



# CAREERS FOR MUSIC GRADUATES

## MUSIC AT UCC

The Department of Music at UCC is a unique centre of excellence for the study and practice of music. Our graduates are diverse, multidisciplinary scholars and performers. We cultivate creativity as a key skill, in scholarship, composition and performance. Our curriculum encompasses music of all kinds, from Traditional to Pop, World to Experimental, Jazz to Classical. Students gain practical experience of performance and composition, alongside a rigorous, interdisciplinary and cross-cultural understanding of music, its history and contexts. Our graduates emerge from this dynamic learning community ready to make their mark on the world.



**UCC**  
University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Department of  
**Music**

# WHAT CAN MUSIC GRADUATES OFFER EMPLOYERS?

Music graduates are passionate, engaged professionals who work as performers, composers, producers, educators, and elsewhere within the creative industries. They are dynamic self-starters used to working collaboratively, and to taking the lead. A music degree from UCC expands graduates' ideas about what music is and what it can become. UCC music graduates:

- Are highly talented musicians, composers and performers.
- Think creatively, innovate and respond readily to new contexts and challenges.
- Have professional knowledge and industry expertise, backed by internships and work placements.





- Are experienced in taking leadership roles and working with teams to envisage and deliver small to large-scale projects.

- Have a rigorous, intelligent passion for and understanding of the arts and cultural spheres.

- Have honed their analytical, critical and research skills.

- Can think across disciplines and incorporate diversity.

- Are superb communicators with excellent presentation skills.



# GRADUATE OUTCOMES FOR MUSIC

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Graduates go on to further study, or into employment, taking jobs in the music industry, wider cultural spheres, and beyond. Recent graduates have pursued masters at UCC, including MA Ethnomusicology, MSc Management and Marketing, and Professional Masters of Education. Others are working as musicians, sound engineers, producers, and in education, digital marketing, arts administration and media management.



**UCC  
CAREERS**

## GRADUATE STUDIES

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Our graduates pursue a dynamic range of further study options. UCC offers brand new Masters programmes which are of specific interest to music graduates, including MA Experimental Sound Practice and MA Arts Management & Creative Producing. The Music Department also offers MA Ethnomusicology, MA Music and Cultural History, MA Performance, HDip Arts Music and MPhil/PhD options. We support graduates to apply for further study across a broad range of areas, including teaching, performance, composition, research, digital arts, arts management, PR and other professional qualifications. Our graduates understand people, and pursue further study in business experience design, education, social work, music and occupational therapy and related fields.

# AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR MUSIC GRADUATES

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Our graduates work in the music industry, the arts, media, business and creative industries, and in education. Some take up salaried positions, while others freelance or start companies, developing a portfolio of income sources from their range of skills and expertise. Our alumni work in performance, teaching, social intervention, commerce, communications, and expanded artistic practices.

Music graduates are skilled music professionals and are employed as musicians, composers, singers, dancers, producers, production managers, technicians, designers, writers and more.

Festivals, arts centres, and venues in Ireland and abroad employ music graduates to work in administration, education, sales and technical supervision roles.





Many music graduates become teachers, having undertaken certification to work in state and private schools, at primary, secondary and third level.

Vocal and physical presentation, writing, and editing skills mean music graduates are in demand for jobs in digital media, broadcasting and PR.

Music graduates are socially engaged, and many go on to work in music-related youth and community roles, social intervention and arts outreach services.

Local authorities and government agencies employ music graduates as arts and community intervention specialists to develop, deliver, and assess arts funding, services, and projects.

Many of our graduates are highly entrepreneurial and start their own companies, record labels and bands, or develop music-related training programmes for children, business and communities.



## Graduate Profile 1

### **DR ANN CLEARE**

I'm a composer and Assistant Professor of Music and Media Technologies at Trinity College Dublin. I work in concert music, opera, extended sonic environments, and hybrid instrumental design. In 2019, I became the first Irish person to win an Ernst von Siemens Composers' Prize. I graduated from UCC with a BMus and a MPhil in Composition. My best memories are of the many creative projects and events that I organised with classmates and friends in Music At UCC. The department was so encouraging and supportive of such creativity - it was a space to try out your wildest artistic ideas and learn how to make them even better.



## Graduate Profile 2

### **JACK TALTY**

I graduated from UCC with a BA and a BMus, followed by an MA in Music Technology at UL. I'm a traditional musician. At UCC, I became very interested in electroacoustic music and sound synthesis, which is a little unusual for an acoustic musician. I'm artistic director of Raelach Records, a label I established in 2011, a record producer, and an engineer. I work as a researcher for Trad Ireland, and of course, I perform a lot, which never feels like work! My original aim was to become a secondary school teacher, but at UCC I learnt there were other options for me. My very diverse career was inspired and fostered by my studies there.



