TOP CONSERVATOIRE FOR PERFORMING ARTS
IN THE UK, SECOND IN EUROPE AND JOINT THIRD IN THE WORLD
QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2016

LOCATED OPPOSITE THE
ROYAL ALBERT HALL
HOME TO THE ANNUAL BBC PROMS FESTIVAL

100% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS IN
EMPLOYMENT OR FURTHER STUDY
SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS
HIGHER EDUCATION STATISTICS AGENCY SURVEY

TOP LONDON CONSERVATOIRE
FOR WORLD-LEADING RESEARCH IN 2014
RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK

WITH MORE THAN
800 STUDENTS
FROM MORE THAN
60 COUNTRIES
THE RCM IS AN
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY
IN THE HEART OF LONDON

TOP UK SPECIALIST INSTITUTION FOR MUSIC
COMPLETE UNIVERSITY GUIDE 2017

OVER 40% OF STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM SCHOLARSHIPS

CONCERTS AND MASTERCLASSES WATCHED IN 75 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE VIA THE RCM’s YOUTUBE CHANNEL
WELCOME

The Royal College of Music is one of the world’s greatest conservatoires, training gifted musicians from all over the globe for a range of international careers as performers, conductors and composers. We were proud to be ranked the top conservatoire for performing arts in the UK, second in Europe and joint third in the world in the 2016 QS World University Rankings.

The RCM provides a huge number of performance opportunities for its students. We hold more than 500 events a year in our magnificent performance spaces and in venues across London, including orchestral concerts, opera, chamber music and music by our very own composers.

You will receive teaching from RCM professors who represent the best international talent and are committed to helping you through your studies, and you will be encouraged to develop as an artist by exploring the research behind music in practice. The RCM is the perfect place to do this as we were named the London conservatoire with the highest percentage of world-leading research in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework.

Founded in 1882 by the future King Edward VII, the RCM has trained some of the most important figures in British and international music life. Situated opposite the Royal Albert Hall, our building and location are the envy of the world. We also seek to push the boundaries of music as leaders in digital innovation. The RCM’s exceptional facilities, teaching staff and state-of-the-art technology will help you to become the future of music.

Professor Colin Lawson, Director
CBE, MA (Oxon), MA, PhD, DMus, FRCM, FRNCM, FLCM, HonRAM
Here at the Royal College of Music, we consider our international community to be our greatest asset. Around half of our 800 students come from outside the UK, and we currently have students from more than 60 different countries studying here.

Our professors come from across the globe, bringing with them a wealth of experience and expertise. This helps to make the RCM a friendly, exciting and diverse hub of music-making and a truly international community.

We understand that moving to a new country can feel like a big step, and we will do everything we can to help make you feel at home. Our Registry and Student Services staff provide advice and support for international students across a range of practical subjects including visas and immigration, financial advice or just finding out how to make the most of your time here.

Your fellow students will also help you to settle in. There are plenty of opportunities to get to know each other through RCM activities such as social events run by the RCM Students’ Union (SU) and welcome events at our hall of residence. The SU includes every student enrolled at the RCM. It represents all students and works closely with Student Services to ensure the wellbeing of students.

Our graduates all around the world tell us how fondly they remember their time at the RCM. We believe that you won’t find a more welcoming and inspiring place to study anywhere in the world.

Kevin Porter, Deputy Director
HonRCM
Since coming to the RCM, my development as a pianist, violinist and overall musician has been exponential. I look forward to every lesson each week, be it instrumental or academic, because I know that there will be something new to learn and something that will help propel me to the next level as a musician.

The RCM’s resources are fantastic – from the extensive library collections and state-of-the-art recording equipment to the performance opportunities available through school activities and the Creative Careers Centre.

Perhaps one of the most attractive things about the RCM is its supportive environment, especially among students. As much as I have learnt from my teachers, I have learnt a great deal from working with my friends and colleagues. Be it in chamber music rehearsals or in classes, everyone is always encouraging to one another.

Wilford Goh, Bachelor of Music (Piano and Violin)
London is one of the most international cities on earth, with communities from every corner of the world. Studying at the Royal College of Music, in one of the world’s leading cultural capitals, will offer you amazing opportunities.

Our students perform in venues across the city, including concert halls, churches, museums and galleries. There are performances in venues including St James’s Piccadilly, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, the Royal Academy of Art, the Royal Albert Hall’s Elgar Room, Cadogan Hall and Royal Festival Hall.

