

# 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, choose 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
  - o All instruments: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a two or three-chorus improvised solo
  - o Guitar and piano: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a two or three-chorus improvised solo, and comp for another soloist
  - o 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
  - o All instruments, except bass: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a one-chorus improvised solo
  - o 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"
  - o All instruments, except bass: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a one-chorus improvised solo
  - o Bass: accompany the melody with an 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
  - o 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**
  - o Choose 1) a ballad, 2) fast swing piece, and 3) a Latin (Brazilian or Afro-Cuban) piece from the standard jazz repertoire
  - o 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