Woodwinds

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.

Portfolio

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 Woodwinds area as well as potential funding consideration within the entire School of Music.

Clarinet, Flute, and Saxophone: Your portfolio is due by December 1 for audition prescreening purposes. You can update the portfolio contents until February 1.

Bassoon and Oboe: No audition prescreening is required! In order to be considered for funding, please submit a portfolio no later than February 1.

Portfolio requirements

- At least 20 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.

Saxophone

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

Although use of a collaborative pianist is optional for the portfolio, we strongly recommend working with a pianist in order to create high-quality recordings which can be used for school-wide fellowship competitions.
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.
There will be a brief meeting with all Woodwinds faculty in the morning, followed by individual auditions. The audition slot will be 20 minutes and will be a 1-on-1 session with the major professor in one of our performance halls or in the professor’s studio.

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 10-minute interview with the Woodwinds faculty on Zoom.

Audition requirements
- Please prepare at least 20 minutes of repertoire plus three standard orchestral excerpts.
- You may play any or all of the pieces previously submitted in your portfolio.
- Represent a variety of historical periods.
- Include at least one contemporary piece composed within the last 30 years.
If choosing the stay-at-home option:
- Updated videos reflecting your most current playing are welcome.
- 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.

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

Piano accompaniment
- For the MM audition, a collaborative pianist is Optional, but highly encouraged.
- For the DMA audition, a collaborative pianist is Required.
If auditioning live, you may bring your own collaborative pianist or hire one of ours. A contact list will be sent along with your audition invitation.