In addition to the major London orchestras which present exciting programmes every year, the finest international musicians, conductors and ensembles regularly perform in beautiful concert halls across the city. London also offers world-class theatre, dance and art, unmissable historical attractions and world-famous museums and art galleries, many of which are free to visit.

The RCM’s location is the envy of the musical world. We are situated directly opposite the Royal Albert Hall in one of London’s most attractive and vibrant areas – South Kensington.

The RCM is situated just ten minutes’ walk from South Kensington underground station, meaning all the major sights and London’s vibrant cultural life are just a few minutes away.

The RCM is located within the heart of the Exhibition Road Cultural Quarter, London’s premier hub of cultural activity. Within just five minutes’ walk, you will find:

- Imperial College London which has one of the largest and most active student bodies in the capital.
- The Royal Albert Hall, the nation’s favourite concert hall and home of the BBC Proms.
- Three of the UK’s biggest museums: the Science Museum, the Natural History Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum.
- Hyde Park, one of the most attractive green spaces in London.
- The Royal College of Art.
- The Goethe-Institut, Austrian Cultural Forum, Institut français and Ismaili Centre.
- Great places to eat and socialise with friends.
OUR HERITAGE AND DIGITAL INNOVATION

By coming to the Royal College of Music, you become part of a continually unfolding story of success. For more than 130 years our students have gone on to international stardom, so at the RCM you can enjoy treading in the footsteps of the world’s leading composers, conductors, singers and instrumentalists.

The RCM encourages a journey of self-discovery, where you are mentored and supported by professors and professional staff who are at the international cutting edge of research and innovation in their own disciplines. We also have a wide range of practical and intellectual resources for you to explore.

RCM LIBRARY AND COLLECTIONS

Our library is run by a friendly and knowledgeable team who are here to support you during your course. The library collections cover a wealth of material including printed music and scores, books, music journals, recordings and online resources like Oxford Music Online and Naxos Music Library. It also holds an internationally admired collection of manuscripts including the autograph score of Mozart’s Piano Concerto K491. You can find out more at www.rcm.ac.uk/library

The RCM also holds more than 1,500 items including musical instruments, images and sculptures. They can be explored online through a variety of resources, including Google Arts and Culture, via www.rcm.ac.uk/googleartsandculture
DIGITAL FACILITIES

We also have world-class facilities for audio and video recording, super-fast video conferencing, technology-enhanced composition and magnificent performance spaces where concerts can be recorded.

RCM STUDIOS

Our studios are equipped with the latest audio, video and composition technologies, enabling performers and composers to work in a professional studio environment. With assistance, supervision and tuition from those in the profession, including our staff engineers, you will have the opportunity to gain valuable recording experience, on the concert platform or in a studio session.

CENTRE FOR PERFORMANCE SCIENCE

Our world-famous Centre for Performance Science is home to researchers investigating the psychological, developmental and social sciences of music, including music’s impact on physical and mental health and well-being. The Centre also supports musicians using its revolutionary computerised performance simulator that helps students learn to deal with performance anxiety.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT RESEARCH AT THE RCM
www.rcm.ac.uk/research
INTERNATIONALLY RESPECTED DEGREES

At the Royal College of Music you can create a course to suit your individual professional aspirations. As you progress, you will be able to shape your degree to suit your preferences.

At the heart of your RCM experience are individual one-to-one lessons with your principal study faculty professor. All your tuition is delivered by our distinguished and experienced team of staff.

Alongside numerous internal performance activities such as masterclasses, orchestral projects and workshops, you will also be able to participate in faculty-based classes and activities. We also welcome regular international artists to teach and perform, including recent visitors Lang Lang, Bernard Haitink, Sir Thomas Allen, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Vladimir Jurowski, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Sir Roger Norrington and Steve Reich.

PERFORMANCE FACILITIES

The RCM has two fantastic large performance spaces. With a capacity of 400, the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall is the primary rehearsal and concert venue for RCM orchestras and large ensembles. Also seating 400, our Britten Theatre with orchestra pit is the perfect venue for opera. For chamber and solo performances, the Parry Rooms, which overlook the Royal Albert Hall, provide more intimate venues. We also have an onsite luthier and resident piano technicians.
The RCM is investing in facilities to improve the student experience. In recent years there has been a new purpose-built accommodation building, Prince Consort Village, new percussion suite, new Students’ Union area, the installation of new sound-proofed practice spaces and the opening of the Exchange, where students can get access to information and advice.

