Jazz Audition Requirements for UW School of Music Undergraduate Admission

Please see additional information about the School of Music application process here: http://www.music.wisc.edu/undergraduate-admissions/

Audition format: 15 minutes in front of a jury of jazz area faculty. A student rhythm section will be provided for your audition. When you choose your repertoire, please consider that the accompanying student rhythm section may be sight-reading your piece for the first time. For the best possible performance, chose repertoire that does not require difficult sight-reading by the student rhythm section.

IMPORTANT: YOU MUST BRING THREE (3) CONCERT-KEY LEAD SHEETS OF EACH PIECE YOU WILL PERFORM AT YOUR AUDITION FOR THE STUDENT RHYTHM SECTION!!!

JAZZ AUDITION REQUIREMENTS FOR SAXOPHONE, TRUMPET, TROMBONE, GUITAR, PIANO, AND ACOUSTIC BASS (see requirements for drum set applicants below)

1. **Major scales and all three forms of the minor scale** (natural, harmonic and melodic) in all twelve keys
2. **A major or minor blues melody** of your choice, such as “Now’s the Time,” “Billie’s Bounce,” “Tenor Madness,” “Straight, No Chaser,” “Stolen Moments” or a similar piece from the jazz repertoire
   - All instruments: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a two or three-chorus improvised solo
   - Guitar and piano: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a two or three-chorus improvised solo, and comp for another soloist
   - Bass: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a two or three-chorus improvised solo, and play a walking bass line for another soloist
3. **A jazz ballad** of your choice, such as “But Beautiful,” “Darn That Dream,” “You Don’t Know What Love Is,” or a similar piece from the jazz repertoire
   - All instruments, except bass: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a one-chorus improvised solo
   - Bass: accompany the melody with an appropriate ballad bass line, play a one-chorus improvised solo
   (optional: play the melody of the “A” section)
4. **One medium-swing piece from this list:** “Beautiful Love,” “All The Things You Are,” “Invitation,” “It Could Happen To You,” or “There Will Never Be Another You”
   - All instruments, except bass: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a one-chorus improvised solo
   - Bass: accompany the melody with a jazz bass line, play a one-chorus improvised solo
5. **One fully notated piece without improvisation**, such as a piece from the classical repertoire or a jazz solo transcription (bring copies of the music for the audition team)
6. **Sight-reading**

JAZZ AUDITION REQUIREMENTS FOR DRUM SET APPLICANTS

1. **Drum set: a medium-swing blues melody** of your choice, such as “Now’s the Time,” “Billie’s Bounce,” “Tenor Madness,” “Straight, No Chaser,” “Stolen Moments” or a similar piece from the jazz repertoire
   - Play time with the band, accompanying the melody of the piece and another soloist, then play an unaccompanied two- or three-chorus solo that outlines the blues’ melody
2. **Drum set: three (3) jazz standards of contrasting tempos and styles**
   - Choose 1) a ballad, 2) fast swing piece, and 3) a Latin (Brazilian or Afro-Cuban) piece from the standard jazz repertoire
   - Play the melody with a student rhythm section, accompany a soloist, trade fours or eighths with the band
3. **On mallet percussion or piano**: play two octaves of the major scale in all 12 keys (required of drum set applicants)
4. **On mallet percussion or piano**: play the melody of the jazz ballad from #2 (required of drum set applicants)
5. **One fully notated piece without improvisation**, such as a piece from the classical repertoire or a jazz solo transcription (bring copies of the music for the audition team)
6. **Sight-reading** of a big band drum part with kicks