

# 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: 20 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.

## WOODWINDS / BRASS GUITAR / PIANO / BASS

*(requirements for drum set applicants are on the next page)*

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 stylistically similar piece from the jazz repertoire
  - 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
  - o Other instruments: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a two or three-chorus improvised solo
3. **A jazz ballad** of your choice, such as “But Beautiful,” “Darn That Dream,” “You Don’t Know What Love Is,” or a stylistically similar piece from the jazz repertoire
  - 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)
  - o Other instruments: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a one-chorus improvised solo
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 Guitar and piano: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a one-chorus improvised solo, and comp for another soloist
  - o Bass: accompany the melody with a jazz bass line, accompany another soloist, play a one-chorus improvised solo (optional: play the melody)
  - o Other instruments: perform the melody of the piece from memory, play a one-chorus improvised solo
5. **One fully notated piece without improvisation**, such as a piece from the classical repertoire, a jazz etude, or a jazz solo transcription (bring copies of the music for the audition team)
6. **Sight-reading**

**IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ: You must bring three (3) concert-key lead sheets of each piece you will perform at your audition for the student rhythm section, plus three copies of the fully notated piece for the audition team!!!**

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## DRUM SET

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 stylistically 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: a jazz ballad of** your choice (*also see audition requirement #7*), such as “But Beautiful,” “Darn That Dream,” “You Don’t Know What Love Is,” or a stylistically similar piece from the jazz repertoire
  - Using brushes, play time with the band, accompanying the melody of the piece and another soloist
3. **Drum set: “Seven Steps to Heaven” by Victor Feldman / Miles Davis (up-tempo swing)**
  - Play the melody with the band, accompany a soloist, trade eighths with the band
4. **Drum set: A Latin (Brazilian or Afro-Cuban) piece from the standard jazz repertoire**
  - Play the melody with the band, accompany a soloist, trade fours with the band
5. **One fully notated piece without improvisation**, such as a piece from the classical repertoire, a jazz etude, or a jazz solo transcription
6. **Vibraphone, marimba or piano:** play two octaves of the major scale in all 12 keys (required of drum set applicants)
7. **Vibraphone, marimba or piano:** play the melody of the jazz ballad from #2 (required of drum set applicants)
8. **Sight-reading** of a big band drum part with kicks

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