**FUTURE PLANS INCLUDE:**
- new performance spaces
- more practice rooms
- new social spaces and restaurants
- new research and rehearsal facilities
- new museum
- new organ

FIND OUT MORE
www.rcm.ac.uk/facilities
PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Royal College of Music provides access to unrivalled performance opportunities. Every year we present more than 500 events, ranging from masterclasses and chamber performances to orchestral concerts and operas.

ORCHESTRAL PERFORMANCE

We have many in-house ensembles covering a wide range of repertoire, from baroque to contemporary and from string band to big band. The RCM Symphony Orchestra is regularly joined by some of the world’s greatest conductors and artists and performs at external venues such as the Royal Festival Hall. Recent visiting conductors and artists include Bernard Haitink, John Wilson, Vladimir Jurowski, Håkan Hardenberger, Nicola Benedetti, Steve Reich and Brett Dean.

You can also explore a range of repertoire in our faculty ensembles, new music with RCM New Perspectives and our From the Soundhouse electronic music series, film music with the Students’ Film Orchestra, or the world of jazz and swing with the RCM Swing and Big Bands. Concerto opportunities are available and recent performances include Chopin’s Second Piano Concerto conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy, Ginastera’s Harp Concerto conducted by Alexander Polishchuk and Stravinsky’s Capriccio conducted by Diego Masson.

CHAMBER MUSIC

RCM students are encouraged to form chamber groups and there are many ensemble and solo performance opportunities available every week in our regular series of chamber music concerts. You can also perform at venues across London, including at the Royal Albert Hall’s Elgar Room, Victoria and Albert Museum and churches such as St James’s Piccadilly and St Mary Abbots.

OPERA PRODUCTIONS

The Royal College of Music International Opera School produces three fully staged operas each year, including one collaboration with the London Handel Festival. Some of the world’s most acclaimed directors, designers and choreographers join us for these productions, providing a professional experience within a supportive environment.
COLLABORATIONS AND FESTIVALS

There are many collaborative projects at the RCM each year and our Great Exhibitionists series offers you the chance to devise your own ground-breaking events. With the full support and mentorship of the RCM, students collaborate to create and present unique projects that redefine what classical music means today. RCM musicians have also created music to accompany exhibitions at the Royal Academy of Arts and the Royal British Society of Sculptors.

Every year we stage several festivals which showcase different faculties. Our annual five-day keyboard festival features a live-streamed day of performances; our Festival of Percussion provides an opportunity to hear and perform with some of the greatest percussionists in the world; Super String Sunday explores sensational string music; and we celebrate historical performance practice with the RCM International Festival of Viols. Our musicians also enjoy the opportunity to explore the world on tour, with recent performances in Bolivia, North America and Europe.

WATCH ONLINE

Many RCM concerts are streamed live on our website at www.rcm.ac.uk/live. It’s a great way for family and friends outside London to experience your performances. You can watch previous performances on our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/RCMLondon.

We regularly record our concerts and events on video and audio. As an RCM student, you can watch back performances, recorded lessons and faculty events on our online internal archive, RCMStream. This valuable teaching aid lets you analyse and learn from your performances on any device anywhere in the world.
STUDENT SUPPORT

The Royal College of Music provides easy access to a wide range of support services including advice on financial matters, performance opportunities and Alexander Technique sessions.

Our Registry and Student Services staff provide advice and support for international students to help you prepare for your move to London, on subjects including visas and immigration, opening bank accounts, accommodation and financial advice.

Our Student Services team can assist you with lots of issues and help you to get the most out of your time here. We offer drop-in and appointment services and free information on a variety of matters from health issues to free events. We also advise and support students with disabilities at the RCM and our Student Counsellor is available if you experience personal issues during your time at the College.

The Chaplaincy Centre at Imperial College London welcomes all RCM students. Located just two minutes away from the RCM, it is a place of advice and information relating to issues of faith and spirituality. Our ‘Fit to Perform’ initiative also promotes a range of activities and resources to support student health and wellbeing.

The RCM is also linked with Imperial College Health Centre, just a few minutes’ walk away. Eligible students living in the catchment area (including Prince Consort Village) can register as full NHS patients, while other students can use the Centre for urgent medical problems during the day. Find out more online at www.rcm.ac.uk/international.
ACCOMMODATION

The Royal College of Music’s new hall of residence, Prince Consort Village, opened in spring 2016 and provides high-quality accommodation, including 177 studio apartments, 170 en-suite rooms and 63 standard rooms.

FACILITIES

Prince Consort Village is fully equipped and specially designed for RCM students, with acoustically treated bedrooms allowing you to practise at home. Services include: 23 dedicated practice rooms available 24/7, a film room, open mic space, high speed Wi-Fi, laundry, reception, gym, bicycle storage and indoor and outdoor communal spaces.

