This document contains the recording and audition requirements for the Woodwinds 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 Woodwinds area as well as potential funding consideration within the entire School of Music.

Portfolio requirements:

- At least 20 (MM) or 30 (DMA) minutes of repertoire plus three standard orchestral excerpts.
- Recordings must be unedited, but device can be stopped between pieces & movements.
- If submitting a single video, please include clickable time stamps embedded into the video where tracks begin.
- Represent a variety of historical periods.
- Include at least one contemporary piece composed within the last 30 years.

Special instructions for Saxophone:
Orchestral excerpts are not required for saxophone applicants. Please consult Prof. Matthew Koester to discuss repertoire: mrkoester@wisc.edu

Although use of a collaborative pianist is optional for the recording portfolio, we strongly recommend working with a pianist in order to create high-quality recordings which can later be used for funding consideration. Please note that for the full audition, a collaborative pianist is required for DMA candidates.
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.

Option 1: Live

MM candidates
Prepare an audition recital containing at least 20 minutes of repertoire plus three standard orchestral excerpts, from which the faculty will select pieces to hear. You may include any or all of the pieces previously submitted in your recording portfolio. The audition time slot will be 20 minutes and will include the live performance and a brief, informal interview.

DMA candidates
Prepare an audition recital with a collaborative pianist containing at least 30 minutes of repertoire plus three standard orchestral excerpts, from which the faculty will select pieces to hear. You may include any or all of the pieces previously submitted in your recording portfolio. The audition time slot will be 30 minutes and will include the live performance and a brief, informal interview.

Instructions for all Woodwinds candidates
- Represent a variety of historical periods.
- Include at least one contemporary piece composed within the last 30 years.
- Special instructions for Saxophone:
  Orchestral excerpts are not required for saxophone applicants. Please consult Prof. Matthew Koester to discuss repertoire: mrkoester@wisc.edu

Repertoire list
Please make a list of your prepared repertoire (title & composer) and bring 5 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!

Collaborative pianists
For the MM audition, a collaborative pianist is optional, but highly encouraged. For the DMA audition, a collaborative pianist is required. You may bring your own collaborative pianist or hire one of ours. A contact list will be sent along with your audition invitation.

Supplementary recordings
You are welcome to supplement your recording portfolio with additional recordings before your audition. Please submit any additional recordings no later than 1 week before your selected audition date. Alternatively, you may make personal arrangements to have your live audition recorded and submitted as a supplement to your existing portfolio, in consultation with the Woodwinds faculty.
Option 2: Remote

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.

Audition portfolio
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 10-minute interview with the Woodwinds faculty on Zoom.

MM candidates
Prepare a recorded audition recital containing at least 20 minutes of repertoire plus three standard orchestral excerpts. You may include any or all of the pieces previously submitted in your recording portfolio.

DMA candidates
Prepare a recorded audition recital with a collaborative pianist containing at least 30 minutes of repertoire plus three standard orchestral excerpts. You may include any or all of the pieces previously submitted in your recording portfolio.

Instructions for all Woodwinds candidates
- Recordings must be unedited, but device can be stopped between pieces & movements.
- If submitting a single video, please include clickable time stamps embedded into the video where tracks begin.
- Represent a variety of historical periods.
- Include at least one contemporary piece composed within the last 30 years.
- Special instructions for Saxophone:
  Orchestral excerpts are not required for saxophone applicants. Please consult Prof. Matthew Koester to discuss repertoire: mrkoester@wisc.edu

Collaborative pianists
For the MM audition, a collaborative pianist is optional, but highly encouraged. For the DMA audition, a collaborative pianist is required.