



### Current Student Profiles

-Name: Brianna Ooms  
-Major: Vocal Performance  
-Year in school: Junior

**-What do you hope to pursue post-graduation?** Everything! I hope to live many, many years. Immediately following graduation, I'll be auditioning mainly for musicals, but theatre and opera are also in my sights. I'm also flirting with the idea of an MFA in order to further combine music and theatre, and it would also open up the world of teaching for me. Mostly I want to perform. I'm also looking forward to spending more time writing and playing music with my dear husband. And way off into the future, starting a family.

**-How have you grown as a musician since being immersed in studies through the Music Department?** I came to Warner knowing nothing at all about music. Warner's music department does an excellent job walking the fine line of accepting anyone where he or she is in the musical process, but also exponentially challenging individuals to learn and improve the craft. Warner has created an environment that balances the process of learning and also the product of learning. It also cultivates students' responsibility and discipline. Two years ago, I couldn't do anything and now I'm giving my Junior Recital. I'm really seeing my dreams and goals clearer, closer and fully attainable, and it's because of the practical skills I've learned here and the environment that has allowed me to take risks, fail and flourish.

**-What do you learn "beyond music" by studying music through the various music courses/involvements?** The two things that stick out to me are Failure and Family. I've learned how to embrace and learn from failure. I am no longer afraid to fail, which enables me to take risks. I've experienced so much growth in the last year when I let go of the fear of failure. And the thing that really allowed me to stop being afraid was the realization that our music department is so full of love. No one in my music department family is going to stop loving me after a performance. And when I've totally botched something, I've been helped rather than ridiculed. It's so humbling in the best possible way to feel and understand that I am not alone in this journey. We all lean on and glean from each other.

**-Favorite thing about the Music Department?** My favorite thing about the Music Department is the communal learning. We pull the best out of one another. We challenge, encourage, reflect, enjoy, help, critique and love each other.

**-Use one word to describe the Music Department.** Flourishing.