SUPPORT

The accommodation is staffed 24 hours a day, and the in-house team and residence manager are dedicated to the wellbeing of residents.

LOCATION

Located in leafy south-west London, Prince Consort Village is within easy travelling distance of the RCM via London Underground from Ravenscourt Park to South Kensington.

The accommodation is in an ideal location, close to the greenery of Ravenscourt Park as well as many local shops, cafes and amenities. Shepherd’s Bush and Notting Hill, renowned for a fantastic selection of shops, cinemas and restaurants, are also nearby.

TRANSPORT

London Underground stations Ravenscourt Park (District Line), Goldhawk Road (Circle Line) and Shepherd’s Bush (Central Line) are all a short walk away, and a bus stop conveniently located outside the hall of residence provides connections to the areas of Hammersmith and Shepherd’s Bush.
CAREERS

The Royal College of Music helps you to prepare for a successful career in the profession of your choice, with advice, support and access to a range of job opportunities. At the RCM you can deepen your knowledge, extend your skills and build networks of contacts – all of which will enhance your employability.

MAKE INDUSTRY CONTACTS

London is one of the world’s major classical music centres, and the RCM is at the heart of an extraordinary professional network. You will find that agents, publishers and bookers regularly attend RCM events.

For orchestral musicians, we offer side-by-side ‘sit-in’ schemes with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and English National Opera Orchestra. Composers participate in innovative collaborative projects and hear performances of their works in some of London’s most prestigious venues, and our singers can cover roles for English Touring Opera, with whom we enjoy a close relationship. These schemes offer selected students the chance to sit in on professional rehearsals and gain invaluable experience.

RCM CAREERS SERVICE

The RCM Creative Careers Centre team will help you to develop professionally by offering:

- Extensive performance opportunities in and around London.
- One-to-one career sessions on preparing applications and essential publicity materials.
- Seminars on how to build a successful career.
- Guidance on self-management and self-employment including finance.
- Careers workshops and special events.
- Weekly jobs listing.

You can use these services from the first day of your course to develop an outstanding wealth of experience which will help shape your future career. Find out more about the Creative Careers Centre at www.rcm.ac.uk/creativecareers
MUSIC IN THE COMMUNITY

The RCM Sparks programme is an exciting way to gain experience of leading workshops, develop new skills and share your passion for music with the wider community.

RCM Sparks offers workshops and courses for families and young people, concerts for schools and bespoke projects in partnership with a wide range of arts organisations and charities.

You can get involved and:

• Take part in specially tailored music education training.
• Build experience for your CV.
• Make useful contacts in the industry by working with music hubs, orchestras, venues, schools, charities and arts organisations.
• Harness the expertise of a wide range of inspiring professionals such as renowned workshop leaders and composers.
• Share ideas and passions with other musicians.
• Experiment, take risks and learn in a safe, friendly and non-assessed environment.

FIND OUT MORE

For more information about RCM Sparks visit www.rcm.ac.uk/sparks
FIND OUT MORE

You can find out a lot more about studying at the Royal College of Music on our website at www.rcm.ac.uk

KEEP UP TO DATE ONLINE
facebook.com/royalcollegeofmusic
@RCMLondon
youtube.com/RCMLondon
@RCMLondon

HOW TO APPLY
The RCM holds auditions in London, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and the USA. For up-to-date details on how to apply to the RCM, please visit www.rcm.ac.uk/apply

CONTACT US
If you have any questions, please contact international@rcm.ac.uk

HOW TO VISIT US
OPEN DAYS
The RCM Open Day happens every year and you are very welcome to join us. It’s a great way to experience what life at the RCM is like. For more information see www.rcm.ac.uk/openday

TOURS
If you can’t come to our Open Day but you are in London at another time during the year, you may like to consider a tour.

Tours are held throughout term time except in examination weeks. They usually last an hour and precede or follow one of our regular lunchtime concerts. Tours must be booked in advance and there is no charge, but places are subject to availability.

To book a tour, please contact us at registry@rcm.ac.uk or by telephone on +44 (0)20 7591 4867 or +44 (0)20 7591 4310.

VIRTUAL TOURS
You can also explore the RCM’s building and collections through Google Arts and Culture’s Museum View online at www.rcm.ac.uk/location
Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this publication is fair and accurate at the time of going to press. Information on courses, fees and services contained within this publication are subject to occasional changes, and no guarantee can be given that these will not be made following publication. For the most up-to-date information on our courses visit www.rcm.ac.uk.

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