

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

KATHRINE G. McGOVERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS
Moores School of Music

UNDERGRADUATE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

COVID-19 Statement:

All auditions for matriculation in 2021 will be conducted online. There are no in-person auditions. Please plan to upload a video recording of your audition; be sure to state your name and the composer/title/section of the work you are performing. Piano accompaniment is optional, pre-recorded tracks are fine.

Some divisions may request an online interview after reviewing the uploaded audition materials.

Moores School of Music
University of Houston 120
School of Music Bldg.
713-743-3009
www.music.uh.edu

For additional information about undergraduate admissions, please contact the Admissions Manager at musicadmissions@uh.edu.

Brass

Dana Pradervand, Division Head

ENTERING FRESHMAN

- Students should demonstrate knowledge of all major scales with range reflective of their capabilities.
- Prepare two selections of contrasting style reflecting your current playing level. One selection may be an etude. No all-region etudes please.
- Students requesting consideration for applied (performance) degrees must also prepare three excerpts from the standard orchestral repertoires. (Euphonium students may use excerpts from the band repertoire.)

TRANSFER STUDENTS

- All major and minor scales.
- Three selections of contrasting style that reflect your current proficiency level. (One selection may be an etude. The others should be from standard solo repertoire for your instrument.)
- Students that wish to be considered for applied (performance) degrees must also prepare three excerpts from the standard orchestral repertoire. (Euphonium students may use excerpts from the band repertoire.)

ALL STUDENTS

- Proper attire is recommended for the audition.
- If you have any questions regarding any of the above, please contact Dana Pradervand, Brass Division Chair at 713.743.3627 or dsprader@central.uh.edu.

Composition

Rob Smith, Division Head

Bachelor of Music in Composition

All undergraduate composition applicants are required to audition on an applied instrument or voice and interview with the composition faculty.

In addition, students should submit a portfolio with their application that contains:

- Scores and/or recordings of up to three representative original compositions
- A list of all compositions to date (include instrumentation, durations and dates)

Students with no prior experience composing, but who have been studying music performance on an instrument or voice, may still apply.

For more information, please contact the Composition Division Head, **Dr. Rob Smith**, at robsmith@uh.edu or 713-743-3163.

Guitar

Noe Marmolejo, Division Head

Bachelor of Arts in Music

The guitar program focuses on techniques such as improvisation, chord melody and rhythm accompaniment.

Use of Electric or Archtop guitar is recommended. Audition

preparation: (pre-recorded video upload)

- Performance of at least one solo piece (a jazz chord melody arrangement)
- Knowledge of chords and scales:
 - Triads
 - Seventh and sixth chords
 - Major and minor scales
- Sight reading and knowledge of musical fundamentals
 - Chord symbol recognition and execution

Guitarists are usually encouraged to seek a Bachelor of Arts in music. We have found that this degree plan is well suited to guitar students. The focus of the guitar program is primarily jazz-based. This is because the jazz orchestra is the ensemble in which guitarists must perform. However, some classical techniques and repertoire are covered to enhance the student's musicianship.

Organ

Daryl Robinson, Division Head

Since organ lessons usually begin later than those for the piano, the audition for the undergraduate in organ performance is based more on evidence of general keyboard skills than on the use of the pedals. This may be shown by demonstrating:

- the ability to play piano compositions at the level of the Clementi Sonatinas and Bach two- part Inventions.
- evidence of good sight-reading skills at the piano (please see faculty for how this may be done).

Preferably, the candidate should also be able to perform organ compositions at the difficulty level of the chorale preludes from J. S. Bach's *Orgelbüchlein* ("The Little Organ Book"). The potential for rapid development as an organ student is, however, more important than evidence of a fully formed organ technique. Before choosing specific pieces for the audition, candidates are encouraged to speak directly with Daryl Robinson, Director of Organ Studies at 713.743.7316 or darobinson@uh.edu.

