



# Organ

“The University of Toronto’s Faculty of Music offers a vibrant and welcoming learning environment to a diverse and talented group of students. The U of T provides exciting opportunities to study composition, performance, music education, music history & culture, and music theory with an internationally renowned and dedicated faculty. We offer a rich array of courses and programs rooted in inclusive excellence that prepare students for a variety of careers. Our beautiful concert halls, superb music library, and student-centred teaching offer an exceptionally strong educational experience in one of the world’s greatest cities.”

- Ellie Hisama, Dean

## The Program

The U of T Organ program offers an excellent, well-rounded curriculum which provides an exceptional student experience that is flexible and personalized. Our distinguished faculty bring a wide variety of professional experience as educators, performers, entrepreneurs, and researchers to enrich the learning environment.

The depth and breadth associated with the courses allows for individual nurturing and artistic growth. Small class sizes and a closely knit, supportive community with ample opportunities for collaboration are highlights of the program. The faculty is home to two tracker action organs: a newly-refurbished two-manual tracker-action Casavant (II/28) and a practice instrument by Létourneau (II/10). Both organs are available to students for lessons, performances, and practice. Regular master class opportunities are offered with guest artists, most recently with Marco Petricic and William Porter.

U of T Organ students benefit from many opportunities to establish connections within the U of T campus as well as throughout the vibrant musical community of the City of Toronto. Paid professional work both on and off campus is facilitated through our Music Booking Office.

## Degree Options

- Advanced Certificate in Performance
- Artist Diploma
- Bachelor of Music
- Master of Music
- Doctor of Musical Arts

Music Certificates are offered in conjunction with the Bachelor of Music degrees in areas where a current specialization does not exist. For further program details, application information, and admission requirements please visit [music.utoronto.ca](http://music.utoronto.ca)

## Alumni



**RACHEL MAHON** is Assistant Organist at Chester Cathedral (UK) where she regularly accompanies and conducts the Cathedral Choir and the Cathedral Nave Choir. She combines this post with a busy international recital schedule. Rachel has won numerous awards and competitions in Canada, including the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship from the Royal Canadian College of Organists. In 2014, she was named one of CBC’s top 30 musicians under 30 in Canada.

**JOHN PAUL FARAHAT**  
Director of Music and Principal Organist, St. Basil’s Collegiate Church, St Michael’s College, Toronto

**CHRISTOPHER KU**  
Freelance, Teacher, Conductor

**SARAH SVENDSEN**  
Freelance, Organized Crime Duo

**RYAN JACKSON**  
Director of Music, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York

**WESLEY WARREN**  
National Arts Centre Orchestra, Organist



**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**  
FACULTY OF MUSIC

## Faculty

---

Visit [music.utoronto.ca](https://music.utoronto.ca) to read full profiles on all of our outstanding faculty members.



### KEVIN KOMISARUK,

Associate Professor, Teaching Stream

Kevin Komisaruk has performed extensively throughout Europe and North America and has been broadcasted on CBC/SRC, NPR, and Radio France. As a liturgical musician and choral director, Komisaruk has served as Director of Music at various churches in Toronto and Montreal. His scholarship explores intersections between performance practice, rhetoric, flow theory, kinaesthetics, and improvisation, and how these impact the spiritual, emotional, and physical health of artists and listeners. In practice he develops applications for advanced musical performance in medicine, especially palliative care and stroke rehabilitation.



### AARON JAMES, Sessional Instructor

Aaron James performs regularly as an organ recitalist in both Canada and the United States. He was the 2011 winner of the National Organ Playing Competition of the Royal Canadian College of Organists, the Florence and Stanley Osborne Organ Competition and the Howard Fairclough Organ Competition. A regular performer of contemporary music, Aaron has given national or world premieres of numerous new compositions. Aaron's research has been presented at conferences in Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom. His published work appears in the Journal of the Alamire Foundation and Renaissance Quarterly.



### JOHN TUTTLE, Sessional Instructor

Organist John Tuttle maintains the position of Organist and Choirmaster of Trinity College Chapel at the University of Toronto, where he trains the Trinity Chapel Choir for weekly services, works with the Bevan Organ Scholar, and coaches the Divinity students in liturgical music. Tuttle is founder of the Exultate Chamber Singers, a twenty-voice ensemble that has gained a national reputation for superb choral singing.



### PATRICIA WRIGHT, Sessional Instructor

From 1986 to 2022, Patricia Wright served as Minister of Music of Metropolitan United Church in Toronto where she played the largest pipe organ in Canada, conducted several choirs, managed a concert series, and oversaw a varied programme of arts in worship. Active as a recitalist, adjudicator, and clinician, Wright has been heard in recital in Canada, the USA, and Europe and has been broadcast on the CBC. She is a founding member and past national co-chair of the United Church of Canada Association of Musicians and is a past national president of the Royal Canadian College of Organists.

## Careers

---

The Faculty of Music educates, inspires, and supports students as they prepare for innovative career opportunities through professional counselling, mentorship programs, workshops, professional engagements, and online resources. Over 80% of University of Toronto Music Alumni spend the majority of their career working in music.

While many graduates enjoy successful performing and teaching careers, many have used their training in other ways, most frequently applying their creative thinking and communication skills in these areas:

- Arts Administration/Management
- Conducting
- Entrepreneurship
- Law
- Media & Communications
- Medicine

## Why U of T

---

"The answer is the 3 E's: Education, Experience, and Exploration! By attending U of T Music, you are equipping yourself with the best education and experience possible. With a rich and diverse curriculum, U of T Music draws on the expertise of 160 faculty members who are among the world's finest performers, educators and researchers. You can explore the vibrant musical culture at U of T Music by attending some of the 600 concerts that are performed here on an annual basis! Lastly, Toronto's active music scene allows students easy access to the finest orchestral ensembles, theatre, operas, and choirs."

- Julia Brotto, Mus.Ed.

"The programs offered feature such an incredible breadth of fields across music, which speaks not only to music as an interdisciplinary practice, but to its relevance in society today. No matter which program you are in, you have boundless opportunities to enrich your understanding of music by working with students from different programs and levels of study, as well as taking courses from other disciplines."

- Zoe Brown, Mus.Bac. Comprehensive Studies

---

***The Faculty of Music prides itself in providing professional training with a broad university education. Such balance fosters career sustainability, long-term employment flexibility, and lifelong learning.***

---

Faculty of Music  
University of Toronto

80 Queen's Park | [undergrad.music@utoronto.ca](mailto:undergrad.music@utoronto.ca) | [music.utoronto.ca](https://music.utoronto.ca) | @UofTMusic