National Kaohsiung Normal University (NKNU)

Department of Music

Introduction

The NKNU music department was founded to help promote music and music education in southern Taiwan. The department was established by university president, Dr. Cheng-Hu Huang, and dean of humanities, Dr. Hu-Lin Chou, in August of 1994 at the request of the Republic of China’s Ministry of Education. Its purpose is to train music performers, composers and scholars, and to prepare students to teach music in Taiwan’s public high school system. Graduating students receive a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in music with the option of pursuing a public school teaching certificate. Major areas of study that are currently available include voice, woodwind, brass, string, piano and percussion performance as well as music theory and composition. A masters program will soon be added to the department, allowing students to pursue a Master of Fine Arts in music. There are eight full-time, and thirty-five part-time faculty members.

An important goal of the music department is to foster music activities both on and off campus. In keeping with this goal, both faculty and students are encouraged to attend, organize and participate in concerts, recitals, lectures and seminars.

The National Kaohsiung Normal University has two campuses. A new branch is located at Yan-Chao, in Kaohsiung County, and the main campus is in the city of Kaohsiung, located in a safe and spacious neighborhood next to the city’s culture center. The College of Fine Arts, which includes both the Music and Art Departments, is located on the main campus so students can have easy access to the art, theater and music related activities that take place in the culture center. Many shops, galleries, and eateries are also located within walking distance of the main campus, and city bus stops provide easy access to the rest of the metropolitan areas.

Facilities within the main campus include a library, computer center, indoor and outdoor athletic facilities, dorms, restaurant, cafeterias, bookstore, and student activity center. The activity center houses a post office, health center, auditoriums, and lecture rooms, and serves as the temporary home for the majority of Music Department facilities. In all, the music department has three large classrooms with high quality audio/visual equipment and grand pianos; a computer laboratory with Macintosh Power PC computers, MIDI keyboards, sound modules, scanner and laser
printer; twenty-five practice rooms (13 with grand pianos and 4 with two grand pianos); one Steinway Concert Grand piano; many percussion instruments for practice, performance and music education; various orchestral string and wind instruments; various Chinese instruments; two music offices and a student lounge. The department also works closely with the university’s main library to continually increase the number of scores, recordings and music sources available in the department’s music library.

**Enrollment Procedures**

The NKNU Department of Music accepts between twenty and thirty new students every year