Percussion

Blake Wilkins, Division Head

Undergraduate applicants should prepare two (2) snare drum selections—one in concert style and one in rudimental style; and two (2) marimba selections—one using two mallets and one using four mallets. If the applicant has safe access to timpani, applicants should also include one (1) timpani selection for three or four drums.† For each, any selection is acceptable so long as it adequately demonstrates the applicant's technical and musical abilities on the instrument.

The following literature recommendations are provided only as samples of appropriate literature for an undergraduate audition:

For Texas applicants, we recommend playing the TMEA All-State **concert snare, two-mallet keyboard, and timpani † etudes for the current year**. If the applicant wishes to choose alternative selections, the following are recommended:

Concert Snare Drum – any etude from the following:

Anthony Cirone: *Portraits in Rhythm*

Mitchell Peters: *Advanced Etudes for Snare Drum*

Jacques Delecluse: *Douze Etudes*

Rudimental Snare – John Pratt: *14 Contest Solos* (any)

Marimba Two-Mallet Solo – any selection from MacMillan: *Masterpieces for Marimba* or an independent solo of similar difficulty.

Marimba Four-Mallet Solo – Any four-mallet solo suitable to the applicant's level that demonstrates the applicant's full range of technical and musical abilities. We generally encourage the choice of a solo *OTHER* than the TMEA all-state four-mallet selections.

Timpani† – any three- or four-drum selection from one of the following: Vic

Firth: *The Solo Timpanist*

Mitchell Peters: *Fundamental Method for Timpani Alex*

Orfaly: *Studies in Copper*

Nick Woud: *Symphonic Studies for Timpani*

† We recognize that due COVID related circumstances, students may not have access to timpani, and we advise including a timpani selection only when the applicant can safely and easily access timpani while observing established COVID safety protocols. Applicants should contact the division chair if access to other percussion instruments is limited due to prevailing COVID restrictions or safety concerns.

For further information, please contact Dr. Blake Wilkins at 713.743.3192 or bwilkins@uh.edu

Piano

Tim Hester, Division Head

Bachelor of Music Piano Performance

Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies in Teacher Certification (Music Education) or Music Marketing

Bachelor of Arts

The audition should consist of at least two fully-memorized selections from the standard classical piano repertoire, representing contrasting musical periods and styles. For example, one movement from a Classical piano sonata and a piece from the Romantic era would be appropriate. The selections should be chosen to display the technical and musical proficiency of the student at the keyboard and must demonstrate at least a freshman level of performance skill. A list of audition repertoire should be submitted via the online application.

Bachelor of Music with piano as a secondary instrument (Composition Majors)

The audition should consist of at least two selections from the standard classical piano repertoire, representing contrasting musical periods and styles. Memorization is optional. The selections should be chosen to display the technical and musical proficiency of the student at the keyboard and must demonstrate at least a freshman level of performance skill.

Questions may be directed to Timothy Hester at thester@uh.edu or (713) 743-3309.

Strings

Kirsten Yon, Division Head

Bachelor of Music in String Performance

Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies in Teacher Certification (string concentration) or Music Marketing

Bachelor of Arts in Music

Bachelor of Music in Composition or Theory with a secondary string instrument

The following list of audition materials represents a guideline, substitutions are acceptable if they are approved in advance by Dr. Yon.

IMPORTANT NOTE: *To be considered for a scholarship, at least one movement or work in the audition repertoire must be memorized.*

Violin, Viola, Cello

- One movement of a concerto
- Minimum of one movement of unaccompanied Bach
- Contrasting work or movement of applicant's choice

Double Bass

- One movement of a concerto or sonata
- Two contrasting works of applicant's choice
- Three-octave G major scale, eighth notes at Quarter=80
- Three-octave Bb major scale, quarter notes at Quarter=100

Harp

- One étude
- Two substantial works of contrasting style and/or time period, preferably performed from memory
- One orchestral excerpt of applicant's choice

For further information, please contact Dr. Kirsten Yon at 713.743.3154 or kayon@uh.edu

Voice

Joseph Evans, Division Head

Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance

Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies in Teacher Certification (voice concentration) or Music

