



N|E|C

Your future
in music
starts here.

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY 2024-2025

Discover your artistry in the heart of Boston.

Your path to musical excellence begins at New England Conservatory. Guided by world-renowned teaching artists, our 25+ majors and dual-degree program are designed to hone and nurture your unique musical identity. NEC's distinctive integrative curriculum empowers you to advance your artistry to new heights as part of a collaborative, close-knit community with a global impact.

Our 200+ faculty join us from the world's biggest stages, guiding students from the practice room to the performance hall.



Top 10 Reasons to Study at NEC

- 1 > **Learn From World-Class Faculty**
Study with celebrated musicians, award-winners, scholars, and passionate teachers dedicated to your growth.
- 2 > **Prime Location in Boston**
Experience an enriching urban environment and a vibrant cultural scene. NEC's campus is right down the street from Symphony Hall, home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.
- 3 > **Dynamic Music Scene**
Immerse yourself in a city that loves music, offering diverse genres and performance opportunities at every turn.
- 4 > **Collaborative and Supportive Community**
Benefit from a uniquely collaborative culture where students and faculty support and inspire each other.
- 5 > **Comprehensive Professional Growth**
Enhance your skills through an integrative curriculum, entrepreneurship programs, and numerous performance opportunities.
- 6 > **Prestigious Alumni Network**
Join the ranks of NEC alumni who win top awards, secure positions in leading orchestras, and succeed in diverse careers.
- 7 > **Sought-After Concert Halls and Facilities**
Perform in renowned concert halls like the iconic Jordan Hall and utilize NEC's state-of-the-art facilities to support your artistic development.
- 8 > **Enriching Ensemble and Chamber Collaborations**
Propel your success by collaborating with high-caliber peers and faculty in ensembles, productions, and chamber music groups, forging lifelong friendships and gaining transformative experiences.
- 9 > **Cultivate Musical Innovation**
Push your boundaries as an artist, exploring endless possibilities in music and developing a distinctive musical voice.
- 10 > **Tools for Success**
Meet the ever-changing world with creative confidence and the ability to innovate.



NEC Fast Facts

800
students

50%
undergraduate

40%
international

50%
graduate

48
states and
territories

38
countries

**State-of-the-art
performance
spaces**

8
concert halls with
recording capabilities

200
practice spaces

800
concerts and
events annually

**Renowned
Faculty**

200+
faculty and staff

50+
GRAMMY Award winners

11
MacArthur Fellows

51
Guggenheim Fellows

45
current members of
the Boston Symphony
Orchestra are NEC
faculty or alumni

Master classes and guest artists
NEC's series of master classes and residencies brings in world-renowned guests to inspire students and the wider NEC community. Recent guest artists have included:

Violinist **Hilary Hahn**

Film composer **Conrad Pope**

Composer/librettist **Mark Adamo**

Vocalist **Sara Serpa**

Vocalist **Paula Murrihy**



Multi-instrumentalist **Dave Holland**

Baroque violinist **Rachel Podger**

Pianist **Jonathan Biss**

Composer and flutist **Valerie Coleman**



**An independent conservatory
located in the heart of Boston**

Founded in 1867, NEC is the oldest independent conservatory in the country and a place where innovation has been at the forefront. Explore the newly launched integrative curriculum to learn more.



Imagine yourself...

In a city of endless possibilities

Boston is a city known for its rich history, musicality, food, sports, and museums. Fun things are happening in every neighborhood on any day of the week.

CREATIVE CULTURE

Explore 58 museums, including the Museum of Fine Arts (free entry for NEC students), the Institute of Contemporary Art, and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

A CITY OF SCHOLARS

You'll find more than 100 colleges and universities in the Boston metro area.

NATURAL BEAUTY

Enjoy a picnic on the Common, take a scenic walk along the Esplanade, or kayak down the Charles River.

GAME ON

Join die-hard fans and casual followers as they cheer on the Red Sox, the Celtics, and the Bruins.

