

**Department** OF **MUSIC**  

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**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH**  
**Driven to Discover™**

## **Undergraduate Audition Requirements**

The most important part of the application process is preparing for the audition. Admission into the Department of Music is contingent upon a successful audition, completion of a theory, aural skills and keyboard placement exam and a departmental interview. Requirements vary depending on desired degree program, instrument or voice. **For all auditions, regardless of area, please plan to dress in a professional manner as if you were attending a formal job interview.** The following are the requirements for;

### **Bachelor of Music Education, Bachelor of Music Performance, Bachelor of Arts**

#### **Woodwinds**

1. Prepare the chromatic scale and all major scales using the full range of your instrument.
2. Prepare one movement from a major work such as a concerto, sonata or contest piece.
3. Prepare one piece of your choice (can include etudes or solo pieces).
4. You may be asked to sight-read.

#### **Brass**

1. Prepare two contrasting movements of a solo or etude. Be sure to select repertoire that displays your best tone, technical ability and expressive interpretation.
2. Prepare as many major scales as possible including a minimum of three sharps and three flats. Two octave scales are encouraged. Perform scales at a comfortable tempo.
3. You may be asked to sight-read.

#### **Percussion**

The auditioning percussion student should supply his or her own sticks, mallets and copies of prepared audition material.

##### **For all percussion majors except Jazz Studies:**

Please prepare ALL of the following (required)

1. Snare Drum Solo or Etude (Mitchell Peters, Anthony Cirone, etc.)
2. Keyboard Percussion Work (2 or 4 mallet piece on marimba or xylophone)

You may prepare additional works from the list below (not required).

1. Drum Set (Styles, Play-a-longs, Transcriptions, etc.)
2. Timpani Solo or Etude (Lepak, Goodman, etc.)
3. Multiple Percussion Solo or Etude.
4. Rudimental Snare Drum Solo (Pratt, Wilcoxon, etc.)
5. Additional Keyboard Percussion Work (Marimba, Xylophone, vibraphone)
6. Orchestral Excerpts.

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## Strings

1. Prepare two solos or etudes of contrasting styles. These may be a movement of a sonata, the first movements of a concerto or a concert solo piece. Skills in accurate intonation, rhythmic perception, bow control and quality of tone should be demonstrated in the selected repertoire.
2. Prepare major scales (2-3 octaves) up to four sharps and four flats. All scales should be performed at a steady tempo. You may use the Minnesota Music Educators Association (MMEA) All State Orchestra scales as your guide.
3. Be prepared to sight-read. Rhythmic skills in first position, third and fourth (cello) positions may be included in the keys of up to two flats and sharps.

## Voice (BM Music Education, BM Performance, BA Music and BM Theory/Comp)

1. Please perform two contrasting songs from memory
  - a. One song should be from the classical style, such as an art song or aria.
  - b. The second song can be a contrasting song in a classical style, or a song in another style (including but not limited to: musical theater, spiritual, jazz or folk song arranged for voice and piano)
2. Songs may be in any language. One song in a foreign language is preferred for performance majors.
3. All selections should be appropriate to the present music and vocal abilities of the student, and should demonstrate potential success in the degree program.
4. If you are unsure of appropriate repertoire, consult with your choir director or email a member of the voice faculty.

## Jazz Studies – Winds, Piano, Guitar, Bass\*

1. Prepare as many scales as possible demonstrating major, minor, mixolydian, Dorian and other jazz modes.
2. Perform one classical and up to two jazz standards\*, or contrasting jazz styles (ex. Medium swing, bossa nova, jazz waltz, jazz ballad or blues)
3. Sight-reading in the big band jazz style.

\*Suggested standards: *All the Things You Are, Autumn Leaves, Bye-Bye Blackbird, How High the Moon, Just Friends, Like Someone in Love, My Romance, Night and Day, There Will Never Be Another You, All Blues, Blue Monk, C Jam Blues*, etc.

## Jazz Studies Percussion

Please prepare ALL of the following (required)

1. Snare Drum Solo or Etude (Mitchell Peters, Anthony Cirone, etc.)
2. Keyboard Percussion Work (2 or 4 mallet piece on Marimba or Xylophone)
3. Drum Set:  
Demonstrate Various Styles (including, but not limited to, 4/4 Swing, 3/4 Swing, Rock, Funk, Bossa Nova, Songo, 6/8 and/or 12/8 Afro Cuban, Clave-based Latin grooves, etc.)

Optional: Prepare a Drum Set “Play-a-long” (From any reputable source: Steve Houghton’s *Anthology*, Tommy Igoe’s *Groove Essentials*, etc.) Prepare a Drum Set Transcription

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## Theory Composition

1. Please submit three (3) clearly labeled original scores and/or recordings that best represent your development as a composer and at the time of your application. These can be submitted at the time of your audition or up to one month prior to coming on campus. You may include digitally engraved scores (such as with Finale, Sibelius, MuseScore, etc.), or you can send copies of handwritten music. Work can be emailed to [jrubin1@d.umn.edu](mailto:jrubin1@d.umn.edu) or you can send printed copies to the Music Department. Recordings can be live or MIDI representations of your work; any audio can be emailed to [jrubin1@d.umn.edu](mailto:jrubin1@d.umn.edu) or send a flash drive/CD to the Music Department.
2. You will perform two pieces on your major instrument/voice. One may be an original composition. Performance time may range from a minimum of four minutes to a maximum of eight minutes. Prepared pieces do not need not be memorized.
3. Instrumentalists may additionally be asked to play major and minor scales (two octaves) up to four sharps and four flats at a comfortable but steady tempo.

## UMD Piano Audition Requirement

Undergraduate (BA in Music, BM in Piano Performance, BM in Music Education\*):

1. Repertoire:
  - The undergraduate audition should include a minimum of 15 minutes of solo piano repertoire, played by memory. The audition repertoire should consist of a minimum of two complete memorized solo piano works, selected from at least two different historical periods. While the complete program may be heard, the candidate should be prepared to perform sections of the music as requested by the committee.
2. Scales:
  - Prepare four-octaves major and harmonic minor scales at a comfortable steady tempo playing hands together
  - Two to three scales (major and minor) will be selected by the audition committee
3. Sight-Reading: Play a short example with 1-min preparation time

\*Music Education degrees are licensed in instrumental and choral education. Piano majors seeking a degree in instrumental or vocal music education must also audition on a secondary instrument (winds, percussion, strings) or voice.

### Vocal Education Majors with voice as their secondary instrument ~

1. Please perform **one** memorized song in the classical style, such as an art song or aria.
2. An **optional** song may be performed in another style including but not limited to: musical theater, spiritual, jazz or folk song arranged for voice and piano.

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