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**MACEWAN NOW OFFERS A BACHELOR OF MUSIC IN JAZZ AND CONTEMPORARY POPULAR MUSIC**

Edmonton—Grant MacEwan University is proud to announce its new music degree: Bachelor of Music in Jazz and Contemporary Popular Music (BMus). MacEwan has been developing this four-year degree for the past decade and the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology approved it after a recommendation from the Campus Alberta Quality Council.

Following the successful completion of their first year, BMus students will select a major: BMus General, BMus Performance, or BMus Composition. The MacEwan BMus Performance majors may select voice, piano/keyboard, bass, percussion, guitar or winds. The MacEwan BMus Composition major entails an in-depth study of music composition towards the creation of artistic and commercial works and arrangements in jazz and popular music. The MacEwan BMus General route offers two unique minors: Music Technology and Production, and Music Career Management.

“This has been a ten-year labour of love,” said Denise Roy, Dean, Centre for the Arts and Communications (CFAC). The MacEwan BMus is the right credential for the times and will add value to the academic study of music, the skills and industry-readiness of graduates, and the economic and social development on music in Alberta.

The MacEwan Music Program’s philosophy is that students benefit by studying with working professionals while at the same time accessing an academically rigorous curriculum. While the studies of jazz and contemporary popular music are different, the generic musical skills have a degree of synergy that aids performance and composition in both areas.

MacEwan is now preparing for the first-year intake of students in September 2011.

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