MUSICIAN INFUSION

Boston is home to more than 20 concert venues, both big and small. Symphony Hall, home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, is just a block away.

OLD VS. NEW

The city's history is iconic — but we're also on the cutting edge of innovation, driven by the world's leading experts and highest caliber students.

ON A CAMPUS AT THE HEART OF IT ALL

NEC's campus is surrounded by incredible neighborhoods, restaurants, parks, concert venues, and arenas just a walk or subway ride away.

Your mornings will begin with sweeping city views from our contemporary residence hall. Your days will be filled with classes, rehearsals, and performances, as well as connecting with friends and expanding your interests in our many student-led organizations. We also provide you with the resources to stay mentally and physically healthy, enhancing your performance excellence.

NEC's supportive environment sets us apart as a conservatory. You'll receive the highest caliber musical education while making lifelong memories.



Departments and Programs

Strings (BM, MM, GD, GPC, DMA, AD)

Strings at NEC offers holistic training in solo development, chamber music, orchestra, and more. Our rigorous curriculum allows elective flexibility for individual discovery and development as a complete musical artist with mentorship by a renowned group of faculty who have had lifelong careers as chamber musicians, orchestral musicians, and soloists.

Woodwinds (BM, MM, GD, GPC, DMA, AD)

The renowned faculty members of NEC's Woodwinds Department, including two-thirds from the Boston Symphony Orchestra, provide solo, chamber, and orchestral expertise. Students perform in top-tier ensembles, including innovative wind ensembles, dedicated orchestras, specialized saxophone ensembles, and exceptional chamber music groups.

Brass & Percussion (BM, MM, GD, GPC, DMA, AD)

As a student in NEC's Brass & Percussion Department, you'll learn from world-class faculty from the Boston Symphony Orchestra and engage in dynamic performance opportunities, including solo recitals, chamber music, orchestra and wind ensemble concerts, percussion ensemble, and opera productions. Join a legacy of students and alumni who consistently secure prestigious orchestral positions.

Piano (BM, MM, GD, GPC, DMA, AD)

NEC's internationally renowned piano faculty guides students in developing their artistry across a vast repertoire. Trained to meet the highest international standards, students engage in weekly piano performance seminars, studio classes, master classes with visiting artists, solo and concerto competitions, chamber music, and festivals.

Collaborative Piano (MM, GD, GPC, DMA)

NEC's Collaborative Piano Department is a renowned program for advanced pianists focusing on piano-vocal and piano-instrumental repertoire. Through intensive daily study in performance classes, private lessons, and coaching, students master standard vocal and instrumental repertoire, cultivating the skills needed to become professional collaborative artists.



Chamber Music (MM, GD)

Chamber music at NEC focuses on total artistry, career development, and exponential growth in artists with the talent and commitment necessary to pursue a concert career. The Chamber Music for Pianists program offers pianists with significant experience in chamber music repertoire and performance a curriculum of intensive coaching. Our highly selective Professional Trio and Quartet programs offer a full tuition scholarship and a generous living stipend. Alumni go on to vibrant careers as full-time performing artists in chamber groups or teach at conservatories and universities worldwide.

Voice & Opera (BM, MM, GD, GPC, DMA, AD)

Led by world-renowned faculty with over 150 years of combined international experience, NEC's Vocal Performance & Opera Studies programs offer unparalleled training and performance opportunities in opera, concert, and song repertoire. Through the Undergraduate Opera Studio, undergraduates gain extensive specialized training in acting, movement, aria, and audition techniques.

Composition (BM, MM, GD, GPC, DMA)

Composition at NEC focuses on practice and performance, providing numerous opportunities for young composers to interact and collaborate with the world's best young musicians. Students learn from a diverse, widely-performed group of faculty composers who emphasize a highly individualized approach to composition in combination with a thorough curriculum of technical and theoretical studies.

