



Mead Witter School of Music

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Voice

This document contains the recording and audition requirements for the Voice area. Please refer to the “Graduate Application Guide” for detailed instructions about the application process and general requirements for admission to the School of Music.

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Portfolio

As part of your application, you will submit a portfolio of recordings. Your portfolio must be submitted as a single URL link to a YouTube channel or another file sharing site (Google Drive, etc.). You may submit a single video or a folder containing multiple videos. Please be sure that your video(s) are set to “public” or “unlisted” so that they are accessible to our faculty.

Your recording portfolio will be used for audition prescreening within the Voice area as well as potential funding consideration within the entire School of Music.

Portfolio requirements:

- Must be video.
- Submit the following 3 pieces: Two art songs and one aria from an opera or oratorio.
- Selections must include English and at least one other language.

Although use of a collaborative pianist is optional for the recording portfolio, we strongly recommend working with a pianist in order to create high-quality recordings which can later be used for funding consideration. Please note that for the full audition, a collaborative pianist is required for all Voice candidates.

Note: If you are invited for a full audition and choose the remote option, you may reuse any or all of the initial recording portfolio as part of your final audition portfolio, however, updated videos reflecting your most current singing are welcome. By the same token, if you choose the live option, you may make personal arrangements to have your audition recorded and submitted as a supplement to your existing portfolio, in consultation with the Voice & Opera faculty.

Auditions

Candidates who pass the prescreening round will be invited for a full audition. Graduate auditions will be held on Saturday, January 21, and Saturday, February 11. Candidates may choose to (1) Complete a live audition and interview on the UW-Madison campus or (2) Submit a recorded audition followed by a Zoom interview.

MM candidates

Prepare the following 5 pieces:

- 1 aria from an opera or oratorio
- 3 art songs
- 1 selection of your choice (may be musical theatre, CCM, or other styles)
- Include at least one selection in English plus a minimum of two other languages.

DMA candidates

Prepare the following 8 pieces:

- 1 opera aria
- 1 oratorio aria
- 6 songs
- Include selections in English, French, German, and Italian and represent a variety of historical periods and styles.

Instructions for all Voice candidates

1. Use of a collaborative pianist is required! If auditioning live, you may bring your own accompanist or hire one of ours. A contact list will be sent along with your audition invitation.
2. There will be a mandatory 30-minute “Meet-the-Faculty” session at the beginning of each graduate audition day, followed by individual auditions/interviews.
3. Prospective students are strongly encouraged to set up a free trial lesson with one or more of the Voice faculty before or after the audition.

Option 1: Live

Please make a list of your prepared repertoire (title & composer) and bring 6 copies of the list to your audition. Please do not bring copies of your actual sheet music! You will select one piece, faculty will select additional pieces, and you will choose the performance order. The audition slot will be 20 minutes for MM and 30 minutes for DMA and will include a brief interview with the Voice & Opera faculty.

Option 2: Remote

No later than one week before your selected audition date, please send James Doing, Jr., a list of your audition repertoire (title & composer) with accompanying URL link(s) for each piece (YouTube, Google Drive, etc.). A .doc template will be sent along with your audition invitation.

On the audition day, you will have an interview with the Voice & Opera faculty on Zoom. Interviews will be 10 minutes for MM and 20 minutes for DMA.