

# **Department of Music Statement**

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**The Binghamton University Department of Music recognizes that Black Lives Matter. We condemn the murders of Breonna Taylor, Daniel Prude, Nina Pop, George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many others. Police violence, systemic racial inequities, and casual racism cut to the very foundations of our society. University music departments, including ours, have historically functioned as instruments of white supremacy, and they have perpetuated racism in the United States. Our department recognizes that we are all part of the problem. Examination of pre-existing power structures and fundamental institutional change are necessary. The faculty wants to listen and respond to all of our students, especially Black, Indigenous, and Students of Color, whose perspectives on the musical, academic, and social worlds of our department matter. As a community, we pledge to undertake more inclusive approaches to all activities, including concert programming and course material. Recognizing the role that music can play in social justice movements and in building community, we commit to antiracism in everything that we do.**

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