



Building the Pipeline: Encouraging Future Educators

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NAMM[®]
believe in music





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Key Areas of Focus

Recruitment, Retention and Mentoring

01

Teach Music Coalition

02

Enhancing College Recruitment

03

**Developing Mentorship
Programs**

04

**Early Outreach for Student
Engagement**

05

**New Educational Opportunities
For Music Industry Careers**





NEW UPDATE



teachmusic.org

In response to the nationwide teacher shortage, the **TeachMusic Coalition** was formed to help find resources and solutions for the immediate, short term, and longer-term challenges facing the music educator workforce, working to retain, shepherd, diversify, and recruit the next generation of music educators.

This coalition is made up of many industry partners, including the American Choral Directors Association, the American String Teachers Association, Music for All, the National Association for Music Education, the National Federation of State High School Associations, the NAMM Foundation, and many others.

Change in UG Music Ed Enrollment

2011 Versus 2022

Choral	↓	29.8%
Instrumental	↓	21.4%
General	↓	48.3%

Change in UG ME Degrees Conferred

2011 Versus 2022

Choral		14%
Instrumental		0.5%
General		38%

Change in Universities Offering ME Programs

2011 Versus 2022

Choral	↓	13.1%
Instrumental	↓	11.3%
General	↓	50%

WHY?

All Music Education

92%

Of all students have
ACCESS to **music**
education during
the schools day

55%

Of all students
PARTICIPATE in
music education
during the schools
day

8%

Of all students **have**
NO ACCESS to
music education
during the schools
day

Number of Music Students

In the United States

27,225,000

in 90,471 Public Schools

**What is the % Placement of
Music Education Graduates
Wanting to go into Teaching?**

100%

Change the Narrative



teachmusic.org

Information and resources for:

- Students, Parents, Educators, Counselors

Alternative Certification – Information organized by state to fully understand the process

Placement Tools

- Job Board (Newly Launched)
- Frontline Proactive Recruiting (Spring 2025)
- Direct Feed from Frontline (December 2025)

Mentoring Workgroup – Replicable models (Iowa/Idaho)





TEACH MUSIC

"You're not just teaching how to play an instrument, you are teaching them how to express their feelings and cope with their emotions if needed."

Miguel Ruiz Zavala, George Mason University, from Los Angeles, CA

"You can help students connect with music and each other in ways that they may not get in their day-to-day..."

Teah Harper, George Mason University Student, from Clinton, MD

TEACHING MUSIC: A CAREER CHOICE WITH REMARKABLE IMPACT

If you love music and if you love helping others get better in their music-making, then consider music education and here's why:

HIGH JOB SATISFACTION. A recent survey by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFSHA) found extremely high job satisfaction for K-12 music educators, regardless of where they teach, what they teach, or what grade levels they teach.

HIGH PLACEMENT RATE. The country is facing a shortage of music educators right now. A degree or alternate pathway toward music licensure provides a clear direction to full and meaningful employment.

DO WHAT YOU LOVE. Continue to be a music-maker as part of your career, instead of on the side. Many music educators not only help others make music but continue to perform, compose, and produce music in their communities.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Students benefit from music, not just by learning the notes but by being part of a caring community that values them and their contributions. You can help make the world a better place by supporting children learning music.

teachmusic.org

TEACHING CAREERS IN MUSIC

- BAND TEACHER
- CHOIR TEACHER
- COMMUNITY MUSIC TEACHER
- COMPOSITION TEACHER
- GENERAL MUSIC EDUCATOR
- KINDERMUSIK TEACHER
- MODERN BAND TEACHER
- MUSIC CURRICULUM SPECIALIST
- MUSIC SUPERVISOR
- MUSIC TECHNOLOGY TEACHER
- MUSIC THEORY TEACHER
- MUSIC THERAPIST
- MUSICAL THEATRE TEACHER
- ORCHESTRA/STRINGS TEACHER
- PIANO TEACHER
- PRIVATE STUDIO TEACHER
- RECORDING ARTS TEACHER
- SONGWRITING TEACHER

TEACH MUSIC

teachmusic.org

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TEACH MUSIC

Learn more!
teachmusic.org

Enjoy your work. Impact society.
Build community. Teach Music.



ARE THERE JOBS FOR MUSIC TEACHERS? YES!

Number of music teaching jobs in the US is currently **140,000**.

There are **24 states** facing shortages in music and arts positions in the United States.