### Graduate Profile 3

## **ROSALEEN MOLLOY**

I'm the National Director of Music Generation. In my entrance exam for my UCC music degree I was faced with the essay title: Is music a universal language? This prompted me to think about how I interpret what music education should be in the 21st century, and shaped my ideas around music as a whole. That moment was a formative, defining and inspiring one for me. After my degree I trained and taught as a secondary school teacher. I studied with the Choral Music Experience Institute for Choral Teacher Education in the US and was appointed Arts Officer for Wexford County Council before taking up my current position in 2010.



### Graduate Profile 4

## **ROB MOLONEY**

UCC is where I developed an interest in theatre, politics and social justice; and consolidated my love for music and composition. I work now as a composer, sound engineer and lighting designer. Early on in my time at UCC, I felt the tug of the theatre industry, and decided to tailor my skills accordingly. Following my graduation in 2013, I worked as a technician in various theatres and also began working as a freelance designer. In 2014 I was nominated for an Irish Times Theatre Award, alongside Tom Lane, for designing 'Between Trees and Water', a show made by Cork-based company Painted Bird.





**WHERE CAN I  
FIND OUT MORE?**

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**UCC DEPARTMENT  
OF MUSIC**



**TWITTER**



**FACEBOOK**



**INSTAGRAM**



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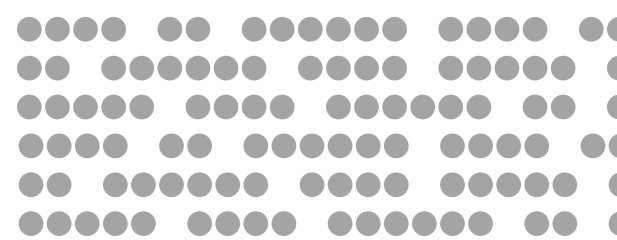
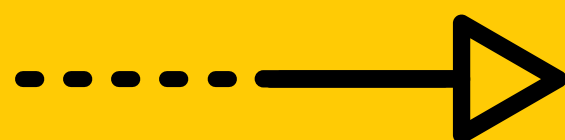
**UCC SCHOOL OF FILM,  
MUSIC & THEATRE**



**MUSIC  
GENERATION**



**JOURNAL  
OF MUSIC**



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# **CREATIVE CAREERS IRELAND**



# **ARTS MANAGEMENT IRELAND**



# **IMRO**

IRISH MUSIC RIGHTS  
ORGANISATION





# 12 WAYS TO PUT YOUR MUSIC DEGREE TO WORK

01

Explore the world of music as much as you can. Go to concerts, attend festivals. Learn what's happening in Cork and in the country.

02

Gain relevant skills and experience through summer or part-time employment.

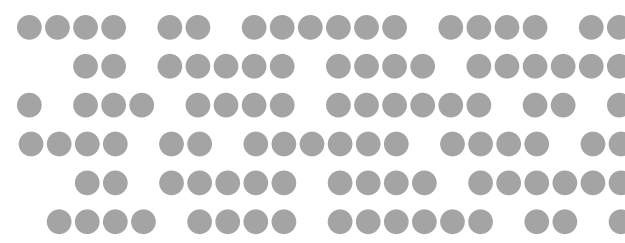
03

Watch other student performances.

04

Broaden your knowledge of the arts. Go to see art exhibitions, theatre and dance shows. Make connections with artists, researchers and arts practitioners in other fields.





**05**

Choose an internship during your degree and make connections that matter.

**MORE  
INFO**

**06**

Work on your communication skills as hard as you work on your performance, composition, research and analytical skills. All employers need good, confident communicators today!

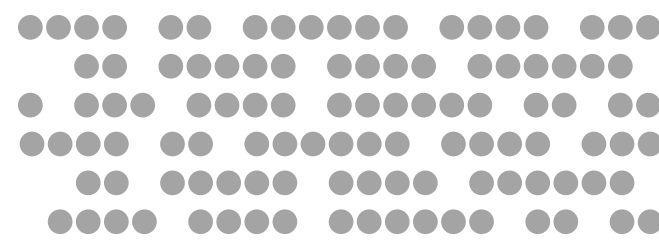
**07**

Develop a taste for the kind of music you like most. Find a community of like-minded musicians and sound practitioners.

**08**

Volunteer at a local venue or festival to understand how the music industry works.





09

Take advantage of international opportunities. Employers are impressed by adventurous students with international connections.

10

Experiment and be creative.

11

Keep an eye on online advertisements and social media networks for new developments and opportunities.

12

Develop a strong CV that highlights your transferable skills.

**MORE  
INFO**





# DID YOU KNOW?

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The music industry contributes €703 million a year to the Irish economy.



# CONTACT US



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Western Road, UCC**



**021 4902500  
021 4903202**



**Email Careers**



**Email Graduate  
Recruitment**



**Book an  
appointment  
to meet a  
careers advisor**



**Work  
Placement**





## **UCC Works Award Programme**



**Connect with  
your job**

## **UCC Careers**



## **MyStudentJob**



## **Employability Events**

**Careers Fairs, Roadshows,  
Employer Presentations**



## **Volunteering Opportunities**

