



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS

Rudi E. Scheidt
School of Music

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC BUSINESS

SEARCH PROFILE

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music at the University of Memphis (UofM). It is an exciting time at UofM and the School of Music. We are in the midst of a university-wide strategic plan, and the School of Music has entered a historic chapter with the opening of the Scheidt Family Performing Arts Center, the launch of new academic programs, and record enrollment gains. As a faculty member in the School of Music and the College of Communication & Fine Arts (CCFA), now is the time for someone to bring their enthusiasm and new ideas to help us shape the lives of future artists so they can have an impact on an evolving, global community.

Like Memphis, the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music is on the move. As the only doctoral music program in Tennessee and home to 30 distinct areas of study, including music business, music therapy, audio engineering, and popular music, there are plenty of opportunities for research and creative activity within the school, CCFA, and across our R1 campus. We are also very fortunate to have dozens of strategic partnerships across the community, which allow for internships, fellowships, and teaching and performance opportunities within professional arts organizations.

In fall 2023, the school implemented the most significant changes to our undergraduate music curriculum in decades to position our students to be competitive for fulfilling careers across the creative industry. We have woven key professional skills (such as music business, technology, pedagogy, presentation skills, the creation of music, and multi-genre artistry) throughout our degree plans, uniting our coursework behind a central goal and positioning the school to have one of the most forward-thinking programs in the country.

A cutting-edge curriculum demands cutting-edge facilities, and in spring 2023, with much fanfare, UofM opened the \$40 million Scheidt Family Performing Arts Center. This major addition to the School of Music is a beautiful, state-of-the-art facility boasting an acoustically superior 900-seat concert hall, professional recording studios, several large rehearsal spaces and specialized practice rooms. This school is designing musicians that will be ready for a multitude of opportunities anywhere in the world.

With its rich culture and vibrant arts scene, there are few places better for a musician than Memphis, TN. We are exceedingly fortunate to have a superb faculty and staff who are incredible colleagues and are eager to achieve new heights of excellence. It could not be a better time to join our ranks.

I thank you for your interest in being a part of the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music and I welcome your application to join our program!

Go Tigers, Go!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin M. Sanders".

Kevin Sanders

MISSION

The mission of the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music is to serve as an incubator of talent and ideas that will shape the future of music making.

VISION

The Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music is committed to excellence in music creation, scholarship, and in every field of the music industry.



UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS OVERVIEW

The [University of Memphis](#) (UofM) is a comprehensive, internationally recognized, urban public research university preparing students for success in a diverse, innovative, global environment. Student success, service, innovation, diversity and inclusion, collaboration and accountability are core values at the University of Memphis.

The University is classified as “Carnegie R1” or “Doctoral: Very High Research Activity and Community Engaged” per the Carnegie Classification for Institutions of Higher Learning. With a focus on research and service benefitting communities locally and across the globe, we are home to nationally designated centers of excellence in cybersecurity research and education, transportation workforce development, mobile health data and five Tennessee centers of research excellence.

The UofM is dedicated to providing the highest quality of education to a diverse student body that includes members who are of all ages, racial and ethnic heritages, backgrounds (including a significant proportion of students who are Pell eligible), as well as veterans and first-generation college students. Academic degree programs at the undergraduate, masters, doctoral and professional levels as well as certificate programs are offered on the main campus in Memphis, the Lambuth campus in Jackson and through UofM Global. The UofM awards approximately 4,700 degrees and certificates annually. Talented and innovative faculty have developed both undergraduate and graduate programs that are ranked in the top 25 nationally. Our metropolitan setting has enabled us to build a nationally recognized internship program that facilitates the placement of undergraduate and graduate students throughout the community in nonprofit and for-profit organizations that specialize in healthcare, government, transportation and logistics, music and entertainment, medical devices, banking and the arts.

Founded in 1912, we welcome more than 21,000 students to campus every year. Diversity is one of our strengths. Students and faculty come from all over the world to be a part of the UofM experience. The campus boasts 25 Chairs of Excellence and five state-approved Centers of Excellence.



MISSION

Produce well-rounded, successful graduates and cutting-edge research for the enrichment of our ever-changing society.

VISION

To become a nationally recognized public research university.

 [VIDEO: The President's Perspective](#)





RUDI E. SCHEIDT SCHOOL OF MUSIC OVERVIEW

The [Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music](#) has a 110-year history of producing successful and accomplished music professionals.

Anchored in the culturally diverse and musically rich, cosmopolitan city of Memphis, the School's inclusive programs inspire, train, and launch sustainable careers for musicians, scholars, and industry professionals of tomorrow. Instructing over 400 students in 30-degree concentration areas, the School's 70 full- and part-time faculty remain focused on student success inside and outside the classroom. The Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music is the only doctoral-granting institution in Tennessee.

Celebrating 40 years in 2021, the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music's music industry programs have alumni with successful careers in recording, music publishing, marketing, artist management, and more. Through experiential training with the School's student-run label, BlueTom Records, and the school's on-campus record company, High Water Records and its publishing imprint, Music River Publishing, students can acquire comprehensive insight and experience across the many sub-disciplines of the music business. Based in the heart of Memphis, the program allows students to learn in a thriving music community mere minutes from where soul and rock and roll pioneered at Stax Records and Sun Records.

