Visitors & Prospective Students

Directions to the Music Department (Occidental College, Booth Hall):

You can find directions to the College by clicking here, or use Mapquest or Google Maps to navigate to the intersection of Campus Road and Bird Road, Los Angeles, CA 90041. The Music Department is located at the intersection of Campus Road and Ridgeview Ave. (left) and Bird Road (right). Turn right from Campus Road onto Bird Road, and then take the first driveway to your right — this is Booth Hall, the home of the Music Department. The main office is on the same level, Booth 205.

Prospective student information:

Applicants to Occidental with an interest in music are encouraged to submit an artistic supplement — CD or DVD only, please — with their application. This supplement should showcase your musical talent: vocalists and instrumentalists should present at least two works of contrasting style or historical period; composers should present recordings of two contrasting compositions; and jazz musicians should present a slow jazz ballad and an up-tempo jazz standard.

Please mail this material directly to the Office of Admission, Occidental College, 1600 Campus Road, Los Angeles, CA 90041.

You should also give our website a thorough look, including the Student Handbook — and do let us know if you still have unanswered questions by emailing music@oxy.edu, or igirton@oxy.edu.

Awards for Oxy Music students:

The Howard Swan Award is given each year to talented first-year students; admitted students receive information about the audition process in May or June before they matriculate at Occidental. The Swan Award provides a year of hour-long lessons with Oxy’s applied music faculty, as well as a cash stipend each semester.

The James F. and Marie E. English Award is given to Occidental’s most promising voice student, supporting a year of hour-long lessons. Auditions for the English award are near the end of the Spring semester each year.

The Peters Memorial Prize is presented to the student who, in the opinion of the Music faculty, has done the most during the year to “advance the ideals and prestige of music on campus.”

The Warren Composition Awards are presented to students who have demonstrated significant achievement in musical composition. The awards are named for Elinor Remick Warren, an American composer who was associated with Occidental College. Awards are given for both acoustic and electronic compositions. Submission of compositions occurs in the Spring semester.