

School of Music and Dance
Shaping the Vision

Discover

Assets/Strengths

PROGRAM

Fully comprehensive (music)	1
Equal concentration in American contemporary and African diasporic dance forms (dance)	5
Array of things ² for students to explore (ensembles, degrees, and performance opportunities)	
Breadth of offerings – curricular and performance-based	1
Broad scope of curriculum – more diverse topic/repertoire	1
Strong graduate academic program	3
Strong large ensembles	

QUALITY

Quality of teaching/pedagogy	2
Personalized instruction and mentorship	
Creative/research work at a high level/great variety	2
High standards in performance and academics	2
Degrees/classes/ lessons available to all	4
Open to diverse teaching and learning modalities	
Teaching quality	
Ample performance opportunities	

STRENGTH OF FACULTY AND STAFF

Faculty passion for education, research and progression	
Movers and Musicians	
Highly decorated faculty	
Active, relevant, connected work among faculty	2
Faculty	8
Strong staff support and interaction	
Staff	9
Large available, resident, passionate faculty and staff	
Strong quality of faculty – performance composition	
Successful mentorship in research/creative activities	3
Staff supportive	2
Commitment to craft	
Student-centered teaching	3
Committed faculty –to students/quality	5
Devotion of faculty	1

STUDENTS

Student-centered	15
Responsive and open students	
Importance of student success	4
Advocacy for students	2
Diverse student body	
Faculty and staff on board to create cohesive, creative learning environment for students	
Student professional successes	1
Strategic preparation for careers	
Gainful employment (esp. piano)	
Good ratio of faculty to students	

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Regional presence	1
Supportive local community	
Professional/facilitated interactions with community opportunities	
Community-centered	1
Communal activities through dance	
Chamber Music at Beall	
Unique relationship with OBF	3
Outreach	

CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT

Resourceful research university	
Wide ranging involvement among campus community	
Many guests on campus- visibility	1
Visible across campus – music/dance at events, campus culture	
Visible beyond campus – more awareness for sharing our work outside of campus (YouTube, Spotify etc.)	

CULTURE

Collaborative	4
Collegiality and support for one another	
Inclusivity	1
Adaptability and flexibility	3
Self-sufficient – can get things done on our own	1
Flexibility of our programs	
Welcoming community	
Welcoming, friendly culture	3
Open to change, engaged with the current important conversations	19
Creativity	
Team mentality	1

Transparent communication with Dean’s Office, SOMD, Jazz Education, Band Directors, alumni network	2
Innovative thinking, investment in grassroots education and community outreach	2
Collegiality	
Finding creative solutions	
Resilience	
Camaraderie and spirit of collaboration	8
Passion and enthusiasm	5
Flexibility	
Self-reflective	
Culture of collaboration vs competition	9
OTHER	
Many double majors	
Hybridity – multiple roles to keep things working	2
Strong Dean’s Advancement Council	2
Oriented towards professional development	
Cross cultural/intercultural currents	7
Research fuels education	4

SOMD
Discover

Values

Academic Freedom	10
High standards of excellence	
Quality of teaching/pedagogy	1
Creativity/research work at a high level – great variety	7
Shared aspiration of highest levels of student achievement	9
Accessible faculty	5
Necessity of music and dance	4
Value full spectrum of music and dance	
Value of performance	
Performance literacy	1
Serving the community and community engagement	11
Community building – campus, local, state, national, international	5
Community engagement	1
Local regional knowledge	2
Encouraging well-roundedness	2
Accessibility for all students	3
Equal access to resources	
Importance of student success	
Value students and their ideas	1
Student-centered	12
Students finding purpose	1
Student agency in process of learning	2
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging	6
Inclusivity and questioning tradition	6
Open-minded – not stuck in permanent structure or mindset	15
Keep our tradition alive while diversifying	13
Diversity and inclusion	
Welcoming environment	1
Adaptability and flexibility	1
Artistic integrity	5
Self sufficiency	
Personal interactions with experts	4
Collaboration	
Student/faculty wellness- mental/physical health	

Versatility in artists	1
Value of doing	
Pacing –time to process, time to create, time to rest	3
Collaboration and creativity	8
Flexibility	4
Curiosity- willingness to ask “why?”	
Humanity	2
Cultivating/celebrating the individual	4
Spirit of team work	
Irreverent –not set in ways	4
Humility	4
Friendly and warm environment	5
Inclusive	4
Safe space to grow into potential	
Creativity	5
Innovation	2
Discipline	

