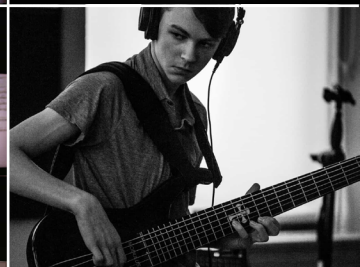
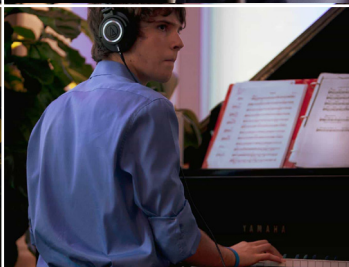


The Chicago Academy for the Arts

Justin Tranter Recording Studio

Recording Arts and Commercial Music Program



About

The Justin Tranter Recording Studio is a state-of-the-art recording facility where students can write, compose, produce, and record music of all genres and styles. Made possible through a generous gift from Academy alum and hit songwriter Justin Tranter (Musical Theatre '98), the Justin Tranter Recording Studio (JTRS) is propelling The Academy into the realm of commercial music and record production.

Gone are the days when making a record required a giant mixing console, reel-to-reel tape machines, and racks filled with signal processors. (A free iPhone app has considerably more editing power than the Beatles ever had access to.) Students will gain hands-on experience working with state-of-the-art tools to produce original music. But most importantly, the program will foster their abilities as artists. These students will have another avenue to develop and harness the power of their creative voices.

The JTRS is comprised of three rooms: the control room, with 24 individual digital inputs processed through high-quality Audient brand preamps; the live tracking room, with an extensive microphone collection, a professional vocal booth, and custom designed acoustic paneling (in addition to the school's existing professional instrument collection); and the MIDI lab, featuring four state-of-the-art production workstations.

Although these spaces serve as a full-fledged recording studio, they also double as a groundbreaking educational facility with access to equipment never before seen at the high-school level. With five top-of-the-line Apple Mac recording rigs loaded with Avid Pro Tools and Ableton Live (including Push Controllers), students at The Academy have all the tools at their disposal to take their musical ideas and turn them into tangible recordings to be shared and distributed.





The educational component of the Studio is The Academy's **Recording Arts and Commercial Music Program (RACM)**. This program is a sub-department of the Music Department and educates students in the study of recording techniques, songwriting, composition, music production, and the music business through individualized instruction and in small classes.

The RACM program currently offers three sections of its Commercial Composition and Music Production course as an elective. This course provides an overview into the world of recording and has students create multiple music projects throughout a semester. In addition, the RACM program offers private lesson instruction with Director of Recording Arts and Commercial Music Jack Murray. These lessons are individually tailored to meet the needs of each student and cover the topics within RACM most crucial to the success of each student's unique dreams, goals, and aspirations.

The Recording Arts and Commercial Music program is still relatively new at The Academy, and therefore, additions and improvements to the curriculum and course list will be made over the next few years. Future plans include expanding the curriculum to include courses structured around individual topics like music marketing, mixing and mastering, instrument recording, and live sound production, in addition to advanced levels of Commercial Composition and Music Production. Additionally, we hope to expand the program to include a student electronic music ensemble with opportunities to perform live throughout the city. Through the Recording Arts and Commercial Music Program, The Academy aims to offer greater opportunity for students to express their creativity, all while building content for their portfolios in an ever-changing music industry landscape.



Justin Tranter

Musical Theatre '98

The story of Justin Tranter is just as urgent as their songwriting. They went from graduating from Berklee College of Music in 2002 to founding New York glam-punk fire-starters Semi Precious Weapons in 2006 to launching a career as one of the industry's hottest songwriters with over 40 million single sales and 7 billion streams to date. Justin landed their first mega-hit by co-writing Fall Out Boy's quintuple-platinum "Centuries" before going on to co-write Selena Gomez's "Good For You," Justin Bieber's "Sorry," DNCE's "Cake By The Ocean," Hailee Steinfeld's "Love Myself", Fifth Harmony's "Dope", Britney Spears' "Slumber Party", and Gwen Stefani's "Used To Love You." In 2017 alone, they landed four Top 10 smashes at Pop Radio, namely Imagine Dragons' "Believer", Julia Michaels' "Issues", Halsey's "Bad At Love", and Maroon 5's "Cold".

By year-end, Justin garnered "Songwriter of the Year" at the BMI Pop Awards and stood out as "the only pop songwriter to land two songs on Variety's 'HitMakers' Most Consumed List".

Kicking off 2018, this game-changer became "the only songwriter nominated for both 'Song of the Year' at the GRAMMYS® with 'Issues' by Michaels and 'Best Original Song' at the Golden Globes® with 'Home' from *Ferdinand* performed by Nick Jonas." Tranter also won Songwriter of the Year at the 2018 BMI Pop Awards, for the second consecutive year.

Simultaneously, Justin continues to give back sitting on GLAAD's board of directors; regularly sings for patients at the Children's Hospital; is assembling a star-studded Music Council for the gun-safety nonprofit Everytown; performs at animal rights events like the annual Mercy for Animals Gala; and giving back financially to causes and places close to their heart like the performing and visual arts high school Justin attended, **The Chicago Academy for the Arts**.



Justin Tranter at the studio's ribbon-cutting ceremony



After high school, Jack attended the University of St. Francis where he graduated Summa Cum Laude. A protégé of Jeff Jaskowiak, the architect and director of the school's groundbreaking Digital Audio Recording Arts program, Jack worked in and served as a teaching assistant in that department.

