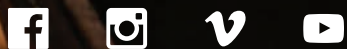




Music Education  
Starts Here



Chicago, IL | 312-225-6288 | [vandercook.edu](http://vandercook.edu)

# Music Education Starts Here

VanderCook College of Music has been the premier institution for music education for over 100 years.

VanderCook has focused exclusively on music teacher education for over a century. Our unique curriculum prepares the whole music educator, emphasizing [performance](#) as well as [instructional methods](#). VanderCook will fully prepare you to teach band, orchestra, choir and general music.

VanderCook's degree programs offer a thorough, comprehensive course of study rooted in collaborative music-making and hands-on, project-based learning in a [conservatory-like atmosphere](#). Skills will be learned and developed starting the very first semester of study through real-world teaching experiences, maximizing your expertise by the time you become a highly sought-after alum in the job market.



Nationally rated in the Top 5 of Music School Central's "Best Hidden Gem Music Education Schools"



Rated in the Top 3 Best Music Teacher Education Schools in Illinois







## Student Spotlight



Tamia Smith, BMEd  
Class of 2022

"I chose to attend VanderCook because I was excited that I would gain the skills to be able to teach band, choir, general music, and orchestra. I have enjoyed learning how to play all nineteen instruments and how to teach them, as well as understanding the methodology that goes into music education as a whole!"

# Undergraduate Program

## A Teacher from Day 1

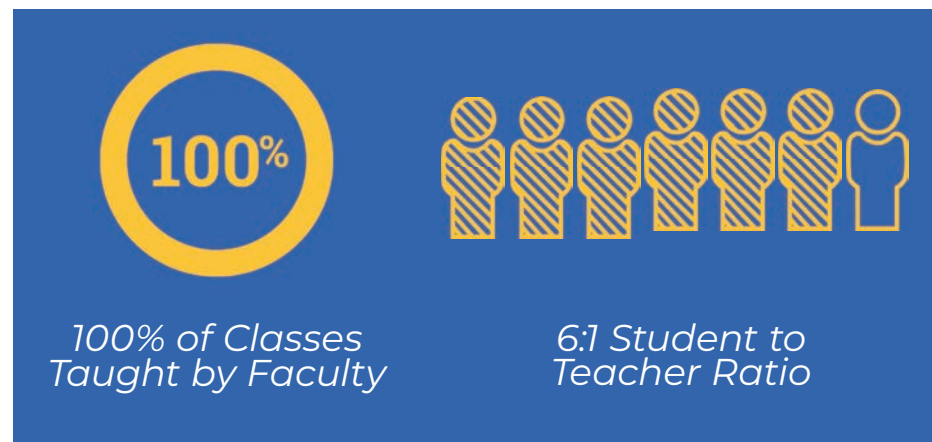
At VanderCook, your journey to becoming a music teacher begins the moment you walk through the door. You will work with grade school and high school students starting your first term through on-campus enrichment clinics and partnerships with local school music programs. No matter what classroom environment you encounter, you will have already learned how to motivate and engage students at every level.

## Bachelor of Music Education (BMEd)

This immersive four-year program will fully prepare you to teach preK-12 band, orchestra, choir and general music.

- Learn to play and teach 19 instruments
- Complete a 14-week student teaching experience in real-world settings with career music educators
- Earn your degree in four years and be prepared to earn the Illinois Professional Educator License with a preK-12 Endorsement in Music
- Perform two recitals
- 20 performances each year
- Perform at The Midwest Clinic: International Band & Orchestra Conference
- 100% of courses taught by faculty
- 6:1 Student/Teacher ratio

To learn more, visit:  
[vandercook.edu/undergraduate-program/](http://vandercook.edu/undergraduate-program/)



## Bachelor of Music in Performance & Pedagogy (BMped)

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Music in Performance and Pedagogy Degree are interested in becoming uniquely skilled instructors within the music industry, while pursuing a high level of performance. Graduates with this degree will broaden their career choice by studying pedagogy and repertoire specific to their instrument, along with the entrepreneurial, marketing and networking skills needed to build a successful private lesson studio.

- Extended lesson time
- Perform two recitals
- Complete 120 credit hours towards a degree in 4 years
- Internship provides real-life experience in the music industry
- Customized curriculum prepares students who aspire to be music teachers but prefer to teach in a private studio setting



# Performer's Certificate

The Performer's Certificate recognizes outstanding achievement in solo and chamber music performance. The certificate is not a degree program, but rather a means to acknowledge the most accomplished performers at the undergraduate level. Candidates may apply for the Performer's Certificate by completing an application and audition adjudicated by a faculty panel.