Marketing Bachelor of Arts in Music

Bachelor of Music in Composition or Theory with voice as a secondary instrument

FOR ALL SINGERS:

- Applicants must upload a video recording containing two contrasting selections in two different languages (one selection may be in English) that meet the repertoire criteria listed below.
- Appropriate attire is required at your audition. Formal wear is not necessary; business casual is fine. Shorts, t-shirts, and flip-flops are not acceptable. If you have further questions, please contact Joseph Evans, Division Head at 713.743.3149 or jsevans@uh.edu.
- All selections must be performed from memory.
- During Covid, piano accompaniment is optional, pre-recorded accompaniment is fine.
- Individuals not fully prepared or in compliance with all application and audition requirements will be ineligible for acceptance in voice for the desired entrance semester.
- Studio placement and level of university study is determined by the voice faculty at the time of your audition. You may request a specific voice instructor on your application and your audition forms. If your requested teacher accepts you, you will be so assigned. If no preference is stated at the audition, or if the requested studio is full, you will be assigned an instructor.

ENTERING FRESHMEN:

- Must perform at least two contrasting selections, demonstrating your highest level of achievement to date. These must be in at least two different languages (one selection may be in English).
- Selections must be from standard vocal repertoire in the original language: Italian, French, German, or English art songs, oratorio or operatic aria.
- NOTE: One musical theatre selection is acceptable, but classical selections are preferred.

TRANSFER STUDENTS:

- Must perform at least three contrasting selections, demonstrating healthy vocal technique and appropriate standard vocal repertoire in the original languages. NOTE: Broadway, spiritual or patriotic songs are *not* acceptable for audition purposes.
- If you have completed two semesters of voice study, you must perform in two different languages. If you have completed three or more semesters of voice study, you must perform in three different languages.
- With your audition materials, you must submit a complete list of vocal selections learned and memorized in college-level study. This list will include your audition selections and all other jury selections from past semesters.
- At your audition, you are expected to demonstrate proficiency reflective of your previous college study. You may be asked to make up deficiencies in technique and/or repertoire by extra semesters of voice study for credit based on this audition performance and supporting materials.
- All vocal performance majors must pass a “barrier” examination after the sophomore year of study in order to qualify for the Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance degree track. Transferring vocal performance majors with four or more semesters of college study must demonstrate readiness for junior level applied voice study at your audition. You may be required to take one or more semesters of applied voice at the Moores School before the voice faculty determines that you are ready for the “barrier”.
- Music education majors may proceed with registration for junior level applied voice after successful completion of four semesters of applied voice at their previous school.

Woodwinds

Dana Pradervand, Division Head

Bassoon

- Two works of contrasting styles. One may be an etude

Clarinet

- Full-range chromatic scale
- All major scales and chords
- One etude (either slow or fast)
- One movement of a concerto (in contrast to the etude)

Flute

- All major scales from memory (entering freshmen)
- All major and minor scales (three forms) from memory (transfer students)
- Three octave chromatic scale from memory
- Two works of contrasting tempi and style
[It is preferred that students prepare one early work (like a Bach Sonata or a Mozart Concerto) and one later work (like the Chaminade, Concertin,; Fauré, Fantasie; Griffes, Poem; Poulenc Sonata; Hue, Fantasie; Prokofiev, Sonata, etc.).]
- Prepare only one or two movements of multi-movement works
- Etudes are acceptable (No region etudes please)
- Piano accompaniment is not required

Oboe

- Two works of contrasting styles. One may be an etude.

Saxophone

- Full-range chromatic scale
- All major scales and chords
- One etude (either slow or fast)
- One movement of a concerto (in contrast to the etude)

If you have any questions regarding any of the above, please contact Dana Pradervand, Woodwind Division Chair at 713.743.3627 or dsprader@central.uh.edu.

Music Theory

Timothy Koozin, Division Head

Students wishing to earn a bachelor's degree in Music Theory must successfully audition into program with a major applied instrument or voice.

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UH is an EEO/AA institution.