During his time at St. Francis, Jack also wrote compositions for a private sync licensing group which saw airtime on networks such as ABC and ESPN.

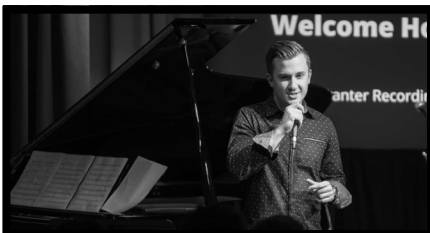
As someone who is actively involved in the music industry and the technology surrounding it, Jack will work with students to not only inspire them to follow their dreams, but also to empower them with the tools and knowledge necessary to make those dreams a reality in the ever-changing music industry.

Jack Murray

Director of Recording Arts and Commercial Music / Studio Manager

A native of Naperville, Illinois, Jack Murray began training in classical piano at the age of four. For the past four years, Jack has led an impressive career in the audio industry.

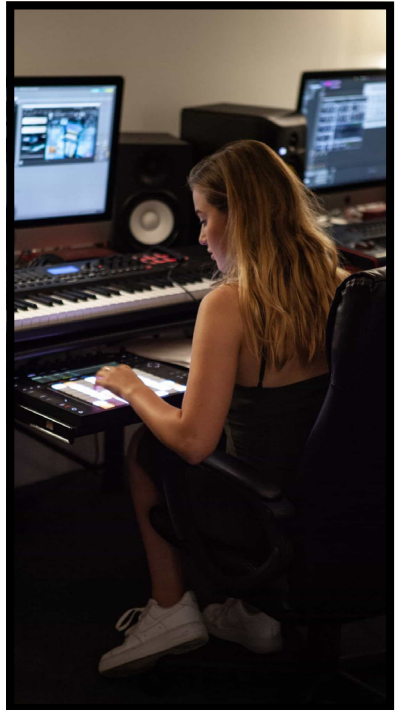
Before joining the faculty at The Chicago Academy for the Arts, Jack was involved in numerous recording, live sound, and televised productions during which he worked alongside local stars, national touring acts, and seasoned music legends.



Jack Murray at the studio ribbon-cutting ceremony







Specifications

DAW (Digital Audio Workstations)

- iMac 27" 4.2GHz i7, 32GB RAM (5)
- Ableton Live
- Pro Tools
- NI Komplete
- NI Kontakt
- Waves
- Sound Toys
- Softube

Controllers

- Ableton Push (5)
- Arturia Keylab 88
- Avid Artist Mix
- Novation Impulse 61

Monitors/Speakers

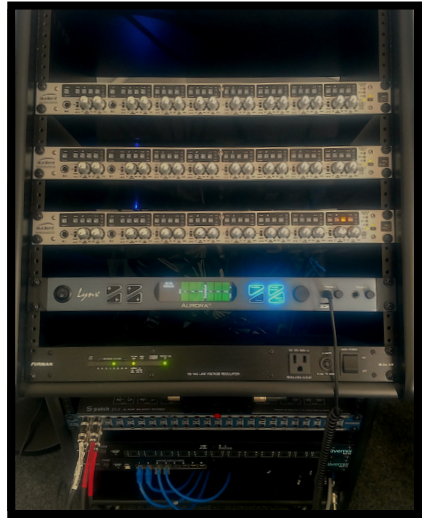
- Dynaudio LYD 8
- JBL 308P MK II
- KRK ROKIT 8 G3
- KRK 12s Subwoofer
- Presonus Eris E8
- Yamaha HS7



Microphones (various quantities)

- AEA N22 Ribbon
- Electro Voice RE20
- Neumann KM 184 (Stereo Pair)
- Rode NT5 (Stereo Pair)
- Sennheiser MD 421 II

- Sennheiser e604
- Shure Beta 52
- Shure KSM 44
- Shure SM57
- Shure SM58



Other

- Audient ASP880 Eight-channel Microphone Preamp/Analog/Digital Converter (3)
- Focusrite Scarlett 2i4 Audio Interface (5)
- Lynx Aurora (n) 24-TB Audio Interface
- Digital Audio Labs LiveMix MIX-16 Personal Monitor System
- Digital Audio Labs LiveMix AD-24 Personal Monitor System
- CS- DUO Personal Mixers (4)
- 24-square-foot WhisperRoom isolation booth
- Acoustically-treated live tracking room

Visit soundcloud.com/racmcaa to listen to student work!

The Justin Tranter Recording Studio in the News

Chicago Tribune

From bullied teen to Justin Bieber songwriter, Justin Tranter has arrived — and he's bringing Chicago kids with him

Chicago Magazine

From Chicago Academy for the Arts to Songwriter for Bieber and Britney

WGN Radio

Acclaimed Chicago-Born Songwriter, Justin Tranter Donates To The School That Saved His Life

WTTW's Chicago Tonight

Pop Songwriter Justin Tranter Lays Track for Local Talent

Windy City Live on ABC 7

Windy City Live with Justin Tranter

CBS Chicago

Songwriter Justin Tranter in Town

NBC Chicago

Songwriter looks to give back to Chicago school

Huffington Post

Pop Music's Justin Tranter Wants To Inspire Change One Song At A Time

Billboard

Justin Tranter Donates New Recording Studio to The Chicago Academy for the Arts

Pittsburgh Music Magazine

Award Winning Songwriter Justin Tranter Donates State-Of-The-Art Recording Studio to The Chicago Academy for the Arts

Weekday Mornings on WLS AM

Justin Tranter: BMI's Songwriter of the Year

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Photos by Thomas Mohr Photography