Source: US Department of Education Teacher Shortage Area for 2019 & NWEA Education

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CAREER ADVANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

A career in music education offers a wide range of opportunities for personal and professional growth. As a music educator, you can work in schools, colleges, private studios, or community organizations. You can explore opportunities in research, curriculum development, or music therapy. You can continue to grow as a musician by performing, composing, or producing.

Inspiring the Leaders of Tomorrow

As a music educator, you can be an inspiration for future generations. By encouraging creativity and fostering a love for music in your students, and become more well-rounded individuals and better citizens in the world.

The world needs passionate, dedicated music educators to inspire and empower the next generation. If you are a young person with a love for music and a desire to make a difference, don't hesitate to pursue a career in music education.

DID YOU KNOW?

Your student loans may be forgiven if you teach music for a qualifying employer like a public school or non-profit. Learn more at TeachMusic.org.



teachmusic.org

<https://www.teachmusic.org/college-interest/>

TEACH MUSIC
COALITION

BE A FOUNDING PARTNER COLLEGE
SHAPE THE FUTURE OF MUSIC EDUCATION

Enhance Education
Provide resources for teachers, parents, students, and counselors

Foster Career Development
Support continuous professional growth for future music educators

Attract Enrollment
Collaborate with organizations to recruit and retain the next generation of music educators

Gain Visibility and Build Community
Highlight your institution among high-quality students nationwide and strengthen community bonds

Let us know you're interested - scan here!

teachmusic.org



Join Us!

TEACH MUSIC Home About TeachMusic Other Resources Job Board Contact

Interested in joining the TeachMusic Coalition?

Please fill out the form below! We will be in touch with you in the near future.

<https://www.teachmusic.org/coalition-interest/>

TEACH MUSIC
COALITION

Yes, I am interested in joining the TeachMusic Coalition!

Enhanced University Recruitment

Thinking outside of the "norm"

K-16 Initiative

Music ed majors serve as role models to inspire younger students to follow the same path. Use pro-sports model to emulate. Get youngsters on campus early through Junior Conservatory Programs.

Vertical Alignment

Middle School → High School → College
Establish a collaboration between university and district educators to establish a music educator career pipeline. Explore how older students can better serve younger students.

Expanding College Outreach

Enhance university/school relationships
Collegiate NAfME Networking through
Shadow a Music Ed Major Day & College Game Day
event similar to how college athletes are recruited.

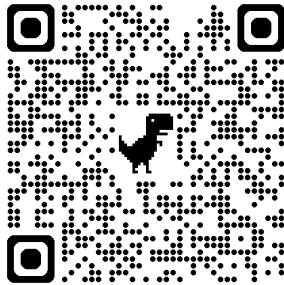
Universities have a unique opportunity to engage high schools in different ways than they have in the past.



College & University Case Studies

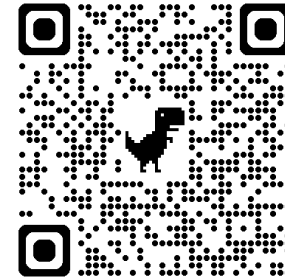
University of South Carolina

The University of South Carolina launched a Music Teaching Artists Certificate Program early January, 2025 to address the teacher shortage in South Carolina.



UNC - Greensboro

This model allows those with an undergraduate degree in music to apply for a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Music Education to provide them with the knowledge and skills needed for teaching.



Additional University Recruitment Strategies

- Collegiate NAFME students serve as ambassadors for *Music Ed Showcase Days* and/or *Shadow a Music Ed Major Day*.
- Paid work-study programs in local schools for collegiates to teach lessons, sectionals while also getting valuable teaching experience.
- Examples in Action
 - Carnegie Mellon Pre-college “Try-out” Program
 - Ohio State University Jr. Conservatory
 - Montclair State University





The High Cost of Higher (Music) Ed State-funded Promise Scholarships

Eligibility Steps: Nevada

Choose Eligible CC Institution

Be a Nevada Resident

Have obtained a HS diploma

Submit NPS application and FAFSA

Meet with a mentor prior to 1st semester

Complete 8 hrs of community service during the last year of high school

Enroll in at least 12 credit hours

Continuing Eligibility Steps

Students remain eligible for up to 3 years providing they continue to meet Title IV Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and enroll in at least 12 credits.

Meet with a mentor annually

Complete 8 hrs of community service each fall and spring semester.

