** – Practices “music therapy.” According to [American Music Therapy Association](https://www.musictherapy.org/), music therapy is “the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship”

The **Music Production** category includes those who practice the business and technical aspects of music, with jobs like:

1. **Producer** – Oversees the making of a song or album
2. **Recording Technician** – Manages the transcription of a song or album, often in a studio and often with high-tech electronic devices
3. **Sound Engineer** – Creates the “audio experience” for concert audiences
4. **Tuner** – Adjusts musical instruments to guarantee their sound quality
5. **Publisher** - Ensures that a musical work – especially a commercial work – is properly distributed, and the parties who contributed to the work are properly paid.

For additional information on music jobs – visit the following websites:

* [Majoring in Music](https://majoringinmusic.com/what-can-you-do-with-a-music-degree/)
* [Music School Central](https://musicschoolcentral.com/10-amazing-music-education-colleges-in-the-us-2019-edition/)
* [Careers in Music](https://www.careersinmusic.com/music-careers/)
* [Careers for Music Lovers](https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2015/article/careers-for-music-lovers.htm)