Conducting - Choral & Orchestral (MM, GD, DMA)

NEC's Conducting Department emphasizes the art and craft of conducting, ensuring students develop musical excellence, teaching mastery, and lifelong learning. Alumni of the Choral & Orchestral Conducting programs have achieved notable positions with prestigious orchestras such as the Boston Symphony, New York Philharmonic, and Philadelphia Orchestra, as well as music director roles worldwide.

Contemporary Musical Arts

(BM, MM, GD, GPC, DMA, AD)

The performers, composers, and improvisers in NEC's CMA Department work with world-renowned faculty to hone their voices through deep engagement with oral traditions, interdisciplinary collaborations, cross-departmental projects, and innovative conceptual ideas. CMA alumni win Grammy Awards, score major films and video games, cultivate the next generation of great artists as music educators, and more.



Jazz Performance & Composition

(BM, MM, GD, GPC, DMA, AD-performance only)

NEC's Jazz Studies students are immersed in a pioneering program with a legacy of innovation, learning from some of today's most influential jazz musicians. Our rigorous and open-minded approach to improvisation and composition continuously evolves, fostering the development of each student's unique voice. The success of NEC's jazz program is evident in the achievements of our alumni, a who's who of jazz luminaries.

Music Theory (BM, MM, GD, DMA)

Music Theory at NEC is an intellectually rigorous and nurturing environment in which to pursue research, whether you are an emerging professional theorist, composer, pedagogue, or performer. Our innovative curriculum, led by award-winning faculty, merges historical context, musical detail, sound, and critical thought to help you find your unique voice in music history and theory.

Music History & Musicology (BM, MM)

NEC's Music History & Musicology Department brings together leading historians, musicologists, and scholars who are experts in their fields and passionate about sharing their knowledge with the next generation. As a student, you are invited to join these experts on a journey exploring diverse musical styles, historical settings, geographical locations, and cultural contexts.

Minors & Concentrations

- Liberal Arts
- Music Theory
- Teaching Artistry and Music Education
- Music Technology

Institute for Concert Artists (AD)

The Institute for Concert Artists (ICA) is a creative laboratory for musicians poised to make their mark on the world stage, culminating in earning NEC's prestigious Artist Diploma. Designed for strings, winds, brass, piano, voice, jazz, and contemporary artists who have demonstrated extraordinary virtuosity, the ICA provides two years of intense study, guiding musicians on the threshold of significant careers.

NEC + Harvard Dual Degree

NEC's rigorous five-year dual-degree program with Harvard College combines a Bachelor's degree and a Master of Music degree. One of the most competitive dual degrees globally, this unique program allows students to pursue dual passions in music and another field, accessing the world's best resources for both pursuits.



Explore NEC's Departments and Programs





NEC students perform frequently on and off campus in a variety of large and small ensembles, recitals, and new music concerts.

Orchestras

- Philharmonia
- Symphony
- Chamber Orchestra
- Lab Orchestra

Chamber Music Ensembles

- Guitar Ensemble
- Saxophone Ensemble
- Honors Ensembles

Voice and Opera

- Symphonic Choir
- Chamber Singers
- Undergraduate Opera Studio
- Graduate Opera Studio
- Liederabend

Winds, Brass, and Percussion Ensembles

- Wind Ensemble
- Symphonic Winds
- Percussion Ensemble

Contemporary Musical Arts

20+ ensembles based on the artistic needs of students. Past ensembles have included:

- American Roots Ensemble
- Ceol Irish Music Ensemble
- Rock Ensemble,
- Contemporary Vocal Ensemble
- Interdisciplinary Connections Ensemble
- Jewish Music Ensemble
- Mandé West African Music Ensemble
- Middle Eastern Music Ensemble
- Persian Music Ensemble
- R&B Ensemble
- Songwriters Workshop
- World Music Ensemble

Jazz Ensembles

- Jazz Orchestra
- Jazz Composers' Workshop Orchestra
- Gospel Ensemble
- Songwriting Ensemble
- Early Jazz Ensemble

New Music Ensembles

- Composers' Series
- Composer Recording Sessions





A Music Education You Won't Find Anywhere Else



As an NEC student, you will immerse yourself in intensely focused musical study while being encouraged to experiment and expand your perspectives. You will find the freedom to develop your musicianship and prepare to excel on the path ahead.