Exemplary High School Models

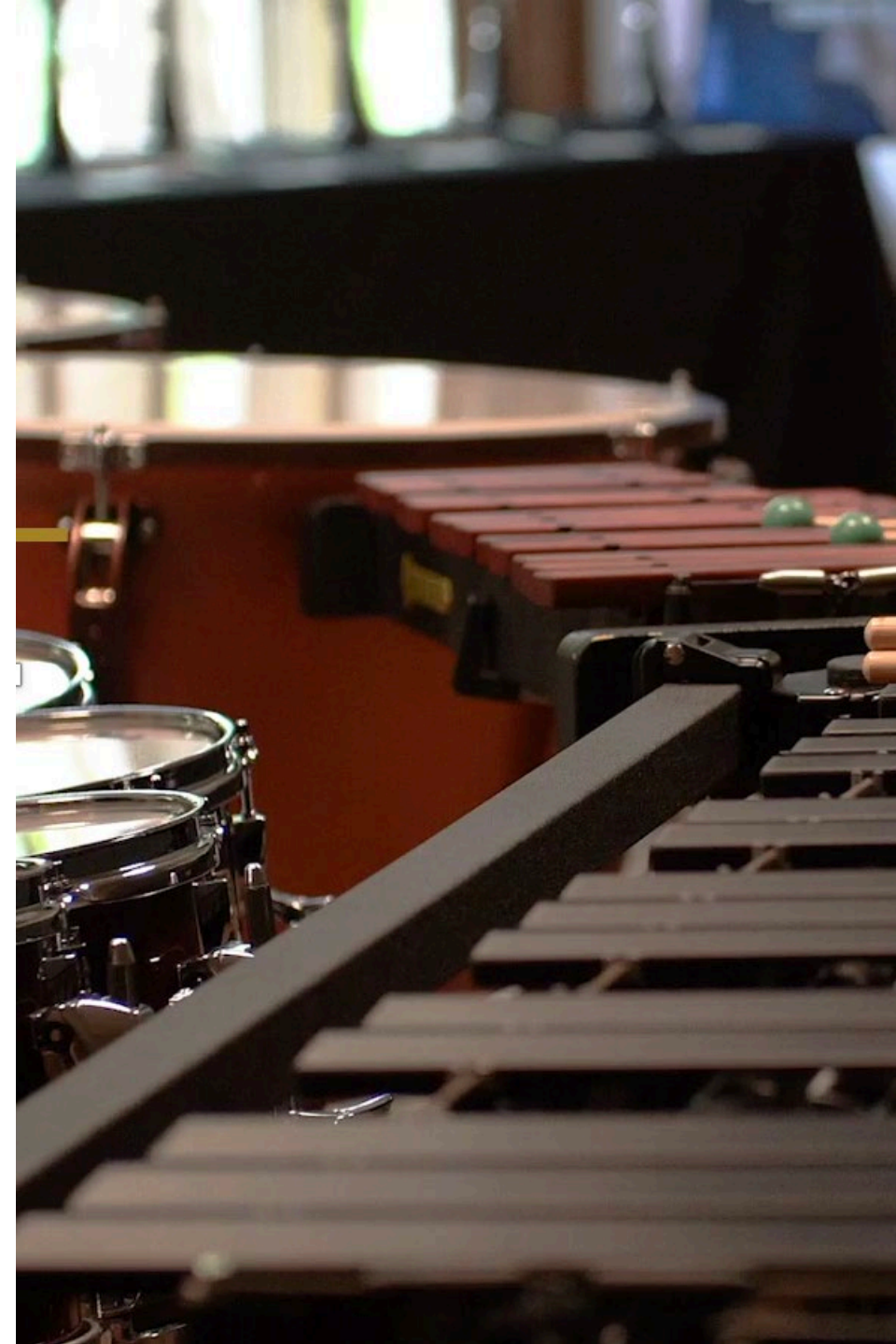
Portage PS (MI) Human Services Career

Pathway: Educator Academy: Cultivates foundational skills for a successful career in the field of education. Students work directly with young learners in an educational setting.

CCSD Teacher Academy College Pathway Program (TACPP)

Guides students in grades 8-12 toward a successful teaching career. Dual credit offered

