




The Future of Music Education

Actions for Higher Education Leaders

<https://bit.ly/NAfMEMTPI>

	 BEFORE THE DEGREE PROGRAM	 DURING THE DEGREE PROGRAM	 DURING THE FIRST 5 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL LIFE
Challenge	Narrowly defined and exclusionary audition requirements	Persistent inequities in how students are recruited, auditioned, and enrolled	Professional expenses, including college debt, are a burden for new teachers
Solution	Partner with underserved schools and marginalized students to better prepare students for applications and auditions.	Conduct a thorough audit of recruitment, audition, and enrollment practices to determine barriers that prevent qualified applicants from progressing; and expand the types of musicianship that are welcomed and supported in the music education program.	Offer scholarships and stipends for students to participate in practicum field experiences and other school-based learning opportunities during their music education preparation program.
Challenge	Negative perceptions of the teaching profession	Lack of alignment between university program content and professional expectations in PK–12 instruction	Isolation stemming from geography or being the only music teacher in a building
Solution	Partner with primary and middle schools to awaken students understanding of viable career/ educational paths in music.	Encourage collaboration with school districts to revise music education curriculum to be more culturally sustaining, equitable, and reflective of the needs of schools and communities.	Create meaningful spaces where music teacher educators and new music educators can gather for collaboration, discussion, mentorship, and brainstorming.
Challenge	Limited curricular offerings	Faculty need more training in addressing barriers, particularly those affecting marginalized students.	Failure to retain connections with the degree-granting institution
Solution	Expand the curriculum in music education preparation programs so pre-service teachers learn how to teach students with a variety of musical interests and skill levels.	Provide professional development for higher education faculty on culturally responsive practices and other instructional strategies to meet the changing needs of the PK–12 student population.	Create professional development programs for music educators to keep them engaged and connected to the collegiate program and the profession.