With the opening of the new Scheidt Family Music Center in 2023, the school has solidified its place as the most comprehensive School of music in the region. The 82,000 square-foot Music Center boasts state-of-the-art facilities, including a 900+ seat concert hall.

The Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music and housed in the [College of Communication and Fine Arts](#).

DEGREES

COMPOSITION

BM | MM | DMA

COMMERCIAL MUSIC + SONGWRITING

BM

CONDUCTING

MM | DMA | AD

JAZZ + STUDIO MUSIC

BM | MM

MUSIC BUSINESS

BM

MUSIC EDUCATION

BM | MM | MAT | PHD

MUSIC THERAPY

BM

MUSICOLOGY

BM | MM | PHD

PEDAGOGY

MM

PERFORMANCE

BM | MM | DMA | AD

RECORDING TECHNOLOGY

BM

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC BUSINESS OVERVIEW

The [Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music](#) at the University of Memphis invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professor in its Music Business program to begin in August 2024. The Music Business program is a collaborative, multidimensional area housed in the School of Music's Popular Music Division with audio engineering and popular music and songwriting.

POSITION: Assistant professor of Music Business
RANK: Assistant professor, tenure track
SALARY: Competitive and commensurate with experience

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Advanced degree in music or a field related to music business and/or significant professional experience preferred.
- Proven track record of professional development
- Significant experience and success in the music and creative industries on a national/international level
- Demonstrated knowledge of methodologies, developments, emerging and current trends within the industry
- Evidence of prior teaching experience and student successes is preferred
- A strong interest in and experience with community engagement, music entrepreneurship, music leadership, and/or other nontraditional career models is desirable.
- Demonstrated commitment to working with an inclusive student population and their ability to contribute in meaningful ways to the diversity and collective mission, vision and operating standards of the School of Music.
- Ideally, the candidate would bring his or her expertise to assist the university-run record labels, which include High Water Records.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Oversee the Music Business program, establish a progressive vision for the program, hire qualified part-time faculty, manage student-run record labels, coordinate/develop recruitment activities and special events, and advance innovative curricular initiatives.
- Teaching in the candidate's areas of expertise, which may include established courses such as artist management, publishing and copyright, music industry contracts, music distribution, entrepreneurship, business communications, concerts and touring, record label operations, music marketing, and management.
- Work with areas across the School of Music, the University, and the community to develop, maintain, and grow interdisciplinary collaborations and partnerships.
- Develop courses that advance students in programmatic, departmental, and college goals to ensure that students are future-ready.
- Technological proficiency with online/remote learning platforms (e.g. Canvas) and ability to integrate technology in the classroom
- Supervise, maintain, and develop the student internship program.
- Contribute to the University of Memphis Popular Music Division's visibility through engagement in significant professional activities including maintaining regional, national and international visibility in creative activity, conference presentations, publications, services to the school/college/university/community, and student mentorship.

APPLICATION:

Candidates should go to: <http://workforum.memphis.edu> to submit an application. Additional items required at the time of application include the following:

- Cover letter
- Curriculum Vitae
- Complete contact information (address, phone, and email) for four professional references

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Preference will be given to candidates that apply by November 3, 2023. Review of applications may continue until a successful candidate is named.

Professor Elise Blatchford
Chair, Assistant Professor of Music Business Search Committee
Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music
e.blatchford@memphis.edu



CITY OF MEMPHIS OVERVIEW

Welcome to Memphis, a one-of-a-kind city that continues to change the world.

Known as the “Home of the blues and Birthplace of Rock ‘n’ Roll”, Memphis seamlessly blends its heritage with a vibrant present. From our affordable cost of living and job opportunities, entrepreneurial mindset, world-class healthcare, to our world-famous music scene and culinary delights, Memphis offers a quality of life that’s hard to match.

- Average commute time: 22 minutes (below national average)
- Average annual temperature of 62°F offers mild winters and four distinct seasons
- Memphis’ cost of living is 19% lower than the national average
- Average monthly rent: \$1080
- Median home price: \$198,000
- Amount we pay in state income tax: \$0

Memphis is a city defined by visionaries and artists. This fusion of historical significance and creative energy has shaped Memphis into a vibrant tapestry of cultures, where the spirit of unity and inclusivity is not just celebrated but lived every day. Whether you’re exploring its rich musical heritage, delving into its civil rights history, or engaging in the colorful festivities that grace its streets, Memphis warmly welcomes all, inviting everyone to share in its unique blend of culture, artistry, and open-hearted community.

Part of what makes Memphis a great place to live is that there are a plethora of opportunities to perform and enjoy live music. We have the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and Opera Memphis, the Orpheum Theatre with their Broadway productions, authentic blues on historic Beale Street, jazz orchestras, 190 recording studios, historic stages and multiple music festivals.

Living in Memphis means having all the big-city amenities nestled right in your backyard. Whether you’re an art connoisseur, a music lover, a theater buff, sports nut, outdoor enthusiast, or simply someone who enjoys a good time, Memphis offers an abundance of experiences that will keep you entertained, engaged and inspired.