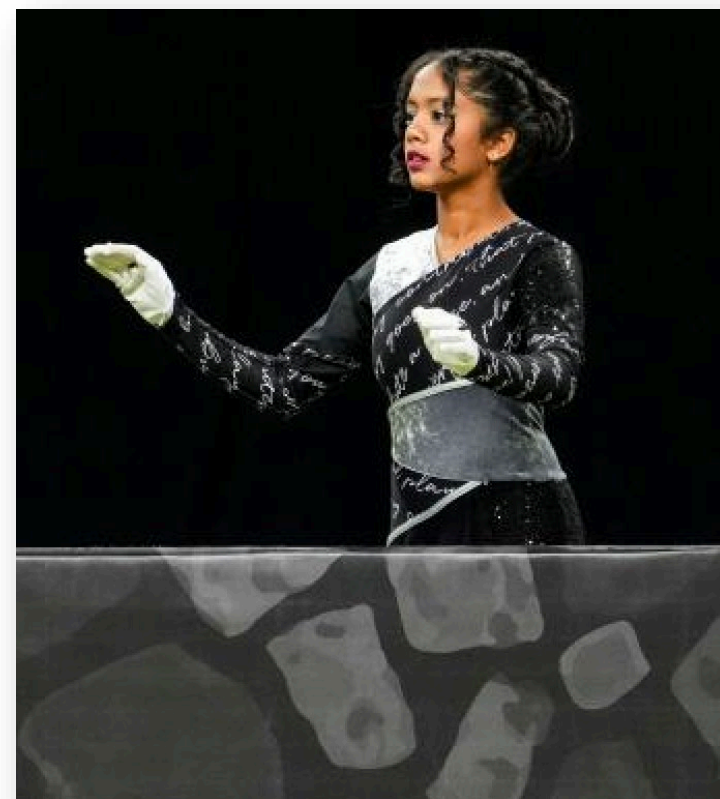
Nevada State University's Teacher Academy Pipeline Project (TAPP) The program provides opportunities for high school students to earn college credits at a reduced cost, participate in field trips to college campuses, and engage in learning experiences alongside peers interested in education.



What Can Current Educators Do?

Creating opportunities for high school students to experience success in education

- Leadership development in high school ensembles
 - Peer mentoring
 - Section leader
- Connecting drum majors and student leaders to music ed pathways
- Strengthening student leadership roles in music programs
 - Student led activities



Mentoring Programs

State Music Education Association



Alabama

Information coming soon

Arkansas

Information coming soon

Iowa

[Iowa Alliance for Arts Education Model of Excellence Mentor Program](https://iowaalliance4artse.org/mentor-program/)
(<https://iowaalliance4artse.org/mentor-program/>).

New Hampshire

[NHMEA Mentoring Program](https://nhmea.org/nhmea-mentoring-program/)
(<https://nhmea.org/nhmea-mentoring-program/>).

Additional Mentorship Opportunities

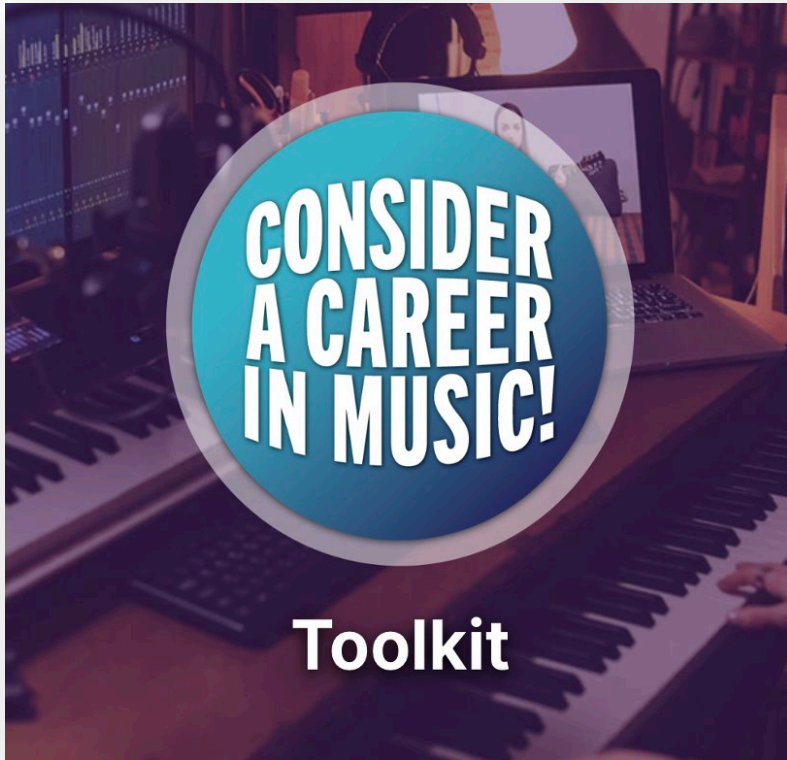
Activating opportunities at both the local and state level



- Life coach opportunity especially for those in more rural communities
- Leveraging School Music Dealers and their experienced reps to be a support mechanism for the teachers – not just transactional.

