

Ph.D. in Teaching and Learning with a concentration in Music Education

Ph.D. Assistantship Opportunities

The Georgia State University School of Music offers a number of Graduate Assistantships with tuition waivers to incoming graduate students. Highly exceptional Ph.D. applicants will be considered. Assistantships are awarded on a yearly basis, for the Fall and Spring semesters of the academic year.

A typical assistantship award consists of a full tuition waiver and a substantial stipend. The Ph.D. course work is configured such that recipients may simultaneously hold part-time, limited outside employment. Any outside employment must allow the student to fulfill the duties of the assistantship.

The duties and responsibilities of the Ph.D. assistantships in music education support two primary goals of the music education program:

1. Development of Ph.D. students to serve as faculty members in higher education settings. To that end, recipients will teach one undergraduate course in either the Fall or Spring semester, unless their service is not needed in a given year. Please see “Course Teaching and Course Credit” for more information.
2. Development of Ph.D. students to serve the unique needs of urban schools, teachers, and young people through multi-lateral partnerships involving community organizations, professional arts organizations, philanthropic leaders, and a variety of professional musicians. This builds on the acclaimed work of the music education program’s Center for Educational Partnerships (CEP). A key element of the CEP is the “Sound Learning” program that has, among other endeavors, facilitated educational partnerships between local schools, music teachers, and members of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Each Ph.D. graduate assistant will be assigned to a leadership role in an affiliated program of the Center for Educational Partnerships; this will involve work within area K-12 schools in collaboration with students, teachers, and professional musicians. Projects will include frequent interaction with the related GSU faculty supervisors.

The weekly hours required for assistantship will vary according to the preparation for undergraduate teaching and the implementation of partnership projects. Georgia State University’s Ph.D. students in music education historically have found rich research opportunities through these activities, and some have proceeded to use these as source material for their dissertation work.

Ph.D. students who are awarded an assistantship in one year may request consideration for an assistantship in the following year.