Advanced Performance Studies

Overview
The Advanced Performance Studies Program is a nondegree-granting, four-semester program for exceptionally gifted performers who wish to continue their study of music through concentrated study with the world-class faculty of the Bard Conservatory. Applicants must have completed at least the bachelor of music degree or its equivalent and must demonstrate a high level of ability and potential through the admission process.

Curriculum
The curriculum for the Advanced Performance Studies program includes weekly private lessons, full participation in the Bard Conservatory orchestra and chamber music programs, and the opportunity to audit or enroll in most courses throughout the college. ESL classes are available as an elective for international students who wish to improve their skills in English.

Studio Instruction
Weekly private lessons with artist teachers are at the center of the educational experience of every student at the Bard Conservatory. Drawing from the professional music world of New York City, Bard is able to attract exceptional faculty. Private studio lessons are supplemented with frequent master classes with visiting guest artists.

Orchestra
The growth experienced by rehearsing and performing music with peers in a large ensemble is an irreplaceable part of any musician’s education. Bard places considerable emphasis upon this aspect of the Conservatory experience. The Bard College Conservatory Orchestra rehearses twice a week and performs at least twice each semester in the beautiful and acoustically superb Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College. Under the direction of its music director, Leon Botstein, the orchestra also performs in major cities in the United States as well as overseas in tours of Asia and Europe.

Chamber Music
Chamber music plays a particularly important role at the Conservatory. In addition to performing the standard masterworks of the chamber music repertoire, students work closely with the composition program of the Conservatory to perform works of the late 20th and the 21st centuries. Studio faculty members serve not only as coaches but often as players in ensembles, allowing students to learn firsthand from the playing of a more experienced musician. The chamber music program is further enriched by master classes and concerts by guest artists.

Instruments Offered
- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Double Bass
- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet
- Bassoon
- Horn
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Tuba
- Piano
- Harp
- Percussion
- Collaborative Piano

For information on admission, additional programs, and more, visit: bard.edu/conservatory/aps

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