Preparing Students for Music Industry Careers

Creating opportunities for high school students to experience success in the Music Industry



Individually designed for Educators, Counselors, NAMM Members, Students and Parents include:

- Brochures, Posters, Handouts
- Powerpoints, Scripts and Guide
- Media Tiles
- Templates
- Discussion Prompts



Preparing Students for Music Industry Careers

"What should I major in to get a job in the industry?"

LOOKING FOR A JOB IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY?



Music Industry

Music Business/Management

**Music Production and
Engineering**

Recording and Production

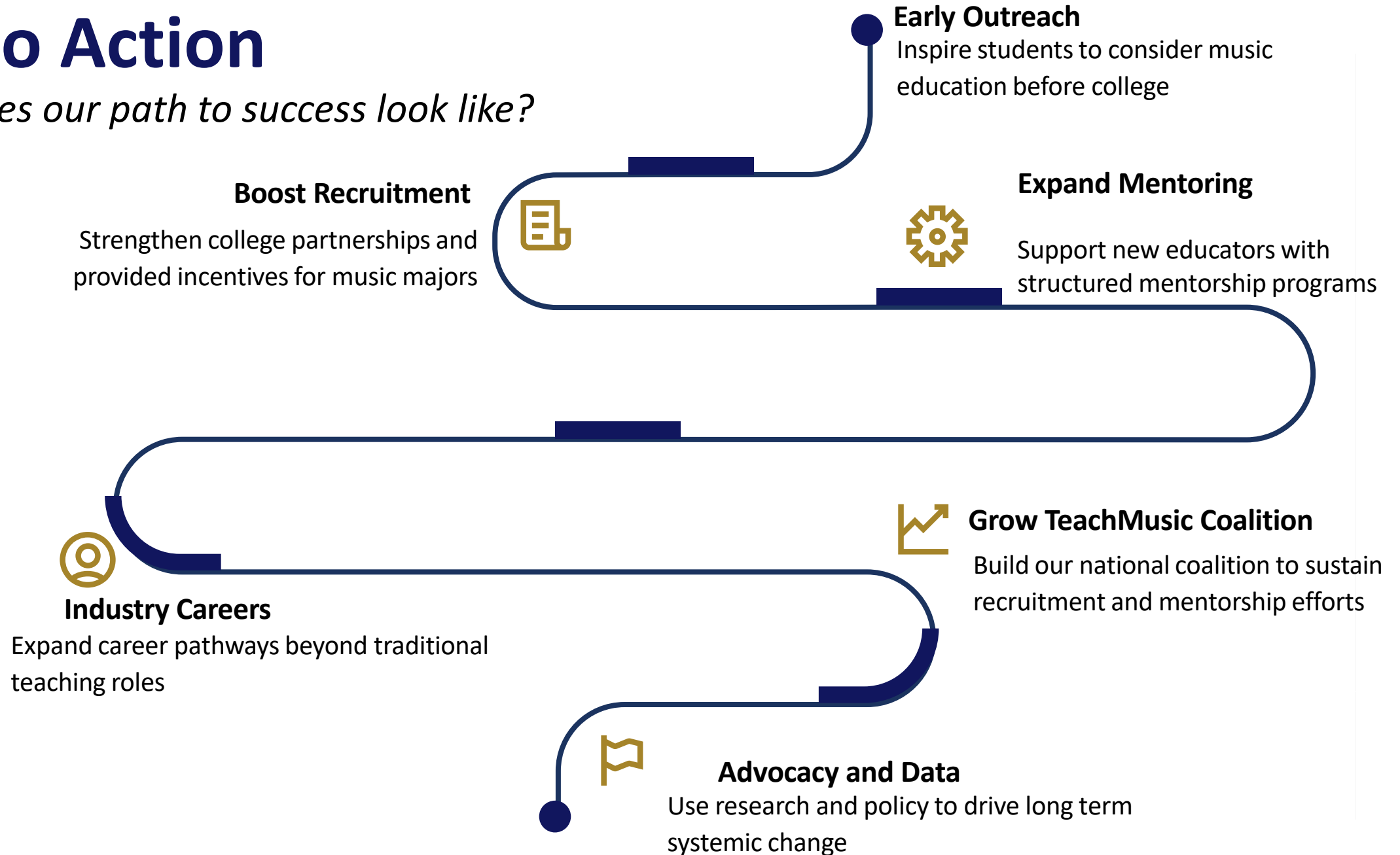
**Contemporary Writing and
Production**

Film and Media Scoring

Song Writing

Call to Action

What does our path to success look like?





**Miss anything?
It's all right here!**

