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Longy School of Music of Bard College’s Community Programs Division Announces New Pre-College Academy

Cambridge, MA: The Community Programs division of Longy School of Music of Bard College today announced their new Pre-College Academy, a program for serious high school musicians who plan to pursue a college degree in any field. Inspired by Bard College’s comprehensive and provocative liberal arts curriculum, the Pre-College Academy combines musical training with seminars and community service projects designed to set students up for success as they transition from high school into the next stage of their education. The year-long program also guides students and their parents through the college application process, providing support for application essentials including essays and audition preparation.

Says Longy President Karen Zorn, “Our Pre-College Academy embodies Longy’s mission to prepare our students to engage with the larger world—to think creatively about the impact they can have in their community and beyond. The Academy is unique among college prep programs in that it combines practical support for the college application process with liberal arts and life skills learning.”

Open to high school students in grades 9—12, the Academy will join a robust roster of Community Programs courses that currently serve close to 1,000 students ages 1—100 in the Greater Boston area, including the established Young Performers Program for serious musicians ages 8—13 and a new afterschool program for students in grades 1—3.

“Music doesn’t have an endpoint on the performance stage,” says Longy’s Community Programs Director Miriam Eckelhoefer. “Our program is geared toward college admission and musicianship, but it’s bigger than that. We want to help students shape their own musical identities and develop a sense of pride for the craft that creates sustainable, lifelong enjoyment of music.”

Details of the Pre-College Academy are listed below. To learn more about the Academy and Community Programs course offerings at Longy, please visit: www.longy.edu

About Longy’s Pre-College Academy
Designed for serious high school musicians who plan to pursue a college degree in any field, the Academy helps students and their parents think imaginatively and holistically about the college application process. In addition to providing support for application essentials including essays and audition preparation, the Academy combines musical training with a liberal arts curriculum that sets students up for success as they transition from high school into the next stage of their education.

Our signature seminar Perform. Write. Think. challenges students—through writing workshops and performance—to explore their role in the community and the role of the musician in the larger world. This seminar provides the framework for the Academy’s liberal arts curriculum.

The Pre-College Academy program includes:
- Weekly ensemble and musicianship classes
- Perform. Write. Think seminar
- Civic engagement projects
- Audition training
- Application advising
  - Access to college and conservatory admission counselors
  - Preparation of application material including audio/video recordings
  - College preparation workshops for parents

Admission to the program is by audition. Classes meet on Saturday. Open to students in grades 9-12. Students are required to enroll for a minimum of 1 year, up to 4 consecutive years.

TUITION INFO: $1,500/semester

About Longy School of Music of Bard College

Longy School of Music of Bard College was founded in 1915 as Longy School of Music by renowned oboist Georges Longy. A degree-granting Conservatory and school of Preparatory and Continuing Studies, Longy is located in Harvard Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Longy is led by Karen Zorn, who became the School’s 10th President in 2007. The school serves 225 undergraduate and graduate students from 37 states and 21 countries, and nearly 1,000 children and adults from the Greater Boston area. For all students, Longy provides a distinguished faculty that promotes profound musical understanding and technical mastery, encourages growth of imagination, and fosters inquiry about the role of music and the musician in the larger world. With a curriculum rooted in the traditions of Western music, Longy’s mission is to prepare musicians to make a difference in the world.

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