



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.

Portfolio

Due on December 1

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 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 stay-at-home option (i.e. submission of a final portfolio), you may reuse any or all of the initial portfolio recordings as part of your final audition. 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. Auditions will be held on **Saturday, January 20**, and **Saturday, February 10**. Candidates may choose one of the following options:

Option 1

Travel to the UW-Madison campus and perform a live audition.

The audition slot will be 20 minutes (or 30 minutes for Collaborative Piano) and will include a brief interview with the Piano faculty. You may also be asked to sight read.

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. You do not need to bring copies of your actual sheet music.

Option 2

Stay at home and submit a final portfolio of recordings.

Meet the faculty in a short Zoom interview on the audition day.

The final portfolio is due no later than one week before your selected audition date. A submission 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.

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.

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

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

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