Integrative Curriculum

NEC's new Integrative Curriculum weaves together the many strands of a conservatory education, including music history, performance, composition, and entrepreneurship, in fresh and dynamic ways. Music is put into context through comprehensive and engaging lessons that connect coursework with real-life applications. In these courses, theory meets practice, projects are central, and music is a lens to other disciplines.

This innovative approach is just one way that NEC is pioneering a new conservatory model that meets the needs of the 21st-century musician. The result: NEC students graduate as holistic musicians with the tools and creative confidence to make a transformative artistic and social impact on their careers and on the wider world.



In the Integrative Curriculum course "Creativity and Manuscripts," violinist and faculty member Nicholas Kitchen asked students to look to Beethoven's own handwritten notation for insights into the composer's process and intended expression.

Community Performances and Partnerships

NEC's Community Performances and Partnerships Program is one of the premier programs in the nation for engaging conservatory students with the community through robust, meaningful activities and high-quality training. The Community Performances and Partnerships Program (CPP) interacts annually with close to 15,000 people through more than 600 events spanning ages, neighborhoods, ethnicities, and economic circumstances in the city of Boston and beyond. Through the CPP Program, students can explore what it means to be a musician living in and contributing to community life within an atmosphere of supportive mentoring, professional development, and experiential learning.

Teaching Artistry and Music Education

A robust teaching practice is essential to a 21st-century musician's career. Successful teaching artists need to be adaptable and skilled in helping a wide range of communities learn to make music. Deeply rooted in real-world learning opportunities and community partnerships, NEC's concentration in Teaching Artistry and Music Education provides an integrated understanding of music education that prepares students to become adaptable music educators. These artists possess the necessary tools to shape music learning within their communities as they contribute to the public good. Students gain the practical experience and skills to teach in a variety of settings, including private lesson studios, classroom co-teaching, sectionals, and adult education.

Entrepreneurial Musicianship

Through NEC's Entrepreneurial Musicianship program, students and alumni gain professional skills from conservatory-trained musicians with experience at a wide range of arts organizations. The EM program offers various ways to help you prepare for a music career. Career advisors guide you in creating your bio or résumé, preparing for interviews, and developing long-term career goals as an artist and professional. They can also help you apply your conservatory skills to jobs in various fields. EM electives cover topics like marketing, communications, financial planning, and legal issues. You'll learn by doing and can tailor assignments to fit your interests and goals. Internships offer unique, paid field experiences with Boston-area arts organizations and on campus at NEC, with some also providing professional performance experience. The EM Grants program can fund your ideas and passion projects while offering project advice, career coaching, travel support, and more.



"There is never enough music to spread to all the places and people that yearn for it. I hope I can be one more person who can help fill that void while using the technical skills I've learned in school so that I can bring a little bit of peace and healing to the community."

—June Chung '24 MM, 2022–23 CPP Ensemble Fellow

Apply to NEC

Fall admission applications will open in early **September** and should be submitted by **December 1**.

Applications for spring admission are accepted on a space-available basis for most programs. Students interested in a spring start term should contact NEC's Admissions staff about anticipated openings *before* applying.

Scholarships

NEC broadly distributes scholarship resources to as many students as possible rather than concentrating awards on a few, and our awards are based on merit and need. Scholarships are typically renewable for the expected length of a student's degree program: eight semesters for a Bachelor of Music, four semesters for a Master of Music, etc.

Applying for Aid

All students who wish to be considered for scholarship funding must complete the NEC Application for Institutional Scholarship + Financial Assistance as part of the application process.