## **Performer's Certificate requirements:**

- A minimum of 12 credit hours taken in the major applied area throughout the entire degree program
- A junior solo recital with 30 to 45 minutes of music in the major applied area
- A senior solo recital with 50 to 65 minutes of music in the major applied area
- At least two semesters in an honors ensemble after acceptance into the Performer's Certificate program

## Schedule an Audition or Campus Visit

Contact Admissions at 312.788.1120 or email: [admissions@vandercook.edu](mailto:admissions@vandercook.edu)

# Scholarships and Financial Aid

In keeping with our founders' philosophy that music education should be available to anyone, VanderCook is committed to maintaining affordable, competitive tuition.

Our Financial Aid staff will work with you to maximize your aid through scholarships, grants and loans. All applicants are automatically considered for:

- Performance Scholarship
- Academic Excellence Award
- Great Teachers Scholarship

100% of full-time undergraduate students receive financial aid.

## VanderCook Scholars Program

High school seniors looking to turn their passion for music into a career may be eligible for the VanderCook Scholars Program. A student who is accepted into the VanderCook Scholars Program will receive a **four-year FREE tuition scholarship**. To be eligible, candidates must be accepted into either the BMed or BMped programs and attend VCM as a full-time student for four years.

- Applicants must be high school seniors entering college in the fall with a cumulative high school GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Candidates must perform at a high level, as demonstrated by their VanderCook audition scores, high school director recommendation and/or All-State participation

*Note: VanderCook Scholars may qualify for the Performer's Certificate Program and participate concurrently in both.*



Contact Financial Aid at  
312.788.1146 or  
[financialaid@vandercook.edu](mailto:financialaid@vandercook.edu)



# Student Life

As a VanderCook student, you will enjoy full access to Chicago, the Illinois Institute of Technology campus, and the surrounding areas of Bronzeville, Bridgeport, South Loop and Chinatown.



## Chicago at Your Fingertips

Attending VanderCook gives you instant access to many of the city's most famous and important cultural landmarks, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Art Institute of Chicago, Navy Pier and the Lyric Opera – all just minutes away from campus by bus, train or bike.

All undergraduates receive a Ventra card for unlimited access to CTA trains and buses during the fall and spring semesters.



# Student Organizations

- American Choral Directors Association
- American String Teachers Association
- Music Educators Association
- National Band Association
- Phi Mu Alpha
- Sigma Alpha Iota
- VanderCook Percussion Club
- VanderCook Mariachi Ensemble

# Unique Features

- State-of-the-Art Music Technology Lab
- State-of-the-Art practice facilities
- Rehearse and conduct a major ensemble in the Student Conductor Concert
- Practicum experiences on campus and in schools throughout the region
- Attend industry conferences
- Access to all amenities available to IIT students

# Eating & Dining

- IIT on-campus dining facilities
- Acclaimed restaurants in and around the surrounding areas of Bronzeville, Bridgeport, Chinatown, and the South Loop





# The Midwest Clinic

VanderCook co-founded The Midwest Clinic: An International Band and Orchestra Conference held in Chicago with more than 18,000 attendees from all 50 states and more than 40 countries.

The VanderCook Symphonic Band is the only college ensemble invited to perform at The Midwest Clinic every year since its inception in 1946.



Professor Alexander Kaminsky

## Performance Opportunities

VanderCook's undergraduate degrees are uniquely designed to provide performance experiences in band, orchestra and choir simultaneously as part of the curriculum.

As a member of the Philharmonic Orchestra, Symphonic Band, Concert Choir, String Orchestra, Collegiate Chorale, Percussion Ensemble and Jazz Band, you will perform over 20 times a year on campus and throughout the city of Chicago.





## Faculty Affiliations

*Our faculty brings decades of collective professional experience from institutions around the world...*

Apollo Chorus  
Atlanta Symphony  
Boston Lyric Opera  
Boston Ballet  
Boston Philharmonic Orchestra  
Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra  
Boston Symphony Orchestra  
Broadway in Chicago  
Chicago Brass Choir  
Chicago Symphony Brass Quintet  
Chicago Symphony Chorus  
Chicago Symphony Orchestra  
Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra  
Civic Orchestra of Chicago

Grant Park Chorus  
Grant Park Symphony Orchestra  
Greater Miami Youth Symphony  
Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra  
Illinois Symphony Orchestra  
Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra  
Kansas City Symphony  
Lyric Opera of Chicago  
Madison Scouts Drum and Bugle Corps  
Merit School of Music  
Millar Brass Ensemble  
Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra  
Music For All

