



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

*Departments of Psychology and Music
and
The Cognitive Science Program*



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*Music Cognition in Healthy Aging and
Neurodegenerative Disease*

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Older people enjoy music as audience members and performers, but little is known about changes in music cognition during the normal course of healthy or pathological aging. I will summarize some general principles of cognitive aging, then explore the extent to various aspects of music cognition show loss, gain, and maintenance in older adults. I will also discuss whether positive effects of musicianship may offset negative effects of aging. A few studies consider aspects of music (and art) cognition that are intact or impaired in people with dementia. Listeners of all ages are welcome!

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