

Howard Payne University

Virtual Music Audition Guidelines



General Information

Audition Attire:

- Attire should be professional or concert black.

Accompanists:

- Due to limitations on performance because of COVID-19, we recognize vocalists and instrumentalists may not be able to submit recordings or prepare auditions with an accompanist. We encourage everyone to maintain safe practices and not put themselves at risk by trying to create audition recordings. While accompanied auditions are preferred to showcase your collaborative performance style, they are not required. If pre-recorded or digital accompaniment is available, it is encouraged to use that.
- *Appcompanionist* has an extensive database of the standardized vocal repertoire.

Format: Audition recordings must be in video format

- Applicants will submit one video recording link of their audition material. Please check your interest area for any specific recording requirements.

Recording Devices:

- Your high school ensemble director may be able to provide suggestions or assistance producing your video recording.
- Applicants are encouraged to use the best recording equipment available to them. Using a smart phone, laptop, or tablet, an external USB microphone or microphone attachment can greatly improve the audio. If you do not own or have access to a quality recording device, consider checking with a local or school library, ensemble director, or teacher about borrowing one. Experiment with the recording process in advance, so that your recordings represent you as well as possible.

Video Submission

Video Format:

1. Frame yourself full-length in the video.
2. Pianists should frame the video in a position that your upper body, hands and the entire length of the keyboard are visible.
 - At the beginning of the video, introduce yourself, state the date, and the names of the pieces or songs you are performing.
Example: "Hello, my name is _____, today is (today's date) and I will be performing (title) by (composer)."
3. Upload your recording to YouTube or Vimeo.
4. Enter your video audition link in the completed [Music Audition Request Form](#) and submit.

Audition Repertoire

Please only perform existing songs or pieces and not original compositions.

Instrumentalists (Woodwinds and Brass):

Submit one video recording link of:

- Two contrasting pieces of your choice.
 - You are not required to perform from memory.
 - Piano accompaniment is preferred, but not required.
- Play scales for at least two octaves.

Instrumentalists (Percussion):

Submit one video recording link of:

- Two contrasting pieces of your choice. Ideally, these should be on two different percussion instruments.
- Performance from memory is preferred, but not required.

Vocalists:

Submit one video recording link of:

- Two contrasting pieces of your choice.
 - One song or aria in English
 - One song or aria in a language of your choice
- All selections must be performed from memory
- Only one selection may be an aria (arias are not required)
- Jazz, "CCM" (Contemporary Commercial Music), and original compositions will not be accepted.
- Piano accompaniment is preferred, but not required

Pianists:

Submit one video recording link of:

- Two contrasting pieces of your choice.
 - All selections should be performed by memory.
 - Music should be from a variety of stylistic periods.
- Jazz, "CCM" (Contemporary Commercial Music), and original compositions will not be accepted.
- Play scales in parallel motion and hands together, for 2-4 octaves during your audition.