Become a Transformational Leader in Worship & the Arts
Worship... It can be creative, powerful, transformational. Worship transcends the distance between created and Creator. It provides a dynamic language through which we are able to connect with the Divine. And worship can lead to deeper understanding, a new way of seeing Christ at work in the world around us.

At the same time, worship can be used as a weapon, ultimately resulting in polarization and crippling division. These are powerful realities, and those who play a role in the immense task of worship leadership, do well to ask certain questions: What is worship and why is it fundamental to us as human creatures? What is it that changes when we move from a personal place of worship to a corporate gathering of worship? When Christians are gathered in faith, what are helpful ways of shaping these gatherings? What theological frameworks are helpful for those who provide artistic leadership in the church?

At Azusa Pacific, we understand that worship deals with some of the deepest and most powerful questions of life, and those who lead worship are called upon to address these questions with great knowledge, discernment, and artistic skill.

We also understand that the worship gathering is shaped and guided by not just one, but a team of many. This team of gifted and discerning individuals work together in dynamic collaboration to help guide the collective of those gathered for Christian worship.

The APU Worship Arts program prepares individuals and teams for ministry, providing the skills and tools for discernment, theological reflection, and artistic growth. If these priorities reflect your own, we would love to begin a conversation with you...

An Innovative Degree for a Dynamic Field

In an ever-evolving ministry environment, difference makers are needed to help shape the trajectory of worship.

An expertly crafted degree prepares students for a wide range of potential roles and responsibilities in worship design, leadership, and service. Eight concentrations provide opportunities for specialization, developing relevant skills and nuanced education in a variety of areas. As a result, each student is uniquely prepared with artistic tools relevant to both their craft and desired area of ministry.

Build Relationships with Faculty & Mentors

From nationally recognized songwriters and recording artists, to local worship leaders, music directors, and expert faculty, you will hear from experienced individuals who have a vested interest in your success. These trusted individuals help guide and shape the worship arts program at Azusa Pacific, and regularly make themselves available for conversation and mentoring.

Internships

Azusa Pacific maintains connections with a wide range of churches in the Southern California area, providing strategic connections with local worship leaders, musicians, and artists.
Vocational Opportunities

A wide range of vocational leadership roles allow for the integration of artistic skills:

- Worship Pastor
- Creative Arts Director
- Singer/Songwriter
- Choral/Instrumental Music Director
- Service Production
- Arranger or Orchestrator
- Music Publishing
- Recording or Live Sound Engineer

Concentrations

Concentrations in eight strategic areas allow for specialization. Each concentration is carefully crafted for the benefit and development of individual areas of strength and expertise:

- Songwriting
- Performance
- Music Production
- Global Worship
- Christian Ministries
- Youth Ministries
- Biblical Studies
- Art & Graphic Design

The Angeles Worship Initiative

As the recent recipient of a $1 million grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc, Azusa Pacific is strategically engaging with churches to help innovate new models for youth ministry through worship and the arts.

APU students participate as worship leaders, instructors, mentors, and counselors in events such as Worship Arts Lab, Songwriting & Scriptwriting Academy, and the Angeles Worship Summit.
The Music & Worship program and faculty at APU radically deepened my view of what worship is. The program equipped me with tools to teach, and in turn, deepen the understanding of worship within the youth ministry at my own church. — Sarah Sattler ’16
APU Music & Worship Alumni

Melanie Tierce  
Recording Artist  
People & Songs

Aja Grant  
Gospel Choir Director, Biola University  
Worship Pastor, Hope’s House Los Angeles

Alex Ortiz  
Worship Leader, Youth Ministries  
Mariners Church, Irvine, CA

Alexis Ruiz  
Worship Leader  
Elevate Church  
Santa Clarita, CA

Katie Badertscher  
Choral Director  
King of Glory Lutheran Church  
Fountain Valley, CA

Seulki Hong  
Worship Pastor  
Seoul, South Korea

Hunter Van Dam  
Instrumental Music Director  
Calvary Community Church  
Westlake Village, CA  
Freelance Double Bass

Trevor Ludlow  
Worship Leader  
Full Sail Ministries

Nicole Hurte  
Children’s Choir Director  
Christ First Church  
Covina, CA

Tyler Greek  
Worship Pastor  
NewSong Church  
San Dimas, CA

Stefan Paz  
Freelance Guitar  
Worship Leader

Lauren Sopp  
Voice Teacher  
Crescendo Performing Arts Academy

Through studying the beauty of diverse traditions and practices around the world, I experienced worship in a new and fuller way.
— Chloe Hoy-Bianchi ‘18
Jake Strommen  
Worship Pastor  
Solid Ground Church  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Angel Urias  
Freelance Drummer  
Worship Leader  
Azusa, CA

Chris Barrett  
Worship Pastor  
Riverside Church  
Lakeside, MN

Esther Kim  
Worship Pastor  
San Gabriel Presbyterian Church  
San Gabriel, CA

Noah Branson  
Worship Pastor  
Covina United Methodist Church  
Covina, CA

Hailey Gerken  
Worship Pastor  
Purpose Church  
Claremont, CA

James Brooks  
Director, Chapel Bands  
Azusa Pacific University  
Worship Pastor  
Grande Church, La Verne, CA

Elizabeth Bennett  
Performing Artist  
Disney, Shanghai & Hong Kong

Anna Curalli  
Worship Leader  
Hunger and Thirst Ministry  
Youth With A Mission

Bradley Smit  
Worship Leader  
Generation Church  
Mesa, AZ

Brooke Myers  
Voice Instructor, Crescendo  
Performing Arts Academy  
Creative Director, Together We Liberate

Brent Martz  
Creative Arts Pastor, Executive Pastor, Movie Producer  
Rocky Peak Church, Friends Church, Becoming Church

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Connect With Us
For more information or to learn about other majors and opportunities at Azusa Pacific, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions:
admissions@apu.edu  
(626) 812-3016  
901 E. Alosta Ave., PO Box 7000, Azusa, CA 91702