



Mead Witter School of Music

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Piano

This document contains the recording and audition requirements for the Piano 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.

Last revised: August 1, 2022

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 Piano area as well as potential funding consideration within the entire School of Music.

Portfolio requirements:

- Minimum 20 minutes total. Can be audio or video.
- Sample solo works from at least 3 historical periods.
- Can be movements rather than complete works.
- We encourage applicants to include works by historically marginalized, underrepresented, and living composers, or a work from your own cultural traditions. Show us who you are as an artist!

Special instructions for Collaborative Piano:

Please submit collaborative repertoire plus one memorized solo work. Demonstrate stylistic and technical variety, representing both vocal and instrumental works.

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 playing 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 Piano 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.

Instructions for Piano Performance

- Prepare approximately one hour of music, sampling solo works from at least 3 historical periods. This can be movements rather than complete works.

Instructions for Piano Pedagogy

- Prepare approximately one hour of music, sampling solo works from at least 3 historical periods. This can be movements rather than complete works.
- Prof. Jessica Johnson will arrange for a pedagogy meeting before or after the audition: jgjohnson@wisc.edu

Instructions for Collaborative Piano

- Prepare approximately one hour of collaborative repertoire plus one memorized solo work. Demonstrate stylistic and technical variety, representing both vocal and instrumental works.
- Consult Prof. Martha Fischer for repertoire recommendations and to arrange a meeting before or after the audition: mafische@wisc.edu

We encourage applicants to include works by historically marginalized, underrepresented, and living composers, or a work from your own cultural traditions. Show us who you are as an artist!

Option 1: Live

The audition slot will be 20 minutes (or 30 minutes for Collaborative Piano) and will include a brief interview with the Piano faculty. Please make a list of your prepared repertoire (title & composer) and bring 4 copies of the list to your audition, which the faculty will use to select excerpts and take notes. Please do not bring copies of your actual sheet music! Candidates who would like to be considered for a Teaching Assistantship in Piano may be asked to sight-read or provide information about teaching experience and philosophy.

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 a 15-minute interview with the Piano faculty on Zoom. Candidates who would like to be considered for a Teaching Assistantship in Piano may be asked to provide information about teaching experience and philosophy.