National Music Camp at Interlochen  
NHK Orchestra (Japan)  
Northwest Indiana Symphony  
Philadelphia Orchestra  
Southwest Symphony Orchestra  
St. Louis Symphony  
St. Petersburg State Chamber Orchestra (Russia)  
Tallahassee Symphony Youth Orchestra  
Viennese Symphony Orchestra  
Yamaha Performing Artist



# Mentors Who Care

## Ensemble Directors

Alexander Kaminsky.....Director of Bands  
Robert Sinclair.....Director of Choral Activities  
Yvonne Davila-Cortes.....Director of String Education

## Instructors

Mariana Gariazzo ..... Flute  
Julie Popplewell ..... Oboe  
Matthew Hogan ..... Bassoon  
Bonnie Campbell..... Clarinet  
Anthony Kidonakis .....Saxophone, Jazz Studies  
Leah Schuman ..... Trumpet  
Peter Jirousek ..... Horn  
Timothy Riordan ..... Trombone  
Maxwell Briggs ..... Euphonium/Tuba  
James Yakas ..... Percussion

Yang Liu ..... Violin/Viola  
Eran Meir ..... Cello  
Doug Bistrow .....Bass  
Katelyn Lee.....Voice  
Angela Presutti Korbitz ..... Voice  
Jade Maze.....Jazz / Contemporary Voice  
Julie Goldberg .....Guitar  
Diana Schmück.....Piano  
Yu-Sui Hung .....Piano, Music Theory  
I-Hsuan Tsai .....Piano, Music Theory  
Michael Becker.....World Music, Music History  
Manju Durairaj .....K-5 Methods  
Roosevelt Griffin .....Jazz Education  
Lisa Heemstra .....Woodwind Methods  
Stacey Larson Dolan .....Professional Education  
Roseanne Rosenthal.....Research Methods



Dr. Yvonne Davila-Cortes



Dr. Robert Sinclair



# Graduate Program

## Master of Music Education: A Sound Investment

### Master of Music Education (MMEd)

The MMEd program offers a comprehensive experience that prepares music teachers to take their careers - and personal growth - to the next level without interrupting a full-time teaching schedule.

- Maximum flexibility for completion in as little as 2 years or a maximum of 7 years
  - Fully Online - **NEW!**
  - Traditional 3x3 Summer Residency (3 weeks online/ 3 weeks in Chicago)
  - Hybrid (3x3 and Online)
- Comprehensive and practical curriculum
- A broad menu of electives to help you reach your professional goals
- Commencement at Chicago Symphony Center
- Multiple performances during summer residency
- Courses are designed to provide new skills, strategies and resources that can immediately be implemented in the classroom

Up to 12 graduate credits from the MECA Continuing Education program can be applied towards the MMEd for added flexibility in design.





# Master of Music Education and Certification (MCert)

The MCert program is designed for students who have earned an undergraduate degree in an area such as music theory, music history, music performance, or music therapy, and wish to earn an MMed while securing certification to teach in the public schools.

# Teacher Certification Entitlement Program (TCEP)

The TCEP program is designed for students who have earned an undergraduate or advanced degree in an area such as music theory, music history, music performance, or music therapy and want to secure teacher certification through the teacher licensure program.

## The MCert and TCEP programs offer:

- Two-year curriculum
- Instruction on multiple instruments to become a complete musician and teacher
- Financial aid packages for qualified candidates
- Holistic approach to teaching and learning

To learn more, visit:  
[vandercook.edu/graduate-program/](http://vandercook.edu/graduate-program/)





# Continuing Education

## Music Education Center of America (MECA)

At VanderCook, continuing education is about more than just earning graduate credit. Our graduate-level courses are designed to present practical knowledge and skills that teachers can immediately use in their classrooms.

### The MECA program provides:

- A diverse faculty bringing experience and expertise from around the world
- A full spectrum of courses for K-12 band, orchestra, choral and general music teachers (all disciplines, all grade levels)
- New skills, resources and strategies can be implemented immediately
- Courses offered online, on-campus, and off-campus
- Three terms per year (fall, spring, and summer)

**INSPIRING**  
**MOTIVATING**  
**PRAGMATIC**  
**COMPREHENSIVE**







## Student Spotlight



Maria Pulido, BMed, '13  
MECA Student

"The MECA courses at VanderCook have improved my approach to teaching music in a way that is more pragmatic, fun, and creative. The MECA program has helped rejuvenate my passion for teaching children."

To learn more, visit:  
[vandercook.edu/continuing-education-meca/](http://vandercook.edu/continuing-education-meca/)





Schedule your visit today.



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