SOMD DREAM NOTES

High-Quality, Appropriate Facilities for Teaching and Performance

Mid-size performance hall

Facility that would house music and dance

Facility to expand Popular Music Program

Professional Chamber ensemble-in-residence (String Quartet, WWCE, dancers/choreography)

Performance Hall attracts major artists and our students would run sound, publicity; artists would give something back to our students

Performing Arts Center

- Facilities for full orchestra/open with pit – jazz – dance

- Backstage/greenroom/lobby area

- Blackbox theater

- Music Library in house

- Ample storage space

Performing Arts Complex

- Costume shop

- Scene/prop shop

- Rehearsal spaces

- Performance spaces – experimental, medium, large

- Fully staffed

Excellent large performance venue

Separate facility on/near campus for CMI (McMorran House)

Student driven recording facility – sound, video, dance with professional outlets

Concert Hall

Dedicated space for Music Technology

Complete revision of dance facility

Integrated music library and instrument storage

Potential satellite/ community outreach campus in Portland (in connection with Ballmer)

Collaborative, Effective Marketing

Marketing that connects with all residents to share our work

Input into promotion and marketing for faculty and student concert events

Better attended concerts

SOMD tour bus that takes our students out but also brings students here

Faculty input into revisions of new website

Free student tickets to all concerts

Identify as a school who “the community” is

Earn national recognition for excellence

Establish a unique identity

National and International visibility

Audience development

Earn national recognition

Compelling international identity
Reasons to choose SOMD over other accredited schools

Programmatic Excellence

Multi-disciplinary Popular Music Studies Graduate Program
Leveraging existing strengths – Artivism, Ecomusicology, HPP
Lab School (School of Ed engagement)
Teaching local music
Make our SOMD Collage Concert the thing Eugene/Springfield residents look forward to
SOMD Traveling concert series
Full time contemporary ensemble to perform modern students rep
Somatics as part of schoolwide curriculum
Fully staff SOMD preparatory school
Summer enrichment programs expanded
Increased resources for Popular Music and Jazz
More vibrant department with GEs (Dance)
Smaller undergraduate classes
International recruitment and retention
Production of art – performance space, instruments, equipment
Documentation of work and art – audiovisual, recordings, publications
Stradivarius collection

Collaboration, Partnership, and Community Engagement

Integrated community engagement
-Local bars as performance space; retirement communities
K-12 cross pollination
Meeting between OBF staff, SOMD faculty and staff about collaborative projects
Collaborate
 Co-teaching across academic departments; swapping classes
 Require courses in other areas *not electives
Thematic projects Touring to Recruitment to alumni connections
Cross campus
 College of Design –productions
 Architecture – design new performance hall
 Journalism – write/media
Collaboration between Music and Dance

Student Experience and Support

Every student could chart their own path/flexible degree
Student career opportunities – internships, job shadowing, self-promotion, conference travel
Fully funded graduate students in every program
MA/MM fellowships for under-represented students
Specific funding for students

Young artist/Emerging Professional Program
Exceptional Grad Students (ex. Ensemble Connect)
Research awards, Auditions, competitions
Fellowships for graduate chamber groups
Free student tuition
Develop pipeline from UO to employment

Faculty Support and Opportunity

Faculty and staff earning AFTAE finding they deserve
Faculty work-life balance
Faculty workload clarity
SOMD Wellness Center with cafeteria,, physical therapist, counselor etc
Hire more faculty/smaller academic class size
Free reserved parking for faculty; lounge/bar/café
Faculty staff access to gym
Faculty staff wellness center
Free parking
Faculty member teaches what they want
Everyone is TTF
Fully funded creative/research work

Donor Development

SOMD benefactors
Dedicated SOMD development department

SOMD

DREAM

Deeper Dive

Programmatic Excellence

See value in looking closely at programs we offer. One insight that is realistic right now and also aspirational in a way to help guide future decision making was to look critically and creatively at strengths across the faculty – this is a broad and exciting faculty in this room and this is something that is fairly unique that we have members across Dance, academic areas and Music that have points of confluence in expertise and interest.

One example: of thinking across areas: Graduate Program in Popular Music. At this point if someone wanted to come to UO students would have to choose one program - musicologist or theorist; There might be ways to look across and leverage our key strengths which exist right now to create flexible structures for students who want to focus on something that actually draws upon faculty expertise across areas. Another example might be the Climate Initiative that is the Provost's priority. There are people in this room who are interested in data sonification, ways to take environmental data and sonify it in a visceral and rich way. This is the sort of area - EcoMusicology more generally that could leverage strengths that are being pushed at Provost's level where there is more funding and resources to actually form these cross connections, synthesize ideas and catalyze new ideas across faculty members. As it stands right now it would be difficult to train someone in EcoMusicology because it is such a thoroughly trans-disciplinary concept. Thinking about ways to programmatically to create opportunity and flexibility for students.