Deadline for receipt: February 15

All U.S. Citizens and Permanent Residents must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to determine eligibility for federal need-based and non-need-based financial aid. Potential funds include Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), Federal Work Study (FWS), Direct Student Loans (both subsidized and unsubsidized), and ParentPLUS and GradPLUS Loans.

Deadline for receipt: February 15



Required application materials:

- ☐ Online application
- ☐ Prescreening recordings and/or portfolio
- ☐ Live audition (most majors)
- ☐ Unofficial transcripts
- ☐ Short essays
- ☐ Artistic resume, including a brief repertoire list
- ☐ English proficiency documentation (if applicable)
- ☐ Artistic and academic letters of recommendation
- ☐ Application fee

Scan here to learn more and start your application.



Expanded Education

Expanded Education at NEC celebrates music-making of all kinds, with courses, ensembles, and private lessons offered in everything from classical to jazz to contemporary improvisation.

NEC Prep

NEC Prep invites more than 1,500 students ages 18 and under from across New England to explore and find inspiration in music. More than 200 dedicated faculty members — including Boston Symphony musicians and NEC college instructors — are here to guide and support you on your musical path. We offer a broad variety of programs, including classical, jazz, contemporary musical arts, early music, and more.

Adult Education

NEC's Adult Education programs are designed to inspire, challenge, and ignite a passion for music and the performing arts in a vibrant community of like-minded people. With a legacy of excellence spanning over 150 years, NEC enables students of all ages to explore diverse courses, workshops, and learning opportunities tailored to their unique interests and goals.

Summer Programs

NEC's summer programs invite passionate musicians ages 13 to 18 from across the globe to immerse themselves in an unparalleled summer music experience. Aspiring young talents and seasoned performers alike will find programs catering to diverse interests and skill levels. Led by world-class faculty and renowned guest artists, our curriculum encompasses enriching opportunities like master classes, chamber music collaborations, orchestral and jazz training, audition workshops, and more.



Launch a Career of Artistry.

NEC students don't just *learn* music. They learn how to change the world *through* music.

Our students meet the highest international standards of music making and adapt to an ever-evolving industry. Our alumni have reached remarkable achievements in the music industry and beyond.



Lina González-Granados '14 MM, '15 GD

Major: Conducting

Resident conductor for the Los Angeles Opera, dedicated to highlighting new and lesser-known works by Latin-American composers.

In a profile, the *Los Angeles Times* said, "it's as if the music is alive inside her body."



Stephanie Economou '12

Major: Composition

Violinist and composer for film, television, and video games.

First-ever winner of a Grammy for video game composition for *Assassin's Creed Valhalla: Dawn of Ragnarök*.



Evren Ozel '21, '23 MM

Major: Piano

Performs internationally with ensembles, including The Cleveland Orchestra, RTE National Symphony, and the Boston Pops.

Winner of the Avery Fisher Career Grant.



Anthony León '21 MM

Major: Vocal Performance

Won the Metropolitan Opera's Eric and Dominique Laffont Competition for promising young opera singers.

Member of the Los Angeles Opera's Young Artist Program during the 2022-23 season.



Sarah Jarosz '13

Major: Contemporary Musical Arts

A four-time Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter, Jarosz's latest Grammy win was for Best Americana Album for her record *World on the Ground* in 2021.

The *Boston Globe* listed Jarosz on its list of "10 Artists We Can't Wait to Hear in 2024."



Karlee Kaminga '23 MM

Major: French Horn

Appointed the first female french horn player in the history of the United States Air Force Band.

Excels in her performance career while maintaining a private teaching studio of middle and high school horn students.

