

Cleveland State University

School of Music

UNDERGRADUATE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Voice Audition Information

- Music Education, Music Composition, Bachelor of Arts, and Music Minor degree applicants must perform two memorized selections in contrasting styles, with no language requirement.
- Applicants for the Voice Performance degree must perform two memorized selections in contrasting styles, and at least one of these must be in a language other than English.
- Pop songs and choral parts will not be accepted for this audition.
- The audition will also include vocalizing, pitch pattern matching, and sight-reading.
- This audition also serves as the audition for CSU choral ensembles and for consideration for a voice scholarship.

Classical Guitar Audition Information

- At least three works from different periods (baroque, classical, romantic, or contemporary).
- A classical etude or a transcription from the Baroque or the Renaissance lute literature is acceptable.
- Performance majors should prepare a multi-movement sonata or suite.
- Demonstrate knowledge of major and minor scales.
- Demonstrate rudimentary sight-reading skills.

String Audition Information

- Two contrasting works, such as an outer movement of a concerto or another solo work (unaccompanied Bach, an etude) showing a variety of bow strokes, shifting to various positions, vibrato, and musicality.
- Two contrasting three-octave scales, one major and one minor.
- Accompanist not required.

Keyboard Audition Information

- Three contrasting works from different periods (baroque, classical, romantic, and contemporary)
- Candidate for Performance it is expected that the works be played from memory. All others only one must be memorized.
- Demonstrate sight-reading skills.
- Complete repertoire list including solo and collaborative/chamber music studies and performed.

Woodwinds Audition Information B.A. In Music and B.M. All Area Except Performance

- Two solos (movements from a larger work or etude) in contrasting styles and tempi that demonstrate candidate's present ability. (Selections from solo and ensemble contest lists are strongly suggested)
- Major and minor scales
- Sight-reading skills
- An accompanist is not required.

Brass Audition Information B.A. In Music and B.M. All Area Except Performance

- Two solos (movements from a larger work or etude) in contrasting styles and tempi that demonstrate candidate's present ability. (Selections from solo and ensemble contest lists are strongly suggested).
- Major and minor scales
- Sight-reading skills
- An accompanist is not required.

Bachelor of Music Performance – Woodwind Audition Information

- A standard concerto or solo piece
- 2 études in contrasting styles (e.g., lyrical, and technical, or 1 étude and an additional solo)
- At least 3 standard orchestral excerpts in contrasting styles
- Sight-reading may be asked.
- Scales and Arpeggios may be asked.
- An accompanist is not required.

Bachelor of Music Performance - Brass Audition Information

- A standard concerto or solo piece
- 2 études in contrasting styles (e.g., lyrical, and technical, or 1 étude and an additional solo)
- At least 3 standard orchestral excerpts in contrasting styles
- Sight-reading may be asked.
- Scales and Arpeggios may be asked.
- An accompanist is not required.

Bachelor of Arts in Pop/Rock Audition Information

- Prepare material up to 5-10 minutes in duration on the instrument the candidate feels best demonstrates their playing ability. This may be in any musical style or genre.
- Play basic material at the examiner's discretion. This may include major or minor scales, common chord types, or simple rhythmic patterns or beat types.
- Candidates are assessed as to their abilities reading written material, this may include • standard notation, and tablature or lead sheet formats. *Abilities in this area are not necessarily required for admission if the examiners feel there is obvious ability and desire to learn, however it is an advantage.

Repertoire Requirements for Drum Set/Percussion (Pop and Rock only)

- “Whole Lotta Love” – Led Zeppelin
- Two variations in Funk Style
- Shuffle Patter to “Rosanna” by Toto
- Demonstrate sight-reading skills.

Jazz Guitar Audition Information

- Prepare a chord-melody based on a standard tune (e.g., Misty, All the Things You Are, Bye Bye Blackbird etc.
- Original Compositions are acceptable.
- Demonstrate knowledge of major and minor pentatonic scales and the “blues” scale. Knowledge of basic major and minor scales is expected.
- Demonstrate rudimentary sight-reading skills.

Jazz Percussion Audition Information

- Various styles on drum set (swing, funk, rock, songo, samba, jazz waltz) at various tempos.
- Brush work at various tempos
- First two pages of the Rudimental Ritual
- Demonstrate sight-reading skills.
- Jazz Percussion auditions are arranged and scheduled by appointment directly with Mr. Bill Ransom (w.e.ransom@csuohio.edu) to allow for maximum scheduling flexibility. However please note that you must audition by the last posted audition date to be eligible for talent-based scholarships. Prospective percussion students are encouraged to contact Mr. Ransom with questions at any point during the application process.

Jazz Bass Audition Information

- 3 Pieces contrasting in nature.
- Straight No Chaser (melody, walking and solo) Standard Repertoire
- All Blues (melody and solo)
- Blues Bossa (melody and solo)
- Original Compositions are acceptable.
- Demonstrate knowledge of major and minor pentatonic scales and the “blues” scale. Knowledge of basic major and minor scales is expected.
- Demonstrate rudimentary sight-reading skills.