

CONSERVATORY STUDENT COUNCIL: CORE VALUES EXERCISE RESPONSES

Why does music/theater/dance matter to you?

- Anyone in the world can enjoy those art forms, regardless of background, without any prior knowledge of them.
- I feel it is the life blood of humanity. It helps us to create, relate, and communicate universally.
- Music matters to me because it gives audiences and performers a sense of togetherness.
- Music is my religion.
- Music matters to me because it offers an opportunity for profound connection with myself and with others.
- Music gives me a way to challenge myself, both through a technical and emotional aspect.
- Dance matters to me because the stories it tells say more than what words can to an individual.
- It matters to me because it is a great sense of communication.
- Music inspires me to go outside my comfort zone and become more involved with the world. It is also a vital coping mechanism for me, especially when life throws you for a loop.
- The arts matter to me because they provide a sense of connectivity among people and help break the barriers that might otherwise separate other people from one another.
- Music runs through my veins. Theatre gives me the best feeling, one of extreme accomplishment.

What do you value most about being a student in a conservatory setting?

- The collaborations between departments.
- Having the ability to create with peers and form a community of artists.
- I value a broad and well-founded musical education, focused in on discipline but allowing me to freely and skillfully explore other practices.
- Getting to share a meaningful experience with like-minded individuals.
- A conservatory setting offers an opportunity to have tough conversations about art with fellow students.
- I value the closeness of the students and intimate relationships formed from witnessing the core of someone's soul through their art.
- I value the community. Everyone is here to support one another.
- I value the sense of community and opportunity.
- I value the people, students, and faculty. They drive me to do better as a musician and a human being.
- I have direct access to masters of their respective crafts as professors, and they each come with their own valuable skill set that will prove to be useful to me while pursuing my career.
- Having the opportunity to do what I love every single day.

What career are you preparing for?

- One in theater, hopefully on Broadway or in film.
- Acting. Film acting in particular.
- I am preparing to be an institutional leader and composer/performer in new music and jazz.
- A career of understanding is what I am preparing for.
- I am preparing to teach voice (privately or in high school) and perform (MT, jazz, other CCM styles).
- I'm preparing for a speech language pathology career in order to help vocalists facing difficulties to fulfill their full potential.
- I am preparing to be a performer, as versatile as I can be to be able to do anything.
- I am preparing to be a composer and whatever comes with that.
- My dream is to be a session musician. I want to be able to play in music for different albums and movies that I love listening to.
- I am currently preparing for a career in arts management/administration and dance education.

- A career full of acting on stage and film, creating and performing music and working with as many people as I can.

What do you sense are the 2-3 most important attributes or skills you will need to have by graduation?

- Self-awareness, kindness, and organization.
- Understanding the career inside and out, having connections with people outside of SU in the industry, and knowing how to market yourself/your talents.
- Ability to take a project from idea to reality with minimal institutional support; willingness to listen to/perform music that isn't readily understood or enjoyed.
- Empathy, recognizing my own biases, and time management are some skills I will need for my future career.
- Experience working with a variety of students in a teaching setting, knowledge of marketing strategy and business practice within my field, performance opportunities.
- I believe that the most important attributes are work ethic, flexibility, and an ability to be self-driven instead of driven by the praise of others.
- The most important things I'll need are networking/collaboration to get/give jobs, creative experience because the more experience I have being an artist (performing/creating pieces) the more prepared I will be, and representation for myself e.g. resumes, photos, reels, social media presence, etc.
- Knowledge and skills that pertain to my craft as well as the sense of good people skills.
- I need the technique and repertoire that every violist needs to become competent in the workplace. Professor Lederer definitely has been amazing at guiding me to my goals. I need to be able to work with people. I think that between the faculty and other students, I am learning more and more every day. This kind of thing I will never stop learning, because you meet all kinds. I need to be confident in myself so that I can continue to push myself outside of an academic setting. I am so lucky that the amazing faculty and my circle of friends support me the way they do, and I believe that I will be able to continue the cycle.
- Proper networking skills, financial management, and general management skills.
- The ability to work well with others, the drive that keeps you going after midnight and the patience you need to know that good things will come to those who work hard and have a good attitude.

What is it about a Shenandoah Conservatory education that you sense is worth the cost?

- The sense of closeness with faculty in my department, as well as alumni.
- Knowing that you will be at a place that values art and artists, knowing that you will grow here.
- The ability to pursue a world-class conservatory education in a small, close-knit environment. Most schools the size have mediocre programs.
- The opportunity to be in such a supportive environment where we strive to make each other do our best and be passionate in what we do.
- The willingness to innovate.
- A Shenandoah Conservatory education is full of close-knit relationships and support from students and faculty, rather than cut-throat competition.
- SU is cost-worthy because it offers an intense environment to push yourself while being a safety net for security when you fail and try again.
- The experience that the students collect along the way.
- The education from an academic standpoint is well worth the cost, but the community is priceless.
- We are given a number of opportunities to connect with organizations, companies, and individuals that actively practice what we want to pursue in the future.
- Learning how to respect yourself, directors and co-artists.