Don't throw baby out with bath water. Let's make sure we know what we are doing well to not just maintain. We can do it all.

High Quality, Appropriate Facilities for Teaching and Performing

Making our case for Performance Arts Complex. Responsibility to prepare students to go into the real world and make real strides that are nationally and internationally competitive – if we don't have facilities for them to have that experience we are cutting ourselves short particularly competing with other institutions that do have the facilities. We are trying to lure students of high performing abilities- making case to come to UO, as opposed to peer institutions, and we run into problems because they have the facilities to support the experience in Orchestra, Opera, and recording studios something that fulfills needs of all branches.

Then there is the issue of the report (NASM) which highlighted the health and safety of our current facilities –not healthy for students to be there for length of time. There is a need for space for growing programs, expanding what we currently have and need to make a compelling case for. Finally, we need an aesthetically elegant space with superb acoustics that is nationally competitive and supports all artistic mediums.

Student Experience and Support

Underlying model for our group is that our students – grad and under-grad -are the next generation of music and dance performers and scholars.

We need to better support under grads by using curriculum and advising to prepare them for good jobs after graduation or grad study.

Develop internships, career fairs etc. to help students see and accomplish career path- in or outside of Music and Dance.

Support grad students through GEs, scholarships and tuition waivers, a strongly funded grad program makes us more diverse as we recruit internationally and support under-represented students; it enhances under-grad education.

It raises the level of faculty work as they collaborate with us and enhances the prestige of SOMD as they go out to perform, present and publish.

Faculty (and staff) Support and Opportunity

In order to best serve and graduate creative, highly successful students, and heighten our institutional impact on the study of music and dance in academia, we are in dire need of support for our faculty – all faculty. The nature of our work is physically, emotionally, and intellectually taxing. We are ready to dismantle the hierarchy of faculty status and provide equitable salaries and benefits and promote work/life balance- all in the spirit of wellness and sustainability. Then we can thrive in our workplace, dive into our research and thus become models for our students as they move into their fields beyond UO.

Collaborative, Effective Marketing

Broad vision statement with a lot of work under it. Spirited discussion had two prongs – market degree programs for students and events and concerts that we want to effectively share with the community to bring people to see hard work being done by students and faculty. Encapsulate in a very broad statement: SOMD aspires to attract a diverse population of creative and ambitious students and to share our student and faculty events with the community.

Collaboration, Partnership and Community Engagement

We have a commitment to Community Collaboration and Engagement. Why?

- responsibility to our community
- essential to have music and dance for a better society – not icing on the cake
- better prepares students for real life occupations – professional school
- makes our research and creative activity better – part of workload
- improves the health of our institution/community
- makes our “magic” accessible- you can do it or be part of it, one way to do that is a service-learning requirement for all students

SOMD

Vision Statements

1. The SOMD has a unique role to play as a small, comprehensive school of music and dance. We are just large enough to cover the gamut of topics but small enough to communicate and collaborate with one another and form an engaging community. As of December 31, 2029, the recent improvements in our facilities, particularly the new performance hall, have enhanced our ability to bring a world-class educational experience to the Eugene community.
2. The UO Institute of Fine and Performing Arts is the new home for world-class performance, fine arts, research and collaboration. We provide a space for all communities to engage with the arts at the highest level. Located in the Pacific Northwest we serve as a beacon of creative inspiration and exploration.
3. The College of Dance, Music and Theater
4. The SOMD is a premier, international destination for students and artists who integrate artistic creation, scholarship and community engagement. At the SOMD, we offer flexible structures for students to navigate, graduate on time, deepen their thinking with broad and viable pathways and enrich experience with one-on-one connection to faculty and staff. The SOMD produces and teaches about performance and creative arts that is truly of our time. We are committed to cultivating and sustaining a learning environment that prioritizes belonging and wellness for our students, faculty and staff.
5. As one of the most highly respected comprehensive institutions in the country, the UO SOMD honors tradition and embraces the tradition of change. Known for its state of the art facilities, the SOMD attracts a diverse and creative student population whose talents are fostered in a positive, individualized, supportive environment. Despite its impressive growth and pioneering developments, the school remains committed to remaining a leader in their field....and they have free parking!
6. The SOMD is open, welcoming and inspiring to the world. It is a beacon for students interested in integrating the arts and being a catalyst for creative opportunities to meet the needs of the current moment and communities they will serve. We are an essential part of living in the Eugene-Springfield community and the state of Oregon.