

University of Southern California

Thornton School of Music

Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies

Program Learning Objectives

Jazz Studies (B.M.)

The purpose of the Bachelor of Music degree in Jazz Studies is to prepare students to create art and discover their own artistic voice as evinced in careers in jazz performance and in jazz education. Graduates of the program are successful as artists, often forming their own bands or joining established ensembles. Many also continue their studies by enrolling in graduate school to further extend their education in higher education. Upon completion of the Bachelor of Music program in Jazz Studies, students will:

- a. have the knowledge and technical skill to perform jazz music in solo, small combo, and larger ensemble settings at a professional entry level;
- b. demonstrate an understanding of the jazz canon and the 20th and 21st c. jazz repertory;
- c. have the ability to take aural dictation of music, make transcriptions, and to analyze musical harmony and structure;
- d. be able to work as a leader and in collaboration in areas of musical interpretation and performance;
- e. have an understanding of the societal impact of music and the ethical responsibility of a professional musician;
- f. have the ability to engage in life-long learning;
- g. have the practical, technical and historical knowledge to communicate their values and understanding of music to the world at large.