THEORY/COMPOSITION STUDIES

The composition program at CSUS offers students the opportunity to pursue Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in composition. Students receive private lessons and seminar studies from the distinguished CSUS faculty. Guest composers and lecturers enhance the program through their appearances at CSUS during the Festival of New American Music during fall semester as well as at other times during the year. Students have the opportunity to have their works performed at three student composition recitals during the year, including a special student composer recital at the Festival of New American Music. The program has as its goal the development of the creative abilities of each student and the ability to work in varying mediums and styles.

Guidelines for Bachelor Music Admission

Submission of a portfolio of three original compositions including the following:

- One ensemble work for two or more instruments
- One keyboard work
- One work of composers choice
- Perform and pass an entrance audition on a primary Instrument at the minimum level of entering performance audition requirements of Bachelor of Arts in Music
- Students will be placed at the appropriate level based on evaluation of submitted compositions.

Guidelines for Master of Music Admission

- Submission of a portfolio of three original compositions showing competence in working with larger forms (sonata, rondo, fugue, etc.) Including at least one work written for large ensemble of four or more instrumentalists.
- Whenever possible students should submit tapes of performances.
- Completion of an undergraduate composition degree or demonstration of similar competence and activity as a composer as evidence by submission of portfolio (see above).