Music

France has long had a major presence on the world musical scene. In 1669, Louis XIV founded the Royal Academy of Music, and, since the 19th century, Paris has been a major concert venue for the greatest piano virtuosi of Europe (Liszt, Chopin, others). In the second half of the century, France was the world’s leading venue for lyric opera. In 1966, seven years after André Malraux became France’s first minister of culture, an office of music was created under the leadership of Marcel Landowski, whose support for the popularization of music bore fruit (in June 1982) in the form of the first Fête de la Musique, which has since spread to 120 countries and 350 cities.

Musicians are trained in conservatories at the regional, departmental, and communal levels. Only two conservatories are national: the national conservatories of music and dance in Paris and Lyon. Arts Education Clusters are also accredited by the Ministry of Culture to confer degrees. The clusters operate in partnership with conservatories, universities, centers for the training of music and dance teachers, and centers for higher education in music and dance. The programs offered by the clusters are harmonized with the European degree system (bachelor, master, doctorate). Admission decisions are made by individual institutions. Certain private schools grant credentials that are listed in the French national registry of occupational certifications (RNCP).

Depending on their training and their instrument, musicians and singers may choose the stage (orchestra, ensemble, or soloist), the recording studio (film scores, advertising, etc.), or the classroom. Age requirements vary with instruments, levels, and specializations.

Related fields:
- Arts • Culture • Design • Enseignement • Management

Subfields:
- Acoustics • Audio-visual arts
- Composition • Crafts • Design
- Digital technology • Film
- Graphic arts • Heritage
- Multimedia • Music industry
- Music therapy • Musicology
- Performing arts
- Restoration and conservation
- Sculpture • Set design • Video
- Visual arts

International

Claude Debussy, Hector Berlioz, Pierre Boulez, Pierre Henry, Maurice Ravel, Erik Satie - these are just a few of the French musicians who have set rather than followed trends. Many French musicians and composers are recognized abroad for their unique musical mark, among them Michel Petrucciani, Pierre Boulez, Daft Punk, Air, Indila, Woodkid, Matthieu Chédid... Over the past 20 years, the National center for music has launched and supported the international careers of more than 300 French artists and professionals.

Countless foreign musicians have lived in France while pursuing an international career. Examples include Frederick Chopin (Poland), Jacques Offenbach (Germany), Yura Takahashi (Japan), Joel Cohen (United States), Ayo (Nigeria), Feist (Canada), Stromae (Belgium), and Ibrahim Maalouf (Lebanon). Anna Sulikowska-Migori (Pologne) won in March 2022 the first prize of the Maestra, competition international for women leaders in the field of conducting.

France occupies 6th place in the world music markets and is one of the largest markets dedicated to recorded music in Europe +77% (2022).

- 316 M€ in export revenues for the French music sector
- 80.5 M€ of export revenues for the performing arts market (2019)
- 1146 M€ in ticket sales (2022)
- 240,000 jobs in the music world (2022)
- 32 million tickets to contemporary musical and variety performances; 2.3 million attendees at operas, ballets, orchestral concerts (2022)

Sources: INSEE - MC - MESR

Related links:
- Campusart, art, design, music, architecture, ... degrees online application: www.campusart.org
- CDMC, Contemporary music documentation center: www.cdmc.asso.fr
- CFPFM, Centers for professional training in music: www.cfpfmparis.com
- CNM, national center for music: www.cnm.fr
- Culturethèque - Institut Français: www.culturetheque.com
- IFPI, International Federation of the Phonographic Industry: www.ifpi.org
- IRCAM, Acoustic research and coordination institute/mu-sic: www.ircam.fr
- La Maestra: www.lamaestra-paris.com
- Music Festival: https://fetedelamusiqueculture.gouv.fr
- Ministry of culture: www.culture.gouv.fr
- RNCP, national register of professional certifications: www.francecompetences.fr
Music

MASTER
NATIONAL DIPLOMA – 2 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – M2
120 ECTS credits

Some 20 universities offer music-related masters in the broad fields of arts, letters, and languages; humanities and social sciences; and science and technology. Specializations include music and musicology; musical heritage; music and the visual arts; history and analysis of music; acoustics and sound arts; orchestral performance; musical presentation; performance of ancient music; choir direction; theory and practice of the language and arts of music; sound engineering; and music therapy. The MEEF master in music education is offered at five universities.

To apply online:
Université de Lille: www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/447
Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne: www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/809
Université Jean Monnet: www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1270

DIPLOMA FROM THE CONSERVATOIRE (CNSMD) OF LYON AND PARIS
MASTER LEVEL – 5 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – M2
120 ECTS credits

The CNSMD in Paris and Lyon offer a 2-year degree. Students follow a curriculum that reflects their personal goals. The program develops their capacity for research, their autonomy, and their readiness for professional work. Various upper-level specializations are possible—among them song, jazz, instrument, ancient music, and chamber music. The upperlevel programs are open to students who complete the first two years at the conservatory or who hold a DNSPM in the area they wish to pursue. Other applicants undergo a competitive selection process.

SOUND ENGINEER DIPLOMA
MASTER LEVEL – 5 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – M2
120 ECTS credits

The CNSMD in Paris offers a 4-year degree in sound consisting of a common core (music, science, practice) and a professional specialization (classic or contemporary). Applicants must be under 26 and have completed 2 years of higher education in science, attained the DEM level in a conservatory, and have B2 proficiency in French.

MUSIC EDUCATION DIPLOMA
MASTER LEVEL – 5 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – M2
120 ECTS credits

The CNSMD in Paris and Lyon offer a 2-year degree in music education that prepares graduates to teach music in public schools. The degree can be earned over a period of 5 years. The program admits applicants who have earned a baccalauréat and either a DE in music education, a Certificat d’aptitude in music education, a DNSPM, or another degree signifying completion of undergraduate study in music. Students may also be admitted for the purpose of completing a bachelor’s or European Master’s (in the discipline and, if applicable, the field and option of the credential desired).

DIPLOMA MASTER COPECO, CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE AND COMPOSITION
MASTER LEVEL – 5 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – M2
120 ECTS credits

The Master in contemporary performance and composition (COPECO master) is offered jointly by four European partner institutions: Estonia Muusika-ja Teatrikaademia (national academy of music and theater of Estonia), Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg (Hamburg university of music and theater), Kungliga Musikhögskolan (royal college of music of Stockholm), and the CNSMD of Lyon.