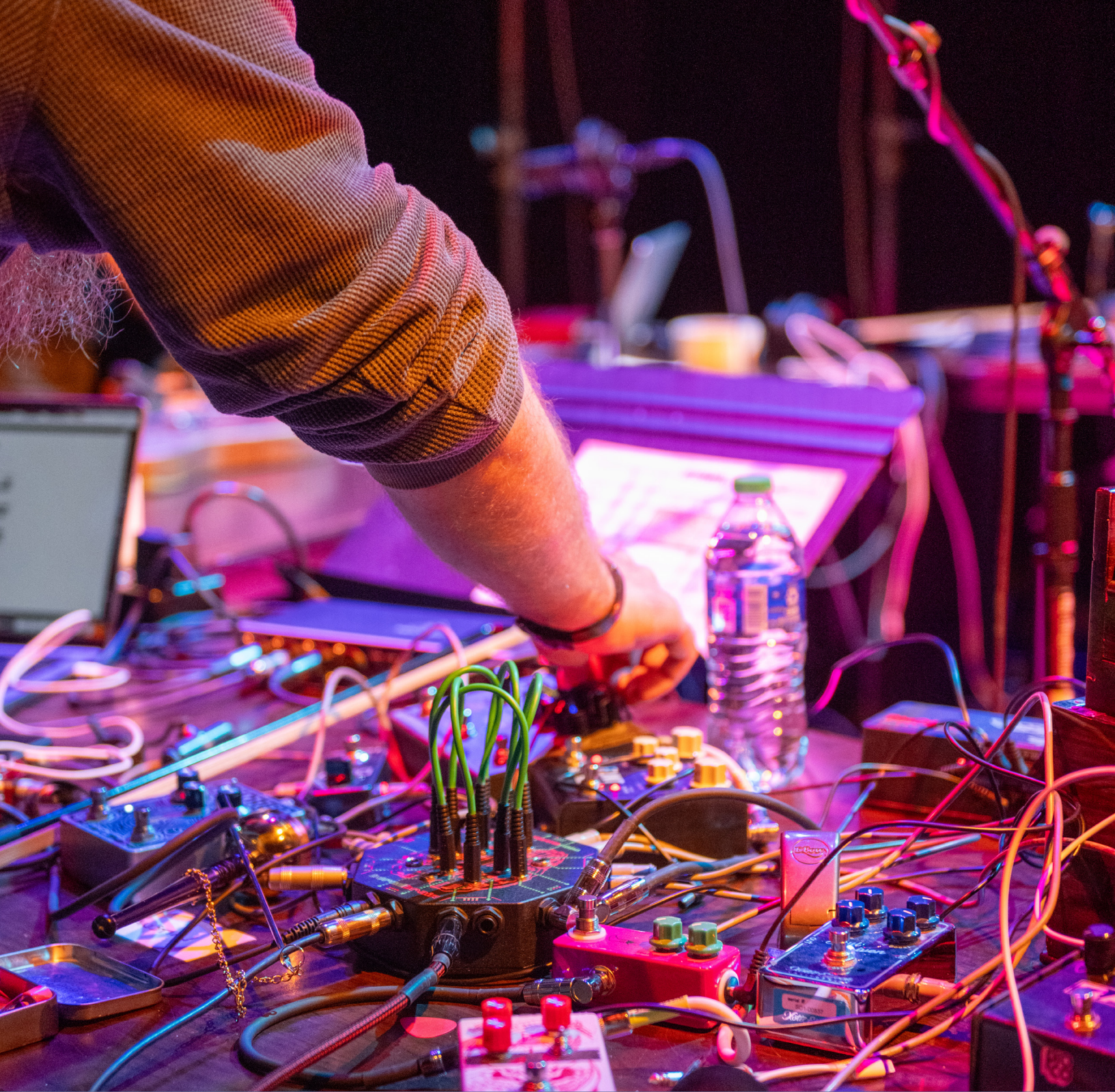


Picture
yourself
here.

Want an inside look at life at NEC?

Follow us on social media for performances, sneak previews, tours of campus and Boston, and the latest news and events. Sometimes we even hand the reins over to students and alumni for a behind-the-scenes glimpse into their experiences.





To access a digital copy
of NEC's Admissions
Viewbook, scan here:

